

# SAN MATEO COUNTY

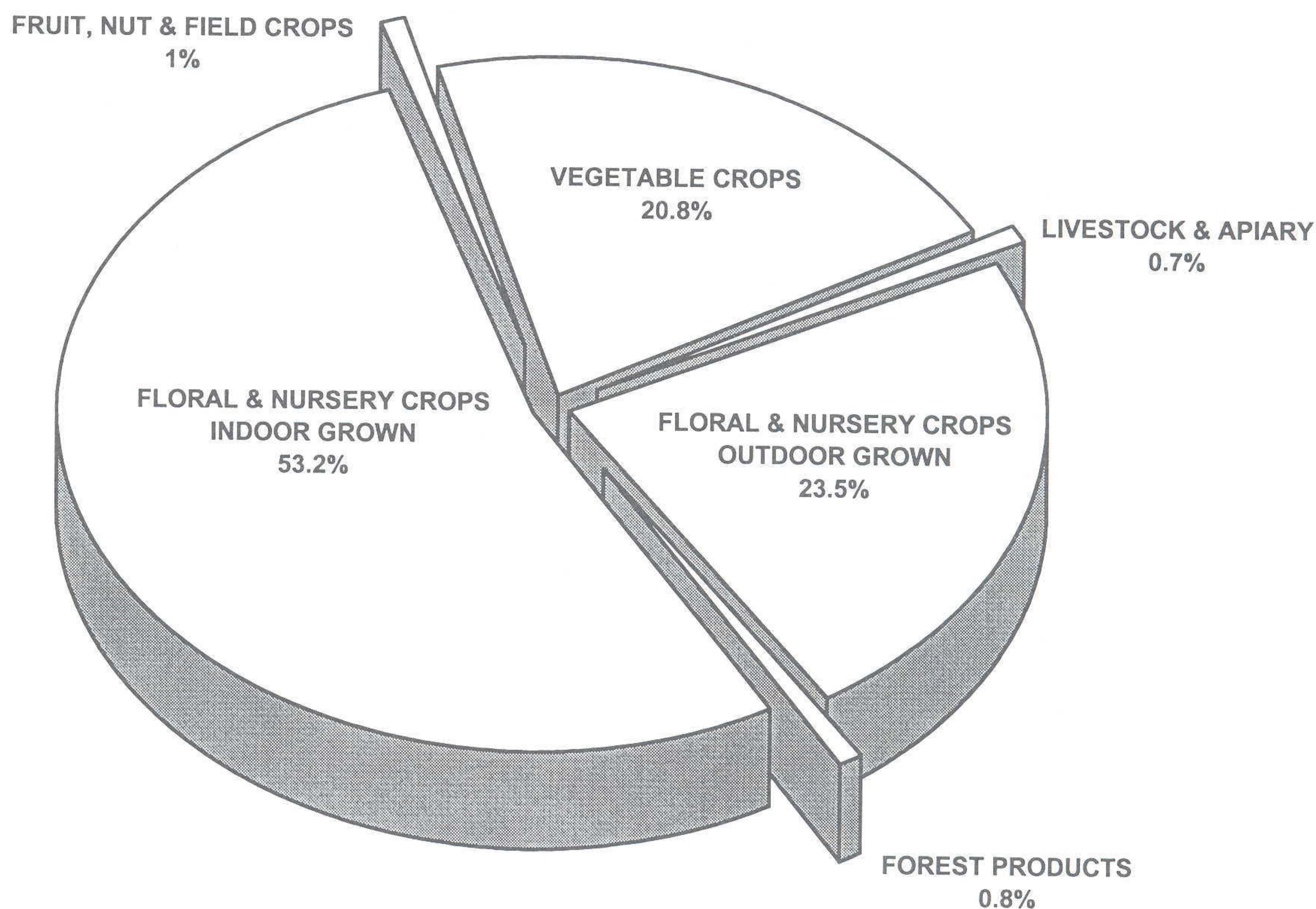
## 1998 AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT





# SAN MATEO COUNTY 1998 CROP SUMMARY

TOTAL PRODUCTION VALUE \$185,679,000



## *On The Cover:*

Our 1998 Crop Report recognizes San Mateo County greenhouse potted plant growers who produced flowering and foliage plants valued at 83.7 million dollars in 1998. Growers often target holiday sales with flowering potted plants, and poinsettias (*Euphorbia pulcherrima*) provide one of the more spectacular displays of color. Poinsettias are native to tropical Mexico and can grow up to ten feet tall in their natural environment. Poinsettias are light sensitive and begin to "bloom," (produce colored bracts), only when they receive at least 14 hours of darkness every 24 hours. Varieties grown for winter enjoyment include red, pink, white and speckled full-sized and dwarf plants. Success, Freedom, Jingle Bells and Monet are some of the more popular varieties. The production value of the San Mateo County poinsettia crop totaled \$3,264,000 in 1998.



**SAN MATEO COUNTY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE/WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

---



**William J. Lyons, Jr., Secretary**  
California Department of Food and Agriculture

and

**San Mateo County Board of Supervisors**

Mary Griffin, 1st District  
Jerry Hill, 2nd District  
Richard S. Gordon, 3rd District  
Rose Jacobs Gibson, 4th District  
Michael D. Nevin, 5th District

I am pleased to submit the 1998 Agricultural Crop Report for San Mateo County in compliance with Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. Also included is the Sustainable Agriculture Report in accordance with Section 2272 of the Code.

The production values in this report represent gross values and do not reflect the cost of production. The total gross value of San Mateo County agricultural production for 1998 was \$185,679,000. This represents a 15% decrease from the total production value for 1997, (\$218,644,000). The total gross value does not reflect the real impact agricultural production has on the local economy. For every dollar of agricultural production, a multiplier factor of 3.5 may be applied. Using this factor, the estimated economic impact on San Mateo County for 1998 was \$649,876,000.

El Niño played a major role in the decrease in agricultural production. Late spring rains, flooding and cool weather destroyed some crops and prevented other crops from being planted. Most crops that were planted had lower yields or poor quality adding to the decrease in production value for 1998. Additionally, board feet and value of harvested timber decreased forty percent.

Indoor cut flowers and mushrooms were a bright spot in the gloom of the El Niño weather with a combined increase in production value of 2.5 million dollars. This helped to offset production value losses to a small degree.

I wish to express my appreciation to all individuals, growers and agencies who contributed information for the preparation of this crop report. Special thanks goes to Ronald Pummer on my staff who helped compile the report.

Respectfully submitted,

**Gail M. Raabe**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights and Measures



# FLORAL AND NURSERY CROPS INDOOR GROWN

Item	Year	Square Feet	Production	Unit	VALUE		
					Per Unit	Total	
<b>Cut Flowers</b>							
Alstroemeria .....	1998	550,000	428,000	Bunch	\$ 2.07	\$ 886,000	
	1997	761,000	518,000	Bunch	1.71	886,000	
Carnations .....	1998	564,000	4,634,000	Bloom	.23	1,066,000	
	1997	497,000	3,656,000	Bloom	.20	731,000	
Lilies .....	1998	195,000	215,000	Bunch	6.50	1,398,000	
	1997	*	*		*	*	
Roses .....	1998	**	**		**	**	
	1997	535,000	6,946,000	Bloom	.27	1,875,000	
Snapdragons .....	1998	2,911,000	2,620,000	Bunch	2.50	6,550,000	
	1997	2,920,000	2,628,000	Bunch	2.50	6,570,000	
Miscellaneous Cut Flowers <sup>1</sup> .....	1998	1,012,000				3,169,000	
	1997	868,000				2,761,000	
<b>Potted Plants</b>							
<b>Flowering</b>							
Chrysanthemums .....	1998	129,000	544,000	Pot	2.75	1,496,000	
	1997	474,000	1,095,000	Pot	3.20	3,504,000	
Lilies <sup>2</sup> .....	1998	780,000	1,449,000	Pot	3.85	5,579,000	
	1997	654,000	847,000	Pot	5.13	4,345,000	
Orchids .....	1998	381,000	253,000	Pot	14.00	3,542,000	
	1997	489,000	570,000	Pot	13.85	7,895,000	
Poinsettias .....	1998	561,000	768,000	Pot	4.25	3,264,000	
	1997	597,000	1,002,000	Pot	4.55	4,559,000	
Miscellaneous <sup>3</sup> .....	1998	7,160,000				45,273,000	
	1997	6,910,000				52,287,000	
Foliage <sup>4</sup> .....	1998	3,501,000				24,551,000	
	1997	3,675,000				26,093,000	
Subtotal .....	1998	17,744,000				\$ 96,774,000	
	1997	18,380,000				111,506,000	
<b>Propagated</b>							
Bedding Plants .....	1998	402,000				1,547,000	
	(Ivy, Impatiens, Marigolds, etc.) 1997	431,000				1,365,000	
Cuttings and Liners .....	1998	178,000				515,000	
	(Ferns, Hydrangea, Ivy, etc.) 1997	184,000				416,000	
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	1998	18,324,000				\$ 98,836,000	
	1997	18,995,000				113,287,000	
		Total Glass and Plastic Areas .....					5,777,000 Square Feet

