

# AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT

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COUNTY  
OF  
SAN JOAQUIN



1946



SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

## Department of Agriculture

AUSTIN E. MAHONEY  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

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TO THE STATE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND  
THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Section 65.5 of the California Agricultural Code requires that the Agricultural Commissioner compile a report covering conditions, acreage, production and value of the agricultural products of his county. This is the thirteenth annual crop report published by this Department.

Approximately one hundred commercial crops are covered in this report and for your easy reference are segregated as to their commercial use wherever possible.

Our farmers, shippers and others responsible for the production and marketing of these record crops are to be congratulated on the outstanding job which they have done again this year even though many problems even more complex than those experienced during the preceding years had to be overcome.

Acreages of permanent crops are reported in actual bearing acreage only and other crops are reported in actual planted acreage. Production is reported in units commonly used in the marketing of crops commercially in this county. Prices are reported on an F.O.B. basis. Cost of production, harvesting, packing and other handling costs should be deducted to arrive at a true farm value.

As copies of this report are sent to a number of persons in other states, to federal, state and county agencies throughout the United States and to an increasing number of organizations and individuals within the state, the members of this Department have made every effort to make this report as accurate as possible by checking our figures with every known source of reliable information.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all who have assisted my inspectors and deputies by furnishing necessary information to them which has made the compilation of this report possible.

Respectfully submitted,

*Austin E. Mahoney*  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

2/1/47

CROP SUMMARY  
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY  
YEAR - 1946

The year 1946 in San Joaquin County goes on record as being a very prosperous one for agriculture. Conditions were not all together ideal for the production of all crops, but no major crop suffered greatly from adverse weather conditions. The production and harvest season was featured by January and February being unusually dry months, with rains in March being more above normal. The spring was comparatively cool and somewhat delayed. The absence of strong winds in April made it possible for early crops to mature without serious loss. The summer period was favorable for most crops. In the fall, the dry weather was highly favorable for the harvesting of our later crops. The first killing frost came in late October and definitely put a finish to tomato harvest and other crops subject to freezing temperatures.

ALMONDS A normal crop in all districts with production somewhat spotted from tree to tree in all varieties. Prices were somewhat lower than last year.

APRICOTS The apricot crop in 1946 produced the largest tonnage since 1935. This was due to favorable weather conditions during the early growing season.

CHERRIES There was a considerable drop in eastern shipments as well as in cannery deliveries as compared to the record year of 1945. This was probably due to a poor set at blossom time, and the rains in May causing some loss to Bing and Royal Ann varieties. The majority of the cherry crop was purchased and harvested by cash buyers. The fruit was of average size, good quality, and the prices were somewhat higher than those of the previous season.

CHESTNUTS Crop production was normal. The quality of the nuts was good with a somewhat higher price prevailing throughout the season.

FIGS A normal yield was sustained with prices about the same as for 1945. The quality of the fig crop was good with the majority of the crop going for processing.

GRAPES, TABLE Tokay growers had an excellent season. A normal crop was produced in all varieties of grapes. Eastern shipments were up one and one-half million packages. New acreage of Tokay vineyards is steadily increasing.

GRAPES, WINE The production was normal with prices almost double those of last season. New acreage is coming into production rapidly. In the spring there was some damage from cutworms. During the summer infestations of red spider and leafhoppers were present in most vineyards. Harvesting conditions were favorable.

OLIVES Yields were 70% of the normal crop. Frost in late October lowered the quality for canning, however this tonnage was not a complete loss as it was diverted to crushing plants for oil.

PEACHES, CLINGSTONES The 1946 crop produced the largest tonnage ever grown in this county showing an increase of over 23,000 tons, this being due to favorable weather conditions and increased acreage coming into bearing.

PEACHES, FREESTONES Market peaches were up over 300,000 packages. The size of the fruit was smaller than last year due to heavy production but the quality was good. Prices were lower because of the heavy shipments to markets from all districts. There was a slight increase in acreage.

PEARS The harvested crop was only 30% of last year. With this reduction in yield the fruit was larger in size and of better quality. The fresh market was weak.

PLUMS All varieties produced a heavy crop. Plum prices were slightly increased over last year.

WALNUTS Walnut growers had an exceptionally fine year. Yields were above normal. The quality of the nuts was better than in 1945, consequently increasing the value per ton. There was practically no blight damage. The only serious defect was caused by sunburn. Worm damage was very slight in orchards that followed recommended control practices.

#### FIELD CROPS

ALFALFA The first cutting was somewhat delayed and quality below average. However, as the season progressed later cuttings produced excellent yields and quality. Prices were higher with a strong demand for hay throughout the season. There was practically no loss due to rains, and prices advanced rapidly after O.P.A. control was removed.

