

county of fresno



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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The Honorable Board of Supervisors
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I am pleased to submit the 1976 Fresno County Agricultural Crop Report showing acreage, production and value of agricultural crops and products produced in Fresno County as required by Section 2279 of the Food and Agricultural Code. The values presented in this report reflect gross figures and not net income to growers.

Despite heavy losses from low temperatures ranging down to 24°F., during January, drought during both the spring and winter months, plus heavy early fall rains; the gross value of agricultural products and crops totaled \$1,170,800,000 an increase of 14 per cent over the previous year.

This is the second year that Fresno County has exceeded the one billion dollar figure. Many field crops such as alfalfa, barley and cotton showed significant increases in value. Lettuce, melons, sweet potatoes, and pole tomatoes reflect substantial increases while most fruit and nut crops report higher values.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the staff under the direction of Conrad Schilling, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner; and L. V. Hawley, Senior Agricultural Inspector, for the many hours spent compiling this report.

We particularly wish to acknowledge the helpful cooperation of many producers, grower associations, food processors, beekeepers, packing house managers, Extension Service personnel, United States Department of Agriculture, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and many other persons and agencies. Each person played an important part in finalizing this publication.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Corn
Agricultural Commissioner

1976 CROP REPORT OVERVIEW

JANUARY

WEATHER: Cold and dry! The year started with record low temperatures recorded on the first three days in January causing additional damage to the county's citrus crop. The month was the third driest January on record with only 0.04" of rain being recorded in Fresno.

FIELD CROPS: Planting of wheat and barley was completed. Growth of emerged stands was slow due to the cold dry weather with dry-land barley especially showing stress. Irrigation occurred where water was available. Rice field preparation was active. Final picking operations for 1975 crop cotton were completed during the first part of the month. Shredding and discing of fields was completed. Land preparation for the 1976 crop was active. Increased cotton acreage was anticipated. Some emergence of new alfalfa was noted. Established stands remained dormant with many fields being irrigated. Sugar beets continued to be harvested with new fields being planted.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Pruning and irrigation were active in tree fruit orchards. Some pre-emergence herbicides were applied but generally ineffective due to a lack of rainfall. Dormant spray applications increased near the end of the month. Pruning and irrigation were active in almonds early in the month. Toward the end of the month, buds began to swell as bloom stage neared. Vineyard activity included pruning, shredding, wrapping and tying of vines, and irrigating. Some pesticides were applied. The last of the 1975 crop table grapes were removed from storage with quality fair to good. Packing of Navel oranges continued as damage permitted. The harvest was approximately 25% complete by the end of the month. Freeze damage was recorded as follows: 17% serious damage; 22% non-serious damage; 61% no apparent damage. Lemons were packed in moderate volume with quality reported good.

VEGETABLES: Harvesting and packing of cauliflower, Oriental vegetables, green onions, radishes and turnips occurred throughout the month. Transplanting of lettuce was started and completed, and tomato transplanting was started toward the end of the month.

LIVESTOCK: Lack of rain and cold weather caused serious loss of much needed rangeland feed. Irrigation of permanent pasture occurred. Critical conditions set in by the end of the month with some rangeland a fire hazard. Much supplemental feeding was necessary.

FEBRUARY

WEATHER: Rain at the first of the month relieved the drought situation. February ended with a monthly rainfall total about three inches above normal in Fresno.

FIELD CROPS: Barley and wheat fields greened up with improved soil moisture. Dry-land barley made good growth near month's end. Applications of 2,4-D were made for broadleaf weed control in most districts. Some fields were green chopped for cattle feed. Preparation of rice fields continued as conditions permitted.

Cotton field preparation continued as conditions improved with preirrigation, bed preparation and herbicide applications active. Alfalfa fields showed improvement with the increased moisture. Growth was slow but increased by month's end. Preparation for spring planting continued. Planting of new crop sugar beets neared completion with early planted fields showing good growth. Harvest of sugar beets neared completion.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Pruning and irrigating of tree fruit continued; dormant spraying increased as weather conditions permitted. Apricots and plums bloomed near the end of the month. Bees were moved into almonds for pollination activities. Various stages of bloom were apparent by the end of the month with some delay noted due to cool weather. Grape pruning was completed; wrapping and tying of vines continued. Fertilization, post-emergence herbicide applications and pest control became active. Packing of citrus picked up after rain caused a slump early in the month. Harvest was about 30% complete at month's end with considerable drying due to freeze damage reported.

VEGETABLES: Harvest of Napa cabbage neared completion. Harvest of hothouse vegetables was active. Generally good growth of spring and some summer vegetables was noted. Processing tomatoes were planted late in the month while tomato and bell pepper transplanting continued. Early planted fields of processing tomatoes began to emerge.

LIVESTOCK: Rain greatly benefited the parched rangeland, but supplemental feeding was still required. Full recovery of native range did not occur.

MARCH

WEATHER: Light to moderate rain occurred on the first and second with the rest of the month dry. Temperatures averaged slightly below normal.

FIELD CROPS: Barley and wheat showed improvement throughout the month. Applications of 2,4-D were completed by the cut-off date of March 15. Many fields were heading out by month's end. Land preparation for rice continued. Cotton bed preparation continued with some planting noted by mid-month. Alfalfa fields were growing well and being treated for insect control. By mid-month many fields were being green chopped for dairy feed. Sugar beets continued to make good progress.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Tree fruits were in full bloom during the month. Petal fall was about complete by month's end, with early varieties leafing out. Almond bloom was complete by mid-month and bees were moved to other crops. Irrigation and herbicide applications became active. Walnut and fig trees started leafing out. The Navel orange harvest continued and was about 50% complete by month's end. Freeze damage continued to be a problem. Some improvement in quality was noted but cullage remained high.

VEGETABLES: Harvesting of hothouse vegetables continued active. Onions, radishes, leaf lettuce, and other winter and spring vegetables continued to move in volume. Asparagus harvest was in full swing by mid-month. Most crops showed good growth and quality. Planting of tomatoes continued as well as transplanting of tomatoes, peppers and eggplant.

LIVESTOCK: Eastside rangeland showed marked improvement from February rain. The Westside rangeland did not improve as much as the Eastside. Supplemental feeding was still required in many areas.

APRIL

WEATHER: April was cool with below normal rainfall. Damaging hail storms hit the Eastside and Westside at mid-month necessitating replanting of some crops on the Westside and causing tree fruit loss in isolated areas of the Eastside.

