

STATISTICS - 1944
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY ANNUAL
AGRICULTURAL REPORT

AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

YEAR - 1944

This report is a compilation of the condition, acreage, production and value of the crops of San Joaquin County as provided by Section 65.5 of the Agricultural Code of the State of California.

The acreage, yield per acre, production and value of ninety-five different crops are listed. In addition, sixteen crops are segregated as to the purpose for which they are used. In all, there are 117 classifications.

San Joaquin County farmers have done a big job in 1944 towards producing food essential to winning the war. Total production was increased over the previous year under greater difficulties. Large increases occurred in those classes of products most essential for food.

Fresh fruit and vegetable production increased 9.6 percent for a total of 276,032 tons; fruits and vegetables for processing increased 17.7 percent for a total of 328,908 tons; fruit (grapes) for by-products decreased 12 percent for a total of 222,988 tons and dried fruits and nuts decreased 9.1% for a total of 10,432 tons.

Field crop production for food increased 18.6 percent for a total of 117,233 tons; field crops for stock feed and milling purposes increased 1.2 percent for a total of 461,302 tons; field crops (sugar beets) for processing decreased 18.2 percent for a total of 89,000 tons and seed crop production increased 6.3 percent for a total of 11,557 tons.

Marketing of cattle, calves and hogs increased which was primarily a reduction program and will reduce future marketing. Marketing of lambs was less due to decreased numbers of ewes. Poultry production remained about the same. Milk production decreased but there was an increase in the percentage of market and canned milk and a large reduction in the manufacture of butter.

A. E. Mahoney

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

CROP SUMMARY
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
YEAR - 1944

Crop production has been extremely variable this past season. Heavy frosts on March 15th and strong winds during the month severely effected the production of almonds, market asparagus, natural pasture, and peas and certain other crops to a lesser extent. In the late fall excessive rains starting on October 30th and continuing for a period of two weeks followed by damp weather caused losses to many mature crops not yet harvested. The period between these two extremes was generally favorable for the growth and harvesting of most crops. Some crops not effected by either extreme had bumper yields.

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

ALMONDS The large almond district in the southeastern part of the county was severely hit by frost and yields were from 10 to 30 percent of normal. The Lodi and Tracy Districts were not as severely hit by frosts and yields were about 75 percent of normal.

APRICOTS This was the first time in a number of seasons that apricots produced a good crop. The average yield per acre is not as high as one would expect as many of our orchards are poorly cared for and old infections of brown rot and blight severely reduced the fruiting wood.

CHERRIES Growers had a successful season. Yields and prices were exceptionally good. Some frost injury to developing buds occurred but damage was not severe enough to noticeably effect the crop. Wind damage bruised mature cherries principally of the Royal Ann and Lambert varieties. Cannors were liberal in their grade requirements on Royal Ann's, but some Lambert's were too severely bruised for fresh shipment. Canker worms caused some injury to the fruit due to the scarcity of pyrethrum.

CHESTNUTS The crop was large and there was a strong demand from all parts of the country.

FIGS Approximately 25 percent of the Kadota figs were a loss due to the short harvest season caused by warm weather during the ripening period and inability to secure enough labor at this time. There was no interstate shipment of ripe figs this season so that fewer figs were harvested for fresh use, and a greater amount canned.

GRAPES, TABLE The price received for Tokay grapes for table and wine purposes was about the same throughout most of the season. Most growers were concerned in maintaining their fresh market relations, even though packaging grapes entails considerably more effort than picking for the winery. Total shipments of Tokay's for fresh market was above average and a little short of last year's record shipment. Quality was not as good as the previous season and with the inexperienced labor involved it was difficult to put up as good a package as the trade was accustomed to receiving.

GRAPES, WINE There was no ceiling on wine grapes for interstate shipment this season as compared to the 1943 season, when the ceiling price was below the winery price, so that total shipments were double the previous season. Total production of wine grape varieties was below the previous season. The strong demand for grapes for wine purposes resulted in unusually high prices paid for wine grapes.

