

# Imperial County Agriculture 1979

## IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

AMERICA'S WINTER GARDEN

THE RICHEST PRODUCING AREA PER ACRE IN THE WORLD

### 1927 STATISTICS

Total Assessed Property Value	1910 \$12,148,180.00	1927 \$48,770,977.00
School Property	1923 \$ 2,600,000.00	1927 \$ 3,425,000.00
County Tax Rate	Outside Incorporated Cities	\$2.30
	Inside Incorporated Cities	\$1.90

1910	Acres	1927	Acres	Shipments
Alfalfa	32,703	Alfalfa	168,210	2,938 cars
Barley	43,573	Barley	47,022	575 cars
Cotton	6,538	Cotton	16,102	8,607 bales
Cantaloupes	1,111	Cantaloupes	36,121	18,116 cars
Milo Maize	4,327	Milo Maize	34,105	234 cars
Wheat	None	Wheat	4,082	44 cars
Grapefruit	None	Grapefruit	6,941	125 cars
Asparagus	None	Asparagus	2,642	105 cars
Grapes	None	Grapes	3,355	761 cars
Tomatoes	None	Tomatoes	1,242	129 cars
Lettuce	None	Lettuce	34,297	11,133 cars
Watermelons	None	Watermelons	4,900	3,544 cars
Peas	None	Peas	4,621	471 cars
Strawberries	None	Strawberries	250	18 cars
Spinach	None	Spinach	365	200 cars
Summer Squash	None	Summer Squash	960	26 cars
Small Truck Crops	500	Small Truck Crops	5,600	344 cars

Live Stock	
Cattle (Stock)	36,065
Cattle (Dairy)	21,203
Hogs	12,513
Sheep	42,034
Horses	5,602
Poultry (Dozens)	9,025
Bees (Stands)	13,734
Butter (Pounds)	6,100,000
Honey (Pounds)	430,000

Fruit Trees	
Apricot	1,260
Figs	615
Olives	1,780
Pine	188
Lemon	212
Tangerines	4,200
Orange	13,020
Date	4,039
Pear	1,200
Plum	316
Peach	168

Total Irrigated Area (acres)	1910 242,110	1927 450,000
Total Annual Rainfall (inches)	2.4	4.70
Mean Annual Temperature	70.0	72.9
Last Killing Frost in Spring	January 2nd	January 24th
First Killing Frost in Fall	December 21st	December 7th

Population Imperial County	1900 0	1927 65,000
Total Shipments All Products (carloads)		65,000

Compiled by IMPERIAL COUNTY BOARD OF TRADE, Court House, EL CENTRO, CALIF.

Office of the  
Agricultural Commissioner

CLAUDE M. FINNELL  
COMMISSIONER - DIRECTOR - ARCO

DONALD W. BUSH  
CHIEF DEPUTY COMMISSIONER - DIRECTOR  
ASSISTANT ARCO

COURTHOUSE  
939 MAIN STREET  
EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA 92243  
(714) 352-3610 EXT. 240

# IMPERIAL COUNTY

OFFICE OF

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER  
DIRECTOR OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES  
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER

TO: MR. RICHARD ROMINGER, DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

and

THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF IMPERIAL

I herewith submit the annual crop report as required by Section 2279 of the Food and Agricultural Code.

Imperial County has again reached an all-time high in gross income for agricultural products produced in one twelve-month period. The \$837,370,000 gross income certainly made 1979 a banner year.

It should be kept in mind that figures in this report are gross figures and include the cost of production, harvesting and, in some cases, marketing.