FIELD CROPS: Barley and wheat progressed well and were headed out by mid-month. Lodging occurred in some fields due to high winds. Fertilizing, flooding and planting of rice commenced by mid-month. Cotton planting was curtailed by rainy weather in the early part of the month. Some replanting was necessary. Planting was 95% complete by month's end. Alfalfa was cut and baled with some damage due to rain noted. Green chopping and windrowing continued as weather permitted. Sugar beet plants continued at various stages of growth. Harvest was slowed due to wet field conditions. Hail damaged fields began to show recovery by the end of the month.

FRUIT AND NUTS: Tree fruits and nuts progressed satisfactorily during the month. The almond crop was reported as generally heavy. Thinning of tree fruits was started by mid-month. Vigorous growth with the first signs of bunch development characterized the development of most vineyards. Some wine varieties sustained damage from the mid-month hail storm. The bunch count for Thompsons was determined to be approximately 41.5 clusters per vine. Navel orange harvest continued with heavy volume picked. Quality continued to deteriorate with much drying due to freezing; granulation showed up in larger sizes. Valencia maturity was generally low, but some packing was started by the middle of the month. Citrus bloom began by mid-month.

VEGETABLES: Harvest of head lettuce began and continued through the month. Quality was good with high yields. Processing tomatoes were growing well with the warm weather. Hot caps were removed from fresh market tomatoes. Cantaloupes and other melons began to emerge. Summer vegetables were emerging and growing well by month's end. Strawberry harvest was in full volume by the end of the month with good quality.

LIVESTOCK: Range feed was in very short supply on the Westside due to a lack of soil moisture.

MAY

WEATHER: May was warm and dry with only a trace of rain recorded in Fresno.

FIELD CROPS: Irrigation of late barley and wheat ended early in the month. Ripening was rapid and barley harvest was well underway by month's end. The wheat crop neared maturity by the end of the month. Flooding, fertilizing and seeding of rice continued into the first part of the month. Emergence of many fields occurred by mid-month. Herbicide applications were started by month's end. Many

cotton fields were replanted early in the month while thinning, cultivating and irrigation occurred throughout. The crop was showing generally good stands. Hay alfalfa continued to make good progress with the second cutting started by the end of the month. Seed alfalfa fields reached bloom stage by month's end and bees were moved into the fields for pollination. Cutting, raking and baling of grain hay was active throughout the month. Safflower was growing rapidly and began blooming by the end of the month. Field corn emerged and grew rapidly.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Harvesting of early peach, plum and nectarine varieties began about mid-month. Quality was poor. Some orchards were treated for twig borer and scale control. Almonds and figs continued to progress well. Grape vines continued to grow vigorously throughout the month. Table Thompsons were being girdled and gibberelled. Sulphur applications for mildew control were started. Navel orange harvest continued. Cullage was high due to drying and granulation. Valencias were packed. Volume increased as maturity improved. Quality was good. Olives were in full bloom.

VEGETABLES: Harvest of head lettuce ended at mid-month. Quality declined as the season progressed. Processing tomatoes were blooming by mid-month. Melons continued to progress satisfactorily. Harvest of asparagus and strawberries neared completion. Squash, onions, radishes, Oriental vegetables, leaf lettuce and Swiss chard continued to market. Sweet potato planting was completed. Most vegetable crops looked good and were growing well.

LIVESTOCK: Eastside range conditions were fair. The Westside was very short of feed. Foothills were dry by the end of the month and feeders were moved to feed lots. The feed lots were near capacity at month's end.

JUNE

WEATHER Light to moderate showers fell on Fresno early in the month. The 1975-76 rainfall year ended as one of the driest on record.

FIELD CROPS: Barley harvest peaked and neared completion by month's end in many areas. Yields were good and quality was fair to good. Wheat harvest was also active with good yields reported. Some stubble was burned in preparation for new crops. Rice was treated for weed control and some late rice was seeded. Stands generally looked good. Cultivating, irrigating and fertilizing of cotton was active throughout the month. Fields were treated for mite control. By month's end Westside fields were in bloom and beginning to set squares. Alfalfa hay harvest continued and seed alfalfa progressed satisfactorily. Field corn reached four to five feet by mid-month. Early seeded blackeye beans reached a height of 12 to 14 inches by mid-month. Later fields were seeded and were beginning to emerge. Growth progressed well with warm weather during the last half of the month. Safflower fields were blooming by mid-month. Sugar beets were in various stages and growing well.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Tree fruit harvest picked up with size and quality somewhat improved. Early Red Haven, Royal May, Cardinal, Gem Free and Red Haven peaches were packed in volume. May Grand, June Grand, Early Sun Grand, Red June and Independence nectarines were packed with quality good. Santa Rosa was the main variety of plums being packed. Cullage was high due to small sizes, scarring and highly variable maturity. Grape canes grew vigorously. Bunch size was about normal with

berry size increasing rapidly. Sulfur applications increased after the rains. Irrigation was active and measures were taken to control mites and leaf hoppers. Almonds, walnuts and figs progressed well throughout the month; fruit was sizing well. Walnuts were whitewashed for sunburn control. The Navel orange harvest neared completion with quality running fair to poor. Cullage continued high and increased throughout the month. Valencia oranges continued to be packed with freeze damage showing up in some lots. A small volume of lemons was packed.

VEGETABLES: Preparation for fall head lettuce planting was active. Red onion harvest was 90% complete. Cantaloupes and other melons were blooming and growing well. Carrot and onion seed fields were in bloom and began to dry down. The boysenberry, squash, cucumber, tomato, pole bean, leaf lettuce, bell pepper, chili pepper and eggplant harvest began or continued. Sweet potatoes continued to grow well reaching a height of six to eight inches by mid-month. Preparation for processing tomato harvest began by month's end.

LIVESTOCK: Rangeland conditions deteriorated with the Westside in extremely poor circumstances by the end of the month. Feed lots were full. An outbreak of grasshoppers was reported on the Westside.

JULY

WEATHER: July weather was near normal. Temperatures averaged one degree below normal and a trace of precipitation was reported on three days.

FIELD CROPS: Barley and wheat harvest was essentially completed by the end of the month. Rice stands looked good and early varieties were starting to head out by month's end. Grain sorghum fields were growing actively throughout the month. Cotton was progressing well and most fields were in bloom. Alfalfa hay harvest continued with quality good. Seed alfalfa progressed well and bees were starting to be removed by month's end. Emerged blackeyes were doing well. A few late fields were planted early in the month. Early plantings were forming pods. Safflower fields were maturing rapidly. Sugar beets looked good. Harvest began in the early fields. Field corn grew rapidly with tasseling noted by the end of the month.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Harvest of fresh market tree fruits continued with heavy cullage in plums continuing. Picking of cling peaches halted at mid-month when canneries were closed during a labor dispute. Overripe clings dropped to the ground and were lost. Cardinal grape harvest began by mid-month; peak volume was reached by month's end. Quality was generally good throughout. Table Thompsons progressed normally and packing in light volume started by month's end in one district. Cullage was high with maturity a problem. Preharvest preparations for other varieties were made as irrigation and pest control activities continued. Almonds and walnuts were sizing well and almond hulls were starting to split at month's end. Routine cultural operations continued for both crops. Figs were harvested in light volume. Valencia oranges continued to be packed, mostly for export. Freeze damage was somewhat of a problem. Lemons were being packed in light volume. Navel oranges were sizing normally, many reaching about two inches. Routine cultural practices continued.