GRAPES, RAISIN A large tonnage of raisin type varieties was released from the compulsory drying order on account of the low sugar content and the difficulty in securing drying facilities.

OLIVES Yields were one-half of normal. Approximately one-half of the crop was canned and one-half used for oil purposes.

PEACHES, CLINGSTONE There was an extremely heavy set of clingstone peaches and growers had difficulty throughout all of the season including securing labor for pruning, thinning, harvesting and delivery to the canneries. Canners throughout the State were unable to handle the large tonnage and many thousands of tons of fruit went to waste. In this county alone it is estimated that 5000 tons of fruit was unharvested.

PEACHES, FREESTONE The freestone varieties also had a large crop, but growers did not have as large a loss due to the three outlets they have on most of these varieties. However, about 1000 tons were unharvested which were principally of the early shipping varieties. Poor market conditions, small sizes and unsuitable containers accounted for this condition. The War Production Board ruled out the use of the 4 pound basket and 4 basket crate and it was necessary to pack these varieties in 2 layer lugs which are unsuitable as these soft varieties do not carry well in these containers.

PEARS The crop was very light due to a light set probably caused by frost injury to the buds.

PLUMS The yield on the Santa Rosa variety was very light due to a heavy wind storm which blew them from the trees. All other varieties produced a heavy crop and the district shipped a record crop.

WALNUTS The crop did not come up to earlier expectations. Blight, not much in evidence at the start of the season, continued to build up throughout the summer. The crop was considerably less than the previous season and also had a much higher percentage of culls which reduced the value per ton.

FIELD CROPS

ALFALFA HAY The acreage increased 21 percent over the previous year. Most of this increase occurred in the Tracy District. Yields per acre were down due to rain losses to the last cutting and the large acreage of first year plantings on which yields are light.

BEANS The acreage continues to decrease. There were 4000 acres less of all varieties than the previous season. About 2000 acres of mature beans were unharvested due to continuous late fall rains. Yields per acre were also less than the previous season.

CORN, FIELD The acreage was less than the previous season. Quality and yields were normal.

GRAIN SORGHUM Some acreage was unharvested due to immaturity and late fall rains.

GRAIN Estimates on acreage of barley fell far short. The dry March weather resulted in several thousand acres, particularly in the Tracy District, being cut for hay. In the balance of the County yields turned out exceptionally good. Excellent weather prevailed during the filling stage, and yields far exceeded earlier expectations. Acreage and yield on wheat and oats were normal.

HAY There was a large increase in acreage influenced by the fields planted for grain and cut for hay and the strong demand for hay.

MINT Seasonal conditions were very poor for the production of oil.

PASTURE The dry March weather dried up pasture on the range and resulted in the marketing of great numbers of unfinished cattle, calves and lambs. Those having irrigated pasture had a very good year as they were able to buy feeder lambs and other stock at reasonable prices.

POTATOES Yields per acre and quality were the highest of record. Favorable growing weather, good seed selection and improved cultural practices account for this increase. The agricultural commissioner, after receiving proper legal advice, rejected all lots of potatoes for seed which showed any trace of bacterial ring rot. In the past yields on many fields were severely reduced by this disease.

RICE Yields and acreage were normal. Growers had considerable difficulty in getting the crop harvested on account of the late fall rains, and portions of some fields were a loss.

SUGAR BEETS There were 1000 acres less than the previous year. Yields were normal, but sugar content was low due to the late fall rains.

SUNFLOWERS Yields were very low due to the loss caused by late fall rains.

SWEET POTATOES The acreage was above normal and yields were very low. Growers had a very poor season. Unfavorable weather for sweet potatoes prevailed throughout the whole season. Harvest was later than normal and many fields were not harvested before the late fall rains. About 25 percent of the crop was a complete loss due to decay and the quality of the marketed portion was

much reduced. A portion of the loss was due to the fact that many growers withheld marketing of their crop to secure the higher O.P.A. ceiling of the later period.

