

IMPERIAL COUNTY

Agricultural Crop & Livestock Report 2009



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TO: A. G. Kawamura, Secretary
Department of Food and Agriculture
And
The Honorable Board of Supervisors, County of Imperial
Louis Fuentes, Chairperson
Jack Terrazas
Michael W. Kelley
Gary Wyatt
Wally Leimgruber

In accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I am pleased to submit the 2009 Annual Agricultural Crop and Livestock Report for Imperial County Agriculture. This report is a summary of acreage, yield, and gross value of agricultural production in Imperial County. It must be emphasized that the values presented in this report represent **Gross** receipt of producers and **do not** take into account the various costs of production, marketing or transportation. **No attempt is made to reflect net income of the producer.** Also included is a report on the activities for sustainable agriculture as specified in section 2272 of the aforementioned code.

The total gross agricultural production value in 2009 decreased to \$1,452,970,000 for an overall reduction of 13.75%. Several commodity groups showed decreases over last year. Reduced prices were the biggest factor contributing to the decrease. Field Crops and Seed and Nursery Crops posted losses of over 35% while Livestock decreased 13.94%. Apiary Products and Vegetable and Melon Crops remained relatively stable. Fruit & Nut Crops showed an increase of 27.91%.

For the last 25 years it has been my distinct honor to compile and present this report on behalf of the agricultural industry of Imperial County. It memorializes not only the health but also resilience of the agricultural industry and ultimately the economy of Imperial County.

I would also like to thank all of the folks who diligently, each year, provided the statistics for this report. Thanks to the folks who reviewed the drafts and validated the data which are presented here.

And finally, thanks to my staff, without their dedication this report would not be possible.

This will be the last Crop and Livestock report under my signature. To you all, thanks for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights and Measures — It has been a great ride.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Birdsall
Agricultural Commissioner

IMPERIAL COUNTY 2009 Summary

COMMODITY	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	VALUE
VEGETABLE & MELON CROPS	2009	114,099	690,311,000
	2008	116,583	675,242,000
FIELD CROPS	2009	353,128	312,544,000
	2008	412,335	482,588,000
LIVESTOCK	2009		343,201,000
	2008		398,789,000
FRUIT & NUT CROPS	2009	6,745	47,765,000
	2008	5,665	37,342,000
SEED & NURSERY CROPS	2009	62,237	55,577,000
	2008	64,457	86,789,000
APIARY PRODUCTS	2009		3,562,000
	2008		3,772,000
TOTALS	2009	536,209	1,452,970,000
TOTALS	2008	599,040	1,684,522,000

IN MEMORY OF CLIFF GRUENBERG

6/27/51 – 11/19/09

This year's Agricultural Crop and Livestock Report is dedicated to the memory of Cliff Gruenberg who worked for the Imperial County Agricultural Commissioner's Office for 30 years. Cliff began his career with Imperial County in 1977, working in pest detection, standardization, seed inspection, and pesticide use enforcement. He was the Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer in charge of Pesticide Use Enforcement for 20 years. Throughout that time, Cliff was instrumental in providing documentation and background information that allowed many low toxicity pesticides obtain local provisional registrations, and his broad knowledge of pesticide regulations and consistent enforcement stance provided the public and the local agricultural community with policies that have safeguarded the public welfare, while ensuring the availability of pest management tools needed to successfully grow our crops. He stepped in as the interim Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer in 2006, where he remained until his retirement in 2008.