VEGETABLES: Cantaloupe harvest began on the Westside during the first week and reached its peak by month's end. Honeydews were being packed in good volume, but experienced some maturity problems. Watermelons were running in excellent volume with good quality. Planting of head lettuce started at the end of the month. Packing of

market tomatoes, peppers, squash, onions and head lettuce continued. Processing tomato harvest started at mid-month but halted soon after when cannery facilities closed due to a labor dispute. Overripe tomatoes were being disced under at month's end.

LIVESTOCK: Rangelands continued dry. Most feed lots were reported full. Movement of feed grains to these facilities was heavy. Sheep were grazing on barley and wheat stubble.

AUGUST

WEATHER: Temperatures averaged nearly 10 degrees below normal for the month. This greatly slowed the maturity of many crops. Showers at mid-month compounded the problems and caused some crop losses.

FIELD CROPS: Barley and wheat harvest was completed early in the month with quality generally good. Rice headed out with some loss reported due to cool, damp weather and rain. Grain sorghum development was slowed. Some fields suffered from a lack of water. Most fields were headed out and harvest started on the West-side in light volume. Cotton development slowed but fields still looked good. Boll development was somewhat delayed. Alfalfa hay harvest continued with weed and worm problems noted. Some green chopping was reported. Seed alfalfa was allowed to dry down and in some cases dessicants were applied. Harvest was delayed by the rains and some crop loss was anticipated. Safflower continued to mature. Harvest started and progressed slowly but steadily. Blackeyes showed varied growth patterns. Some fields suffered from a lack of water. Early fields were windrowed. Sugar beet harvesting continued light. Later beets continued to progress. Field corn continued to mature with normal cultural practices continuing.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Harvesting and packing of tree fruits continued. Cullage in some varieties continued high. Maturity of some late varieties was slowed. Fungicides were used to prevent brown rot in peaches and nectarines. Rot problems reduced the yield of some late peaches. Harvesting of early almonds began but was interrupted by the rains. Walnuts continued to mature well throughout the month. Fig harvest continued. Splitting occurred with significant damage to Calimyrna and Mission varieties. Warm weather at month's end reduced this loss somewhat. Harvesting and packing of table grapes continued. Rains slowed harvest activity of table Thompsons as maturity levels dropped. Cullage was higher than normal due to bunch rot and immaturity. Growers were also plagued with insect problems. Raisin grape growers completed preparations for harvest and began harvest late in the third week of August as drying conditions started to return to normal. Packing of Valencia oranges continued. Navels continued to show good progress.

VEGETABLES: Harvest of fresh market tomatoes declined. Quality remained good. Processing tomatoes were harvested in heavy volume with weather related problems and overmaturity creating difficulties. Some unharvested overripe fields were disced under or sheeped off. Harvest of summer vegetables continued. Freezer cauliflower was doing well and head lettuce was being thinned. Melon harvest slowed with the cool damp weather and internal breakdown was noted in cantaloupes. Garlic harvest was nearly completed and white onions were dug as processing facilities could handle the crop.

LIVESTOCK: Range conditions remained the same. Concern was expressed that the rains would germinate the winter annuals but that they would not survive the balance of the summer without further rain. Most livestock were moved to irrigated pasture or stubble. Feed lots remained full.

SEPTEMBER

WEATHER: Moderate to very heavy rains around the 10th and again at month's end caused extensive damage to many crops. (Some locations received nearly one-half the seasonal normal amount of rain in these storms).

FIELD CROPS: Field preparation for barley and wheat seeding began. Draining of rice fields was underway as the month started and harvest began about mid-month with good yields reported. Grain sorghum harvest continued as conditions permitted; no serious rain damage was reported. Cotton maturity was slowed and defoliation was active. Maturity of some Eastside fields was extremely retarded. No damage from rains was reported, only apprehension over molding of the bolls and staining of fibers. Quality of alfalfa hay declined greatly with many fields showing extensive mold and rot in windrows. Seed alfalfa harvest continued as conditions permitted, reaching 95% completion by the end of the month. Safflower harvest was completed in greatly reduced acreage. Quality and yields were generally good. Digging of sugar beets continued as conditions permitted. Yields were reported to be good. Blackeye harvest was started and was estimated 15% complete at month's end with 50% on the ground and 35% still standing. Silage and grain corn harvest started with some fields showing a loss due to lodging as a result of winds and rain. Sweet potato digging and packing was started with good yields and quality reported.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Plum and nectarine harvest was completed by mid-month. A few late peaches were packed in light volume. Almond harvest continued throughout the month as field conditions permitted. Yields were good to very good with minimal rain damage. Walnut harvest began about mid-month with minimal rain damage at the start. Increased discoloration was noted by month's end. Fig harvest continued where conditions permitted. Calimyrnas were heavily damaged by the rain. Many growers resorted to hand sorting to try to salvage any figs. Thompson seedless grape harvest finished by month's end. Packing of Emperors and Ribiers continued as field conditions permitted. Cullage of table grapes was high due to slip skins, bunch rot and split skins. Raisin loss was estimated at 35% to 38% in the third week of the month, but was increased to 55% by the month's end. Growers attempted to salvage as much as possible by utilizing every possible means of remedial practices. Harvest of early season pomegranates finished by the second week. Harvest of the Wonderful variety started in the third week with good quality and little splitting; however, some maturity problems were reported. Persimmons were sizing well and picking of early varieties started during the last of the month but stopped with the rain. Valencia orange harvest was about 75% complete by the middle of the month. Navels continued to progress showing sizes of 2-1/2 to 3 inches. Citrus growers were not harmed by the rain.

VEGETABLES: Lettuce was growing well in various stages with frequent pesticide applications being made. Processing tomato harvest wound down by mid-month with quality lowered by weather caused problems. Sweet potato harvest continued but was slowed by the unseasonal rains. Some melons and cantaloupes were packed during the month. Freezer cauliflower progressed well. Late summer and fall vegetables continued to go to market.

LIVESTOCK: Rangeland showed great improvement with up to 3 inches of growth by month's end. Livestock was moved onto the range late in the month.

