



**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WEIGHTS & MEASURES**

ALAMEDA COUNTY
2019
Crop
Report



ALAMEDA COUNTY
Community Development Agency



ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

AGRICULTURE / WEIGHTS & MEASURES DEPARTMENT

Chris Bazar
Agency Director

February 24, 2021

Cathy Roache
Deputy Director
Agricultural Commissioner/
Sealer of Weights
and Measures

Karen Ross, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture
- and -
The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Alameda, California

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In accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, it is my pleasure to present the 2019 Alameda County Crop Report. This publication is presented annually and reports statistical information on acreage, yield, and gross value of all agricultural products produced in Alameda County.

The 2019 estimated total gross value of Alameda County's agricultural production was \$43,655,000, a 20% percent overall decrease from the 2018 estimated value of \$54,850,000. This observed overall decrease was due primarily to continued lack of adequate rainfall and a shift in commodity patterns to more permanent crops.

Fruit and Nut Crops led the county in agricultural production in 2019. Winegrapes were once again this County's number one commodity. Higher prices paid to growers helped offset the lower yields experienced in 2019.

Livestock production was easily the second highest production group in Alameda County this year. Cattle and calves, our primary commodity in this group, suffered from continued poor forage conditions. The resulting drop in number of head, along with the continued low prices, led to the decreased value for 2019.

It is important to emphasize that the numbers in this report are gross values only and do not reflect costs related to production, harvesting, marketing or transportation. These production costs and other farm related services have a significant overall local economic benefit generally thought to be about three times the gross production value.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Roache
Agricultural Commissioner/
Sealer of Weights and Measures





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ALAMEDA COUNTY 2019 CROP REPORT

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The 2019 Agricultural Crop Report is Dedicated To: *Perry Farms*

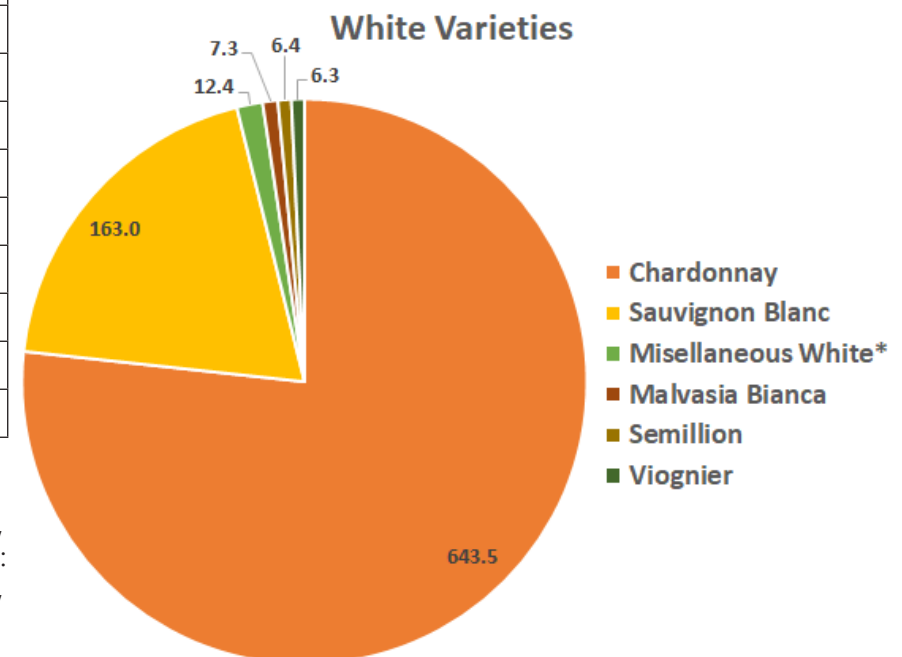
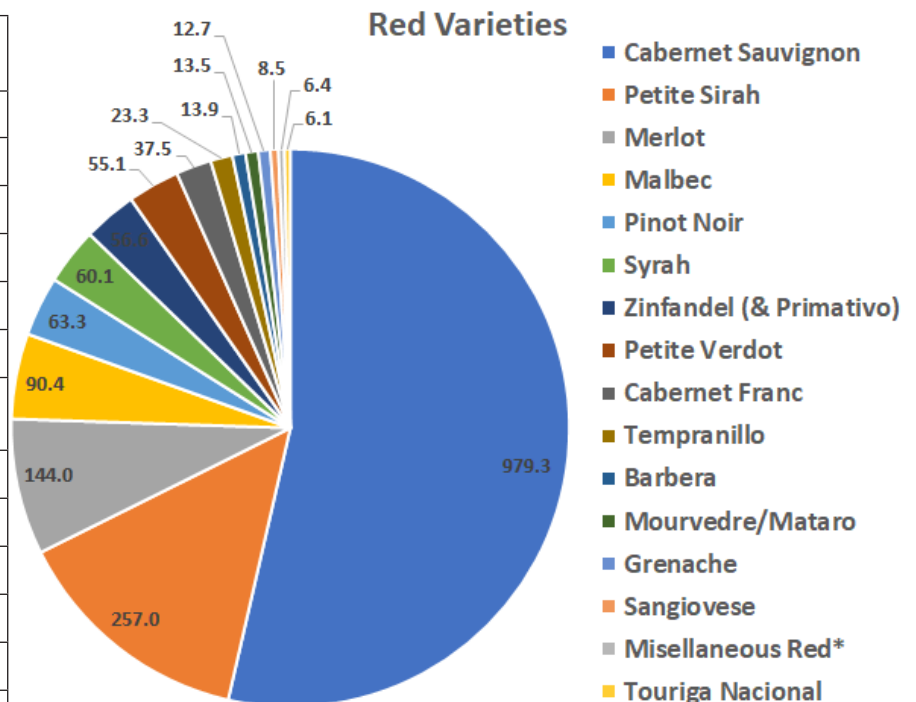
Long before the East Bay hills were covered in houses, they were covered by crops. Cherryland had more cherry trees than people, Fruitvale was a fruit bowl, and chickens were big business in Castro Valley. That history came alive at J.E. Perry Farms in East Bay Regional Park's Ardenwood Historic Farm. This year, sadly, was the last year for J.E. Perry Farms and Perry's Pumpkin Patch. Doug Perry, the last proprietor of the business, retired this year and gave up his lease with Ardenwood. He and his late father Joseph Perry, a Native Son of the Golden West, farmed the plot together for decades. Doug fondly remembers the early days of his youth when, at his parents' home in Fremont, he could look out from their front door and see not office parks and developments, but rather waving fields of wheat. So today, Alameda County offers a thank you to the Perry Family. Whether by showing kids what the foods they eat look like in the ground or by bouncing them around on the tractor for an autumn hayride, J.E. Perry Farms served the County well, connecting the people of Alameda County to the food that sustains us all. And though the Perry family has stepped away from the land, Doug maintains optimism for the future of agriculture, urban and traditional, and is willing to offer whatever advice he can to other farmers. With luck, the joy he and his father took in the rich soil of Alameda County can be discovered anew by future generations.