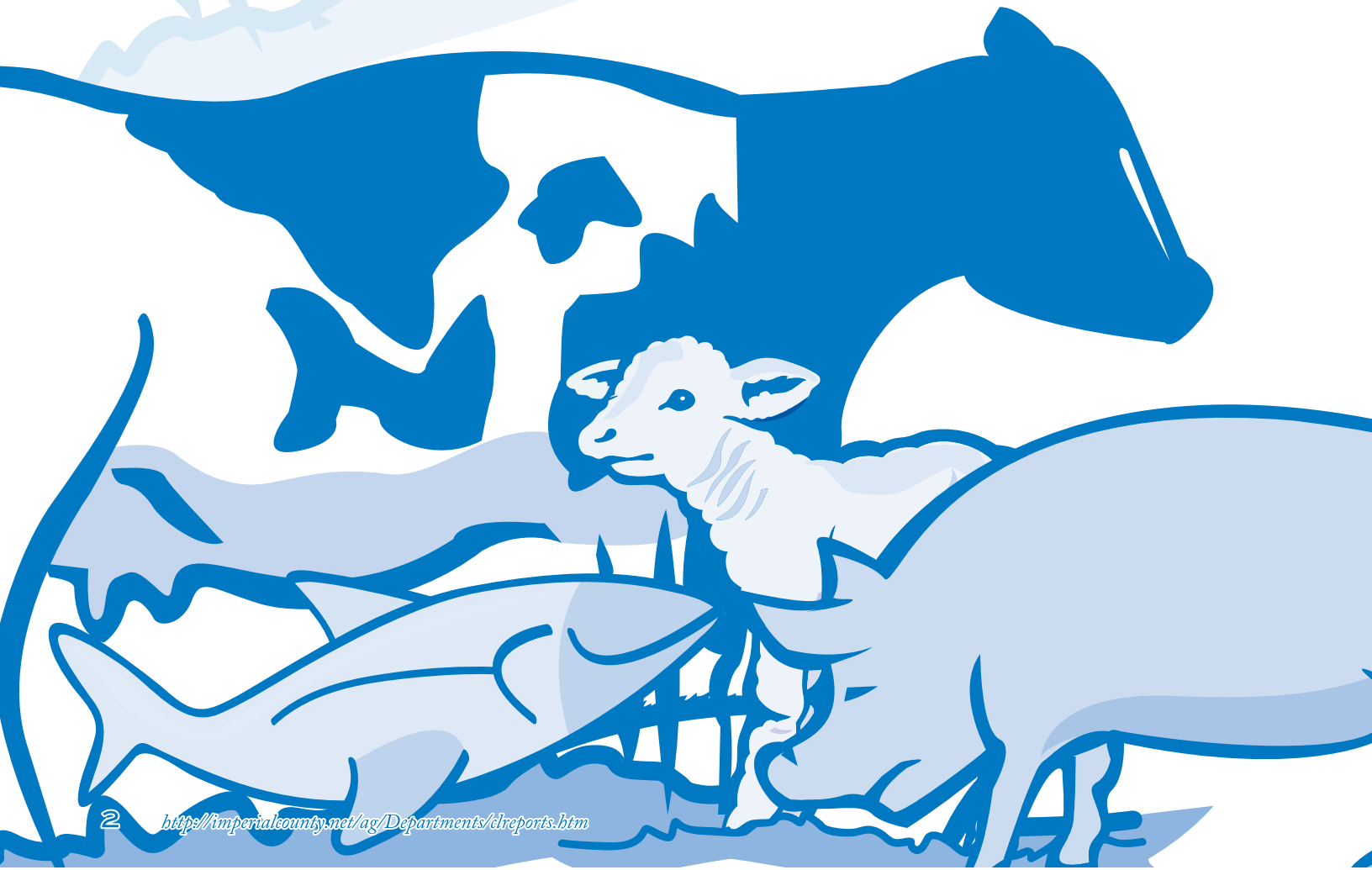
Cliff was best described by one of his coworkers in an announcement of his passing, to those in our office that perhaps did not know him well..." Although Cliff was a Regulator extraordinaire he was not without humor and a strange sense of jest. Yes, at times he was a practical joker, an admirable quality considering that he was often involved in many intense, and sometimes volatile, environmental situations. In his own unique way, Cliff took time to make people laugh and feel good about the day. We have all been fortunate to have been touched, although briefly, by this wonderful human being and he will be sorely missed."