OCTOBER

WEATHER: An official total of 2.96 inches of rain (many areas received considerably more) fell on Fresno County in mid-August, early September and the first of October. The rains interrupted field activity and caused significant losses to many crops.

FIELD CROPS: Harvest and other field activities were halted due to heavy rains on October 1, and resumed as field conditions permitted. Seeding of barley and wheat commenced with emergence in some early seeded fields noted by month's end. Rice harvest continued with good yields despite lodging problems after heavy rains. Grain sorghum harvest began with Eastside yield and quality somewhat lower than expected. Cotton defoliation was completed and harvest moved into full swing with gins running on a round-the-clock schedule. Yields were reported to be good. Shredding and discing of stalks to deter possible overwintering by pink bollworm was active. Heavy mold damage was evident in both windrowed and baled alfalfa hay. With the onset of warmer weather, field growth generally recovered. Sugar beet harvest continued with young beets looking good. Blackeye harvest resumed after rains and growers tried all available methods to save windrowed beans from serious damage. Some rain soaked windrows were abandoned due to mold. Harvest neared completion by month's end with reduced yield and quality. Corn harvest picked up as conditions permitted.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Tree fruit harvest was completed by mid-month. Almond harvest resumed as conditions permitted with quality generally good despite some mold in windrows. Some staining in walnuts was noted and navel orangeworm became a problem in almonds and walnuts. Estimated Calimyrna fig loss was near 90% with loss to other varieties set at near 40%. Hand sorting was used extensively to save all fruit possible. Harvesting of pomegranates was active, quality was very good with minimal cracking despite rains. Persimmon movement was slow due to late maturity. Citrus, olives and avocados were generally benefited by the rains. Valencia harvest neared completion with color break noted in some Navels. Olive harvest moved into full swing with good size and quality but reduced yields in some varieties. Avocado harvest commenced with small sizes reported. Grape quality deteriorated rapidly. Juice grape harvest ended early due to poor condition of fruit and table grape harvest also was curtailed. Grapes going to the winery were generally poor with fermentation starting. Raisin loss was estimated at 65% with some trays being disced under in the fields. Growers were using every available salvage method with many thousand tons going to the distilleries. Dehydrators were working around the clock.

VEGETABLES: Head lettuce and leaf lettuce harvest started with quality generally good. Sweet potatoes and tomatoes continued to be harvested. Growth of fall and winter vegetables progressed normally with harvest of late tomatoes, Chinese vegetables, green onions, cauliflower and turnips active.

LIVESTOCK: Rangeland improved greatly, but more rain was needed at month's end to maintain growth.

NOVEMBER

WEATHER: Rain again returned to Fresno County at midday on November 11, 1976. This ended a five and one-half week dry spell.

FIELD CROPS: Planting of barley and wheat continued as conditions permitted. Earlier plantings were up and mostly looked good. Rice harvest was completed by the end of the month with good yields reported. Grain sorghum harvest continued as conditions permitted with yield and quality mostly good, but with some fields reporting reduced yields. Cotton harvest was reported at 85 to 90% completed at mid-month. Second picking was near completion at month's end with shredding and discing quite active. A small volume of alfalfa was still being baled while some was green chopped or grazed in the field. Alfalfa seed processing was completed by mid-month. Digging of sugar beets continued in light volume with quality and yields good. Blackeye harvest neared completion with some yield reduction noted. Harvest of shell corn and silage corn remained active early in the month.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Dormant activities started for tree fruits with pruning, fertilizing, and herbicide applications progressing normally. Almond and walnut harvest was completed with some rain damage evident. Harvest of persimmons was completed in the second week with quality generally good throughout. Grape harvest was completed early in the month and movement of cold storage grapes was slow with quality fair. A newly developed auger tank method for reconditioning raisins was introduced and immediately accepted by packers. This and other innovative reconditioning methods are expected to increase the marketable tonnage of raisins to at least 100,000 tons, enough to meet anticipated domestic market demands. Picking of lemons started and continued throughout the month. Navel orange harvest started in the early varieties with sizes running on the small side, but with quality good to excellent. Problems of fruit spotting due to damp foggy weather were noted with picking delayed until afternoons in many groves in an effort to minimize the problem. Satsuma harvest continued with quality excellent. Olive harvest was completed by the end of the first week.

VEGETABLES: Head lettuce harvest was essentially complete with a small volume running at the end of the month with fair to good quality. Fresh tomato harvest neared completion by mid-month with quality mostly good. Field preparation for next year's crop active in all districts. Sweet potato harvest was 90% complete by the end of the month. Leaf lettuce, green onions, Swiss chard, spinach, collard greens, turnips and other fall and winter vegetables continued to be harvested in decreasing volume with good quality. Freezer cauliflower harvest continued.

LIVESTOCK: Range conditions were in decline at the beginning of the month, but showed slight improvement after the mid-month rains.

DECEMBER

WEATHER: Dry weather returned to the county. Early mornings ranged from 26°F. to 32°F. with afternoon temperatures in the mid 60's. Air was very stagnant with pollution levels generally high. No rain was recorded until the end of the month. Lack of moisture caused water stress in many crops. A true drought situation prevailed.

FIELD CROPS: Planting of barley and wheat continued at a reduced rate. Growth of emerged grains was very slow due to the frosty nights and low soil moisture. Supplemental irrigation was active where water was available. Fields not receiving supplemental irrigation displayed definite signs of stress. Some herbicide applications were made for control of broadleaf weeds and wild oats. Cotton harvest neared completion. Shredding and discing of cotton stubble continued in all areas. Ginning of module and ricked cotton continued. Soil preparation for next season's crop was active. Some stands of alfalfa were grazed or green chopped. New plantings were made and some herbicides were applied. New plantings were irrigated. Digging and planting of sugar beets continued in light volume. Most field work was limited to soil preparation for 1977 crops.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Pruning and shredding of brush was very active. About 30% of the trees and 20% of the vines were completed. Dormant spray was delayed due to the dry condition of the trees. Contact and pre-emergent herbicides were applied. The effectiveness of pre-emergent herbicides was doubtful due to lack of moisture. Figs continued to be irrigated as water availability permitted. Movement of cold storage grapes slowed with quality fair to poor. Raisin reconditioning continued at both the grower and packer level. Picking of Navel oranges was very active; maturity was good to excellent. Near Christmas all packing houses started to reduce volume as supply channels were full. Mandarins and lemons continued to be packed with very good quality. The frosty nights were not low enough to adversely affect the citrus crop.

VEGETABLES: Activity continued in all phases. Lettuce continued to be planted with emerged fields being thinned. Harvesting of leaf lettuce, Swiss chard, endive, carrots, green onions, Napa cabbage, Chinese greens, hothouse cucumbers and freezer broccoli continued. Sweet potato packing neared completion. Other spring vegetables continued to be planted.