\* Previously included in Miscellaneous Cut Flowers

\*\* Included in Miscellaneous Cut Flowers

1 Includes Chrysanthemum, Freesia, Gardenia, Orchids, Roses, etc.

2 Includes Calla Lilies, Easter Lilies, Hybrid Lilies, Oriental Lilies, etc.

3 Includes Azaleas, Cyclamen, Gardenias, Gerberas, Hydrangea, Primula, Roses, Tulips, etc.

4 includes Dieffenbachia, Ficus, Ivy, Philodendron, Pothos, etc.



# FLORAL AND NURSERY CROPS OUTDOOR GROWN

Item	Year	Acres	Production	Unit	VALUE	
					Per Unit	Total
Daisies .....	1998	108	1,184,000	Bunch	\$ .92	\$ 1,089,000
	1997	196	2,140,000	Bunch	.80	1,712,000
Gypsophila .....	1998	30	210,000	Bunch	1.97	414,000
	1997	47	314,000	Bunch	2.00	628,000
Heather .....	1998	50	138,000	Bunch	2.03	280,000
	1997	76	182,000	Bunch	2.25	410,000
Iris .....	1998	48	916,000	Bunch	2.90	2,656,000
	1997	60	1,109,000	Bunch	3.10	3,438,000
Larkspur .....	1998	24	172,000	Bunch	2.80	482,000
	1997	31	130,000	Bunch	2.87	373,000
Stock .....	1998	90	319,000	Bunch	2.35	750,000
	1997	66	240,000	Bunch	2.63	631,000
Strawflowers <sup>1</sup> .....	1998	47	118,000	Bunch	1.60	189,000
	1997	77	164,000	Bunch	1.75	287,000
Sunflowers .....	1998	33	278,000	Bunch	2.35	653,000
	1997	42	261,000	Bunch	2.35	613,000
Miscellaneous .....	1998	261				3,740,000
Flower/Foliage <sup>2</sup>	1997	265				4,517,000
Subtotal .....	1998	658				\$10,253,000
	1997	860				12,609,000
<b>Ornamentals</b>						
Herbaceous .....	1998	20				2,533,000
Perennials <sup>3</sup>	1997	21				3,693,000
Christmas Trees .....	1998	130				144,000
	1997	177				342,000
Nursery Stock <sup>4</sup> .....	1998	193				30,694,000
	1997	264				41,923,000
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	1998	1,001				\$43,624,000
	1997	1,322				58,567,000