VEGETABLE CROPS

ASPARAGUS Production of market asparagus was below normal due to unfavorable weather in the early spring months. Production of cannery asparagus for the county showed a large increase over the previous season due to increased acreage and less labor difficulty. San Joaquin County is the leading asparagus producer of the nation and has approximately 60 percent of the State acreage and 30 percent of the national acreage.

CELERY Acreage was below normal. Yields were normal. Three-fifths of the acreage was of the Utah type which is heavier yielding than the Golden, and therefore held up the yield average under unfavorable conditions. Western celery mosaic was general throughout the celery growing area and reduced the yields considerably in some fields. Another factor in reducing yields was a punky condition of the stalks necessitating heavy peeling of the outside stalks of the head. It was probably the result of weather causing quick maturity.

CARROTS The acreage was 1000 less than the previous season. Yields were normal.

MELONS The acreage and yields were normal. Harvest season was late in getting under way due to poor growing weather.

ONIONS There was a heavy planting of both intermediate and late varieties. Yields were very good on the intermediate varieties and low on late varieties. Thrips damage and a shortage of labor for proper weeding caused this reduction. There was some loss on red varieties and late yellows due to lack of demand and a shortage of storage facilities.

PEAS Frost and dry weather in March resulted in a very poor crop of market peas, which are produced on the West Side. The crop of peas for processing was somewhat better, but not up to normal.

SPINACH The crop was principally for canning and portions of some fields were not harvested.

STRAWBERRIES The last two commercial sized patches of strawberries were plowed out after harvest season. However, a new strawberry enterprise was started on the Stanislaus River near Escalon for the propagation of plants to supply commercial plantings in the Coast counties and for the breeding of new varieties.

TOMATOES The largest acreage in the history of the county was planted this last season which produced over 225,000 tons of tomatoes for fresh use and processing. Verticillium wilt was severe in some fields and bacterial canker caused some loss. Worm damage was held to a minimum by general use of Calcium Arsenate. Possibly the greatest loss was caused by the heavy rains which started on October 30th and put a finish to harvest operations. Many growers had not completed harvesting, particularly in the Island District.

THE TREND OF PERMANENT CROPS IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
YEAR - 1944

CROP and VARIETY	NON-BEARING ACREAGE	BEARING ACREAGE	CROP and VARIETY	NON-BEARING ACREAGE	BEARING ACREAGE
ALMONDS			GRAPES (Table)		
Drake	11	605	Concord		17
I X L	15	220	Emperor	7	298
Jordanola	490	14	Malaga		92
Ne Plus	161	273	Ribier	1	164
Nonpareil	953	2,306	Tokay	733	17,949
Peerless	60	166	Other		801
Texas	867	1,936			
Other	2	127	Total	741	19,321
Total	2,559	5,647	GRAPES (Wine)		
APPLES		36	Alicante Bouschet		7,084
APRICOTS			Burger	86	556
Blenheim & Royal	143	899	Carignane	232	6,403
Tilton	35	898	Golden Chasselas	14	536
Other		10	Mission	98	1,426
Total	178	1,807	Petite Sirah		576
			Zinfandel	291	14,950
			Other	301	537
			Total	1,022	32,068
CHERRIES			NECTARINES, (All)	45	174
Bing	59	1,569	OLIVES, (All)	13	350
Black Republican	1	100	PEACHES, (Cling)		
Chapman	3	163	Gaume	346	691
Lambert	2	266	Halford	680	447
Royal Ann	32	1,055	Palora	300	1,303
Tartarian	6	831	Peak	73	157
Other	6	145	Phillips	80	825
Total	109	4,129	Tuscans		90
CHESTNUTS (All)		174	Walton	18	85
FIGS (All)		510	Other	564	409
FILBERTS		6	Total	2,061	4,007
GRAPES (Raisin)			PEACHES, (Free)		
Muscat	1	214	Elberta	89	621
Thompson Seedless	20	747	J. H. Hale	23	363
Zante Currant		26	Lovell	24	636
Total	21	987	Muir	15	409
			Salway	3	56
			Other	172	1,104
			Total	326	3,189