LIVESTOCK: Quality and quantity of rangeland feed continued to deteriorate. Supplemental feeding of cattle continued at a high level. Hauling of stock water was increasing. Grazing of sheep continued in established alfalfa. There was major concern over the dry trend.

1976 in Retrospect

Adverse weather was a significant factor affecting 1976 gross returns. A severe winter with temperatures as low as 24°F., combined with unseasonable summer and fall rains adversely affected many crops. An October estimate of rain-related loss was \$93,031,000. Harvest time labor disputes at processing facilities resulted in reduced harvested acreage of processing tomatoes and cling peaches with resultant loss to some growers. The over-all increase in gross value was due primarily to an increase in the unit price for major commodities, a significant increase in cotton acreage, and new methods of reconditioning rain damaged raisins which reduced the anticipated loss.

FIELD CROPS: Gross value of field crops was up. Wheat and rice acreage declined, but the decline was more than significantly offset by the increase in cotton acreage (28%) and cotton price (22%). Drought caused some individual losses.

SEED CROPS: Acreage and value were substantially unchanged despite the adverse weather effects on some crops.

VEGETABLE CROPS: Total acreage and gross value were down primarily due to a significant drop in harvested tomato acreage. Head lettuce production increased significantly due to drought induced acreage shift. Cantaloupe acreage declined to previous historical levels from the 1975 high. Harvest was extended due to a cool month of August. Dry onion acreage was up 100%; planted acreage was higher, but due to a sharp price decline not all fields were harvested.

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: Gross value was up despite severe weather losses in some commodities. Final figures reflect a 44% raisin crop loss. This loss was less than the anticipated 65% and primarily due to the development of the auger-tank reconditioning process. Over-all grape returns were up 28% due mainly to a 41% price increase and a 5% increase in bearing acreage. Almond returns were up significantly due to a 90% increase in yield reflecting the lack of the damaging frosts in 1976 spring fruit season. Value of other fruits and nuts was generally near 1975 figures.

NURSERY PRODUCTS: Nursery value increased 70% due to increased sales of Christmas trees and specimen plants.

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: The value was higher due to an increased production of broilers and fryers. Livestock and poultry products were up 10% due to increased value of market milk.

APIARY PRODUCTS AND POLLINATION SERVICES: 2.5% increase.

FRESNO COUNTY'S 10 LEADING CROPS

<u>Crop</u>	<u>1976 Rank</u>	<u>1976 Dollar Value</u>	<u>1975 Rank</u>	<u>1974 Rank</u>
COTTON	1	\$ 264,215,000	1	1
GRAPES	2	211,321,000	2	2
CATTLE & CALVES	3	81,372,000	4	3
DAIRY PRODUCTS	4	63,027,000	5	5
TOMATOES	5	61,701,000	3	4
POULTRY	6	56,370,000	6	6
CANTALoupES	7	54,531,000	7	9
ALFALFA HAY	8	47,196,000	9	7
BARLEY	9	43,939,000	8	8
PLUMS	10	33,152,000	-	-

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Barley	1976	221,000	1.75	387,000	ton	\$108.00	\$ 41,796,000
	1975	217,000	1.62	352,000	ton	104.00	36,608,000
Beans, dry	1976	6,620	.84	5,560	ton	490.00	2,724,000
	1975	8,060	.88	7,090	ton	361.00	2,559,000
Corn	1976	19,700	2.18	42,900	ton	100.00	4,290,000
	1975	18,500	2.38	44,000	ton	112.00	4,928,000
Cotton Lint	1976	315,000	1087 ^{a/}	713,000 ^{b/}	bale	.65 ^{c/}	231,725,000
	1975	247,000	1100	566,000	bale	.53	143,990,000
Cotton Seed	1976			285,000	ton	114.00	32,490,000
	1975			230,000	ton	106.00	24,380,000
Hay							
Alfalfa ^{d/}	1976	90,000	6.90	621,000	ton	76.00	47,196,000
	1975	90,000	7.00	630,000	ton	59.00	37,170,000
Other	1976	10,200	1.76	18,000	ton	63.50	1,143,000
	1975	9,500	1.88	17,900	ton	63.00	1,128,000
Pasture and Range							
Alfalfa ^{e/} stubble	1976	80,000			acre	8.00	640,000
	1975	80,000			acre	7.50	600,000
Barley and Wheat stubble ^{e/}	1976	100,000			acre	3.50	350,000
	1975	124,000			acre	3.50	434,000
Cantaloupe ^{e/}	1976	9,000			acre	3.25	29,200
	1975	14,000			acre	3.00	42,000
Irrigated Pasture	1976	40,000			acre	100.00	4,000,000
	1975	40,000			acre	95.00	3,800,000
Native Range	1976	1,300,000			acre	4.00	5,200,000
	1975	1,300,000			acre	4.25	5,525,000
Rice	1976	13,100	2.66	34,800	ton	131.00	4,559,000
	1975	22,300	2.86	63,800	ton	170.00	10,846,000
Safflower	1976	5,500	1.35	7,420	ton	297.00	2,204,000
	1975	19,000	1.20	22,800	ton	263.00	5,996,000
Screenings	1976			1,670	ton	53.00	88,500
	1975			2,280	ton	45.00	103,000

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976 (continued)

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Silage							
Corn	1976	13,300	19.00	253,000	ton	\$ 14.00	\$ 3,542,000
	1975	12,500	19.00	238,000	ton	14.00	3,332,000
Sorghum	1976	2,350	18.00	42,300	ton	14.00	592,000
	1975	2,000	18.00	36,000	ton	14.00	504,000
Other	1976	2,400	15.50	37,200	ton	14.00	521,000
	1975	2,400	15.00	36,000	ton	14.00	504,000
Sorghum Grain	1976	14,150	1.86	26,300	ton	92.75	2,439,000
	1975	12,000	2.04	24,500	ton	100.00	2,450,000
Straw	1976			6,000	ton	25.00	150,000
	1975			6,800	ton	19.50	133,000
Sugar Beets	1976	30,300	33.10	1,003,000	ton	20.60	20,662,000
	1975	35,400	32.69	1,157,000	ton	29.85	34,536,000
Wheat	1976	53,000	2.19	116,000	ton	105.00	12,180,000
	1975	102,000	1.92	196,000	ton	107.00	20,972,000
Other ^{f/}	1976	3,620					269,000
Total	1976	2,140,000					\$418,790,000
	1975	2,138,000					340,540,000
	1956	2,874,476					151,385,953