1 Includes Fresh and Dried.

2 Includes Calla Lily, Delphinium, Eucalyptus, Pittosporum, Statice, Yarrow, etc.

3 Includes Cinerarias, Fuchsias, Impatiens, Primrose, etc.

4 Includes Heather, Mini Christmas trees, other trees and shrubs.



## VEGETABLE CROPS

Crop	Year	Acres	PRODUCTION		Unit	VALUE	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Artichokes <sup>1</sup>	1998	432	2.06	890	Ton	\$1,019.00	\$ 907,000
	1997	468	2.50	1,170	Ton	1,410.00	1,650,000
Beans, Snap	1998	187	2.51	469	Ton	1,350.00	633,000
	1997	215	3.33	716	Ton	1,000.00	716,000
Brussels Sprouts <sup>1</sup>	1998	777	5.41	4,204	Ton	559.00	2,350,000
	1997	870	7.85	6,830	Ton	590.00	4,030,000
Leeks	1998	178	12.58	2,239	Ton	479.00	1,072,000
	1997	190	12.96	2,462	Ton	525.00	1,293,000
Mushrooms	1998	17					23,109,000
	1997	17					20,804,000
Peas	1998	486	1.47	714	Ton	866.00	618,000
	1997	571	1.59	908	Ton	844.00	766,000
Pumpkins	1998	240	14.49	3,478	Ton	125.00	435,000
	1997	261	11.96	3,122	Ton	120.00	375,000
Miscellaneous Vegetables Field and Indoor Grown <sup>2</sup>	1998	719					9,431,000
	1997	728					9,727,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	1998	3,036					\$38,555,000
	1997	3,320					39,361,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Processed.

<sup>2</sup> Includes Bean Sprouts, Cabbage, Corn, Herbs, Leaf lettuce, Potatoes, Spinach, Swiss chard, etc.

## FIELD CROPS

Crop	Year	Acres	PRODUCTION		Unit	VALUE	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Beans, Dry Edible <sup>1</sup>	1998	200	1.00	200	Ton	\$ 729.00	\$ 146,000
	1997	200	2.00	400	Ton	729.00	292,000
Grain							
Barley	1998	200	.84	168	Ton	120.00	20,000
	1997	300	.72	216	Ton	132.00	29,000
Oats	1998	1,100	.86	946	Ton	520.00	492,000
	1997	1,300	.82	1,066	Ton	304.00	324,000
Hay							
Oats	1998	1,500	1.00	1,500	Ton	100.00	150,000
	1997	1,500	2.50	3,750	Ton	160.00	600,000
Volunteer	1998	300	1.50	450	Ton	80.00	36,000
	1997	300	1.80	540	Ton	120.00	65,000
Pasture							
Irrigated	1998	300				140.00	42,000
	1997	300				140.00	42,000
Other	1998	30,000				9.00	270,000
	1997	30,000				9.00	270,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	1998	33,600					\$ 1,156,000
	1997	33,900					1,622,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Cranberry, Fava, etc.



## FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

Item	Year	Acres	Total Value
Bushberries .....	1998	30	\$ 194,000
	1997	30	185,000
Strawberries .....	1998	23	241,000
	1997	31	329,000
Wine Grapes .....	1998	54	122,000
	1997	52	200,000
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup> .....	1998	54	119,000
	1997	58	127,000
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	1998	161	\$ 676,000
	1997	171	841,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Apples, Kiwi, Pears, Walnuts, etc.

## LIVESTOCK

Item	Year	Number Head Sold	Total Value
Cattle and Calves .....	1998	1,800	\$ 796,000
	1997	2,300	1,031,000
Sheep and Lambs .....	1998	400	29,000
	1997	400	28,000
Hogs and Pigs .....	1998	900	99,000
	1997	900	102,000
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	1998	1,400	168,000
	1997	1,400	109,000
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	1998		\$ 1,092,000
	1997		1,270,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes chickens, goats, turkeys

## LIVESTOCK AND APIARY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Production	Unit	VALUE	
				Per Unit	Total
Wool .....	1998	*		*	*
	1997	4,000	LB.	\$ 1.25	\$ 5,000
Honey .....	1998	43,000	LB.	3.00	129,000
	1997	45,000	LB.	2.50	113,000
Beeswax .....	1998	500	LB.	6.50	3,000
	1997	500	LB.	6.00	3,000
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	1998				51,000
	1997				**
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	1998				\$ 183,000
	1997				121,000

\* Included in Other

\*\* Not previously reported

<sup>1</sup> Includes goat milk, eggs, wool



# FOREST PRODUCTS

<b>TOTAL</b> .....	1998	3,561,000 Board Feet	\$1,557,000
	1997	8,022,000 Board Feet	3,575,000

## Department of Agriculture COASTSIDE RAIN STATIONS

	Half Moon Bay	Pescadero
1987/1988 .....	14.34 inches	13.21 inches
1988/1989 .....	13.79 inches	8.41 inches
1989/1990 .....	11.87 inches	9.35 inches
1990/1991 .....	13.43 inches	21.10 inches
1991/1992 .....	25.31 inches	28.98 inches
1992/1993 .....	33.17 inches	29.87 inches
1993/1994 .....	17.93 inches	15.45 inches
1994/1995 .....	37.48 inches	31.00 inches
1995/1996 .....	30.69 inches	25.56 inches
1996/1997 .....	26.05 inches	19.31 inches
1997/1998 .....	50.69 inches	81.71 inches