IMPERIAL COUNTY

Livestock

CROP	YEAR	TOTAL HEAD	UNIT GAIN	TOTAL GAIN	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	GROSS VALUE
CATTLE (Feedlot)	2009	373,866	9.70	3,626,500	CWT	79.14	287,001,000
	2008	375,403	9.44	3,543,804	CWT	88.93	315,151,000
SHEEP (Feeders)	2009	140,000	0.40	56,000	CWT	97.77	5,475,000
	2008	150,000	0.45	67,500	CWT	95.00	6,413,000
WOOL	2009	140,000	3.17	443,800	LBS	0.36	160,000
	2008	150,000	3.13	469,500	LBS	0.69	324,000
AQUATIC PRODUCTS (Fish & Algae)	2009						13,393,000
	2008						10,258,000
MISC. LIVESTOCK (Calves, Cattle, Cavies, Dairy Animals, Goats, Lambs, Milk, Poultry, Rabbits & Swine)	2009						37,172,000
	2008						66,643,000
					VALUE 2009		343,201,000
					VALUE 2008		398,789,000

NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE DUE TO ROUNDING



IMPERIAL COUNTY

Field Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES	YIELD PER ACRE	TOTAL UNITS	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	GROSS VALUE
ALFALFA HAY (Baled)	2009	112,912	7.02	792,642.24	TON	107.67	85,344,000
	2008	119,243	6.48	772,694.64	TON	193.02	149,146,000
BERMUDAGRASS HAY	2009	49,313	6.00	295,878.00	TON	110.23	32,615,000
	2008	54,442	5.26	286,364.92	TON	164.50	47,107,000
COTTON (Lint)	2009	2,120	3.50 A	7,420.00	BALE	320.00	2,374,000
	2008	2,478	3.87 A	9,589.86	BALE	317.10 B	3,041,000
COTTON (Seed)	2009			2,840.80	TON	183.25	521,000
	2008			3,568.00	TON	175.25	625,000
KLEINGRASS HAY	2009	14,129	10.50	148,354.50	TON	96.00	14,242,000
	2008	14,889	11.72	174,499.08	TON	163.00	28,443,000
PASTURED CROPS	2009	74,783*			ACRE	38.69	2,893,000
	2008	86,693*			ACRE	37.05	3,212,000
BALED STRAW	2009			53,498.00	TON	27.26	1,458,000
	2008			112,422.00	TON	72.31	8,129,000
SUDANGRASS HAY	2009	34,404	6.66	229,130.64	TON	121.84	27,917,000
	2008	68,536	5.67	388,599.12	TON	172.79	67,146,000
SUGAR BEETS	2009	18,022	45.20	814,594.40	TON	51.27	41,764,000
	2008	23,773	38.05	904,562.65	TON	45.59	41,239,000
WHEAT	2009	111,638	3.53	394,082.14	TON	248.33	97,862,000
	2008	116,650	3.57	416,440.50	TON	309.27	128,793,000
MISC. FIELD CROPS	2009	10,590					5,564,000
	2008	12,324					5,707,000
TOTALS	2009	ACRES				VALUE	312,554,000
TOTALS	2008	ACRES				VALUE	482,588,000

NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE DUE TO ROUNDING

MISC. FIELD CROPS = Aliciagrass, Bamboo, Barley Grain, Field Corn, Corn Silage, Flax, Mixed Grasses, Oat Hay, Ryegrass Hay, Safflower, Sorghum Grain, Sorghum Silage, Sod, Soybeans, Sugar Cane.

PASTURED CROPS = Alfalfa, Bermudagrass, Melons, Permanent Pasture, Ryegrass, Sudangrass and Sweet Corn

