

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE/WEIGHTS & MEASURES

# 2013 Crop Report

ALAMEDA  
COUNTY



ALAMEDA COUNTY  
Community Development Agency



**Dennis F. Bray, retired**  
**Alameda County Agricultural Commissioner/ Sealer**  
**2003-2014**



Dennis F. Bray, retired after 33 years of public service to the County Agricultural Commissioner/ Sealer System. He began his career in 1980 with Kings County Department of Agriculture as an Agricultural Biologist. He was appointed by their Board of Supervisors as the Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights & Measures in 1996 and then in 2003, appointed as the Alameda County Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights and Measures until his retirement in March of 2014.

Dennis was a strong supporter of bringing agriculture to all of Alameda County. He expanded the Alameda County Agriculture in the Classroom program to heighten the awareness and importance that agriculture has on the everyday lives of our youth. He was also instrumental in bringing the first Canine Inspection Team to Alameda County, enhancing the pest prevention program to keep out serious pests that are detrimental to agriculture and the environment.

Dennis zealously promoted and protected agriculture, working cooperatively with industry, state, and federal agencies to successfully eradicating several infestations of various Fruit Fly and Vineyard Pests in Alameda County over the past eleven years preventing further spread and damage throughout California.

Dennis served as a member and President of the Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District Board of Trustees, ex-officio member of the Alameda County Agricultural Advisory Committee and Farm Bureau, and was honored in 2013 by the Alameda County Farm Bureau as their "Agriculturalist of the Year".

**We wish Dennis a long and happy retirement.**



## ALAMEDA COUNTY | Community Development Agency

### AGRICULTURE / WEIGHTS & MEASURES DEPARTMENT

**Chris Bazar**  
Agency Director

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July 31, 2014

Karen Ross, Secretary  
California Department of Food and Agriculture  
and  
The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Alameda, California

It is my pleasure to present the 2013 Alameda County Crop Report. In accordance with Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code this publication is presented annually and reports statistical information on acreage, yield, and gross value of Alameda County agricultural products.

The 2013 total gross value of Alameda County's agriculture was \$41,957,000. This figure is an increase of 1,898,000 (4.7%) from the 2012 gross production value of \$40,059,000.

Fruit and Nut Crops, remained the top grossing commodity group in 2013 valued at \$16,124,000, a 13.1% increase from 2012. This increase was due to high tonnage yields of winegrapes during another highly productive season. Nursery Products fell in value to \$8,377,000, a decrease of 20.5% from 2012. Nursery Products, which include ornamental trees and shrubs, bedding plants, and indoor decorative plants declined for a third consecutive year. This was caused by diminishing production acreages and reduced sales due to the drought and a still struggling economy. Vegetable Crops increased 7.5% in 2013 to a value of \$1,020,000. Livestock and Poultry production underwent a significant 26.7% increase in 2013 to a value of \$11,032,000. This boost was a result of drought related management strategies which included extensive culling of herds. Field Crops declined 3.7% from 2012 to \$5,404,000 with production losses attributable primarily to reduced value in dryland hay.

It is important to emphasize the numbers in this report are gross values only and do not reflect costs related to production, harvesting, marketing or transportation. The overall local economic benefit of our agricultural production is generally thought to be about three times the gross production value.

We sincerely appreciate the cooperation of the many individuals and organizations that provided the necessary information for this report. Special recognition and thanks goes to all the members of our staff whose hard work and dedication made this report possible under the leadership of Edmund Duarte and Carla Radosta.

Respectfully submitted,

**Scott T. Paulsen**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights and Measures





## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Vice President

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## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR SUSAN MURANISHI



ALAMEDA COUNTY  
Community Development Agency

**DIRECTOR**  
**CHRIS BAZAR**

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights & Measures  
**SCOTT T. PAULSEN**

## Alameda County | Community Development Agency Agriculture/Weights & Measures

CDA - Deputy Director  
Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures

Scott T. Paulsen

CDA - Assistant Deputy Director  
Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures  
vacant

### Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

Edmund Duarte  
Ronnie K. Eaton  
Ronald Hasemeyer  
Cathy Roache

### Agricultural & Standards Manager

Cheryl Mailho

### Agricultural & Standards Investigator III

|                |               |                    |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Edwin De Villa | Patricia Hunt | Raghubinder Sahota |
| Eric Forsberg  | Keely Kirkman | Ashenafi Tadesse   |
| Ivan Gallo     | Kenneth Peek  | Michelle Trudeau   |
| Estella Harris | Alcides Reyes | vacant             |
| vacant         | vacant        |                    |

### Agricultural & Standards Investigator II

|                  |              |              |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Blane Manchester | Justin Riggs | Lisa Sampson |
| Rodolfo Raras    |              |              |

### Agricultural & Standards Investigator I

Chris Craft  
Michael Plotz

### Agricultural & Standards Technicians

|                   |                |               |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Mohamed Elhashash | Jonathan Gomes | Anand Shankar |
| Carmen Franke     | Joanne Greer   |               |

### Agricultural & Standards Aides (SAN) (TAP\*)

|                     |                 |                   |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Robert Brostrom     | Patrick Hoffman | Holly Pugh        |
| Walter Bruj         | Rachel Hussey   | Victor Rabinovich |
| Juraj Cech          | Mohamed Khair*  | Tara Rosborough   |
| Sean Eckert         | Sarah Lajon     | Dereje Tamerat    |
| Amare Haileselassie | Rhonda Nave     | Benjamin Wong     |
| Darin Hoagland      | Claire Perkins  |                   |

### Canine Inspection Team

Lisa Sampson and Cosmo

### Supervising Secretary II

Cora Robles

### Administrative/Clerical Support

|                  |                 |                |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Jelicia Metcalfe | Suzette Morgado | Clarice Walker |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|



# ALAMEDA COUNTY 2013 CROP REPORT

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Photo by Ken Peek

## FIELD CROPS

| Crop          | Year | Harvested Acreage | Per Acre                                               | Total | Unit | Per Unit | Total       |
|---------------|------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------|------|----------|-------------|
| Hay, Alfalfa  | 2013 | 529               | 5.47                                                   | 2,894 | Ton  | \$225.00 | \$651,000   |
|               | 2012 | 789               | 5.06                                                   | 3,992 | Ton  | \$233.00 | \$930,000   |
| Hay, Other    | 2013 | 4,113             | 1.33                                                   | 5,470 | Ton  | \$183.00 | \$1,001,000 |
|               | 2012 | 5,243             | 1.48                                                   | 7,973 | Ton  | \$157.00 | \$1,252,000 |
| Range Pasture | 2013 | 177,798           |                                                        |       | Acre | \$16.98  | \$3,019,000 |
|               | 2012 | 182,000           |                                                        |       | Acre | \$16.62  | \$3,025,000 |
| Miscellaneous | 2013 | 1,095             | Includes corn, wheat, sorghum, silage, dry beans, etc. |       |      |          | \$733,000   |
|               | 2012 | 640               |                                                        |       |      |          | \$404,000   |
| Total         | 2013 | 183,535           |                                                        |       |      |          | \$5,404,000 |
|               | 2012 | 188,672           |                                                        |       |      |          | \$5,611,000 |

## FRUIT & NUT CROPS

| Crop                | Year | Bearing Acreage | Per Acre                                              | Total  | Unit | Ave Per Unit | Total        |
|---------------------|------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------|------|--------------|--------------|
| Grapes (WINE) Red   | 2013 | 2,089           | 5.55                                                  | 11,594 | Ton  | \$1,030.30   | \$11,945,000 |
|                     | 2012 | 2,193           | 3.65                                                  | 8,008  | Ton  | \$1,296.74   | \$10,384,000 |
| Grapes (WINE) White | 2013 | 708             | 6.64                                                  | 4,701  | Ton  | \$855.08     | \$4,020,000  |
|                     | 2012 | 748             | 4.03                                                  | 3,018  | Ton  | 1.1119.79    | \$3,380,000  |
| Misc. Fruit & Nut   | 2013 | 338             | Includes olives, walnuts, pistachios, persimmon, etc. |        |      |              | \$159,000    |
|                     | 2012 | 343             |                                                       |        |      |              | \$495,000    |
| Total               | 2013 | 3,135           |                                                       |        |      |              | \$16,124,000 |
|                     | 2012 | 3,284           |                                                       |        |      |              | \$14,259,000 |



