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AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT

County of Imperial

1948

OFFICE OF THE
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

B. A. HARRIGAN
Agricultural Commissioner

IMPERIAL COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA

B. A. HARRIGAN
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

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ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31 - 1948

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JOHN LYDICK - CHAIRMAN

E. E. CAVANAH
N. L. FIFIELD

HUGH T. OSBORNE
J. R. SNYDER

AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT - 1948

TO: The Honorable Board of Supervisors
and
The State Director of Agriculture.

It is required by Sec. 65.5 of the Agricultural Code that the Agricultural Commissioner compile a report covering the acreage, production, and value of the agricultural products of the County. Herewith is submitted such a report for the County of Imperial.

I wish to emphasize that these values are Gross Values, F.O.B. Shipping Point and include the cost of production, harvesting, and preparation for market. The net income to farmers was not increased in proportion to the gross sales due to lower efficiency from inexperienced agricultural labor, worn out equipment, and increased costs of all materials used in harvesting and handling the crops.

The members of our department, including office personnel, and District Inspectors have made an earnest endeavor to make this report as accurate as possible.

Our sincere appreciation is extended to farmers, packers, and shippers who have assisted in making this report possible.

Respectfully submitted,

B. A. Harrigan

B. A. HARRIGAN
Agricultural Commissioner
Imperial County

BAH:lw

1948

FIELD CROPS

Alfalfa	19,794	Cars	\$ 8,313,480.00
Alfalfa Meal	832	"	1,372,800.00
Barley	869	"	2,620,035.00
Wheat	49	"	174,195.00
Milo	186	"	632,400.00
Flax	1,783	"	19,880,450.00
Flax Straw	1,795	"	373,074.00
Flax Fiber	327	"	516,089.00
Flax Shive	67	"	4,020.00
Screenings - Seed	39	"	58,500.00
Sugar Beets	23,441	"	14,533,420.00
Sugar Beet By-Products	1,450	"	1,227,500.00
Grain Hay	284	"	103,376.00
Straw	144	"	37,440.00
			\$49,846,779.00

FRUIT & NUTS

Grapefruit	452	Cars	3	417,648.00
Oranges	75	"		95,250.00
Tangerines	37	"		66,600.00
Lemons	11	"		15,950.00
Grapes	41	"		164,000.00
Fruit Juices	38,000	Cases		83,600.00
Dates	200,000	Pounds		80,000.00
Honey	1,180,000	Pounds		100,300.00
Pecans	20,000	Pounds		10,000.00
				\$ 1,033,348.00

VEGETABLES

Lettuce	16,801	Carloads	\$17,204,224.00
Carrots	6,391	"	12,302,675.00
Cabbage	715	"	501,930.00
Cabbage - Sacked	21	"	10,913.00
Cabbage - Bulk	269	"	123,740.00
Peas	195	"	614,250.00
Onions	99	"	148,500.00
Mixed Vegetables	601	"	528,880.00
			\$31,435,112.00

TRUCK CROPS

Cantaloupes	4,088	Carloads	\$ 7,297,080
Mixed Melons	330	"	448,800
Tomatoes	3,099	"	5,578,200
Tomatoes (Cannery)	51	"	30,600
Squash	263	"	701,100
Squash (Banana)	11	"	11,000
Cucumber	105	"	165,375
Asparagus	13	"	43,470
Watermelons	1,337	"	882,420
TOTAL.....			\$15,158,047

ANIMAL INDUSTRIES

Cattle	4,744	Cars	\$11,954,880
Sheep	1,215	"	1,822,500
Wool	13	"	163,800
Hogs	69	"	414,000
Horses	593	Head	59,300
Dairy Cattle	5,134	"	641,750
Market Milk	1,670,899	Gallons	1,503,809
Dairy Products	6,353,741	Pounds	262,784
Pasturage	307,606	Head	1,538,030
Poultry	188,000	"	224,000
Turkeys	2,000	"	20,800
Bees	18,000	Colonies	162,000
Bees Wax	27,000	Pounds	11,880
Queen Bees	2,312	"	2,890
Queen cells	570	"	285
Eggs	27,000	Cases	486,000
TOTAL.....			\$19,268,708

MISC. ITEMS

Fertilizer	850	Carloads	85,000
Mineral Products	9,122	"	1,641,960
Dry Ice	10,025	Tons	701,750
Ice	300,000	"	1,200,000
TOTAL.....			\$ 3,628,710

S E E D A N D C U T F L O W E R S

Cut Flowers		\$	20,000
Flower Seed	6,000 Pounds		10,000
Lettuce "	50,000 "		50,000
Onion "	40,000 "		44,000
Alfalfa "	600,000 "		150,000
Clover "	150,000 "		15,000
Sesbania "	360,000 "		36,000
Vegetable Seed	50,000 "		60,000
			<hr/>
	TOTAL.....	\$	385,000

Soil Improvement Payments	\$125,786	
	TOTAL	\$ 125,786.

R E C A P I T U L A T I O N

Field Crops	\$49,846,779.
Fruits and Nuts	1,033,348.
Vegetables	31,435,112.
Truck Crops	15,158,047.
Animal Industries	19,268,708.
Misc. Items	3,628,710.
Seed and Cut Flowers	385,000.
Soil Improvement Payments	125,786
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GRAND TOTAL.....	\$120,881,490

ACREAGE 1948

Field Crops	353,794 Acres
Permanent Crops	4,089 "
Vegetable Crops	48,410 "

Area in Irrigated District	612,658 Acres
1942 Inclusion	272,330 "
Gross Area of District	884,990 "

Number of Farms	4,776 Farms
Average Area Per Farm	105 Acres

ASSESSED VALUATION

- 1910 -	- 1948 -
\$12,148,180.00	\$47,878,430.00

CROP AND LIVESTOCK VALUES

- 1938 -	- 1948 -
\$32,463,796.00	\$120,881,490.00

WEED CONTROL

Enforcement of seed laws and quarantines on shipments of seed have proven to be the greatest protection to Agriculture. Careful inspection of seed for the presence of noxious weed seed has greatly reduced the hazards to growers of contaminating clean fields with noxious weeds. Increased interest has been manifested in planting and the production of certified seed.

Eradication treatments on infestations of Johnson Grass, Camel Thorn, and Perennial Mesquite have been carried on with generally satisfactory results.

Applications of 2-4-D on Mesquite, a well established infestation failed to give other than fair control. Check plots using arsenicals in jars with individual plant treatment proved more satisfactory and will be used in this program as well as treatment on Camel Thorn.

Chlorate has been used to clean up scattered infestations of Johnson Grass.

General Weed control work has been carried on over County Roads and some private owned properties where owners had no suitable equipment. Applications on such properties were on request of owners and were not at County expense.

The Agricultural Department has two fully equipped power sprays that are available to property owners who may wish to make use of them for weed and pest control work.

INSECT PESTS

Vegetable growers were troubled with the usual pests characteristic to the industry. Use of insecticides applied under regulation as to time of application held losses to a minimum for the season.