* = Pastured one time. Acres are not included in the Totals section

A = 500 lb. Bales

B = Includes Government Payment

IMPERIAL COUNTY

Vegetable &

CROP	YEAR	ACRES	YIELD PER ACRE	TOTAL UNITS	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	GROSS VALUE
ASPARAGUS **	2009						
	2008	373	167	62,291	30 LB CTN	34.15	2,127,000
BROCCOLI (Market)	2009	12,078	670	8,092,260	26 LB CTN	9.82	79,466,000
	2008	12,679	660	8,368,140	26 LB CTN	8.73	73,054,000
CABBAGE (Market)	2009	953	721	687,113	45 LB CTN	7.53	5,174,000
	2008	1,336	715	955,240	45 LB CTN	6.78	6,477,000
CARROTS (Market)	2009	5,675	853	4,840,775	50 LB BAG	5.74	27,786,000
	2008	6,202	860	5,333,720	50 LB BAG	8.05	42,936,000
Processing & Other	2009	8,512	37.12	315,965	TON	85.00	26,857,000
	2008	9,302	32.51	302,408	TON	80.00	24,193,000
TOTAL CARROTS	2009	14,187					54,643,000
	2008	15,504					67,129,000
CAULIFLOWER (Market)	2009	4,363	760	3,315,880	23 LB CTN	9.57	31,733,000
	2008	3,317	747	2,477,799	23 LB CTN	9.61	23,812,000
SWEET CORN	2009	8,030	425	3,412,750	50 LB CTN	10.20	34,810,000
	2008	6,345	365	2,315,925	50 LB CTN	11.30	26,170,000
HEAD LETTUCE Naked Pack	2009			1,081,357	50 LB CTN	8.72	9,429,000
	2008			1,261,587	50 LB CTN	6.73	8,490,000
Wrap Pack	2009			9,290,373	40 LB CTN	11.16	103,681,000
	2008			9,882,432	40 LB CTN	8.86	87,558,000
Bulk	2009			6,397,504	50 LB CTN	5.25*	33,587,000
	2008			6,911,745	50 LB CTN	3.62*	25,021,000
TOTAL HEAD LETTUCE	2009	21,873		16,769,234	CTN	8.75	146,697,000
	2008	23,730		18,055,764	CTN	6.71	121,069,000
LEAF LETTUCE	2009	14,271	950	13,557,450	35 LB CTN	8.55	115,916,000
	2008	12,702	964	12,244,728	35 LB CTN	8.63	105,672,000
SALAD PRODUCTS	2009			30,092,638	LB	0.39	11,736,000
	2008			32,758,344	LB	0.39	12,776,000
SPRING MIX	2009	6,251	7,000	43,757,000	LB	0.85	37,193,000
	2008	6,306	7,000	44,142,000	LB	0.85	37,521,000

NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE DUE TO ROUNDING

*NET OF HARVEST, BINS and COOLING

**INCLUDED IN MISCELLANEOUS VEGETABLES

SPRING MIX = Various Greens, Red, and Baby Leaf Lettuce, Arugula, Beet Tops, Chard, Endive, Frisee, Kale, Mizuna, Mustard, Orach, Romaine, Spinach, Tat-Soi and Other Salad Greens.

Melon Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES	YIELD PER ACRE	TOTAL UNITS	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	GROSS VALUE	
ONIONS								
	Market	2009	3,788	1,500	5,682,000	50 LB SACK	4.70	26,705,000
		2008	4,010	1,275	5,112,750	50 LB SACK	4.75	24,286,000
Processor	2009	6,180	21.68	133,982	TON	138.62	18,573,000	
	2008	6,495	21.00	136,395	TON	113.10	15,426,000	
TOTAL ONIONS	2009	9,968					45,278,000	
	2008	10,505					39,712,000	
POTATOES	2009	1,432	196	280,672	CWT	40.44	11,350,000	
	2008	1,973	210	414,330	CWT	29.12	12,065,000	
SPINACH	2009	4,210	9,000	37,890,000	LB	0.35 *	13,262,000	
	2008	3,652	10,000	36,520,000	LB	0.68	24,834,000	
MISC. VEGETABLES	2009	7,660					56,004,000	
	2008	6,201					49,620,000	
CANTALOUPE	2009	6,843	730	4,995,390	40 LB CTN	7.07	35,317,000	
	2008	8,310	753	6,257,430	40 LB CTN	6.81	42,613,000	
HONEYDEW & MISC. MELONS	2009	693	954	661,122	40 LB CTN	6.61	4,370,000	
	2008	1,489	654	973,806	40 LB CTN	6.56	6,388,000	
WATERMELONS	2009	1,287	26.00	33,462	TON	220.00	7,362,000	
	2008	2,161	35.00	75,635	TON	320.00	24,203,000	
TOTALS 2009	ACRES	114,099				VALUE	690,311,000	
TOTALS 2008	ACRES	116,583				VALUE	675,242,000	

NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE DUE TO ROUNDING

*NET OF HARVEST

MISC. VEGETABLES = Aloe Vera, Arugula, Artichokes, Asparagus, Beans, Black Eyed Beans, Beets, Bok Choy, Napa Cabbage, Celery, Chive, Chinese Spinach, Cilantro, Collard, Cucumber, Dandelion Greens, Eggplant, Endive, Fennel, Gai Lon, Herbs Mixed, Kale, Leek, Mizuna, Mustard Greens, Okra, Parsley, Parsnip, Peas, Peppers, Raddichio, Radishes, Rappini, Rutabagas, Squash, Swiss Chard, Tomatoes and Turnips.

IMPERIAL COUNTY

Fruit & Nut Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES	YIELD PER ACRE	TOTAL UNITS	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	GROSS VALUE
DATES							
Harvested	2009	1,051	2.68	2,816.68	TON	6,337.00	17,849,000
Non-Bearing	2009	440					
Harvested	2008	1,038	3.52	3,653.76	TON	5,870.00	21,448,000
GRAPEFRUIT							
Harvested	2009	755	5.07	3,827.85	TON	406.70	1,557,000
Non-Bearing	2009	280					
Harvested	2008	670	3.17	2,123.90	TON	358.00	760,000
LEMONS							
Harvested	2009	3,335	10.54	35,150.90	TON	584.36	20,541,000
Non-Bearing	2009	337					
Harvested	2008	2,805	3.75	10,518.75	TON	900.00	9,467,000
ORANGES (Valencia)							
Harvested	2009	345	4.19	1,445.55	TON	369.60	534,000
Non-Bearing	2009	89					
Harvested	2008	233	1.79	417.07	TON	431.03	180,000
TANGERINES							
Harvested	2009	245	3.04	744.80	TON	848.80	632,000
Non-Bearing	2009	40					
Harvested	2008	185	1.15	212.75	TON	719.80	153,000
MISC. CITRUS, FRUIT & NUT CROPS							
Harvested	2009	1,014	4.81	4,877.34	TON	1,088.00	5,307,000
Non-Bearing	2009	518					
Harvested	2008	734	5.24	3,846.16	TON	1,264.00	4,862,000
CITRUS BY-PRODUCTS							
	2009			16,363.00	TON	82.17	1,345,000
	2008			5,261.27	TON	89.63	472,000
TOTALS	2009	ACRES	6,745			VALUE	47,765,000
TOTALS	2008	ACRES	5,665			VALUE	37,342,000

NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE DUE TO ROUNDING

MISC. CITRUS, FRUIT & NUT CROPS = Figs, Grapes, Jujube, Limes, Mandarins, Mangos, Pomegranates, Tangelos.

IMPERIAL COUNTY

Seed Crops & Nursery Products

NON-CERTIFIED SEED							
CROP	YEAR	ACRES	YIELD PER ACRE	TOTAL UNITS	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	GROSS VALUE
ALFALFA SEED	2009	14,878	531	7,900,218	LBS	1.79	14,141,000
	2008	19,149	443	8,483,007	LBS	2.71	22,989,000
BERMUDAGRASS SEED	2009	18,487	284	5,250,308	LBS	1.41	7,403,000
	2008	18,769	351	6,587,919	LBS	2.38	15,679,000
ONION SEED	2009	1,197	200	239,400	LBS	27.50	6,584,000
	2008	1,193	194	231,442	LBS	32.14	7,439,000
MISC. FIELD, VEGETABLE & FLOWER SEED CROPS & NURSERY PRODUCTS	2009	246					4,203,000
	2008	1,437					10,867,000
TOTAL NON-CERTIFIED SEED 2009		ACRES		34,808		VALUE	32,331,000
TOTAL NON-CERTIFIED SEED 2008		ACRES		40,548		VALUE	56,974,000
CERTIFIED SEED							
ALFALFA SEED	2009	18,092	561	10,149,612	LBS	1.72	17,457,000
	2008	10,974	481	5,278,494	LBS	3.08	16,258,000
BERMUDAGRASS SEED	2009	7,804	276	2,153,904	LBS	2.32	4,997,000
	2008	8,681	320	2,777,920	LBS	2.21	6,139,000
MISCELLANEOUS CERTIFIED SEED	2009	1,533					792,000
	2008	4,254					7,418,000
TOTAL CERTIFIED SEED 2009		ACRES		27,429		VALUE	23,246,000
TOTAL CERTIFIED SEED 2008		ACRES		23,909		VALUE	29,815,000
TOTAL SEED 2009		ACRES		62,237		VALUE	55,577,000
TOTAL SEED 2008		ACRES		64,457		VALUE	86,789,000
NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE DUE TO ROUNDING							
MISC. FIELD, VEGETABLE AND FLOWER SEED CROPS AND NURSERY PRODUCTS = Cilantro, Corn, Cut Flowers, Forage Hay, Mustard, Palm Trees and Rappini							
MISCELLANEOUS CERTIFIED SEED = Barley, Sudangrass and Wheat.							