2019 ALAMEDA COUNTY WINEGRAPE VARIETIES

At the request of our local industry, our department has gathered crop production information on winegrapes varieties. We thank our Alameda County Grape Producers and the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association for their support in this effort. Ongoing support and participation from all grape growers is greatly appreciated.

| Variety | Type | Acres | Est. Tons |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Cabernet Sauvignon | Red | 979.3 | 4384.7 |
| Petite Sirah | Red | 257.0 | 1285.8 |
| Merlot | Red | 144.0 | 803.3 |
| Malbec | Red | 90.4 | 762.7 |
| Pinot Noir | Red | 63.3 | 97.4 |
| Syrah | Red | 60.1 | 294.6 |
| Zinfandel (& Primitivo) | Red | 56.6 | 253.9 |
| Petite Verdot | Red | 55.1 | 356.3 |
| Cabernet Franc | Red | 37.5 | 207.2 |
| Tempranillo | Red | 23.3 | 76.7 |
| Barbera | Red | 13.9 | 39.8 |
| Mourvedre/Mataro | Red | 13.5 | 62.1 |
| Grenache | Red | 12.7 | 62.2 |
| Sangiovese | Red | 8.5 | 70.7 |
| Misellaneous Red* | Red | 6.4 | 19.4 |
| Touriga Nacional | Red | 6.1 | 13.0 |
| Chardonnay | White | 643.5 | 3301.5 |
| Sauvignon Blanc | White | 163.0 | 529.5 |
| Misellaneous White* | White | 12.4 | 48.3 |
| Malvasia Bianca | White | 7.3 | 41.7 |
| Semillion | White | 6.4 | 61.3 |
| Viognier | White | 6.3 | 32.8 |



***Miscellaneous Varieties** (varieties with fewer than 5 reported acres). **Miscellaneous Red Varieties** include: Counoise, Graciano, Nebbiolo, Souzao. **Miscellaneous White Varieties** include: Albarino, Muscat Orange, Pinot Blanc, Pinot Gris, Rousanne, Verdehlo.