### 50 YEARS AGO . . . . .

### Top Ten Agricultural Commodities in 1948

ITEM		TOTAL VALUE
1. Dairy Cattle	10,747 Head	\$2,275,091
2. Hogs	27,109 Head	1,522,062
3. Chrysanthemums (Field Grown)	193 Acres	1,396,072
4. Flax (Seed)	11,327 Acres	789,399
5. Cabbage	1,138 Acres	751,080
6. Brussels Sprouts	962 Acres	740,740
7. Gardenias (Glass House Grown)	557,400 Sq.ft.	735,768
8. Artichokes	1,764 Acres	705,600
9. Hay	8,934 Acres	509,238
10. Lettuce (All var.)	754 Acres	508,491



# RECAPITULATION

## PRODUCTION VALUES

	1998	1997
FLOWER AND NURSERY CROPS .....	\$142,460,000	\$171,854,000
VEGETABLE CROPS .....	38,555,000	39,361,000
FOREST PRODUCTS .....	1,557,000	3,575,000
FIELD CROPS .....	1,156,000	1,622,000
LIVESTOCK .....	1,092,000	1,270,000
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS .....	676,000	841,000
LIVESTOCK AND APIARY PRODUCTS .....	183,000	121,000
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$185,679,000</b>	<b>\$218,644,000</b>

## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS

	1998	1997
Ornamental Nursery Stock .....	\$30,694,000	\$41,923,000
Potted Foliage Plants .....	24,551,000	26,093,000
Mushrooms .....	23,109,000	20,804,000
Snapdragons .....	6,550,000	6,570,000
Lilies (potted) .....	5,579,000	4,345,000
Orchids (potted) .....	3,542,000	7,895,000
Poinsettia (potted) .....	3,264,000	4,559,000
Iris .....	2,656,000	3,438,000
Herbaceous Perennials .....	2,533,000	3,693,000
Brussels Sprouts .....	2,350,000	4,030,000
Forest Products .....	1,557,000	3,575,000
Bedding Plants .....	1,547,000	1,365,000
Chrysanthemum (potted) .....	1,496,000	3,504,000
Lilies (cut) .....	1,398,000	*
Daisies .....	1,089,000	1,712,000
Leeks .....	1,072,000	1,293,000
Carnations .....	1,066,000	731,000

\* Previously included in Miscellaneous Cut Flowers



# SAN MATEO COUNTY

## 1998 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORT

---

Sustainable Agriculture is the implementation of agricultural programs and practices designed to promote the economic viability of agriculture, while minimizing the impact of agricultural practices on natural resources and the environment. This report includes information on San Mateo County's programs for the eradication, control or detection of pests, as well as the enforcement of quarantines to exclude such pests. Also included is information on alternative pest control measures employed by the agricultural industry and organic farming.

### — COUNTY PROGRAMS —

#### BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

Pest	Agent/Mechanism	Scope of Program
Yellow Star Thistle	<u>Bangasternus orientalis</u> , weevil <u>Eustenopus villosus</u> , weevil	Monitored established populations of these two bio-control agents at 13 sites.
	<u>Urophora sirunaseva</u> , gall fly	Monitored established populations at 5 sites.
Ash Whitefly	The release and natural disbursement of <u>Encarsia partenopea</u> and <u>Clitostethus arcuatus</u> since 1991 has been highly successful in keeping the Ash Whitefly under control. These bio-control agents have now become established and no further releases are planned.	

#### PEST ERADICATION

Skeletonweed, Chondrilla juncea, was treated at two locations. This is an "A" rated pest. Pests with this designation are detrimental to agriculture and require complete eradication.

#### PEST DETECTION

##### **Insect Trapping for Exotic Pests**

3,659 insect traps were deployed for exotic pests, with 56,023 trap servicings during the year. This included traps for the following economically significant insects: Mediterranean Fruit Fly, Mexican and Oriental Fruit Fly, Melon Fly, Gypsy Moth, Japanese Beetle, Khapra Beetle, European Pine Shoot Moth and European Corn Borer.