Apiary Products

CROP	YEAR	TOTAL HIVES	YIELD PER HIVE	TOTAL UNITS	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	GROSS VALUE
HONEY	2009	48,680	12.00	584,160.00	LBS	1.03	602,000
	2008	49,790	20.68	1,029,657.20	LBS	1.10	1,133,000
WAX	2009	44,528	0.37	16,475.36	LBS	1.68	28,000
	2008	30,490	0.55	16,769.50	LBS	1.90	32,000
POLLINATION	2009	64,401			COL	45.53	2,932,000
	2008	60,594			COL	43.02	2,607,000
VALUE 2009							3,562,000
VALUE 2008							3,772,000

NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE DUE TO ROUNDING



Sustainable Agricultural Report



PEST DETECTION PROGRAM

TRAPPING			
TARGET PEST	PEST DETECTION METHOD	NUMBER OF TRAPS	HOST CROPS
Asian Citrus Psyllid	Yellow Sticky Trap	200	Citrus
European Corn Borer	Pheromone	12	Corn & Sorghum
Various Exotic Fruit Flies	Feeding Attractant	115	Fruit Trees & Vegetables
Glassy-winged Sharpshooter	Yellow Sticky Trap	392	Crops & Ornamentals
Gypsy Moth	Pheromone	50	Shade Trees
Japanese Beetle	Pheromone	48	Turf & Flowers
Khapra Beetle	Feeding Attractant	29	Stored Food Products
Light Brown Apple Moth	Pheromone	263	Crops & Ornamentals
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	Pheromone	94	Fruit Trees
Melon Fruit Fly	Pheromone	94	Vegetables
Mexican Fruit Fly	Feeding Attractant	96	Fruit Trees
Oriental Fruit Fly	Pheromone	94	Fruit Trees

SURVEY		
TARGET PEST	SETTING	SCOPE OF PROGRAM
Asian Citrus Psyllid	Citrus Orchards & Backyard Citrus	8,249 sites
Citrus Canker & Citrus Greening	Citrus	1,397 acres
Cucurbit Yellow Stunting Disorder Virus	Cucurbits	119 sites
Noxious Weeds	Agriculture & Urban	128 sites
Karnal Bunt	Wheat	10 sites
Red Imported Fire Ant	High Risk Sites	247 sites

PEST EXCLUSION PROGRAM

PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE			
TYPE OF PHYTOCERTIFICATE	COMMODITY	CERTIFICATES ISSUED	DESTINATION
Domestic	Hay, Produce and Seed	11,627	South/Central America, Japan, Korea and Taiwan
Re-Export	Various	1,617	South/Central America, Japan, Korea and Taiwan
Process Product	Animal Feed	17	

QUARANTINE			
TYPE OF CERTIFICATE	COMMODITY	CERTIFICATES ISSUED	DESTINATION
California State Phytos	Hay and Corn	189	Hawaii
Quarantine Compliance	Produce and Nursery Stock	342	California Counties, Arizona, Florida, Nevada and Texas