A total of 30 grape varieties were reported. There were 19 red varieties reported, with 15 red varieties reported over five acres planted. Four miscellaneous red varieties were reported with fewer than five planted acres. Eleven white varieties were reported, with five varieties over five planted acres reported, and six miscellaneous varieties with under 5 planted acres each reported.

FIELD CROPS

| CROP | YEAR | HARVESTED ACREAGE | PER ACRE | TOTAL | UNIT | PER UNIT | TOTAL |
|-----------------|------|-------------------|---|-------|------|----------|-------------|
| Hay, Alfalfa | 2019 | 181.5 | 2.24 | 407 | Ton | \$250.00 | \$102,000 |
| | 2018 | 236.5 | 1.88 | 445 | Ton | \$244.00 | \$109,000 |
| Hay, Other | 2019 | 1,495 | 1.75 | 2,613 | Ton | \$173.59 | \$454,000 |
| | 2018 | 2,935 | 2.70 | 7,925 | Ton | \$137.54 | \$1,090,000 |
| Range & Pasture | 2019 | 134,476 | ----- | | Acre | \$19.28 | \$2,593,000 |
| | 2018 | 175,000 | ----- | | Acre | \$19.07 | \$3,337,000 |
| Miscellaneous | 2019 | 346 | Includes triticale, wheat, sorghum, etc. 2019 excludes industrial hemp | | | | \$200,000 |
| | 2018 | 346 | | | | | \$200,000 |
| Total | 2019 | 136,499 | | | | | \$3,349,000 |
| | 2018 | 178,518 | | | | | \$4,736,000 |

FRUIT & NUT CROPS

| CROP | YEAR | BEARING ACREAGE | PER ACRE | TOTAL | UNIT | PER UNIT | TOTAL |
|---------------------------|------|-----------------|---|--------|------|------------|--------------|
| Grapes, Wine Red | 2019 | 1,856 | 4.74 | 8,793 | Ton | \$1,688.00 | \$14,843,000 |
| | 2018 | 1,932* | 5.87* | 11,340 | Ton | \$1,591.00 | \$18,040,000 |
| Grapes, Wine White | 2019 | 838 | 4.8 | 4,015 | Ton | \$1,400.00 | \$5,621,000 |
| | 2018 | 943 | 7.12 | 6,717 | Ton | \$1,365.00 | \$9,165,000 |
| Miscellaneous Fruit & Nut | 2019 | 1,827 | Includes olives, walnuts, pistachios, pomegranates, almonds, avocado, etc. | | | | \$2,035,000 |
| | 2018 | 919 | | | | | \$2,010,000 |
| Total | 2019 | 4,521 | | | | | \$22,499,000 |
| | 2018 | 1,862 | | | | | \$29,215,000 |

*2018 value corrected

NURSERY PRODUCTS

| ITEM | YEAR | INDOOR SQ. FT. | OUTDOOR (ACRES) | QUANTITY SOLD | UNIT | PER UNIT | TOTAL |
|--------------------------------|------|----------------|-----------------|--|------|----------|-------------|
| Ornamental Trees and Shrubs | 2019 | 14,175 | 65 | 181,740 | Plt | Various | \$3,466,000 |
| | 2018 | 13,175 | 69 | 161,356 | Plt | Various | \$3,561,000 |
| Miscellaneous Nursery Products | 2019 | 115,000 | 62 | Includes bedding plants, cut flowers, indoor decoratives, vegetable starts, | | | \$880,000 |
| | 2018 | 132,450 | 62 | | | | \$1,125,000 |
| Total | 2019 | 129,175 | 127 | | | | \$4,347,000 |
| | 2018 | 145,675 | 131 | | | | \$4,686,000 |

Numbers may not compute exactly due to rounding.

VEGETABLE CROPS

| CROP | YEAR | HARVESTED ACREAGE | | TOTAL |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------|--|-----------|
| Miscellaneous Vegetables | 2019 | 136 | Includes broccoli, cabbage, corn, leaf lettuce, greens, pumpkins, tomatoes, squash, etc. | \$896,000 |
| | 2018 | 136 | | \$899,000 |

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

| ITEM | YEAR | NO. OF HEAD | TOTAL WEIGHT | UNIT | PER UNIT | TOTAL |
|--------------------------------------|------|---|--------------|------|----------|--------------|
| Cattle & Calves | 2019 | 13,624 | 101,334 | Cwt | Various | \$11,809,000 |
| | 2018 | 14,456 | 121,928 | Cwt | Various | \$14,657,000 |
| Misc. Poultry and Livestock Products | 2019 | Includes sheep, goats, pigs, bee pollination and apiary products. | | | | \$618,000 |
| | 2018 | | | | | \$657,000 |
| Total | 2019 | | | | | \$12,427,000 |
| | 2018 | | | | | \$15,314,000 |

Numbers may not compute exactly due to rounding.