BEANS This is the first time in many years that growers were favored with an ideal harvest period. Higher prices together with favorable weather were responsible for a very good year for the growers. Acreage continues to decline over previous years except in the case of Red Kidney's which has increased almost double in the past five years.

CORN, FIELD Acreage remains practically the same as last year. The quality and yield were normal, with prices advancing at harvest time.

FLAX Crop was below normal, mainly due to lack of sufficient moisture. Prices were higher this year.

GRAIN SORGHUMS Acreage was slightly increased over last year. The quality and yields were normal.

GRAIN Barley and wheat yields in the uplands were lower than last year. This was caused by inadequate moisture and hot weather during the filling period. The acreage in barley decreased approximately 5,000 acres. Wheat decreased 3,000 acres. Prices were higher this year.

HAY The acreage of volunteer and grain hay was lower than last year. Prices raised considerably throughout the season. Yields were below normal, quality about average.

MINT Yield was below normal, weather conditions being unfavorable for the production of oil.

PASTURE Acreage of irrigated pasture is steadily increasing. Approximately 7,000 acres over 1945. There was a strong demand for rental of clover pasture all season due to the high prices of other feeds. Range pastures did not stay green as long as in previous years on account of the dry spring. This reduced the feeding value considerably.

POTATOES Yields this year are again the highest on record. Favorable weather, use of certified seed, and improved cultural practices accounted for this high yield. There has been a steady reduction in the acreage of commercial potatoes in this county over the past few years. The quality and prices were about the same as last year.

RICE Yields were normal. Growers had an excellent harvest season and prices were higher this year.

SUGAR BEETS There was an increase of over 2,000 acres over last season. Early winds caused the replanting of some fields and the abandoning of some of the planted acreage. This delayed planting with inexperienced growers, and insect and plant pests caused a reduction in the yield over last year.

SUNFLOWERS Due to the fluctuation in prices, the acreage has steadily decreased these past few years. Yields varied throughout the district, quality was good.

SWEET POTATOES The acreage was above last year. Yields and quality were average. Demand was heavy with prices higher than 1945.

#### VEGETABLE CROPS

ASPARAGUS The acreage of asparagus continues to increase in this county. An increase of 1,840 acres over the year 1945. Of the total state acreage approximately 65% is planted in San Joaquin County. Market "grass" was somewhat delayed by the cool weather although the first carload shipment was two weeks ahead of last year. Market "grass" production was normal. Cannery "grass" shows a large increase in tonnage, an increase this year of 6,087 tons. Acreage, prices and weather accounted for this large increase. Prices were somewhat above normal.

CARROTS Yields were advanced over last year, with acreage slightly less.

CELERY Celery growers had many conditions adversely affecting the production this year. Unfavorable growing period, with diseases and poor market conditions were the factors in reducing the income. Early frosts set the crop back and plants never properly matured thereafter. This poor quality of the stalks necessitated heavy peeling of the outside branches and made the average run small in size. Prices and demand for celery were poor all year. Acreage was above normal.

MELONS Cool weather during the growing season reduced the yield. There was an increase in acreage of watermelons, honeydews, and casabas and a decrease in cantaloupes, cranshaws and persian melons. There was quite a fluctuation in prices throughout the season.

ONIONS Market conditions were very poor this year. At the start of the season demands for onions were strong, then the market broke about half way through the harvest season and continued low for the balance of the year. Diseases were held at a minimum by the dry weather during the growing season. Acreage and yields were about normal.

PEAS Acreage and price of market peas were lower than last year, weather conditions being unfavorable to this crop.

SPINACH Yield and acreage were about the same as last year. Some spinach picked for market, however, the bulk of the crop went to canneries. Some fields showed considerable damage by aphid. This was due to a shortage of nicotine dust.

STRAWBERRIES Acreage of strawberries is steadily increasing in San Joaquin County with above average prices.

TOMATOES The acreage of tomatoes was the largest ever planted in this county. There was approximately 4,000 acres more, this acreage consisting largely of the round type tomato. Yields were very high because of favorable weather during the growing and harvest periods. Tomato diseases were at a minimum. The damage from mites and worms was very small where growers followed the general use of applying sulphur and calcium arsenate dusts. There was very little loss caused by frosts in late October.

