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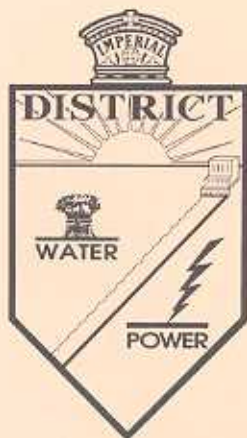
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IMPERIAL COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL
CROP & LIVESTOCK
REPORT



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March 17, 1998

TO: Ann Veneman, Secretary
Department of Food and Agriculture
and
The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Imperial
Wayne VanDeGraaff, Chairman
Bill Cole Dean A. Shores
Tom Veysey Sam Sharp

In accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I am pleased to submit the Annual Crop Report for 1997. This report is a summary of acreage, yields, and gross value of agricultural production in Imperial County. I wish to emphasize that this report represents gross returns to the producer and does not indicate actual net profit.

The total agricultural production value in 1997 was \$1,039,928,000. This is a 10.0 percent increase from the 1996 value. The increases in values were posted in the vegetable and melon crops (11.7%), livestock (6.8%), field crops (7.3%) and, seed and nursery (55.3%). The increases were a result of higher pricing mostly in hay, seed and vegetable crops, coupled with some increased acreage. Decreases in value occurred in citrus crops (3.2%), and apiary products (26%). The decreases were due to lower prices. As a measure of how agricultural production impacts the County, for every thousand dollars of total gross value produced, \$209 dollars of personal income is generated to agriculturally related jobs. The cotton and wheat crops posted record high yields in 1997. Whitefly continues to cause significant crop loss and economic damage.

I wish to thank all the individuals and organizations for their cooperation in providing the information required for the compilation of this report. I wish to especially thank the staff that produced this report for their dedicated work.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Birdsall
Agricultural Commissioner

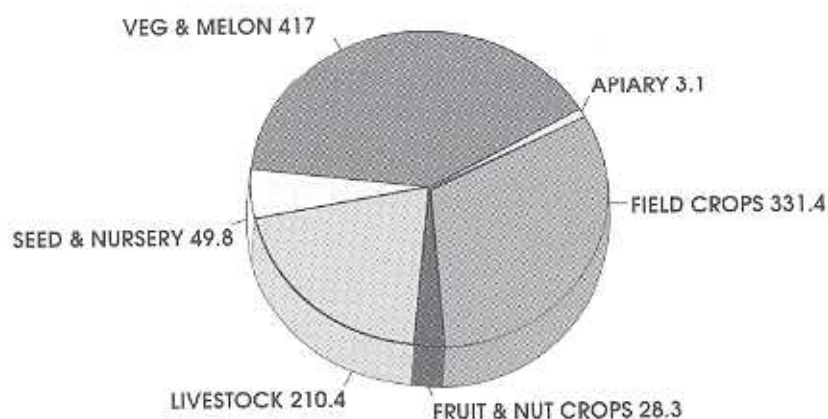
LIVESTOCK

CROP	YEAR	TOTAL HEAD	UNIT GAIN	TOTAL GAIN*	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	GROSS VALUE
CATTLE (Feedlot)..... Finished & Background	1997	328,494	7.86	2,581,963	CWT	63.05	162,796,000
	1996	305,746	7.96	2,433,738	CWT	62.72	152,644,000
SHEEP (Feeders).....	1997	230,000	0.48	110,400	CWT	97.60	10,775,000
	1996	209,250	0.52	109,814	CWT	85.50	9,389,000
WOOL.....	1997	239,200		1,021,384	LBS	0.67	684,000
	1996	211,343		1,091,939	LBS	0.63	688,000
AQUATIC PRODUCTS..... (Fish & Algae)	1997						11,769,000
	1996						14,182,000
MISC. LIVESTOCK..... (Dairy, Dairy Heifers, Swine, Goats, Rabbits & Poultry)	1997						24,335,000
	1996						19,964,000
						VALUE 1997	210,359,000
						VALUE 1996	196,867,000

