

# 2022 Crop Report

ALAMEDA  
COUNTY



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WEIGHTS & MEASURES



Community Development Agency

# YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE

Keeping the youth of Alameda County engaged in agriculture is vital to sustaining the local food system, maintaining the local economy, and feeding and nurturing our community. The skills, knowledge and persistence found in agricultural pursuits give kids security and confidence to move toward the future knowing they can survive whatever they may face. Those lessons can be used to enrich our community or be taken abroad and used to help people in places around the world. Alameda County celebrates and supports the youth of our community who are the agricultural leaders of our future.

## From Gas to Garden

The St. Philip Neri Garden (SPN) is tucked into the east corner of High and Van Buren streets in Alameda, CA. This magical outdoor learning space was once a Gas and Service station. The property was acquired by Saint Philip Neri Church in the early 80's. The service station was torn down and the lot sat empty for many years before being converted to an outdoor classroom for the school. On the current property are eight raised garden beds for vegetable gardening, fruit trees, a butterfly habitat, a greenhouse, a learning classroom, and many native and Mediterranean plants.

Through the Garden Science Enrichment Program, the students (Preschool-5th grade) have an opportunity to learn about growing food and environmentally sustainable practices. The future of the Garden Science program includes an integration of cross-curricular and hands-on learning experiences with classroom academics and development of social-emotional regulation through nature and community service. A middle school elective is offered in the 2023/24 school year and focuses on service learning and environmental literacy.

Perhaps the greatest project is the partnership with the Alameda Backyard Growers' (ABG) Free Seed Library. In 2020, the seed libraries were started with extra seeds from ABG Board Members' gardens and the St. Philip Neri Garden. Students had been taught to save parsley seeds right before the pandemic and those seeds were put into the opening seed library box on San Jose Avenue. The SPN Garden continues to grow seeds from the libraries, as well as save and package them for use in the community.





**ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
AGRICULTURE / WEIGHTS AND MEASURES DEPARTMENT

Sandra Rivera  
Agency Director

October 27, 2023

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

224 West Winton Ave  
Room 184

In accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, it is my pleasure to present the 2022 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.

Hayward, California  
94544-1215

The 2022 estimated total gross value of Alameda County's agricultural production was \$54,318,000. This figure represents a 1.67% decrease below the 2021 estimated value of \$55,239,000.

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Fruit and Nut crops are once again the most valued commodity group in Alameda County for 2022. Winegrape production benefitted from favorable growing conditions. Other new permanent crops, planted in previous years, continue to mature into production.

Livestock is our second most valued commodity group, despite increased pricing in 2022. Continued drought and resulting lack of feed and water last year led many ranchers to sell more cattle in an effort to reduce herd sizes.

Field Crops became our third most valued commodity group. While most commodities showed an increase in values, changes to cropping patterns in newer commodities led to a drop in value for miscellaneous crops.

Nursery products is our fourth most valued commodity group this year. Continued strong markets help this commodity sector remain consistent this year.

Vegetable crops showed growth in 2022 and are listed as our fifth most valued commodity group.

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 local economic benefit generally thought to be about three times gross production value.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Roache,  
Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer of Weights and Measures





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Sharlene Bungay	Darin Hoagland	Robert Sloan
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**Canine Inspection Team**