Respectfully submitted,

  
CLAUDE M. FINNELL  
Agricultural Commissioner

## IMPERIAL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

TUNNEY WILLIAMS, Chairman

LUIS CURIEL

LUIS LEGASPI

JOHN KENNERSON

JAMES BUCHER



## FIELD CROPS 1978 - 1979

### CARROT HARVEST

	Year	Acres	Per Acre	Unit	Total	Per Unit	Value
Alfalfa (Cube and Dehydrated)	1979	28,186	6.0	Ton	169,116	100.00	\$16,912,000
	1978	16,000	6.0	Ton	96,000	77.00	7,392,000
Alfalfa (Hay)	1979	187,926	8.4	Ton	1,578,578	76.00	119,972,000
	1978	180,000	8.2	Ton	1,476,000	60.00	88,560,000
Barley	1979	4,098	2.5	Ton	10,245	110.00	1,127,000
	1978	8,000	2.5	Ton	20,000	107.00	2,140,000
Cotton (Lint)	1979	96,000	1325 A	Bale	254,400B	.72C	91,584,000
	1978	67,000	1280 A	Bale	178,780B	.64C	57,210,000
Cotton (Seed)	1979			Ton	94,905	110.00	10,440,000
	1978			Ton	68,000	100.00	6,800,000
Pasture, Alfalfa	1979	159,737 #		Acre		30.00	4,792,000
	1978	153,000 #		Acre		28.00	4,284,000
Pasture	1979	38,925 #		Acre		23.00	895,000
Sugar Beet Tops	1978	34,274 #		Acre		20.00	686,000
Pasture, Ryegrass	1979	2,438		Acre		180.00	439,000
	1978	8,294		Acre		170.00	1,410,000
Pasture, Other	1979	5,785		Acre		101.00	584,000
	1978	19,200		Acre		150.00	2,880,000
Screening	1979			Ton	1,889	25.00	47,000
	1978			Ton	450	20.00	9,000
Sorghum (Grain)	1979	8,497	2.7	Ton	22,942	110.00	2,524,000
	1978	15,000	2.85	Ton	43,000	90.00	3,870,000
Sorghum (Silage)	1979	510	30.00	Ton	15,300	23.00	352,000
	1978	276	25.00	Ton	6,900	20.00	138,000*
Straw	1979			Ton	88,357	30.00	2,651,000
	1978			Ton	122,800	23.00	2,824,000
Sudan Grass	1979	24,438	5.5	Ton	134,409	44.00	5,914,000
	1978	11,760	5.0	Ton	58,800	52.00	3,058,000
Sugar Beets	1979	45,053	25.15	Ton	1,133,083	29.65	33,596,000
	1978	34,274	25.07	Ton	859,000	25.86	22,214,000
Wheat	1979	99,932	2.6	Ton	259,823	122.00	31,598,000
	1978	140,140	2.50	Ton	350,350	107.00	37,487,000

#—Pastured once  
A—Pounds per acre  
\*—Revised

B—500 lb. gross bales  
C—Price per pound

TOTAL 1979 \$323,527,000  
TOTAL 1978 \$240,962,000\*

## VEGETABLE CROPS 1978 - 1979

	Year	Acres	Per Acre	Unit	Total	Per Unit	Value
Asparagus.....	1979	3,363	1.14	Ton	3,834	2,155.49	\$ 8,264,000
	1978	3,170	1.60	Ton	5,072	1,300.08	6,594,000
Broccoli.....	1979	2,488	1.90	Ton	4,727	374.55	1,770,000
	1978	2,740	3.20	Ton	8,768	567.17	4,973,000
Cabbage.....	1979	660	14.72	Ton	9,715	217.50	2,113,000
	1978	380	5.38	Ton	2,050	140.00	287,000
Cantaloupes.....	1979	9,788	6.84	Ton	66,950	265.90	17,802,000
	1978	12,370	8.80	Ton	109,000	207.00	22,563,000
Carrots.....	1979	6,962	15.60	Ton	108,607	130.00	14,119,000
	1978	6,360	16.50	Ton	105,000	113.94	11,964,000
Cucumber.....	1979	406	6.00	Ton	2,436	266.67	650,000
	1978	400	5.25	Ton	2,100	333.33	700,000
Garlic.....	1979	950	7.05	Ton	6,698	150.21	1,006,000
	1978	430	8.65	Ton	3,720	175.00	651,000
Lettuce.....	1979	44,743	11.16	Ton	499,332	347.80	173,668,000
	1978	40,860	12.15	Ton	496,500	152.77	75,850,000
Melons (Other).....	1979	2,293	9.39	Ton	21,532	234.93	5,059,000
	1978	2,250	9.92	Ton	22,320	183.98	4,106,000
Onions (Market).....	1979	2,289	10.68	Ton	24,447	174.00	4,254,000
	1978	1,950	10.39	Ton	20,260	136.82	2,772,000
Onions (Dehydrated).....	1979	7,200	15.00	Ton	108,000	62.00	6,696,000
	1978	2,040	13.00	Ton	26,520	62.00	1,644,000
Squash.....	1979	418	6.32	Ton	2,642	418.09	1,105,000
	1978	536	4.66	Ton	2,500	375.00	937,000
Tomatoes (Cannery).....	1979	1,040	31.54	Ton	32,800	56.70	1,860,000
	1978	1,149	25.00	Ton	28,700	54.00	1,550,000
Tomatoes (Market).....	1979	1,975	7.64	Ton	15,089	476.56	7,191,000
	1978	1,907	8.86	Ton	16,900	416.97	7,047,000
Watermelons.....	1979	2,781	10.19	Ton	28,338	95.00	2,692,000
	1978	1,790	13.00	Ton	23,270	165.50	3,851,000
Mixed Vegetables*.....	1979	1,703		Ton	12,199		4,082,000
	1978	1,207		Ton	11,130		3,346,000

\* Mixed Vegetables - Banana Squash, Cauliflower, Celery, Chinese Cabbage, Endive, Mediterranean Squash, Mixed Lettuce, Parsnip, Rapini, Romaine, Rutabaga, Turnips, Greenhouse Tomatoes and Bulk Onions.