THE TREND OF PERMANENT CROPS IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY  
YEAR - 1946

CROP & VARIETY	NON BEARING		CROP & VARIETY	NON BEARING	
	ACREAGE	ACREAGE		ACREAGE	ACREAGE
<b>ALMONDS</b>			<b>GRAPES (Table)</b>		
Drake	3	605	Concord		10
I X L	19	205	Emperor	7	255
Eureka		2	Malaga	5	104
Jordanola	73	460	Ribier	10	164
Ne Plus	95	352	Tokay	1,735	18,471
Nonpareil	741	2,746	Other	25	698
Peerless	79	163			
Mission (Texas)	719	2,287			
Other	2	156			
			Total	1,782	19,702
Total	1,731	6,976	<b>GRAPES (Wine)</b>		
<b>APPLES (All)</b>			Alicante	119	6,833
		36	Burger	152	571
<b>APRICOTS</b>			Carignane	1,059	6,541
Blenheim & Royal		1,033	Golden Chasselas	150	545
Tilton	1	915	Grenache	311	126
Other		10	Mission	400	1,367
			Petite Sirah	19	576
			Zinfandel	725	14,572
			Other	146	633
Total	1	1,958			
			Total	3,081	31,764
<b>CHERRIES</b>			<b>NECTARINES (All)</b>		
Bing	53	1,548		31	186
Black Republican		101	<b>OLIVES (All)</b>		
Chapman	2	148		12	351
Lambert	1	267	<b>PEACHES (Cling)</b>		
Royal Ann	25	1,007	Gaume	97	946
Tartarian	5	786	Halford	164	1,015
Other		130	Palora	133	1,400
			Peak	8	222
Total	86	3,987	Phillips	15	747
<b>CHESTNUTS (All)</b>			Tuscans		61
		150	Walton		97
<b>FIGS (All)</b>			Other	367	645
	6	510			
<b>FILBERTS (All)</b>			Total	784	5,133
		6	<b>PEACHES (Free)</b>		
<b>GRAPES (Raisin)</b>			Elberta	108	687
Muscat	1	204	J. H. Hale	17	340
Thompson Seedless	66	758	Lovell	4	637
Zante Currants		26	Muir	11	396
			Salway	1	52
Total	67	988	Other	135	1,127
			Total	276	3,239

CROP & VARIETY	NON BEARING ACREAGE	BEARING ACREAGE
PEARS (All)		142
PERSIMMONS (All)		14
PLUMS		
Burbank		51
Climax		7
Duarte	69	33
Grand Duke		34
Kelsey		110
President	14	205
Santa Rosa	94	165
Tragedy	33	293
Wickson		25
Other	21	211
<b>Total</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>1,134</b>

PRUNES		
French		212
Imperial		53
Robe de Sargeant		70
Sugar	2	383
Other		7
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>725</b>

CROP & VARIETY	NON BEARING ACREAGE	BEARING ACREAGE
QUINCES (All)		8
WALNUTS		
Concord	1	15
Eureka	77	2,174
Franquette	169	1,919
Mayette	15	682
Payne	146	4,542
Other	36	259
<b>Total</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>9,591</b>
WALNUTS, (Black) (including road-side trees)	296	567

For the year 1946 plantings of new orchards showed little change over 1945. There was a slight increase in the acreage of cling peaches, freestone peaches, English walnuts and black walnuts. Apricots, cherries, raisin grapes, wine grapes, plums and prunes showed a slight decrease.

Almonds and table grapes showed a large increase in acreage.

There are large acreages of almonds, table grapes, wine grapes, cling peaches, and English walnuts not yet in production.

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS  
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY - 1946