CROP and VARIETY	NON- BEARING ACREAGE	BEARING ACREAGE	CROP and VARIETY	NON- BEARING ACREAGE	BEARING ACREAGE
PEARS (All)	9	135	WALNUTS		
PERSIMMONS, (All)	1	13	Concord	1	18
PLUMS			Eureka	110	2,106
Burbank		51	Franquette	260	1,741
Climax		19	Mayette	67	469
Duarte	34	30	Payne	156	4,637
Grand Duke		34	Other	17	256
Kelsey		137	Total	611	9,227
President	26	230	WALNUTS, (Black)	187	547
Santa Rosa	56	192	(includes roadside		
Tragedy	37	308	trees)		
Wickson		31			
Other	8	235			
Total	161	1,267			
PRUNES					
French		231			
Imperial		59			
Robe de Sargeant		90			
Sugar	2	479			
Other		18			
	2	877			

Plantings of new orchards and vineyards in the year 1944 showed little change. Nursery stock was not available in large quantities and there was not a great demand for it in this county. There was a slight upswing in the planting of wine grapes, plums and new varieties of clingstone peaches.

There are large acreages of almonds and clingstone peaches not yet in production.

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY - 1944

CROP	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			F.O.B. VALUE	
		PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Almonds	5,467	.18	984	Ton	\$800.00	\$ 787,200.
(Fresh)		25.00	18,070	25 lb lug	1.50	27,105.
Apricots (Canning)	1,807	2.37	4,283	Ton	80.00	342,640.
(Dried)		.18	325	Ton	580.00	188,500.
Cherries (Royal Ann)	1,055	4.46	4,705	Ton	235.00	1,105,675.
Other (Fresh and		340.00	1,045,160	15 lb lug	3.60	3,762,576.
Cherries Processed)	3,074	.30	922	Ton	240.00	221,280.
Chestnuts	174	1.60	278	Ton	500.00	139,000.
(Fresh)		20.00	10,200	8 lb flat	1.00	10,200.
Figs (Canning)	510	1.43	729	Ton	116.00	84,564.
(Dried)		.43	219	Ton	240.00	52,560.
Juice (Shipping)		1.25	40,085	Ton	112.00	4,489,520.
Grapes (Wine)	32,068	3.02	96,845	Ton	112.00	10,846,640.
Tokay (Fresh)		275.00	4,935,975	28 lb pkg	1.75	8,637,956.
Grapes (Wine)	17,949	6.57	117,925	Ton	112.00	13,207,600.
All (Fresh)		36.00	84,528	28 lb pkg	1.75	147,924.
Other (Wine)	2,348	3.50	8,218	Ton	112.00	920,416.
Grapes (Raisin)		.43	1,010	Ton	200.00	202,000.
Misc'l. Orchards	400			Acre	100.00	40,000.
Nectarines	174	400.00	69,600	30 lb Box	1.50	104,400.
Olives	350	1.00	350	Ton	185.00	64,750.
Peaches (Fresh)		288.00	918,432	20 lb crate	1.40	1,285,805.
Free (Cannery)	3,189	1.05	3,348	Ton	52.00	174,096.
(Dried)		.46	1,467	Ton	460.00	674,820.
Peaches (Cannery)		8.80	35,262	Ton	62.00	2,186,244.
Cling (Dried)	4,007		25	Ton	300.00	7,500.
Pears	135	2.5	338	Ton	90.00	30,420.
Plums (Fresh)		300.00	380,100	28 lb crate	1.75	665,175.
(Canning)	1,267		175	Ton	53.50	9,363.
Prunes (Fresh)		116.00	101,732	28 lb crate	1.75	178,031.
(Dried)	877	.25	219	Ton	210.00	45,990.
Walnuts	9,227	.64	5,905	Ton	480.00	2,834,400.
TOTAL					\$53,474,350.	