* GAIN MAY NOT TOTAL DUE TO ROUNDING

1997 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION GROSS VALUE

(Value = Millions of Dollars)



AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

FIELD CROPS

CROP	YEAR	ACRES	YIELD PER ACRE	TOTAL UNITS*	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	GROSS VALUE
ALFALFA (Pellets & Greenchopped)	1997	2,400	3.94	9,450.00	TON	120.00	1,134,000
	1996	2,190	9.27	20,312.00	TON	94.03	1,910,000
ALFALFA HAY (Baled)	1997	165,922	7.56	1,254,370.32	TON	117.91	147,903,000
	1996	158,926	7.54	1,198,302.00	TON	101.97	122,191,000
TOTAL ALFALFA	1997	168,322	7.52	1,265,820.32	TON	117.74	149,037,000
	1996	161,116	7.56	1,218,614.00	TON	101.84	124,101,000
COTTON (Lint)	1997	6,734	3.50	A 23,573.14	BALE	462.94	B 10,913,000
	1996	7,825	2.74	A 21,440.50	BALE	511.14	B 10,959,000
COTTON (Seed)	1997	6,734	1.31	8,839.93	TON	168.00	1,485,000
	1996	7,825	1.03	8,059.75	TON	165.02	1,330,000
PASTURE CROPS							
Alfalfa	1997	99,530	#		ACRE	36.00	3,583,000
	1996	95,356	#		ACRE	36.00	3,433,000
Ryegrass	1997	3,680	C		ACRE	296.00	1,089,000
	1996	3,469	C		ACRE	296.05	1,027,000
Sugar Beet Tops	1997	3,773	#		ACRE	59.20	223,000
	1996	3,398	#		ACRE	59.16	201,000
Misc. Pasture	1997	31,967	#		ACRE	51.26	1,639,000
	1996	36,536	#		ACRE	50.61	1,849,000
TOTAL PASTURE	1997	138,950					6,534,000
	1996	138,759					6,510,000
BALED STRAW	1997			59,503.34	TON	38.00	2,261,000
	1996			73,266.00	TON	35.00	2,564,000
SUDANGRASS HAY	1997	87,562	5.56	486,844.72	TON	98.77	48,086,000
	1996	85,896	6.36	546,299.00	TON	86.33	47,162,000
SUGAR BEETS	1997	37,731	34.61	1,305,869.91	TON	41.65	54,389,000
	1996	33,980	34.45	1,170,611.00	TON	41.50	48,580,000
WHEAT	1997	93,431	3.22	300,847.82	TON	152.51	45,882,000
	1996	110,173	3.01	331,620.73	TON	174.60	57,901,000
MISC. FIELD CROPS	1997	25,893					12,802,000
	1996	27,303					9,646,000
TOTALS 1997	ACRES	423,353				VALUE	331,389,000
TOTALS 1996	ACRES	429,762				VALUE	308,753,000

* YIELDS MAY NOT TOTAL DUE TO ROUNDING

MISC. FIELD CROPS = Barley, Bermudagrass Hay, Buffleggrass, Corn Nuts, Field Corn, Kliengrass, Ryegrass, Oats, Sorghum Grain and Sorghum, Corn, Alfalfa and Sudan Silage.