a/ Pounds of lint per acre

b/ 480 pounds net weight bales

c/ Price per pound, 500 pound bales

d/ Includes bales, cubes and green chop

e/ Not included in total acreage figures

f/ Includes oats, rye and sunflowers, overripe tomatoes for livestock feed

SEED CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Alfalfa Certified ^{a/}	1976	19,800	519	10,276,000	1b.	\$.96	\$ 9,865,000
	1975	26,400	548	14,467,000	1b.	.76	10,995,000
Alfalfa Non-Certified							
Public Varieties ^{b/}	1976	3,660	525	1,922,000	1b.	.85	1,634,000
	1975	2,490	530	1,320,000	1b.	.735	970,000
Proprietary Varieties	1976	10,880	540	5,875,000	1b.	.97	5,699,000
	1975	12,100	428	5,179,000	1b.	.86	4,454,000
Total All Alfalfa Seed	1976	34,340		18,073,000	1b.		17,198,000
	1975	41,000		20,966,000	1b.		16,419,000
Barley Certified	1976	6,850	4,425	30,311,000	1b.	.06	1,819,000
	1975	4,490	3,550	15,940,000	1b.	.09	1,435,000
Barley Non-Certified	1976	1,700	3,400	5,780,000	1b.	.056	324,000
	1975	1,080	3,540	3,823,000	1b.	.053	203,000
Cotton ^{c/}	1976	8,300		9,706,000	1b.	.060	723,000 ^{d/}
	1975	13,600		17,504,000	1b.	.058	1,246,000
Vegetable ^{e/}	1976	1,210					1,125,000
	1975	1,430					1,357,000
Other ^{f/}	1976	5,320					1,024,000
	1975	<u>4,560</u>					<u>1,558,000</u>
Total	1976	49,400					\$22,213,000
	1975	52,600					22,218,000
	1956	58,757					10,523,879

a/ Includes public, proprietary and export varieties

b/ Includes non-certified export varieties

c/ Not included in total acreage for "Seed Crops"

d/ Includes acreage approved @ \$17 per acre

e/ Beets, carrots, cauliflower, endive, lettuce, onion, parsley, peppers, okra and tomatoes

f/ Certified and non-certified beans, certified and non-certified blackeye cowpeas, non-certified brome grass, non-certified flax, certified and non-certified oats, certified and non-certified rice, certified and non-certified safflower, certified soybeans, certified and non-certified wheat.

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Beans	1976	530	4.2	2,230	ton	\$ 396	\$ 883,000
Snap fresh	1975	400	4.5	1,800	ton	440	792,000
Chinese	1976	265	19.0	5,040	ton	110	554,000
Vegetables	1975	310	20.0	6,200	ton	118	732,000
Corn	1976	300	3.4	1,020	ton	137	140,000
Sweet fresh	1975	250	4.1	1,020	ton	189	193,000
Cucumbers	1976	375	12.6	4,720	ton	192	906,000
	1975	400	12.8	5,120	ton	222	1,137,000
Eggplant	1976	200	11.6	2,320	ton	258	599,000
	1975	200	12.0	2,400	ton	264	634,000
Lettuce	1976	10,200	11.4	116,000	ton	188	21,808,000
	1975	7,700	11.4	87,800	ton	128	11,238,000
Melons							
Cantaloupes	1976	18,900	13.2	249,000	ton	219	54,531,000
	1975	28,200	8.5	240,000	ton	166	39,840,000
Casaba	1976	196	6.4	1,250	ton	168	210,000
	1975	164	5.5	900	ton	96	86,400
Cranshaw	1976	365	7.7	2,810	ton	252	708,000
	1975	315	6.0	1,890	ton	198	374,000
Watermelons	1976	810	9.4	7,610	ton	81	616,000
	1975	780	8.8	6,860	ton	67	460,000
Onions							
Dry	1976	1,200	16.0	19,200	ton	79	1,517,000
	1975	600	17.2	10,300	ton	234	2,410,000
Green	1976	350	18.0	6,300	ton	267	1,682,000
	1975	350	18.0	6,300	ton	377	2,375,000
Peppers							
Bell	1976	300	8.8	2,640	ton	225	594,000
	1975	500	8.8	4,400	ton	232	1,021,000
Chili	1976	330	6.8	2,240	ton	360	806,000
Fresh	1975	235	3.0 ^{a/}	705	ton	530	374,000

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976 (continued)

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Radishes	1976	400	5.7	2,280	ton	\$ 192	\$ 438,000
	1975	800	6.0	4,800	ton	200	960,000
Romaine	1976	275	6.0	1,650	ton	176	290,000
	1975	250	6.0	1,500	ton	171	256,000
Squash							
Summer	1976	350	7.2	2,520	ton	305	769,000
	1975	400	7.4	2,960	ton	285	844,000
Winter	1976	200	10.0	2,000	ton	190	380,000
	1975	150	9.5	1,420	ton	160	227,000
Sweet Potatoes	1976	650	9.0	5,850	ton	238	1,392,000
	1975	620	8.0	4,960	ton	200	992,000
Tomatoes							
Fresh							
Cherry	1976	440	11.2	4,930	ton	400	1,972,000
	1975	300	11.0	3,300	ton	532	1,756,000
Regular	1976	2,540	13.0	33,000	ton	365	12,045,000
	1975	2,230	13.2	29,400	ton	312	9,173,000
Processed	1976	38,700	26.0	1,006,000	ton	47.4	47,684,000
	1975	61,400	26.4	1,621,000	ton	55.6	90,128,000
Turnips	1976	100	15.2	1,520	ton	202	307,000
	1975	150	15.0	2,250	ton	168	378,000
Other Vegetables ^{b/}	1976	17,700					19,273,000
	1975	14,800					15,884,000
Total	1976	95,700					\$170,104,000
	1975	122,000					182,264,000
	1956	26,283					17,834,122

a/ Includes fresh and dried

b/ Includes asparagus, beets, broccoli, cantaloupes (frozen), carrots, cauliflower (frozen), chili peppers (processed), cucumbers (hothouse grown), garlic, honeyball and honeydew melons, lima beans (processed), loose lettuce, shredding lettuce, mustard greens, onions (processed), parsnips, peas, potatoes, snap beans (processed), spinach (processed), sweet potatoes (cannery), Swiss chard, tomatoes (hothouse grown), Persian melons, watermelon (frozen), cabbage