TOTAL 1979 \$252,331,000  
TOTAL 1978 148,835,000

## FRUIT AND NUT CROPS 1978 - 1979

	Year	Acres	Per Acre	Unit	Total	Per Unit	Value
Dates.....	1979	382	1.40	Ton	535	2,440.00	\$ 1,305,000
	1978	331	1.46	Ton	480	2,500.00	1,200,000
Grapefruit.....	1979	553	3.30	Ton	1,825	137.20	250,000
	1978	536	3.60	Ton	1,930	136.66	264,000
Lemons.....	1979	1,761	6.40	Ton	11,270	217.00	2,446,000
	1978	1,545	6.00	Ton	9,270	205.00	1,900,000
Oranges, Valencia.....	1979	578	2.10	Ton	1,214	237.20	288,000
	1978	860	2.50	Ton	2,150	175.00	376,000
Tangerines.....	1979	224	2.00	Ton	448	140.00	63,000
	1978	430	2.20	Ton	950	210.00	199,000
Mixed Fruit (Navel).....	1979	162		Ton	300		59,000
Oranges, Tangelos, Limes)	1978	301		Ton	644		62,000
Citrus By-Products.....	1979			Ton	7,733	40.33	312,000
	1978			Ton	9,500	31.64	301,000

TOTAL 1979 \$ 4,723,000  
TOTAL 1978 4,302,000

## LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY 1978 - 1979

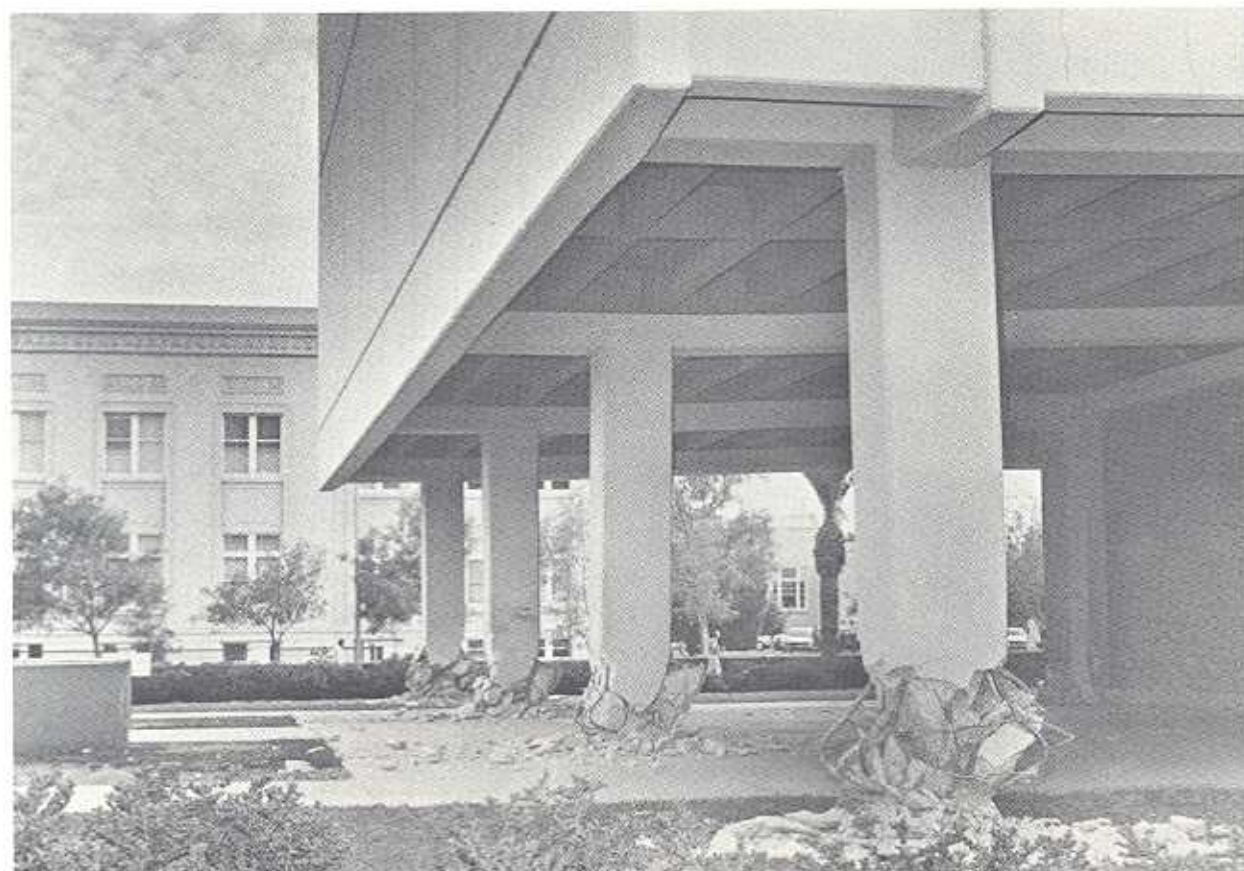
	Year	Head	Unit Gain	Unit	Total	Per Unit	Value	
Cattle.....	1979	613,083	5.37	Cwt	3,292,256	69.10	\$227,495,000	
	1978	591,000	5.40	Cwt	3,191,000	53.71	171,388,000	
Sheep.....	1979	160,000	.50	Cwt	80,000	66.20	5,296,000	
	1978	150,000	.50	Cwt	75,000	60.00	4,500,000	
Milk.....	1979			Cwt	105,000	11.55	1,213,000	
	1978			Cwt	69,600	10.37	722,000	
Wool.....	1979	160,000	4.50	Lbs	720,000	.92	662,000	
	1978	150,000	4.00	Lbs	600,000	.85	510,000	
Misc. Livestock..... (Hog & Fish)	1979						634,000	
	1978						451,000	
TOTAL							1979	\$ 235,300,000
TOTAL							1978	177,571,000