P R O G R A M R E P O R T S

PEST MANAGEMENT & ERADICATION

This regulatory noxious weed control work is conducted in partnership with regional land management agencies and other Alameda-Contra Costa WMA partner organizations. Other weeds of concern in this region include; Hoary Cresses, Rush Skeletonweed, White Horsenettle, Golden Thistle, Puna Grass and new invasive noxious weeds.

| WEEDS (Common Name/Scientific Name) | | CONTROL METHOD | SCOPE OF PROGRAM (No. Sites/Treated Acres) |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Japanese Dodder | Cuscuta japonica | Chemical & Mechanical | 12 sites – 0.2 acres |
| Iberian Thistle | Centaurea iberica | Chemical & Mechanical | 1 Site - 0.1 Acres |
| Purple Star Thistle | Centaurea calcitrapa | | |
| Artichoke Thistle | Cynara cardunculus | | |
| Stinkwort | Dittrichia graveolens | Chemical & Mechanical | Various, 358.6 net acres |
| Barb Goatgrass | Aegilops triuncialis | | |
| Medusahead | Taeniatherum caput-medusae | | |

PEST EXCLUSION

Pest exclusion is the first line of defense to prevent non-native invasive pests and diseases detrimental to agriculture and the environment from entering the county. Incoming shipments of plant products and other high-risk articles are inspected daily at various shipping terminals to enforce quarantines intended to prevent the introduction of harmful pests.

| TYPE OF SHIPMENT | SHIPMENTS INSPECTED | SHIPMENTS REJECTED |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Parcel Carrier | 7,991 | 343 (81 pests) |
| Trucks | 410 | 2 (2 pests) |
| Household Goods | 48 | 1 (1 pest) |
| Nursery (GWSS Program) | 2,410 | 1 (1 pest) |
| Airfreight | 259 | 8 (15 pests) |

CANINE INSPECTION PROGRAM

Our Canine Inspection Team works at various parcel terminals to detect and inspect unmarked parcels containing unprocessed agricultural commodities to prevent the introduction of pests and diseases. Agriculture detector dogs have been shown to be highly effective in finding pests in parcels and are being used throughout the state to help protect California agriculture. This data reflects work performed by our new Canine Team in training and on board for only 8 months of 2019.

| TYPE OF SHIPMENT | SHIPMENTS REJECTED | ACTIONABLE PEST FINDS |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Parcel Carrier | 114 | 44 pests found |

PEST DETECTION

Pest Detection is the second line of defense against invasive non-native pests becoming established in areas so vast that it is impossible to control or eradicate infestation. Insect traps are placed and monitored throughout the county to detect exotic pests that are known to be detrimental to agriculture and the environment.

| TARGET PEST | INSECT HOSTS | TRAP SERVICINGS |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Mediterranean Fruit Fly | Fruit Trees | 111,078 |
| Mexican Fruit Fly | Fruit Trees | |
| Melon Fruit Fly | Vegetable Gardens | |
| Oriental Fruit Fly | Fruit Trees | |
| Miscellaneous Fruit Flies | Fruit Trees and Vegetables | |
| Gypsy Moth | Shade Trees | |
| Japanese Beetle | Turf, Roses | |
| European Pine Shoot Moth | Pine Trees | |
| Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) | Landscape/Nursery Plants | |
| Asian Citrus Psyllid | Citrus/Nursery Plants | 6,086 |

SUDDEN OAK DEATH (SOD)

| | |
|--|----|
| Compliance Inspections | 63 |
| Sudden Oak Death Positives | 2 |
| Businesses Under Compliance Agreement | |
| Shipping Nurseries | 11 |
| Green-waste Facilities | 15 |

LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH PROGRAM

| | |
|--|-----|
| Compliance Inspections | 155 |
| Moths detected in regulatory inspections | 0 |
| Businesses Under Compliance Agreement | |
| Crop Producers | 1 |
| Community Gardens/Direct Markets | 0 |
| Retail and Production Nurseries | 9 |
| Green Waste Facilities | 16 |

S U S T A I N A B L E A G R I C U L T U R E

ORGANIC FARMING

| CROP | REGISTERED PRODUCERS | ESTIMATED ACREAGE |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Miscellaneous | 9 | 122 |

