

Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner



Annual Crop Report 2003



Office of
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

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Agricultural Commissioner
W. Earl McPhail

Chief Deputy
David B. Buettner

August 5, 2004

TO: **THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
COUNTY OF VENTURA**

STEVE BENNETT, Chair	District 1
LINDA PARKS	District 2
KATHY LONG	District 3
JUDY MIKELS,	District 4
JOHN FLYNN	District 5

And

A.G. Kawamura, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture

Pursuant to Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I hereby submit the Ventura County Annual Crop and Livestock Report for 2003.

The estimated gross value for Ventura County agriculture for calendar year 2003 is \$1,117,628,000. This is an overall decrease of \$41,677,000 from 2002. This report reflects gross values only and does not represent the net return to growers.

Highlights of the 2003 Crop Report are as follows:

- Strawberries are, once again, the leading commodity in 2003 with a value of \$300,746,000
- Raspberries, for the second year, are a separately listed commodity for a value of \$17,692,000 and ranks 10th overall.
- Vegetables crop value decreased by \$5,277,000.
- Fruit and nut crops value decreased by \$39,351,000.

I wish to thank all the individuals, producers, processors, and government agencies whose cooperation and assistance contributed to preparing this report. I would also like to thank my department staff for their efforts in compiling and finalizing this report, especially Deputy Agricultural Commissioner Kerry DuFrain.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Earl McPhail
Agricultural Commissioner
County of Ventura

WEM/h
:My Documents/Crop Reports/VC Crop Report 2003

**Office of the
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER**

W. Earl McPhail – AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

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David B. Buettner

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AGRICULTURAL BIOLOGISTS:

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George Mendoza, Daniela Nekić, Louis Ortali, Bruce Spiller

AGRICULTURAL PLANNER:

Julie Bulla

INSECT DETECTION SPECIALISTS II:

Jake Baldwin Linda Bellamy

INSECT DETECTION SPECIALISTS:

Trapping:

Clifford Ball, Becky Battleson, Francisco Hernandez,
Amado Mijares, Barbara Miller, Jose Muñoz,
Thomas Paul, Marvin Stidham, John Salzwedel, John Sudtelgte

Inspections:

Carmen Buford, Meredith Crisman, Douglas Crissman, Virginia Feyh,
Chad Hurd, Graham Jensen, Gary Johnson, Danny McDougald,
Miriam Mullins, Connie Ratner, Gayle Reed,
Ingus Richters, David Soriano, Dale Vesper

AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT

Recapitulation and Index

2002 – 2003

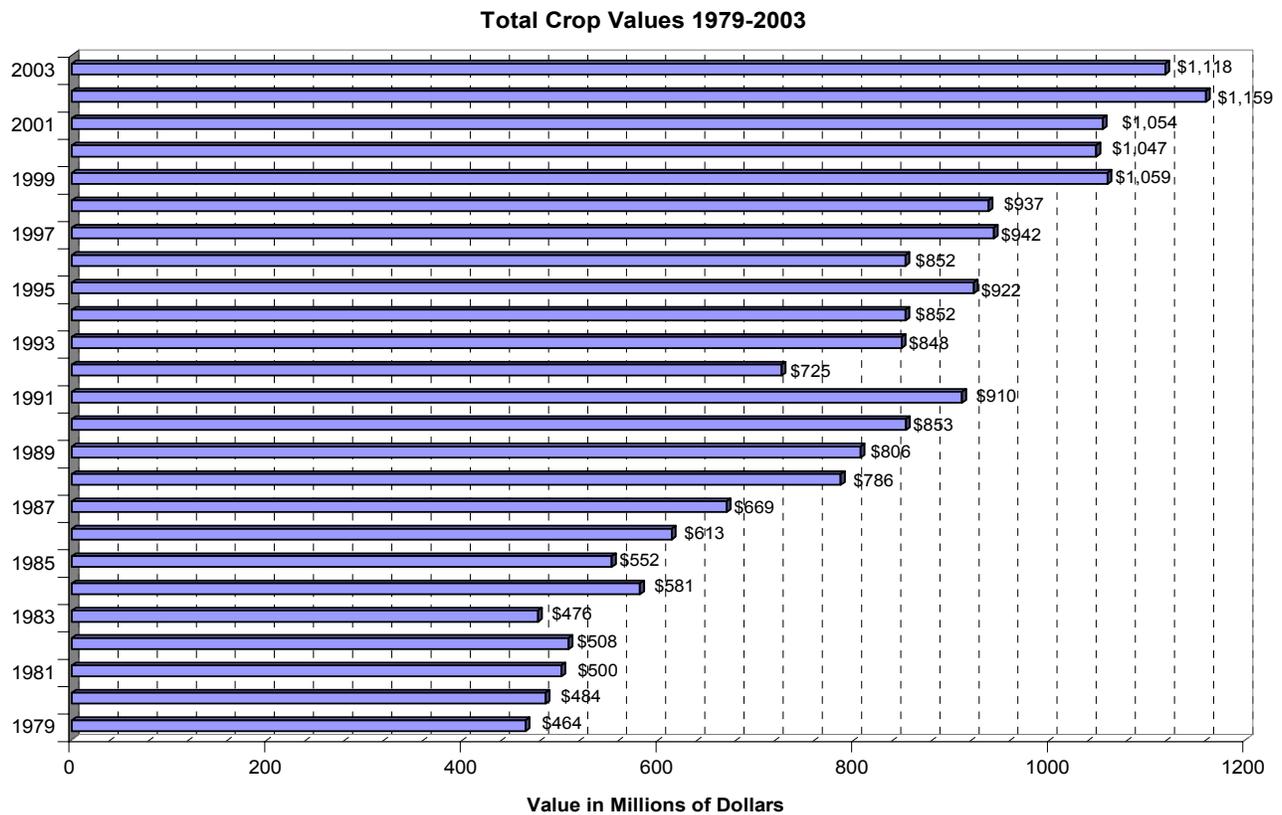
CROP GROUPING	YEAR	\$ VALUE ¹
1. FRUIT AND NUT CROPS Page #4	2003	\$591,667,000
	2002	631,018,000
2. VEGETABLE CROPS Page #5-6	2003	298,743,000
	2002	304,020,000
3. NURSERY STOCK ² Page #7	2003	173,262,000
	2002	173,896,000
4. CUT FLOWERS Page #8	2003	44,515,000
	2002	40,349,000
5. FIELD CROPS Page #8	2003	3,108,000
	2002	3,628,000
6. LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY Page #9	2003	2,126,000
	2002	2,423,000
7. APIARY PRODUCTS Page #9	2003	1,339,000
	2002	863,000
8. TIMBER Page #9	2003	61,000
	2002	69,000
9. SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE Page #10	2003	2,807,000
	2002	3,039,000
GRAND TOTAL	2003	\$1,117,628,000
	2002	\$1,159,305,000