## APIARY PRODUCTS 1978 - 1979

	Year	Colonies	Yield	Unit	Production	Per Unit	Value	
Honey.....	1979	55,239	44.00	Lbs	2,430,516	.50	\$ 1,215,000	
	1978	43,800	39.59	Lbs	1,734,000	.44	763,000	
Wax.....	1979	55,239		Lbs	36,901	1.86	69,000	
	1978	43,800		Lbs	25,700	1.84	47,000	
Pollination.....	1979	50,990		Colonies		11.57	590,000	
	1978	50,164		Colonies		10.03	503,000	
TOTAL							1979	\$ 1,874,000
TOTAL							1978	1,313,000

## SEED AND NURSERY CROPS 1978 - 1979

	Year	Acres	Per Acre	Unit	Total	Per Unit	Value	
Alfalfa.....	1979	15,493	302	Lbs	4,678,886	1.22	\$ 5,708,000	
	1978	8,850	338	Lbs	2,991,000	1.00	2,991,000	
Barley.....	1979	309	4,000	Lbs	1,236,000	.10	124,000	
Wheat.....	1979	2,605	4,600	Lbs	11,983,000	.15	1,797,000	
	1978	1,000	5,230	Lbs	5,230,000	.066	345,000	
Misc Seed Crops..... (Barley, Bermuda Grass, Cotton, Oats and Soybeans)	1979						4,094,000	
	1978						4,138,000	
Nursery (Vegetable & Flower Seeds & Nursery Stock)	1979						6,448,000	
	1978						2,393,000	
Certified Seeds.....	1979						1,444,000	
	1978						1,104,000	
TOTAL							1979	\$19,615,000
TOTAL							1978	10,971,000



EARTHQUAKE OCTOBER 15, 1979

PHOTO COURTESY I. V. PRESS

## RECAPITULATION

	1978	1979
APIARY.....	\$ 1,313,000	\$ 1,874,000
FIELD CROPS.....	240,962,000*	323,527,000
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS.....	4,302,000	4,723,000
LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY.....	177,571,000	235,300,000
SEED AND NURSERY CROPS.....	10,971,000	19,615,000
VEGETABLE CROPS.....	148,835,000	252,331,000
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$ 583,954,000*</b>	<b>\$ 837,370,000</b>

\*Revised

## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS 1979

CATTLE .....	\$ 227,495,000	SHEEP .....	\$ 5,296,000
LETTUCE .....	173,668,000	MELONS .....	5,059,000
ALFALFA .....	136,884,000	WATERMELONS .....	2,692,000
COTTON LINT .....	91,584,000	SORGHUM .....	2,524,000
SUGAR BEETS .....	33,596,000	LEMONS .....	2,446,000
WHEAT .....	31,698,000	CABBAGE .....	2,113,000
CANTALOUPE .....	17,802,000	WHEAT SEED .....	1,797,000
CARROTS .....	14,119,000	BROCCOLI .....	1,770,000
ONION .....	10,950,000	DATES .....	1,305,000
COTTON SEED .....	10,440,000	HONEY .....	1,215,000
TOMATOES .....	9,051,000	MILK .....	1,213,000
ASPARAGUS .....	8,264,000	BARLEY .....	1,127,000
PASTURE .....	6,710,000	SQUASH .....	1,105,000
SUDAN GRASS .....	5,914,000	GARLIC .....	1,006,000
ALFALFA SEED .....	5,708,000		