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Almonds	1976	14,143	1.04	14,700	ton	\$ 720	\$ 10,584,000
	1975	13,867	.58	8,040	ton	725	
Apricots	1976	217	6.55	1,420	ton	204	290,000
	1975	228	5.00	1,140	ton	312	356,000
Boysenberries Processed	1976	156	4.24	661	ton	500	330,000
	1975	115	4.56	520	ton	419	218,000
Figs Dried	1976	9,772	.47	4,590	ton	1,150	5,278,000
	1975	9,890	.49	4,850	ton	770	3,734,000
Grapes	1976	178,689	8.78				
	1975	170,213	8.71				
Raisin Varieties	1976	143,850					
	1975	143,300					
Canned	1976			12,200	ton	135	1,647,000
	1975			11,500	ton	120	1,380,000
Crushed	1976			513,000 ^{a/}	ton	79	40,527,000
	1975			360,000	ton	60	21,600,000
Dried	1976			116,000	ton ^{b/}	1,048	121,568,000
	1975			189,000	ton	531	100,359,000
Fresh	1976			38,000	ton	354	13,452,000
	1975			43,400	ton	348	15,103,000
Table Varieties	1976	6,900					
	1975	7,013					
Crushed	1976			33,500	ton	81	2,714,000
	1975			34,200	ton	55	1,881,000
Fresh	1976			16,000	ton	457	7,312,000
	1975			24,000	ton	370	8,880,000
Wine Varieties	1976	27,939					
	1975	19,900					
Crushed	1976			209,000	ton	99	20,691,000
	1975			156,000	ton	84	13,104,000
Fresh	1976			11,000	ton	310	3,410,000
	1975			12,500	ton	246	3,075,000

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976 (continued)

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Lemons	1976	790	10.45				
	1975	614	9.30				
Fresh	1976			5,530	ton	\$ 291	\$ 1,609,000
	1975			3,810	ton	271	1,033,000
Processed	1976			2,700	ton	20	54,000
	1975			1,900	ton	20	38,000
Nectarines	1976	6,682	7.90	52,800	ton	386	20,381,000
	1975	6,177	7.43	45,900	ton	441	20,242,000
Olives	1976	1,571	1.45	2,280	ton	301	686,000
	1975	1,285	2.50	3,210	ton	331	1,063,000
Oranges	1976	19,475					
	1975	19,328					
Navel	1976	15,948	9.12				
	1975	15,801	9.02				
Fresh	1976			116,400	ton	173	20,137,000
	1975			88,400	ton	208	18,387,000
Processed	1976			29,100	ton	6	175,000
	1975			54,100	ton	6	325,000
Valencia	1976	3,462	9.98				
	1975	3,448	9.48				
Fresh	1976			25,600	ton	180	4,608,000
	1975			19,900	ton	191	3,801,000
Processed	1976			9,000	ton	14	126,000
	1975			12,800	ton	14	179,000
Miscellaneous	1976	65	10.75	699	ton	150	105,000
	1975	79	10.00	790	ton	158	125,000
Peaches	1976	9,652					
	1975	10,195					
Clingstone	1976	2,188	10.19				
	1975	2,221	12.34				
Processed	1976			23,800	ton	115	2,737,000
	1975			27,400	ton	131	3,589,000

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976 (continued)

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Per Unit	Unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Peaches (continued)							
Freestone	1976	7,464	9.26				
	1975	7,974	8.45				
Fresh	1976			55,000	ton	\$ 327	\$ 17,985,000
	1975			51,800	ton	371	19,218,000
Processed	1976			16,400	ton	100	1,640,000
	1975			15,600	ton	100	1,560,000
Persimmons	1976	65	4.65	300	ton	570	171,000
	1975	65	4.65	300	ton	681	204,000
Plums	1976	9,026	6.20	56,000	ton	592	33,152,000
	1975	8,609	7.33	63,100	ton	456	28,774,000
Pomegranates	1976	747	5.34	3,990	ton	465	1,855,000
	1975	596	4.09	2,440	ton	455	1,110,000
Strawberries	1976	167	13.00	2,170	ton	636	1,380,000
	1975	183	12.19	2,230	ton	575	1,282,000
Walnuts	1976	4,177	1.00	4,177	ton	600	2,506,000
	1975	4,121	1.17	4,820	ton	450	2,169,000
Miscellaneous ^{c/}	1976	2,245					3,299,000
	1975	1,608					3,700,000
Total	1976	257,574					\$340,409,000
	1975	247,094					282,320,000
	1956	181,196					93,341,117

a/ Includes rain damaged raisins used for distilling (91,500 tons @ \$55/ton), and reflects increased cullage of table grapes.

b/ Dry tons

c/ Includes almond hulls, apples, dried apricots, processed apricots, avocados, fresh boysenberries, cherries, fresh figs, substandard figs, grapefruit, dried nectarines, processed olallieberries, dried peaches, kiwis, olives (oil), fresh and dried pears, pecans, pistachio nuts, processed plums, prunes, quince, tangelos, tangerines.

NURSERY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AREA, SALES AND VALUE - 1976

<u>Item</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Production Area Acres</u>	<u>Quantity Sold by Producers</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Value</u>
Herbaceous Ornamentals ^{a/}	1976	15	1,103,000	<u>b/</u>	\$ 379,000
	1975	6	1,083,000		211,000
Ornamental Trees and Shrubs ^{c/}	1976	156	555,000	plants	1,562,000
	1975	78	342,000		347,000
Flower Seeds	1976	347	69,400	lbs.	160,000
	1975	250	60,000		150,000
Nursery Other than Ornamentals	1976	23	16,995,000	plants	623,000
	1975	15	44,870,000		<u>884,000</u>
Total	1976	541			\$2,724,000
	1975	349			1,592,000
	1956	N/A			231,025

- a/ Includes cut flowers and cut greens, bedding plants and herbaceous perennials
b/ Includes flats, dozens, cans and single plants
c/ Includes Christmas trees

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Unit	Total
		No. of Head	Total Liveweight			
Cattle and Calves						
Beef						
Breeding Stock						
Common	1976	3,760		head	\$ 370.00	\$ 1,391,000
	1975	4,250		head	325.00	1,381,000
Registered	1976	425		head	500.00	212,000
	1975	475		head	500.00	238,000
Feeders	1976	90,000	171,000	cwt.	37.10	6,344,000
	1975	82,000	156,000	cwt.	31.25	4,875,000
Calves	1976	24,900	118,000	cwt.	31.70	3,741,000
	1975	36,000	162,000	cwt.	24.33	3,941,000
Slaughter Stock						
From Feed Lots	1976	383,000	1,455,000 ^{a/}	cwt.	38.37	55,828,000
	1975	368,000	1,398,000	cwt.	41.06	57,402,000
From Other Sources	1976	14,000	140,000	cwt.	27.00	3,780,000
	1975	12,000	120,000	cwt.	37.00	4,440,000
Dairy						
Breeding Stock	1976	8,650		head	571.00	4,939,000
	1975	8,300		head	445.00	3,694,000
Cull Stock	1976	10,200	122,000	cwt.	21.90	2,672,000
	1975	13,000	156,000	cwt.	17.86	2,786,000
Calves	1976	31,300	78,250	cwt.	31.50	2,465,000
	1975	31,700	79,200	cwt.	28.00	2,218,000
Sheep and Lambs						
Slaughter Stock						
Lambs	1976	45,700	36,600	cwt.	47.50	1,738,000
	1975	38,000	30,400	cwt.	42.94	1,305,000
Sheep	1976	1,750	2,450	cwt.	12.60	30,900
	1975	5,100	7,140	cwt.	10.78	77,000