CROP	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			F.O.B. VALUE	
		PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Almonds	6,976	.58	4,046	Ton	\$480.00	\$1,942,080.
(Shipping)		6.02	11,787	25 lb pkg.	2.20	25,931.
Apricots (Processed)	1,958	2.98	5,835	Ton	90.00	525,150.
(Dried)		.18	352	Ton	600.00	211,200.
Cherries (Royal Ann)	1,007	4.62	4,652	Ton	300.00	1,395,600.
Other (Shipping)	2,980	2.47	7,361	Ton	433.00	3,187,313.
Cherries (Processed)		.83	2,473	Ton	280.00	692,440.
Chestnuts	150	1.00	150	Ton	520.00	78,000.
(Shipping)		.15	77	Ton	150.00	11,550.
Figs (Processed)	510	1.60	816	Ton	125.00	102,000.
(Dried)		.28	143	Ton	300.00	42,900.
Juice (Shipping)		1.17	37,164	Ton	155.00	5,760,420.
Grapes (Wine)	31,764	4.31	136,903	Ton	100.00	13,690,300.
Tokay (Shipping)		261.67	4,833,307	28 lb pkg	2.25	10,874,939.
Grapes (Wine)	18,471	8.16	150,723	Ton	85.00	12,811,455.
All (Shipping)		35.00	77,665	28 lb pkg	2.00	155,330.
Other (Wine)	2,219	8.00	17,752	Ton	100.00	1,775,200.
Grapes (Raisin)		.10	222	Dry Ton	300.00	66,600.
Misc'l. Orchards	632			Acre	250.00	158,000.
Nectarines	186	510.00	94,860	30 lb pkg	1.30	123,318.
Olives	351	1.10	386	Ton	350.00	135,100.
(Shipping)		279.84	906,402	20 lb crate	1.25	1,133,003.
Peaches (Processed)	3,239	2.30	7,450	Ton	52.00	387,400.
Free (Dried)		.42	1,360	Ton	310.00	421,600.
Peaches (Processed)	5,133	11.94	61,288	Ton	64.25	3,937,754.
Cling (Dried)			60	Ton	280.00	16,800.
Pears	142	3.65	518	Ton	100.00	51,800.
(Shipping)		333.08	377,713	28 lb crate	2.00	755,426.
Plums (Processed)	1,134		238	Ton	56.00	13,328.
(Shipping)		90.17	65,373	28 lb crate	2.00	130,746.
Prunes (Dried)	725	.38	276	Ton	230.00	63,480.
Walnuts	9,591	.79	7,577	Ton	602.00	4,561,354.
TOTAL						\$65,237,517.

FIELD CROPS  
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY - 1946

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	F.O.B. VALUE	
		PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Alfalfa Hay	47,632	6.50	309,608	Ton	\$29.10	\$9,009,593.
Barley	86,116	15.40	1,326,186	Cwt.	3.00	3,978,558.
Beans, Dry	10,488	16.50	173,052	Cwt.	13.40	2,318,897.
Bean Straw	7,640	1.00	7,640	Ton	12.00	91,680.
Corn, Grain	14,373	1.20	17,248	Ton	60.00	1,034,880.
Corn Husks			78	Ton	600.00	46,800.
Flax	55	5.00	275	Cwt.	7.60	2,090.
Grain Sorghum	4,220	17.00	71,740	Cwt.	3.20	229,568.
Hay, Grain	20,355	1.25	25,444	Ton	27.41	697,420.
Hay, Wild	23,892	1.00	23,892	Ton	25.73	614,741.
Mint	469	22.00	10,318	lbs oil	5.75	59,329.
Oats	10,432	10.60	110,579	Cwt.	3.10	342,795.
Range	229,358			Acre	1.25	286,698.
Clover	37,585			Acre	40.00	1,503,400.
Pasture	Sudan Grass	2,638		Acre	25.00	65,950.
Stubble	153,000			Acre	1.25	191,250.
Potatoes	4,661	241.00	1,123,301	Cwt.	2.30	2,583,592.
Pumpkins	Canning	1,079	21,580	Ton	7.00	151,060.
	Stock	68	1,700	Ton	3.00	5,100.
Rice	3,242	32.00	103,744	Cwt.	4.35	451,286.
Silage, Corn	836	11.50	9,614	Ton	5.00	48,070.
*Sugar Beets	6,894	13.20	91,001	Ton	12.13	1,103,842.
Sunflowers	2,440	8.50	20,740	Cwt.	6.00	124,440.
Sweet Potatoes	1,760	140.00	246,400	50 lb crate	2.50	616,000.
Wheat	18,642	9.50	177,099	Cwt.	3.46	612,763.
TOTAL						\$26,169,802.