One mature male guava fruit fly, Bactrocera correcta, was found. Fifty additional traps were set in one square mile around the find. No additional guava fruit flies were detected.

#### PEST EXCLUSION

Inspection of incoming shipments of plant products and other high risk articles to prevent the introduction of pests and diseases harmful to California's agricultural industry. Shipments are rejected due to the presence of live pests, improper container markings, or lack of valid certification.

Type of Shipment	Number Inspected	Number Rejected
Parcel Carriers	11,270	190
Truck	2,688	6
Air	5,678	76
Sea Containers	4	0
Household Goods	139	0



**Exotic Pests Intercepted\***

	Rating	Number of Interceptions	Pest	Rating	Number of Interceptions
<u>Achatina fulica</u> , giant African snail	A	1	<u>Palmicultor palmarum</u> , palm mealybug	Q	2
<u>Adoretus sinicus</u> , Chinese rose beetle	Q	1	<u>Pheidole megacephala</u> , bigheaded ant	Q	4
<u>Aleurodicus dispersus</u> , spiraling whitefly	Q	9	<u>Phenacoccus emansor</u> , a lily mealybug	Q	1
<u>Aleurotrachelus sp.</u> , a whitefly	Q	1	<u>Pinnaspis strachani</u> , lesser snow scale	A	2
<u>Aleurotulus sp.</u> , anthurium whitefly	Q	1	<u>Pinnaspis uniloba</u> , one lobed scale	Q	1
<u>Anoplolepis longipes</u> , long legged ant	Q	2	<u>Pseudaulacaspis cockerelli</u> , magnolia white scale	A	4
<u>Chrysodeixis eriosoma</u> , green garden looper	A	2	<u>Rhizoecus hibisci</u> , a root mealybug	Q	1
<u>Coccus viridis</u> , green scale	Q	1	<u>Rhyparochromus saturnius</u> , a lygaeid bug	Q	3
<u>Euxesta sp.</u> , maize ear maggot	Q	1	<u>Technomyrmex albipes</u> , an ant	Q	1
<u>Glycaspis brimblecombei</u> , redgum lerp psyllid	Q	1	<u>Xerotrichia conspurcata</u> , a snail	Q	1

\*Pest rating designation of "A" or "Q" requires that quarantined plant products be destroyed, treated under departmental supervision, or shipped out of state.

— **AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY** —

**ALTERNATIVE PEST CONTROL METHODS**

<u>Bacillus thuringiensis</u> , bacteria	Indoor, Outdoor Ornamentals; Vegetables
Lacewings	Vegetables
Ladybird Beetles	Indoor, Outdoor Ornamentals; Fruit
Parasitic Nematodes	Indoor Ornamentals; Vegetables
Parasitic Wasps	Indoor, Outdoor Ornamentals; Vegetables
Predatory Mites	Indoor Ornamentals; Vegetables; Fruit
Insect Monitoring, Pheromone Traps	Indoor, Outdoor Ornamentals; Vegetables
Botanicals	Indoor Ornamentals; Vegetables
Insect Growth Regulators	Indoor, Outdoor Ornamentals; Vegetables
Insecticidal Soaps	Indoor, Outdoor Ornamentals
Refined Oils	Indoor, Outdoor Ornamentals; Vegetables
Cover Crops	Outdoor Ornamentals; Vegetables; Fruit
Crop Rotation	Indoor, Outdoor Ornamentals; Vegetables
Steam Sterilization of Soils	Indoor, Outdoor Ornamentals; Vegetables
Weed Covers	Indoor, Outdoor Ornamentals; Vegetables
Other	Indoor, Outdoor Ornamentals; Fruit; Vegetables

**ORGANIC FARMING**

Number of Farms	Estimated Acres	Crops
6	83	Apples, arugula, artichokes, beans, berries, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, chard, collard greens, corn, cucumbers, eggs (chicken), eggplant, garlic, herbs, flowers, kale, leeks, lettuce, mustard greens, okra, onions, peas, peppers, potatoes, spinach, sprouts, squash, tomatoes, watermelon.



**SAN MATEO COUNTY**  
**Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures**  
**728 Heller Street**  
**P.O. Box 999**  
**Redwood City, California 94064-0999**