= Pastured one time and acres are counted in other crop listings

A = 500 lb. Bales

B = Includes Government Payment

C = Pastured Five Times

VEGETABLE AND MELON CROPS

CROP	YEAR	ACRES	YIELD PER ACRE	TOTAL UNITS*	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	GROSS VALUE
ASPARAGUS							
Harvested	1997	4,900	132	644,698	30 LB CTN	35.22	22,706,000
New Seeding	1997	681					
Harvested	1996	4,396	166	731,110	30 LB CTN	38.38	28,060,000
BROCCOLI (Market)							
	1997	7,613	522	3,971,810	26 LB CTN	9.02	35,826,000
	1996	7,092	385	2,726,941	26 LB CTN	7.19	19,607,000
CABBAGE (Market)							
	1997	1,120	628	703,841	45 LB CTN	4.44	3,125,000
	1996	710	687	487,612	45 LB CTN	4.26	2,077,000
CARROTS							
Market	1997	6,560	777	5,095,288	50 LB BAG	6.90	35,157,000
Revised	1996	6,588	708	4,664,304	50 LB BAG	5.70	26,587,000
Processing & Other	1997	9,454	33.90	320,491	TON	85.32	27,344,000
Revised	1996	9,881	33.90	334,966	TON	85.32	28,579,000
TOTAL CARROTS	1997	16,014					62,501,000
Revised	1996	16,469					55,166,000
CAULIFLOWER (Market)							
	1997	3,461	572	1,980,312	23 LB CTN	7.22	14,298,000
	1996	3,710	519	1,924,251	23 LB CTN	7.73	14,874,000
SWEET CORN							
Fall & Spring	1997	4,556	308	1,403,093	50 LB CTN	7.98	11,197,000
	1996	4,397	320	1,409,200	50 LB CTN	8.26	11,640,000
HEAD LETTUCE							
Naked Pack & Bulk	1997	12,056	540	6,508,684	50 LB CTN	4.93	32,088,000
	1996	12,156	453	5,509,634	50 LB CTN	5.38	29,663,000
Wrap Pack	1997	9,864	533	5,255,026	40 LB CTN	6.87	36,102,000
	1996	9,945	506	5,035,114	40 LB CTN	7.30	36,773,000
Salad Products	1997						13,793,000
	1996						11,563,000
TOTAL HEAD LETTUCE....	1997	21,920					81,983,000
	1996	22,101					77,999,000
LEAF LETTUCE							
	1997	8,460	854	7,224,840	35 LB CTN	7.28	52,597,000
	1996	6,944	735	5,103,848	35 LB CTN	5.60	28,563,000
POTATOES							
	1997	2,784	262	729,408	CWT	14.93	10,890,000
	1996	1,955	273	534,556	CWT	16.39	8,762,000

* UNITS MAY NOT TOTAL DUE TO ROUNDING

VEGETABLE AND MELON CROPS

(continued)

CROP	YEAR	ACRES	YIELD PER ACRE	TOTAL UNITS*	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	GROSS VALUE
ONIONS							
Market	1997	4,979	908	4,520,578	50 LB SACK	4.91	22,196,000
	1996	4,720	511	2,412,530	50 LB SACK	4.15	10,012,000
Processor	1997	5,350	19.09	102,416	TON	86.28	8,836,000
	1996	7,259	17.47	126,815	TON	85.29	10,816,000
TOTAL ONIONS.....	1997	10,329					31,032,000
	1996	11,979					20,828,000
TOMATOES							
Market	1997	652	1,342	874,984	25 LB CTN	5.77	5,049,000
	1996	1,214	1,833	2,225,262	25 LB CTN	5.57	12,395,000
Processor	1997	Misc.					
	1996	808	42.33	34,203	TON	54.67	1,870,000
TOTAL TOMATOES.....	1997	652					5,049,000
	1996	2,022					14,265,000
MISC. VEGETABLES.....	1997	5,768					23,210,000
	1996	5,860					24,764,000
CANTALOUPE							
Spring	1997	13,605	434	5,899,795	40 LB CTN	6.73	39,706,000
	1996	15,137	436	6,606,415	40 LB CTN	6.91	45,650,000
Fall.....	1997	2,619	237	620,368	40 LB CTN	8.32	5,161,000
	1996	1,598	219	350,183	40 LB CTN	10.83	3,792,000
TOTAL CANTALOUPE....	1997	16,224	402	6,520,163	40 LB CTN	6.88	44,867,000
	1996	16,735	416	6,956,598	40 LB CTN	7.11	49,442,000
HONEYDEW & MISC. MELONS							
Spring and Fall	1997	1,793	576	1,032,380	40 LB CTN	6.30	6,504,000
	1996	1,820	761	1,385,626	40 LB CTN	5.23	7,240,000
WATERMELONS.....	1997	2,114	24.38	51,530	TON	216.72	11,168,000
	1996	2,858	16.14	46,129	TON	228.14	10,524,000
TOTALS 1997.....	ACRES	107,708				VALUE	416,953,000
TOTALS 1996.....	ACRES	109,048		Revised		VALUE	373,811,000