FIELD CROPS
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY - 1944

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	F.O.B. VALUE	
		PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Alfalfa Hay	49,131	5.00	245,655	Ton	\$ 22.00	\$5,404,410.
Barley	83,924	17.00	1,426,708	Cwt.	2.20	3,138,758.
*Beans, Dry	14,336	15.00	215,040	Cwt.	7.00	1,505,280.
Bean Straw	6,000	1.00	6,000	Ton	12.00	72,000.
Corn, Grain	14,594	1.25	18,243	Ton	48.00	875,664.
Corn Husks			100	Ton	750.00	75,000.
Grain Sorghum	9,644	20.00	192,880	Cwt.	2.40	462,912.
Guayule	1,354	Not in production				
Hay, Grain	31,549	1.50	47,324	Ton	20.00	946,480.
Hay, Wild	18,033	1.25	22,541	Ton	18.00	405,738.
Mint	745	30.00	22,350	Lbs oil	7.00	156,450.
OATS	13,013	8.00	104,104	Cwt.	2.60	270,670.
Pasture, Range	210,000			Acre	1.25	262,500.
Clover	28,257			Acre	45.00	1,271,565.
Sudan Grass	3,024			Acre	25.00	75,600.
Stubble	125,000			Acre	1.25	156,250.
Potatoes	8,278	235.00	1,945,330	Cwt.	2.35	4,571,526.
Pumpkins, (Canning)	550	14.00	7,700	Ton	7.00	53,900.
(Stock)	155	20.00	3,100	Ton	3.00	9,300.
Rice	2,666	32.00	85,312	Cwt.	3.65	311,389.
Silage, Corn	1,368	12.00	16,416	Ton	5.00	82,080.
Sugar Beets	6,138	14.50	89,001	Ton	9.60	854,410.
Sunflowers	2,650	7.00	18,550	Cwt.	8.00	148,400.
Sweet Potatoes	2,200	90.00	198,000	50 lb crate	3.90	772,200.
Wheat	23,603	10.00	236,030	Cwt.	2.50	590,075.
TOTAL						\$22,472,557.

* 1592 acres not included, rain loss - Also see Seed Beans

VEGETABLE CROPS
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY - 1944

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			R.O.B. VALUE	
		PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
(Fresh) *Asparagus (Cannery)	38,530	18.90 .83	728,217 31,980	30 lb crate Ton	\$ 3.20 153.20	\$2,330,294. 4,899,336.
Beets, Table	324	5.00	1,620	Ton	25.00	40,500.
Broccoli	255	100.00	25,500	Crate	2.75	70,125.
Cabbage	144	300.00	43,200	Crate	2.25	97,200.
Cauliflower	70	100.00	7,000	Crate	1.00	7,000.
(Fresh) Carrots (Processed)	750 750	10.00 15.00	7,500 11,250	Ton Ton	37.50 20.00	281,250. 225,000.
Celery '44-'45 season	5,159	240.00	1,238,160	60 lb crate	3.00	3,714,480.
Corn, Sweet	365	150.00	54,750	65 lb crate	1.80	98,550.
Garlic	9	75.00	675	Cwt.	19.00	12,825.
Lettuce	50	230.00	11,500	Crate	1.60	18,400.
Cantaloupes	366	100.00	36,600	Crate	1.80	65,880.
Casabas	381	7.00	2,667	Ton	15.00	40,005.
Melons Honeydews	130	6.00	780	Ton	25.00	19,500.
Persians	62	5.00	310	Ton	30.00	9,300.
Watermelons	1,115	12.00	13,380	Ton	17.00	227,460.
Onions (Early)	1,519	600.00	911,400	50 lb.	1.10	1,002,540.
(Late)	1,419	400.00	567,600	sk.	1.50	851,400.
(Fresh) Peas (Processed)	3,061 1,960	70.00 1.25	214,270 2,450	30 lb tub Ton	1.75 74.00	374,973. 181,300.
Peppers, Chili	40	10.00	400	Ton	35.00	14,000.
Spinach	1,563	3.25	5,080	Ton	30.00	152,400.
(Market) Squash (Stock Feed)	280 300	5.00 10.00	1,400 3,000	Ton Ton	20.00 5.00	28,000 15,000
Strawberries	30	250.00	7,500	¹² basket crate	- 2.85	21,375
Tomatoes (Fresh)	1,080	400.00	432,000	32 lb lug	2.25	972,000
(Pear)	10,220	9.00	91,980	Ton	29.50	2,713,410
Cannery (Round)	14,259	9.00	128,331	Ton	27.50	3,529,103
Truck Garden	2,070			Acre	150.00	310,500.
					TOTAL	\$22,323,006.