¹ Figures are rounded off to nearest \$1000

² Includes Cut Christmas Trees

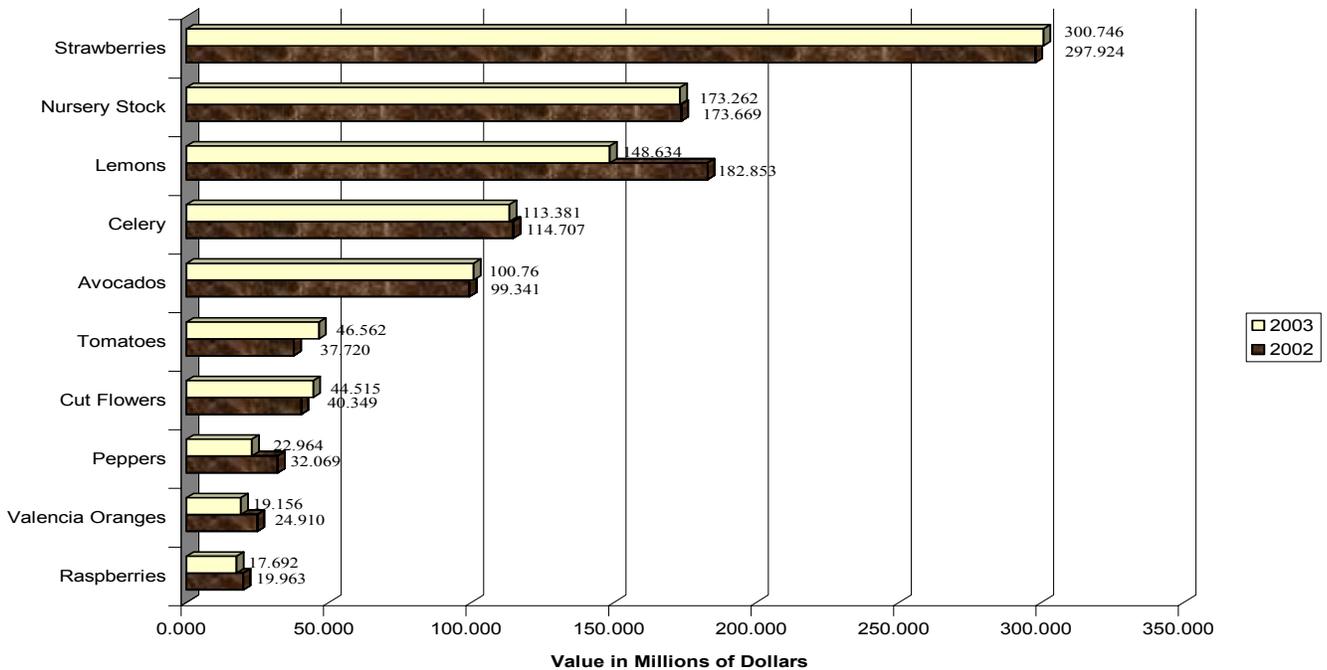
Five Year Comparison Of Ventura County Crop Values