* UNITS MAY NOT TOTAL DUE TO ROUNDING

MISC. VEGETABLES = Artichokes, Beans, Beets, Celery, Chinese Vegetables, Cilantro, Collards, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Endive, Garlic, Kale, Mustard Greens, Misc. Organics, Okra, Green Onions, Parsley, Parsnips, Peppers, Processor Tomatoes, Radishes, Rappini, Rutabagas, Spinach, Squash, Swiss Chard, Turnips and Water Lilies.

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

CROP	YEAR	ACRES	UNITS PER ACRE	TOTAL UNITS*	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	GROSS VALUE
DATES							
Harvested	1997	803	3.30	2,649.90	TON	4,420.00	11,713,000
Non-Bearing	1997	177					
Harvested	1996	752	3.60	2,707.20	TON	4,900.00	13,265,000
GRAPEFRUIT							
Harvested	1997	816	14.58	11,897.28	TON	399.99	4,759,000
Non-Bearing	1997	235					
Harvested	1996	754	7.58	5,715.32	TON	364.28	2,082,000
LEMONS							
Harvested	1997	1,635	6.99	11,428.65	TON	632.61	7,230,000
Non-Bearing	1997	857					
Harvested	1996	1,736	9.09	15,780.24	TON	560.03	8,837,000
ORANGES (NAVEL & VALENCIA)							
Harvested	1997	581	0.96	557.76	TON	497.35	277,000
Non-Bearing	1997	41					
Harvested	1996	599	3.31	1,982.69	TON	448.42	889,000
TANGERINES							
Harvested	1997	454	5.11	2,319.94	TON	503.20	1,167,000
Non-Bearing	1997	0					
Harvested	1996	630	5.94	3,742.20	TON	508.00	1,901,000
MISC. CITRUS, FRUIT & NUT CROPS							
Harvested	1997	450	8.31	3,739.50	TON	714.19	2,671,000
Non-Bearing	1997	89					
Harvested	1996	444	4.86	2,156.50	TON	850.45	1,834,000
CITRUS BY-PRODUCTS				13,752.10	TON	36.86	507,000
				9,472.98	TON	43.52	412,000
TOTALS 1997		ACRES	4,739			VALUE	28,324,000
TOTALS 1996		ACRES	4,915			VALUE	29,220,000

* UNITS MAY NOT TOTAL DUE TO ROUNDING
 MISC. CITRUS = Tangelos and Sour Orange
 FRUIT & NUT CROPS = Grapes and Mangos

SEED CROPS AND NURSERY PRODUCTS

CROP	YEAR	ACRES	UNITS PER ACRE	TOTAL UNITS*	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	GROSS VALUE
ALFALFA SEED	1997	11,739	530	6,221,670	LBS	1.61	10,017,000
	1996	13,238	435	5,758,530	LBS	1.25	7,198,000
BERMUDAGRASS SEED	1997	18,710	589	11,020,190	LBS	1.62	17,853,000
	1996	22,636	280	6,338,080	LBS	1.10	6,972,000
ONION SEED	1997	3,573	514	1,836,522	LBS	5.44	9,991,000
	1996	1,882	391	735,862	LBS	5.00	3,679,000
MISC. FIELD, VEGETABLE & FLOWER SEED CROPS & NURSERY PRODUCTS	1997	1,038					1,882,000
	1996	1,066					2,021,000
CERTIFIED SEED	1997	9,372					10,031,000
	1996	15,229					12,171,000
TOTALS 1997	ACRES	44,432				VALUE	49,774,000
TOTALS 1996	ACRES	54,051				VALUE	32,041,000