## NURSERY PRODUCTS

| Item                           | Year | House Sq. Ft. | Field Acres | Quantity Sold                                                                                     | Unit | Per Unit | Total        |
|--------------------------------|------|---------------|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------|--------------|
| Ornamental Trees and Shrubs    | 2013 | 56,555        | 120         | 365,156                                                                                           | Plt. | Various  | \$7,159,000  |
|                                | 2012 | 91,555        | 149         | 513,995                                                                                           | Plt. | Various  | \$9,413,000  |
| Miscellaneous Nursery Products | 2013 | 322,880       | 68          | Includes bedding plants, cut flowers, indoor decoratives, Christmas trees, vegetable starts, etc. |      |          | \$1,218,000  |
|                                | 2012 | 320,880       | 70          |                                                                                                   |      |          | \$1,118,000  |
| Total                          | 2013 | 379,435       | 188         |                                                                                                   |      |          | \$8,377,000  |
|                                | 2012 | 412,435       | 219         |                                                                                                   |      |          | \$10,531,000 |

## VEGETABLE CROPS

| Crop                     | Year | Harvested Acreage |                                                                                          | Total       |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Miscellaneous Vegetables | 2013 | 81                | Includes broccoli, cabbage, corn, leaf lettuce, greens, pumpkins, tomatoes, squash, etc. | \$1,020,000 |
|                          | 2012 | 83                |                                                                                          | \$949,000   |

## LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

| Item                                 | Year | No. Of Head                                                  | Total Weight | Unit | Ave Per Unit | Total        |
|--------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------|--------------|--------------|
| Cattle & Calves                      | 2013 | 11,477                                                       | 90,245       | Cwt. | VARIOUS      | \$10,309,000 |
|                                      | 2012 | 11,208                                                       | 64,669       | Cwt. | VARIOUS      | \$8,191,000  |
| Misc. Poultry and Livestock Products | 2013 | Includes sheep, goats, pigs, lambs, bees and apiary products |              |      |              | \$723,000    |
|                                      | 2012 |                                                              |              |      |              | \$518,000    |
| Total                                | 2013 |                                                              |              |      |              | \$11,032,000 |
|                                      | 2012 |                                                              |              |      |              | \$8,709,000  |



## PEST MANAGEMENT & ERADICATION

| WEEDS<br>(Common Name/Scientific Name) |                               | CONTROL METHOD      | SCOPE OF PROGRAM<br>(No. Sites/Net Treated Acres) |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Puna Grass</b>                      | <i>Stipa brachychaeta</i>     | Monitoring          | 1 site, monitoring                                |
| <b>Golden Thistle</b>                  | <i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>    | Monitoring          | 720 acres                                         |
| <b>Iberian Starthistle</b>             | <i>Centaurea iberica</i>      | Monitoring          | 1 site, monitoring                                |
| <b>Dalmatian Toadflax</b>              | <i>Linaria genistifolia</i>   | Mechanical Removal  | 1 site – 0.1 acres                                |
| <b>Japanese Dodder</b>                 | <i>Cuscuta japonica</i>       | Mechanical Removal  | 6 sites – 0.1 acres                               |
| <b>Artichoke Thistle</b>               | <i>Cynara cardunculus</i>     | Chemical/Mechanical | various, 29.6 acres                               |
| <b>Purple Starthistle</b>              | <i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>   |                     |                                                   |
| <b>Hoary Cress</b>                     | <i>Cardaria spp.</i>          | Chemical/Mechanical | 5 sites, 4 acres                                  |
| <b>White Horsenettle</b>               | <i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i> | Chemical/Mechanical | 4 sites, monitoring                               |
| <b>Skeletonweed</b>                    | <i>Chondrilla juncea</i>      | Mechanical Removal  | 2 sites, monitoring                               |
| <b>Invasive Spartina</b>               | <i>Spartina spp.</i>          | Chemical            | various, 0.47 acres                               |
| <b>Russian Knapweed</b>                | <i>Acroptilon repens</i>      | Chemical/Mechanical | 4 sites, monitoring                               |

## COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

Biological control is the reduction of pest populations through the use of natural enemies such as parasitoids, predators, pathogens, antagonists, or competitors.

| PEST                                                           | AGENTS                                                          | SCOPE OF PROGRAM    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>YELLOW STARThISTLE</b><br>( <i>Centaurea solstitialis</i> ) | <b>Bud Weevil</b> ( <i>Bangasternus orientalis</i> )            | Countywide          |
|                                                                | <b>Seedhead Gall Fly</b> ( <i>Urophora sirunaseva</i> )         | Countywide          |
|                                                                | <b>Seedhead Fly</b> ( <i>Chaetorellia spp.</i> )                | Countywide          |
|                                                                | <b>Hairy Weevil</b> ( <i>Eustenopus villosus</i> )              | Countywide          |
|                                                                | <b>Rust Fungus</b> ( <i>Puccinia jaceae var. solstitialis</i> ) | Released in 3 Sites |

## PEST EXCLUSION

Pest exclusion is the first line of defense to prevent detrimental, non-native pests from entering the county. The County Agriculture Department inspects shipments of plant products and other high-risk articles daily at various shipping terminals to enforce quarantines intended to prevent the introduction of harmful pests.

| TYPE OF SHIPMENT       | SHIPMENTS INSPECTED | SHIPMENTS REJECTED     |
|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| PARCEL CARRIER         | 7012                | 196 (73 pests found)   |
| TRUCKS                 | 122                 | 0 (0 pests found)      |
| HOUSEHOLD GOODS        | 144                 | 2 (no viable GM found) |
| NURSERY (GWSS Program) | 3127                | 0 (0 egg masses)       |

## CANINE INSPECTION PROGRAM

Our Canine Inspection Team works at various parcel terminals to detect and inspect unmarked parcels containing unprocessed agricultural commodities to prevent the introduction of pests and diseases. Agriculture detector dogs have been shown to be highly effective in finding pests in parcels and are being used throughout the state to help protect California agriculture.

| TYPE OF SHIPMENT                     | SHIPMENTS INSPECTED | SHIPMENTS REJECTED         |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| PARCEL CARRIER                       | 1770 total          | 375 (78 total pests found) |
| 'A' and 'Q' rated pest interceptions | 20                  | 20 (32 A/Q pests)          |

## LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH PROGRAM

|                                              |                             |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS                       | 296                         |
| TRAPS IN NURSERIES/CROPS                     | 29 (No female adults found) |
| <b>BUSINESSES UNDER COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT</b> |                             |
| CROP PRODUCERS                               | 7                           |
| COMMUNITY GARDENS/DIRECT MARKETS             | 0                           |
| RETAIL AND PRODUCTION NURSERIES              | 12 (0 retail nurseries)     |
| GREENWASTE FACILITIES                        | 16                          |

## PEST DETECTION

Pest Detection is the second line of defense to prevent detrimental, non-native pests from becoming established within a large area of the county or state. Insect traps are placed and monitored to detect whether a pest is present in a particular location.

| TARGET PEST                       | HOSTS                            | # OF TRAP SERVICINGS |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Mediterranean Fruit Fly</b>    | Fruit trees                      | 86,868               |
| <b>Mexican Fruit Fly</b>          | Fruit trees                      |                      |
| <b>Melon Fruit Fly</b>            | Vegetable gardens                |                      |
| <b>Oriental Fruit Fly</b>         | Fruit trees                      |                      |
| <b>Other Fruit Flies</b>          | Fruit trees and vegetables       |                      |
| <b>Gypsy Moth</b>                 | Shade trees                      |                      |
| <b>Japanese Beetle</b>            | Turf and Roses                   |                      |
| <b>European Pine Shoot Moth</b>   | Pine trees                       |                      |
| <b>Trogoderma Beetle</b>          | High-hazard articles             |                      |
| <b>Glassy-winged Sharpshooter</b> | Landscape and nursery plants     | 14,605               |
| <b>Light Brown Apple Moth</b>     | Ornamental and commercial plants | 351                  |
| <b>Asian Citrus Psyllid</b>       | Ornamental and nursery plants    | 2,078                |
| <b>European Grapevine Moth</b>    | Vineyards                        | 719                  |