INSPECTIONS			
SEED	NUMBER OF LOTS	POUNDS	DESTINATION
Field Crops	419	15,539,083	US and Other Countries
Vegetable Crops	190	1,196,354	US and Other Countries



TYPE OF INSPECTION	NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS	PEST	REJECTIONS
Bees for Pollination	5	Red Imported Fire Ant	0
Outdoor Furniture	2	Gypsy Moth	0
Sugar Cane	2	Root Borer & Weevil, Fungal	0



ORGANIC GROWER PROGRAM

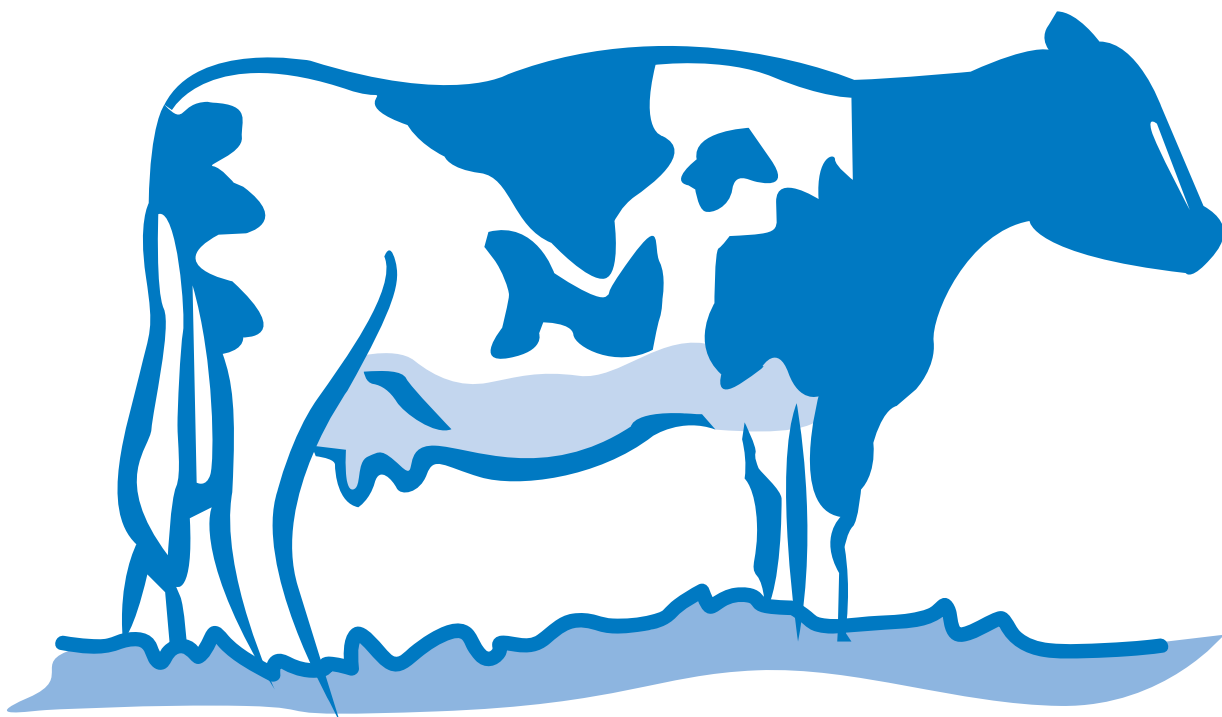
STATISTICS			
COMMODITY	NUMBER OF FARMS	ACREAGE	GROSS SALES
Fruits, Vegetables, Grains, Hay	37	6,812	\$34,845,132



IMPERIAL COUNTY

Top Ten Commodities

2009 RANKING			2008 RANKING
1	CATTLE	\$287,001,000	1
2	HEAD LETTUCE	146,697,000	4
3	LEAF LETTUCE	115,916,000	5
4	WHEAT	97,862,000	3
5	ALFALFA	85,344,000	2
6	BROCCOLI	79,466,000	6
7	CARROTS	54,643,000	8
8	ONIONS	45,278,000	14
9	SUGAR BEETS	41,764,000	13
10	SPRING MIX	37,193,000	15





Stephen L. Birdsall

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