* UNITS MAY NOT TOTAL DUE TO ROUNDING

MISC. FIELD, VEGETABLE AND

FLOWER SEED CROPS = Artichoke, Broccoli, Carrots, Cauliflower, Flax, Flowers, Herbs, Lettuce, Okra, Radish, Rape, Rappini, Sudangrass, Sunflower and Grains.

CERTIFIED SEED = Alfalfa, Artichoke, Bermudagrass, Flax, Oats, Rape, Sudangrass and Wheat.

APIARY PRODUCTS

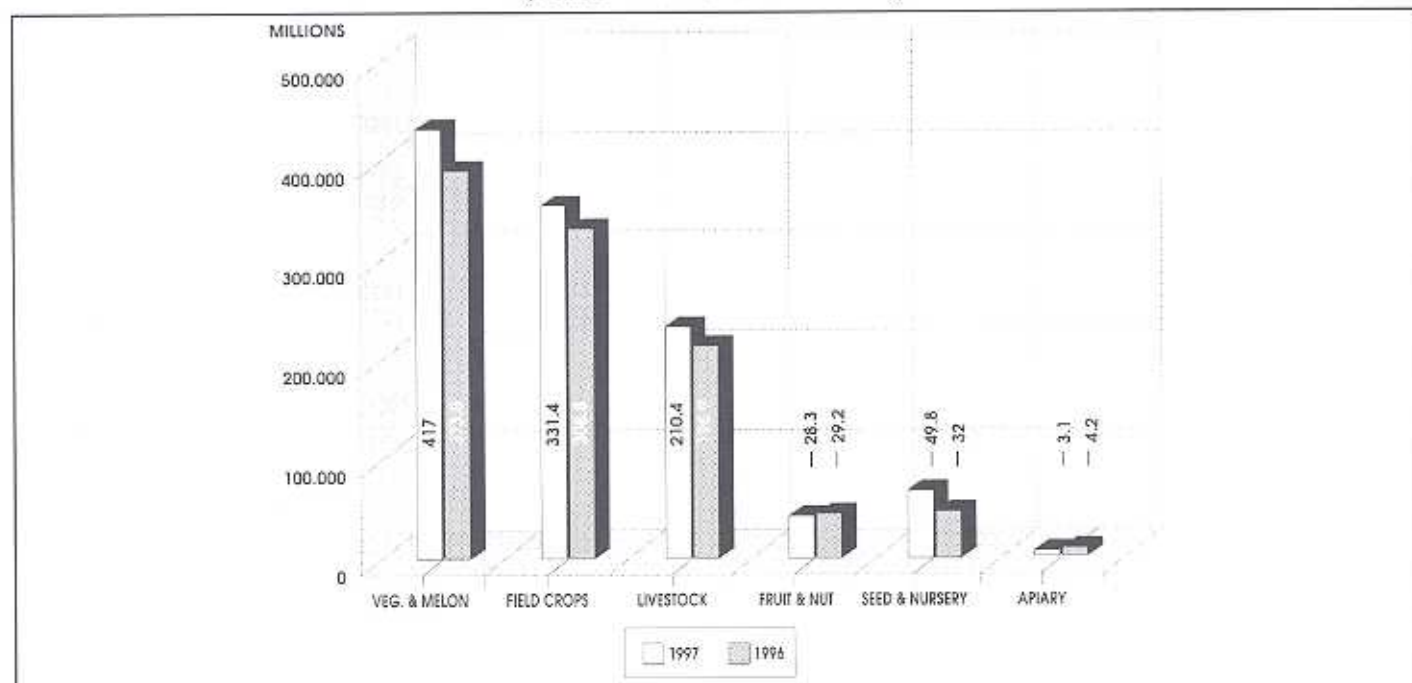
	YEAR	TOTAL HIVES	YIELD PER HIVE	TOTAL UNITS*	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	GROSS VALUE
HONEY	1997	46,228	58.20	2,690,672.16	LBS	0.61	1,634,000
	1996	44,117	72.29	3,189,156.63	LBS	0.83	2,647,000
WAX	1997	52,228	1.17	60,920.92	LBS	1.64	100,000
	1996	44,317	1.41	62,404.00	LBS	2.25	140,000
POLLINATION	1997	64,302			COL	21.69	1,395,000
	1996	67,925			COL	21.27	1,445,000
						VALUE 1997	3,129,000
						VALUE 1996	4,232,000