\* Includes Federal Subsidy

VEGETABLE CROPS  
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY - 1946

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			F.O.B. VALUE		
		PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL	
Asparagus	Shipping 45,521	17.02	774,767	30 lb crate	\$ 3.40	\$2,634,208.	
	Processed	.96	43,700	Ton	183.60	8,023,320.	
Beets, Table	56	11.25	630	Ton	60.00	37,800.	
Broccoli	21	125.00	2,625	40 lb crate	3.40	8,925.	
Cabbage	92	300.00	27,600	Crate	2.00	55,200.	
Cauliflower	42	283.00	11,886	Crate	1.50	17,829.	
Carrots	1,029	16.00	16,464	Ton	60.00	987,840.	
Celery	6,687	215.00	1,437,705	60 lb crate	2.00	2,875,410.	
Corn, Sweet	246	170.00	41,820	65 lb crate	1.75	73,185.	
Cucumbers	412	6.80	2,802	Ton	48.20	135,056.	
Garlic	5	110.00	550	Cwt.	15.00	8,250.	
Lettuce	97	285.00	27,645	Crate	1.75	48,379.	
Melons	Cranshaws	34	8.00	272	Ton	22.50	6,120.
	Cantaloupes	127	125.00	15,875	Crate	2.75	43,656.
	Casabas	637	8.00	5,096	Ton	20.00	101,920.
	Honeydews	384	8.00	3,072	Ton	35.00	107,520.
	Persians	14	8.00	112	Ton	35.00	3,920.
	Watermelons	1,956	10.00	19,560	Ton	22.00	430,320.
Onions	(Early)	1,971	525.00	1,034,775	50 lb.	1.20	1,241,730.
	(Late)	442	430.00	190,060	sk.	.90	171,054.
Peas	(Shipping)	1,803	70.00	126,210	30 lb Tub	1.95	246,110.
	(Processed)	1,533	1.00	1,533	Ton	77.30	118,501.
Peppers	43	11.00	473	Ton	41.00	19,393.	
Spinach	1,270	4.00	5,080	Ton	23.00	116,840.	
Squash	326	7.00	2,282	Ton	30.00	68,460.	
Strawberries	67	1,400.00	93,800	<sup>12</sup> basket crate	3.40	318,920.	
Tomatoes	(Shipping)		20.00	573,280	32 lb lug	2.10	1,203,888.
	(Round)	28,664	12.90	369,766	Ton	29.00	10,723,214.
	(Pear)	2,204	9.00	19,836	Ton	31.00	614,916.
Truck Garden	2,113			Acre	200.00	422,600.	
TOTAL						\$30,864,484.	

SEED CROPS  
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY - 1946

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			F.O.B. VALUE	
		PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
*Alfalfa	238	300.00	71,400	lb.	\$ .43	\$ 30,702.
Asparagus Roots	572			Acre	275.00	157,300.
Asparagus Seed	30	400.00	12,000	lb.	1.15	13,800.
Beans (Red Kidney ) (Certified )	3,303	14.00	46,242	Cwt.	16.00	739,872.
Beans (Dark Red Kidney ) (Certified )	491	14.00	6,874	Cwt.	16.50	113,421.
Beans (Pinks ) (Certified )	230	16.00	3,680	Cwt.	16.00	58,880.
Cantaloupe	8	235.00	1,880	lb.	.50	940.
Carrot	5	280.00	1,400	lb.	.40	560.
Nursery (Trees)						190,000.
Nursery (Ornamental)						35,000.
Nursery (Grape Vines)						30,000.
Onion	12	225.00	2,700	lb.	1.00	2,700.
Potato (Certified)	955	235.00	224,425	Cwt.	3.25	729,381.
Pumpkin	10	210.00	2,100	lb.	.35	735.
Squash	3	160.00	480	lb.	.30	144.
Salsify	1	268.00	268	lb.	2.25	603.
Watermelon	35	280.00	9,800	lb.	.30	2,940.
					TOTAL	\$2,106,978.

\*Includes Federal Subsidy

There is a steady decline in acreage of commercially grown carrot, cabbage, leek, onion, vetch and watermelon seed. This reduction in acreage is mainly caused by much of the land formerly planted to seed crops having been planted to higher paying crops. Certified bean and certified seed potatoes showed an increase for the year 1946.

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

YEAR - 1946

APIARY PRODUCTS

Honey	413,000	lbs.	@ .19	\$	78,470.00
Bees Wax	12,050	lbs.	@ .43		5,181.00
Package Bees	2,850	pkgs.	@ 1.70		4,845.00
Queen Bees	15,800	bees	@ 1.00		15,800.00
Pollenization	4,625	colonies	@ 1.00		<u>4,625.00</u>

\$ 108,921.00

LIVESTOCK

*Beef cattle and calves				\$	10,343,748.00
Hogs					1,087,830.00
*Sheep and Wool					<u>2,277,158.00</u>

\$ 13,708,736.00

DAIRY PRODUCTS

*Milk and Milk Products				\$	12,677,737.00
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POULTRY

Chickens	1,187,687	lbs.		\$	380,060.00
Eggs	2,868,472	doz.			1,204,758.00
Turkeys	3,157,646	lbs.			<u>1,187,551.00</u>

\$ 2,772,369.00

SUMMARY

Fruit and Nut Crops				\$	65,237,517.00
Field Crops					26,169,802.00
Vegetable Crops					30,864,484.00
Seed Crops					2,106,978.00
Apiary Products					108,921.00
Livestock					13,708,736.00
Dairy Products					12,677,737.00
Poultry Products					<u>2,772,369.00</u>

GRAND TOTAL \$153,646,544.00

\* Includes Federal Subsidy