* 1,887 acres planted 1943 not included.

SEED CROPS
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY - 1944

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			F.O.B. VALUE	
		PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Alfalfa	258	280.00	72,240	lb.	.38 \$	27,451.
Asparagus Roots	249			Acre	250.00	62,250.
*Beans, Red Kidney	2,700	14.60	39,420	Cwt.	11.25	443,475.
Beet, Table	242	800.00	193,600	lb.	.25	48,400.
Cabbage	344	300.00	103,200	lb.	.85	87,720.
Canary Grass	204	12.00	2,448	Cwt.	10.00	24,480.
Carrot	402	300.00	120,600	lb.	.45	54,270.
Fenugreek	184	600.00	110,400	lb.	.07	7,728.
Honeydew Melon	50	50.00	2,500	lb.	.50	1,250.
Lettuce	27	500.00	13,500	lb.	.50	6,750.
Nursery	80			Acre	1,500.00	120,000.
Onion	152	225.00	34,200	lb.	1.00	34,200.
Potato	810	225.00	182,250	Cwt.	4.00	729,000.
Squash	160	200.00	32,000	lb.	.38	12,160.
Swiss Chard	12	800.00	9,600	lb.	.40	3,840.
Pea	20	400.00	8,000	lb.	.05	400.
Turnip	7	210.00	1,470	lb.	.15	221.
Watermelon	17	282.00	4,794	lb.	.32	1,534.
					TOTAL	\$1,665,129.

* 300 acres not included - rain loss.

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

YEAR - 1944

APIARY PRODUCTS

Honey	336,930	lbs.	@ .12	\$	40,432.00
Bees Wax	5,995	lbs.	@ .43		2,578.00
Package Bees	3,640	lbs.	@ 1.20		4,368.00
Queen Bees	15,470	bees	@ 1.00		15,470.00
Pollenization	5,400	colonies	@ .50		<u>2,700.00</u>
				\$	65,548.00

LIVESTOCK

Beef cattle and calves	\$	7,475,290.00
Hogs		2,015,838.00
Sheep and Wool		<u>1,789,250.00</u>
	\$	11,280,378.00

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Milk and Milk Products (includes subsidy)	\$	10,016,231.00
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POULTRY

Chickens	1,252,372	lbs.	@ .28	\$	350,664.00
Eggs	4,326,235	doz.	@ .40		1,730,494.00
Turkeys	2,500,000	lbs.	@ .343		<u>857,500.00</u>
				\$	2,938,658.00

SUMMARY

Fruit and Nut Crops	\$	53,474,350.00
Field Crops		22,472,557.00
Vegetable Crops		22,323,006.00
Seed Crops		1,665,129.00
Apiary Products		65,548.00
Livestock		11,280,378.00
Dairy Products		10,016,231.00
Poultry Products		<u>2,938,658.00</u>

Grand Total	\$	124,235,857.00
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