## ORGANIC FARMING

| CROP          | REGISTERED PRODUCERS | ESTIMATED ACREAGE |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Miscellaneous | 9                    | 118               |

## COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE

| TYPE                      | NUMBER | UNITS      |
|---------------------------|--------|------------|
| Community Gardens         | 21     | 48 acres   |
| School Gardens            | 264    | 90 acres   |
| Certified Farmers Markets | 36     | 736 stalls |
| Certified Producers       | 21     | 148 acres  |

## EQUINE STATISTICS

Commercial use of horses is considered an agricultural use for the purposes of the Williamson Act. This category includes the breeding and training of race horses, competition horses and ranch horses for commercial sale.

| TYPE                  | NUMBER |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Race Horses           | 2,000  |
| Competition Horses    | 1,000  |
| Ranch Horses          | 1,500  |
| Recreation/Pleasure * | 5,000  |

*\*Ineligible for Williamson Act as being of economic benefit to agriculture. This category of horses however, is recognized for its ancillary benefit.*



# FIVE YEAR COMPARISON SUMMARY

| PRODUCTION                     | 2013         | 2012         | 2011         | 2010         | 2009         |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Field Crops</b>             | \$5,404,000  | \$5,611,000  | \$5,311,000  | \$4,482,000  | \$3,731,000  |
| <b>Vegetable Crops</b>         | \$1,020,000  | \$949,000    | \$785,000    | \$897,000    | \$838,000    |
| <b>Fruit &amp; Nut Crops</b>   | \$16,124,000 | \$14,259,000 | \$12,043,000 | \$11,994,000 | \$14,144,000 |
| <b>Nursery Products</b>        | \$8,377,000  | \$10,531,000 | \$12,147,000 | \$11,476,000 | \$13,679,000 |
| <b>Livestock &amp; Poultry</b> | \$11,032,000 | \$8,709,000  | \$10,894,000 | \$6,447,000  | \$4,775,000  |
| <b>Totals</b>                  | \$41,957,000 | \$40,059,000 | \$41,180,000 | \$35,296,000 | \$37,167,000 |

## Alameda County General Information

County Seat..... Oakland  
 County Population, 2010 ..... 1,510,271  
 Land Area (Square Miles) ..... 738  
 Water Area (Square Miles) ..... 83.8  
 Persons per Square Mile, 2010 ..... 2,046

### 14 Incorporated Cities

Alameda • Albany • Berkeley • Dublin • Emeryville • Fremont • Hayward  
 Livermore • Newark • Oakland • Piedmont • Pleasanton • San Leandro • Union City

### 6 Unincorporated Areas

Ashland • Castro Valley • Cherryland • Fairview • San Lorenzo • Sunol

### Facts

Total Assessed Property (Local Roll 2014-15) ..... \$229,200,000,000  
 Total Harvested Crop Acreage (2013) ..... 186,948  
 Major Roads ..... Interstate 80, Interstate 580, Interstate 680, Interstate 880, Highway 238, Highway 84, Highway 92, Highway 13  
 Elevation ..... Sea level to 3,817 ft. at Rose Peak in the southern part of the County  
 Average Climate ..... Mild winters and cool summers near the Bay. The eastern portion of the County is moderately warmer; high temperatures in the Livermore Amador Valley average 90°F in July.



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## Alameda County

### MISSION

To enrich the lives of Alameda County residents through visionary policies and accessible, responsive, and effective services

### VISION

Alameda County is recognized as one of the best counties in which to live, work and do business.

### VALUES

Integrity, honesty and respect fostering mutual trust.

Transparency and accountability achieved through open communications and involvement of diverse community voices.

Fiscal stewardship reflecting the responsible management of resources.

Customer service built on commitment, accessibility and responsiveness.

Excellence in performance based on strong leadership, teamwork and a willingness to take risks.

Diversity recognizing the unique qualities of every individual and his or her perspective.

Environmental stewardship to preserve, protect and restore our natural resources.

Social responsibility promoting self-sufficiency, economic independence and an interdependent system of care and support.

Compassion ensuring all people are treated with respect, dignity and fairness.