Lisa Sampson and Tank

**Administrative Manager**

Nicole Bouldin

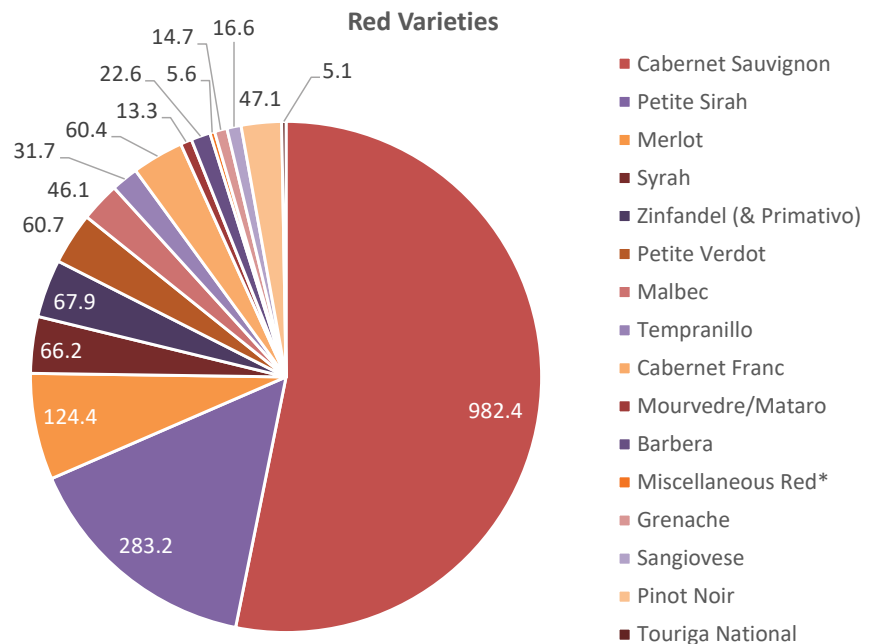
**Administrative/Clerical Support**

Sujatha Ganesasankar	Clarice Walker	Vacant
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# 2022 ALAMEDA COUNTY WINEGRAPE VARIETIES

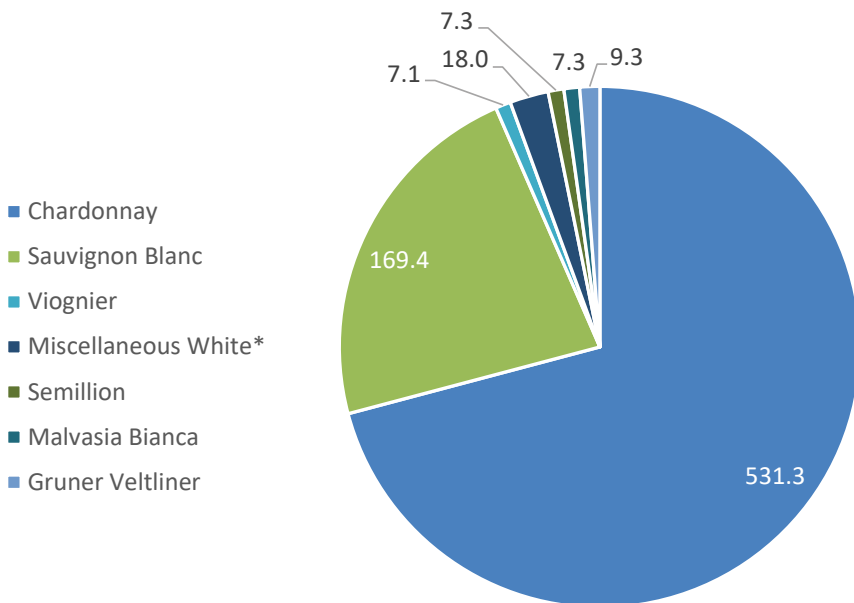
At the request of our local industry, our department has gathered crop production information on winegrape varieties. We thank our Alameda County Grape Producers and the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association for their support in this effort. Ongoing support and participation from all grape growers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

Red Variety	Acres	Est. Tons
Cabernet Sauvignon	1369.4	5668.8
Petite Sirah	283.2	1017.9
Merlot	124.4	482.8
Syrah	66.2	208.7
Zinfandel (& Primitivo)	67.9	236.2
Petite Verdot	60.7	275.6
Malbec	46.1	233.8
Tempranillo	31.7	157.5
Cabernet Franc	60.4	242.4
Mourvedre/Mataro	13.3	44.8
Barbera	22.6	108.3
Miscellaneous Red*	5.6	10.5
Grenache	14.7	61.2
Sangiovese	16.6	101.9
Pinot Noir	47.1	177.9
Touriga Nacional	5.1	16.2



\*Miscellaneous varieties are varieties with fewer than 5 reported acres. Miscellaneous Reds include: Counoise, Graciano, Souzao, Tinta Amarela, Tinta Cao. Miscellaneous Whites include: Albarino, Muscat Orange, Pinot Blanc, Rousanne, Verdehlo, Pinot Grigio, Muscat Blanc (Canelli), Granache Blanc.

