



NEWS from the DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Les Wright, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Reported by the Fresno County Department of Agriculture
Crop Report for the Month Ending Tuesday, November 30, 2017**

SMALL GRAINS: Growers continued to work the ground for planting of oats, triticale, wheat and winter forage. Fields that were planted earlier in the season had signs of good growth.

FIELD CROPS: Alfalfa hay production finished up and bales were stored. Some fields were treated for weed control and to initiate dormancy. Seed alfalfa was mowed for the winter. Cotton harvest continued last month, some growers were harvesting a second time. Cotton fields had started to be shredded and disced to comply with pink bollworm plow down regulations. Cotton modules and rolls were still being picked up and sent to gins. Silage corn harvest was completed. Alfalfa seed was exported to Argentina. Corn seed was exported to Pakistan and jack beans to the United Kingdom.

GRAPES, DECIDUOUS TREE FRUIT AND NUTS: Almond, cherry, and stone fruit orchard pruning and irrigation continued, along with herbicide applications. Almond orchards were cleaned for mummies. Older orchards were pushed out and ground prepped for pre-plant fumigations. Processing of stored almonds was ongoing. Pistachio and walnut harvested completed. Orchards were starting to be pruned and shredded. All raisin, table grape, and wine harvesting finished up. Pomegranate harvest finished up and exports in Sanger ended early due to fruit split caused by rains. There were high levels of Alternaria this season, when other pests were at lower levels. Persimmon harvest has been completed. Almonds, Asian pears, grapes, kiwis, persimmons, pomegranates, pistachios, raisins were exported to Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, India, Chile, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, and Vietnam.

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VEGETABLES AND BERRIES: Fall lettuce harvest season finished up. Lettuce acreage was up due to more water allotments. Fields are being disced for next season's crops. Harvesting started in bok choy, broccoli, chard, kale, mustard greens, and parsley. Garlic and onions were still being planted. While newly emerged fields were being treated for weeds and worms. Pest Control Advisors have noted that insect damage has been extreme this year, with levels not seen since the 1980s. Bird damage has been high in onion and lettuce fields, pushing growers to get bird permits to deal with the issue. Roadside stands can be found selling fall vegetables and the very last of the summer crops. Lettuce seed was exported to France, Netherlands and Republic of Korea.

CITRUS, OLIVES AND AVOCADOS: Harvesting of grapefruit, lemons, mandarins, and oranges begun in November. Plant growth regulators were applied to prevent fruit drop. Orchards were irrigated and treated with fungicides. Citrus has been exported to Australia, Dominican Republic, French Polynesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, and Panama.

APIARY, LIVESTOCK, AND RANGELAND: Lack of rain has kept rangeland extremely dry. Sheep and cattle continue to feed in retired farmland, alfalfa and wheat fields. Calving and lambing season started. Beehives were still being shipped in from other States to over winter in local bee yards. Supplemental feedings were given to sustain hives until spring bloom.

Prepared by: _____
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Dated: December 8, 2017