



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Tim Pelican, Agricultural Commissioner
Linda Pinfold, Asst. Agricultural Commissioner
Phone: 209-953-6000

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY RELEASES ANNUAL CROP REPORT

2020 Crop Values Illustrate Story of Recovery and Resilience

(STOCKTON, CA) The San Joaquin County Agricultural Commissioner formally presented the 2020 Annual Agricultural Crop Report to the County Board of Supervisors yesterday for approval. The data will be used by the United States Department of Agriculture as part of its annual compilation of detailed agricultural data for every county in America.

Agricultural Commissioner, Tim Pelican, announced that the gross value of agricultural production for 2020 was over \$3 billion, signaling an increase of 15.79 percent from 2019 value. Pelican reported despite some trying circumstances, multiple commodities showed substantial gains in 2020. Pelican noted almonds remain the County's number one commodity and continues to increase primarily due to a record yield and increase in bearing acres.

"This year's theme focused on Story of Recovery and Resilience," Pelican said. "2020 was a challenging year for the agricultural industry because of the global COVID-19 pandemic and unprecedented wildfires. The virus, in conjunction with heavy smoke, caused agricultural market disruption and posed major threats to our workforce. We commend our agricultural industry for their resilience and ability to change their business models that allowed keeping the food supply chain open while following the Center for Disease Control's (CDC) COVID guidelines. It was tough but they made it work."

Supervisor Tom Patti, Chairman of the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors, commented on this year's theme Story of Recovery and Resilience, "The Board of Supervisors are grateful for our farmers and ranchers, their risks, knowledge, and production of our annual crops plus the hard work and dedication of our agricultural workforce who also contribute daily to the tremendous success of our annual crop production which is distributed throughout the world. The Board did everything we could during the pandemic to ensure the health and safety of these invaluable workers by helping to provide housing, COVID-19 immunizations, financial relief and other critical support services. We owe them all a great deal of respect and appreciation for continuing to work under such extreme circumstances and keeping agriculture our number one industry."

Highlights from the 2020 crop year:

- Fruit and Nut Crops continue to be the largest in total value of \$1,603,784,000.
- Almonds took the first place with a total value of \$694,031,000.
- Milk was the number 2 crop with a total value of 439,824,000.
- Livestock and Poultry products increased by 15.24 percent with a total value of \$622,507,000.
- Apiary products increased by 28.58 percent with a total value of \$48,671,000.
- Seed crop increased by 24.66 percent with a total value of \$4,090,000.

For the 2020 Crop Report, and past years, please visit: http://www.sjgov.org/departments/agcomm/crop_reports

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