**White Varieties**



White Variety	Acres	Est. Tons
Chardonnay	725.3	4037.8
Sauvignon Blanc	169.4	1012.4
Viognier	7.1	27.6
Miscellaneous White*	18.0	76.4
Semillion	7.3	52.1
Malvasai Bianca	7.3	32.83
Gruner Veltliner	9.3	93.07

A total of 34 grape varieties were reported. 20 red varieties were reported, 15 with over 5 planted acres and 5 miscellaneous red varieties with fewer than 5 planted acres. 14 white varieties were reported, 6 of those with over 5 planted acres and 8 miscellaneous white varieties with under 5 planted acres.

# PRODUCTION AGRICULTURE

FIELD CROPS						
CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PER ACRE	TOTAL	TOTAL PER UNIT	TOTAL
Hay, Alfalfa	2022	130	5	650	\$300/ton	\$195,000
	2021	95	6	570	\$220/ton	\$125,400
Hay, Other	2022	2,560	2	5,230	\$195/ton	\$1,000,000
	2021	2,440	2	4,280	\$165/ton	\$680,000
Range & Pasture	2022	135,000	-	-	\$28/acre	\$3,780,000
	2021	135,000	-	-	\$26/acre	\$3,150,000
Miscellaneous	2022	270	Includes beans, corn, wheat, sorghum, hemp etc.			\$2,954,000
	2021	419				\$4,654,000
Total	2022	138,000				\$7,929,000
	2021	138,000				\$8,609,000

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY						
ITEM	YEAR	# OF HEAD	TOTAL WEIGHT	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Cattle & Calves	2022	10,900	96,100	Cwt	\$112.44	\$10,805,000
	2021	13,400	100,000	Cwt	Various	\$11,454,000
Misc. Livestock & Poultry Products	2022	Includes sheep, goats, pigs, bee pollination & apiary products.				\$658,000
	2021					\$608,000
Total	2022					\$11,463,000
	2021					\$12,062,000



# PRODUCTION AGRICULTURE CONTINUED



VEGETABLE CROPS			
CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	TOTAL
Miscellaneous Vegetables*	2022	155	\$345,000
	2021	150	\$316,000

\*Includes broccoli, cabbage, corn, leaf lettuce, greens, pumpkins, tomatoes, squash, etc.

NURSERY PRODUCTS			
CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	TOTAL
Ornamental Trees & Shrubs	2022	53	\$4,963,000
	2021	54	\$4,859,000
Misc. Nursery Products*	2022	65	\$896,000
	2021	62	\$909,000
Total	2022	118	\$5,859,000
	2021	116	\$5,768,000

\*Includes bedding plants, cut flowers, indoor decoratives, vegetable starts, Christmas trees, etc.

FRUIT & NUT CROPS						
CROP	YEAR	BEARING ACREAGE	PER ACRE	TOTAL	TOTAL PER UNIT	TOTAL
Grapes, Wine Red	2022	2,240	4.1	9,160	\$1,610/ton	\$14,750,000
	2021	1,890	4.9	9,200	\$1,540/ton	\$14,160,000
Grapes, Wine White	2022	944	5.8	5,500	\$1,330/ton	\$7,293,000
	2021	802	7.4	5,940	\$1,340/ton	\$7,977,000
Miscellaneous Fruit & Nut	2022	1,920	Includes olives, walnuts, pistachios, pomegranates, almonds, avocados, etc.			\$6,675,000
	2021	1,900				\$6,345,000
Total	2022	4,540				\$28,722,000
	2021	4,600				\$28,482,000