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976 (continued)

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Unit	Total
		No. of Head	Total Liveweight			
Hogs and Pigs						
Breeding Stock	1976	210		head	\$ 130.00	\$ 27,300
	1975	150		head	125.00	19,000
Feeder Pigs and Slaughter Stock	1976	13,150	28,300	cwt.	47.50	1,344,000
	1975	11,810	26,000	cwt.	45.76	1,190,000
Horses and Mules						
Recreational Stock	1976	825		head	300.00	248,000
	1975	750		head	300.00	225,000
Poultry						
Broilers and Fryers	1976	16,325,000	69,381,000	1b.	.285	19,774,000
	1975	11,172,000	50,274,000	1b.	.280	14,077,000
Other Chickens	1976	17,191,000 ^{b/}		1b.		5,057,000
	1975	326,000 ^{c/}		1b.		120,000
Turkeys	1976	3,779,000	75,580,000	1b.	.300	22,674,000
	1975	3,532,000	70,632,000	1b.	.320	22,602,000
Turkey Poults	1976	11,528,000		each	.769	8,865,000
	1975	9,723,000		each	.766	7,448,000
Miscellaneous ^{d/}	1976					851,000
	1975					3,012,000
Total	1976					\$141,981,000
	1975					131,050,000
	1956					35,317,736

a/ Net feed lot gain

b/ Includes chicks, pullets and old hens

c/ Old hens

d/ Includes chuckars, ducks, pheasants, pigeons, rabbits, and goats

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Crop	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Milk					
Manufacturing	1976	137,000	cwt.	\$ 8.33	\$ 1,141,000
	1975	186,000	cwt.	7.33	1,363,000
Market	1976	6,861,000	cwt.	9.02	61,886,000
	1975	6,247,000	cwt.	8.63	53,912,000
Wool	1976	718,000	lb.	.66	474,000
	1975	700,000	lb.	.55	385,000
Eggs					
Chicken Hatching	1976	1,762,000	dozen	.89	1,568,000
	1975	2,140,000	dozen	.95	2,033,000
Market	1976	9,145,000	dozen	.575	5,258,000
	1975	9,496,000	dozen	.484	4,596,000
Turkey Hatching	1976	4,704,000	each	.35	1,646,000
	1975	4,404,000	each	.35	1,541,000
Total	1976				\$71,973,000
	1975				63,830,000
	1956				20,717,278

JANUARY 1 INVENTORIES OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY (In Number of Head)

<u>Item</u>	<u>January 1, 1977</u>	<u>January 1, 1976</u>
Cattle and Calves		
All	355,000	339,000
Milk Cows 2 years and over	58,000	48,000
Cattle and Calves on feed	137,400	172,900
Stock Sheep and Lambs	90,000	87,800
Goats	600	525
Hogs and Pigs	8,300	6,000
Horses	15,900	15,500
Hens and Pullets of laying age	400,000	418,600
Turkey and Breeder Hens	78,400	73,400

APIARY PRODUCTS AND POLLINATION SERVICES: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Item	Year	Production Total	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
<u>Apiary Products^{a/}</u>					
Honey	1976	739,800	lb.	\$.41	\$ 303,000
	1975	951,000	lb.	.39	371,000
Beeswax	1976	12,300	lb.	1.36	16,700
	1975	15,800	lb.	1.25	19,800
<u>Pollination^{b/}</u>					
Seed Crops					
Alfalfa	1976	111,700	colony	10.60	1,184,000
	1975	126,000	colony	11.00	1,386,000
Other ^{c/}	1976	6,450	colony	9.70	62,600
	1975	3,040	colony	10.00	30,400
Tree Fruit ^{d/}	1976	70,800	colony	11.00	779,000
	1975	31,200	colony	10.00	312,000
Cantaloupes	1976	25,100	colony	10.40	261,000
	1975	42,300	colony	10.00	423,000
Total	1976				\$2,606,000
	1975				2,542,000*

^{a/} Reflects only the bees registered in Fresno County by commercial and semi-commercial beekeepers: 1976 - 28,773 colonies; 1975 - 35,797 colonies.

^{b/} Reflects value of pollination by all bee colonies located in Fresno County for pollination services during 1976. Estimated total colonies: 129,750.

^{c/} Cucumbers, onion seed, carrot seed, vegetable seed and other truck crops.

^{d/} Almonds, cherries, peaches and plums.

* Revised

APIARY PRODUCTS PRODUCED BY NON-RESIDENT COLONIES^{a/}: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Item	Year	Production Total	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Honey	1976	2,596,000	lb.	\$.41	\$ 1,064,000
	1975	3,422,000	lb.	.39	1,335,000
Beeswax	1976	43,300	lb.	1.36	58,900
	1975	57,100	lb.	1.25	71,400
Total	1976				1,123,000
	1975				1,406,000

^{a/} Shown for interest only. Not included in Crop Report values.

Growth of Fresno County Agriculture as Indicated by Gross Value
of Agricultural Products Over a Span of Twenty-One Years

	1956	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
Field Crops	\$151,385,953	\$173,727,000	\$248,562,000	\$347,460,000	\$340,540,000	\$418,790,000
Seed Crops	10,523,879	13,214,000	15,708,000*	27,116,000	22,218,000	22,213,000
Vegetable Crops	17,834,122	59,725,000	73,012,000	129,778,000	182,264,000	170,104,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	94,275,759	193,032,000	326,235,000	294,634,000	282,320,000	340,409,000
Nursery Products	231,025	1,181,000	2,245,000	1,394,000	1,592,000	2,724,000
Livestock and Poultry	56,035,014	117,620,000	161,747,000	165,814,000	194,880,000	213,954,000
Apiary	<u>661,209</u>	<u>808,000</u>	<u>1,173,000</u>	<u>1,154,000</u>	<u>2,542,000*</u>	<u>2,606,000</u>
Grand Total	\$330,946,961*	\$559,307,000*	\$828,682,000*	\$967,350,000	\$1,026,356,000*	\$1,170,800,000

*Revised

SIX YEAR COMPARISON STUDY OF GROSS CROP VALUES IN FRESNO COUNTY