* UNITS MAY NOT TOTAL DUE TO ROUNDING

1997 SUMMARY

COMMODITY	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	VALUE
VEGETABLE & MELON CROPS	1997	107,708	416,953,000
Revised for Carrots	1996	109,048	373,811,000
FIELD CROPS	1997	423,353	331,389,000
	1996	429,762	308,753,000
LIVESTOCK	1997		210,359,000
	1996		196,867,000
FRUIT & NUT CROPS	1997	4,739	28,324,000
	1996	4,915	29,220,000
SEED & NURSERY CROPS	1997	44,432	49,774,000
	1996	54,051	32,041,000
APIARY PRODUCTS	1997		3,129,000
	1996		4,232,000
TOTALS	1997	580,232	1,039,928,000
Revised TOTALS	1996	597,776	944,924,000

GROSS VALUE 1997-1996 COMPARISON (Value = Millions of Dollars)



TOP FORTY CROPS

1997 RANKING			1996 RANKING
1	CATTLE	\$162,796,000	1
2	ALFALFA	149,037,000	2
3	LETTUCE	81,983,000	3
4	CARROTS	62,501,000	4
5	SUGARBEETS	54,389,000	7
6	LEAF LETTUCE	52,597,000	9
7	SUDANGRASS HAY	48,086,000	8
8	WHEAT	45,882,000	5
9	CANTALOUPE	44,867,000	6
10	BROCCOLI	35,826,000	14
11	ONIONS	31,032,000	12
12	MISC. LIVESTOCK	24,335,000	13
13	MISC. VEGETABLES	23,210,000	11
14	ASPARAGUS	22,706,000	10
15	BERMUDAGRASS SEED	17,853,000	29
16	CAULIFLOWER	14,298,000	15
17	MISC. FIELD CROPS	12,802,000	23
18	AQUATIC PRODUCTS	11,769,000	16
19	DATES	11,713,000	17
20	SWEET CORN	11,197,000	20
21	WATERMELONS	11,168,000	22
22	COTTON LINT	10,913,000	21
23	POTATOES	10,890,000	26
24	SHEEP	10,775,000	24
25	CERTIFIED SEED	10,031,000	19
26	ALFALFA SEED	10,017,000	28
27	ONION SEED	9,991,000	31
28	LEMONS	7,230,000	25
29	TOTAL PASTURE	6,534,000	30
30	HONEYDEW & MISC. MELONS	6,504,000	27
31	TOMATOES - MARKET	5,049,000	18
32	GRAPEFRUIT	4,759,000	34
33	CABBAGE	3,125,000	35
34	MISC. CITRUS	2,671,000	39
35	BALED STRAW	2,261,000	33
36	MISC. SEED & NURSERY	1,882,000	36
37	TOMATOES - PROCESSOR	1,870,000	38
38	HONEY	1,634,000	32
39	COTTON SEED	1,485,000	40
40	POLLINATION	1,395,000	*

* = NEW FOR 1997

This report is published by the Agricultural Commissioner's Office
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