# PROGRAM REPORTS

PEST DETECTION		
<p>Pest Detection is the second line of defense against invasive non-native pests from 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 ensure early detection of exotic pests that are known to be detrimental to agriculture and the environment.</p>		
TARGET PEST	INSECT HOSTS	TRAP SERVICINGS
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	Fruit Trees	93,047
Mexican Fruit Fly	Fruit Trees	
Melon Fruit Fly	Vegetable Gardens	
Oriental Fruit Fly	Fruit Trees	
Miscellaneous Fruit Flies	Fruit Trees and Vegetables	
Spongy Moth	Shade Trees	
Japanese Beetle	Turf/Roses	
European Pine Shoot Moth	Pine Trees	
Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter	Landscape/Nursery Plants	
Asian Citrus Psyllid	Citrus/Nursery Plants	5,853
European Grapevine Moth	Vineyards	353
Emerald Ash Borer	Ash Trees/Olive Trees	260
<p>In 2022 exotic insect pest finds included (3) Oriental fruit flies. (1) in Hayward, (1) in Oakland, and (1) in Alameda. The County Agriculture Department deployed a grand total of 7,300 traps to detect the presence of non-native insect pests and serviced the traps 107,380 times during the year.</p>		



SUDDEN OAK DEATH	
Compliance Inspections	75
Sudden Oak Death Positives	0
Businesses Under Compliance Agreement	
Shipping Nurseries	5
Green Waste Facilities	16





# SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

ORGANIC FARMING		
CROP	REGISTERED PRODUCERS	ESTIMATED ACREAGE
Miscellaneous	11	140



URBAN FARMING		
TYPE	NUMBER	ESTIMATED ACREAGE
Community Gardens	36	52 acres
School Gardens	269	92 acres
Certified Farmers Markets	30	905 stalls
Certified Producers	24	145 acres

COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL		
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>	
	Seed-head Fly <i>Chaetorellia</i> spp.	
	Hairy Weevil <i>Eustenopus villosus</i>	
	Rust Fungus <i>Puccinia jaceae</i> var. <i>solstitialis</i>	



## PROGRAM REPORTS CONTINUED

PEST EXCLUSION			
<p>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.</p>			
TYPE OF SHIPMENT	SHIPMENTS INSPECTED	SHIPMENTS REJECTED	PESTS FOUND
Parcel Carrier	6569	743	194
Trucks	335	0	2
Household Goods	53	0	2
Nursery	3146	0	2
Airfreight	213	8	6

CANINE INSPECTION PROGRAM		
TYPE OF SHIPMENT	SHIPMENTS REJECTED	ACTIONABLE PEST FINDS
Parcel Carrier	686	196

PEST MANAGEMENT & ERADICATION		
<p>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.</p>		
WEEDS COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	CONTROL METHOD
Japanese Dodder	<i>Cuscuta japonica</i>	Chemical & Mechanical
Iberian Thistle	<i>Centaurea iberica</i>	
Purple Star Thistle	<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	
Artichoke Thistle	<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	
Stinkwort	<i>Dittrichia graveolens</i>	
Barb Goatgrass	<i>Aegilops triuncialis</i>	
Medusahead	<i>Taeniatherum caput-medusae</i>	





COMPARISON SUMMARY					
ITEM	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Field Crops	\$7,929,000	\$8,609,000	\$4,986,000	\$3,349,000	\$4,736,000
Vegetable Crops	\$345,000	\$317,600	\$316,400	\$896,000	\$899,000
Fruit & Nut Crops	\$28,722,000	\$28,482,000	\$21,624,000	\$22,499,000	\$29,215,000
Nursery products	\$5,859,000	\$5,768,000	\$4,583,000	\$4,484,000	\$4,686,000
Livestock & Poultry	\$11,463,000	\$12,062,000	\$12,703,000	\$12,427,000	\$15,314,000
Total	\$54,318,000	\$55,239,000	\$43,895,000	\$43,655,000	\$54,850,000

## GENERAL ALAMEDA COUNTY INFORMATION

County Seat.....Oakland  
 County Population, 2022.....1,716,769  
 Land Area (Square Miles).....739  
 Water Area (Square Miles).....82  
 Persons per Square Mile, 2022.....2,323

**Total Assessed Property  
 (Local Roll 2021-22)**  
 \$383 Billion

**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.

### 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

**Total Harvested Crop Acreage (2022)**  
 183,300



### **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.