URBAN FARMING

| TYPE | NUMBER | ESTIMATED ACREAGE |
|---------------------------|--------|-------------------|
| Community Gardens | 36 | 52 acres |
| School Gardens | 269 | 92 acres |
| Certified Farmers Markets | 35 | 728 stalls |
| Certified Producers | 22 | 149 acres |

COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

Biological control (biocontrol) involves the reduction of pest populations through the use of natural enemies such as parasitoids, predators, pathogens, antagonists, or competitors.

| PEST | AGENTS | SCOPE OF PROGRAM |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Yellow Star-thistle <i>Centaurea solstitialis</i> | Bud Weevil <i>Bangasternus orientalis</i> | Found in most areas of the County |
| | Seed-head Gall Fly <i>Urophora sirunaseva</i> | Found in most areas of the County |
| | Seed-head Fly <i>Chaetorellia</i> spp. | Found in most areas of the County |
| | Hairy Weevil <i>Eustenopus villosus</i> | Found in most areas of the County |
| | Rust Fungus <i>Puccinia jaceae</i> var. <i>solstitialis</i> | Released at 3 sites |

COMPARISON SUMMARY

| ITEM | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Field Crops | \$3,349,000 | \$4,736,000 | \$4,030,000 | \$4,367,000 | \$4,292,000 |
| Vegetable Crops | \$896,000 | \$899,000 | \$1,084,000 | \$1,052,000 | \$1,269,000 |
| Fruit & Nut Crops | \$22,499,000 | \$29,215,000 | \$18,284,000 | \$18,959,000 | \$15,394,000 |
| Nursery Products | \$4,484,000 | \$4,686,000 | \$7,256,000 | \$7,262,000 | \$6,853,000 |
| Livestock & Poultry | \$12,427,000 | \$15,314,000 | \$17,048,000 | \$16,383,000 | \$22,095,000 |
| Total | \$43,655,000 | \$54,850,000 | \$47,702,000 | \$48,023,000 | \$49,903,000 |

Numbers may not compute exactly due to rounding.

General Alameda County Information

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| County Seat | Oakland |
| County Population, 2019 | 1,663,190 |
| Land Area (Square Miles) | 738 |
| Water Area (Square Miles) | 83.8 |
| Persons per Square Mile, 2019 | 2,254 |

14 Incorporated Cities

Alameda • Albany • Berkeley • Dublin • Emeryville
 Fremont • Hayward • Livermore • Newark • Oakland
 Piedmont • Pleasanton • San Leandro • Union City

6 Unincorporated Areas

Ashland • Castro Valley • Cherryland
 Fairview • San Lorenzo • Sunol

Facts

| | |
|--|---|
| Total Assessed Property (Local Roll 2018-19) | \$300.1 Billion |
| Total Harvested Crop Acreage (2019) | 182,488 |
| Major Roads | Interstate 80, Interstate 580, Interstate 680, Interstate 880, Highway 238, Highway 84, Highway 92, Highway 13 |
| Elevation | Sea level to 3,817 ft. at Rose Peak in the southern part of the County. |
| Average Climate | Mild winters and cool summers near the Bay. The eastern portion of the County is moderately warmer; high temperatures in the Livermore Amador Valley average 90°F in July. |



Urban Youth in Agriculture

Programs such as 4-H and Future Farmers of America provide youth with the opportunity to create projects based on their own interests and passions. Urban 4-H clubs utilize the backyards and vacant lots of Alameda County to realize the farming dreams of some of the youngest members of our community. In Oakland, the Montclair 4-H and Oaktown 4-H clubs raise rabbits, poultry, pigs, dairy goats, and bees. Kids learn veterinary skills, marketing, teamwork and a lot of responsibility. Kids in the urban environment are given the opportunity to experience a slice of the farming life they never thought they'd be able to have. In this picture, members of the Oaktown 4-H club are working on a harvest/gleaning project that donated over 170 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables to local shelters.



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Alameda County

Mission

To enrich the lives of Alameda County residents through visionary policies and accessible, responsive, and effective services

Vision

Alameda County is recognized as one of the best counties in which to live, work and do business.

Values

Integrity, honesty and respect fostering mutual trust.

Transparency and accountability achieved through open communications and involvement of diverse community voices.

Fiscal stewardship reflecting the responsible management of resources.

Customer service built on commitment, accessibility and responsiveness.

Excellence in performance based on strong leadership, teamwork and a willingness to take risks.

Diversity recognizing the unique qualities of every individual and his or her perspective.

Environmental stewardship to preserve, protect and restore our natural resources.

Social responsibility promoting self-sufficiency, economic independence and an interdependent system of care and support.

Compassion ensuring all people are treated with respect, dignity and fairness.