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Fruit and Nut Crops	571,080,000	473,683,000	511,167,000	631,018,000	591,667,000
Vegetable Crops	296,839,000	357,929,000	309,423,000	304,020,000	298,743,000
Livestock and Poultry Products	2,437,000	2,709,000	2,827,000	2,423,000	2,126,000
Apiary Products	350,000	845,000	591,000	863,000	1,339,000
Nursery Stock	139,743,000	156,053,000	171,651,000	173,896,000	173,262,000
Cut Flowers	40,881,000	48,775,000	51,717,000	40,349,000	44,515,000
Field Crops	4,240,000	3,808,000	3,176,000	3,628,000	3,108,000
Timber	66,000	74,000	78,000	69,000	61,000
Biological Control	3,487,000	3,252,000	3,084,000	3,039,000	2,807,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$1,059,123,000	\$1,047,128,000	\$1,053,714,000	\$1,159,305,000	\$1,117,628,000



TEN LEADING CROPS FOR 2003

RANK	CROP	VALUE
1 st	Strawberries	\$300,746,000
2 nd	Nursery Stock	173,262,000
3 rd	Lemons	148,634,000
4 th	Celery	113,381,000
5 th	Avocados	100,760,000
6 th	Tomatoes	46,562,000
7 th	Cut Flowers	44,515,000
8 th	Peppers	22,964,000
9 th	Valencia Oranges	19,156,000
10 th	Raspberries	17,692,000



OTHER MILLION DOLLAR CROPS

Greens	14,619,000	Parsley	3,411,000
Broccoli	13,188,000	Radishes	2,478,000
Lettuce	11,237,000	Beans (all)	2,239,000
Cabbage	9,690,000	Livestock	2,126,000
*Veg. Transplants	6,418,000	Navel Oranges	1,867,000
Spinach	6,184,000	Kale	1,693,000
Cilantro	5,606,000	*Poinsettia	1,677,000
*Orchids	5,546,000	Sweet Corn	1,382,000
Onions (all)	4,244,000	Cucumbers	1,152,000
Oriental Vegetables	3,599,000		

* Included in Nursery Stock total above

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUES 2002-03

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION			UNIT	\$ VALUE	
		HARVESTED ACREAGE	PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
AVOCADOS	2003	17,545	2.74	48,024	Tons	\$2,098.12	\$100,760,000
	2002	18,588	3.28	60,894	"	1,631.38	99,341,000
GRAPEFRUIT							
Total	2003	103	8.03	827	"	276.91	229,000
	2002	99	11.03	1,091	"	254.82	278,000
LEMONS							
Total	2003	23,865	17.17	422,898	"	351.47	148,634,000
	2002	23,603	15.73	371,144	"	492.68	182,853,000
ORANGES (Navel)							
Total	2003	755	7.81	5,892	"	316.88	1,867,000
	2002	753	9.44	7,102	"	449.17	3,190,000
ORANGES (Valencia)							
Total	2003	5,315	14.24	75,660	"	253.19	19,156,000
	2002	7,960	10.83	86,136	"	289.20	24,910,000
RASPBERRIES	2003	372	7.47	2,777	"	6,370.91	17,692,000
	2002	268	3.68	986	"	20,246.46	19,963,000
STRAWBERRIES							
Total	2003	8,794	30.48	268,041	"	1,122.02	300,746,000
	2002	8,582	28.27	242,613	"	1,227.99	297,924,000
Fresh	2003			177,817	"	1,425.48	253,473,000
	2002			161,356	"	1,515.68	244,564,000
Processed	2003			90,224	"	523.96	47,273,000
	2002			81,257	"	656.69	53,360,000
MISC. FRUITS AND NUTS ³	2003	615			"		2,583,000
	2002	621			"		2,559,000
<hr/>							
TOTAL	2003	57,364					\$591,667,000
	2002	60,474					\$631,018,000

³ MISC. FRUITS AND NUTS include Apples, Apricots, Asian Pears, Bushberries, Cherimoya, Grapes, Guavas, Kiwi, Limes, Persimmons, Macadamias, Tangelos, Tangerines, Walnuts; and miscellaneous citrus, deciduous, and subtropicals

VEGETABLE CROPS

ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUES 2002-03

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION			UNIT	\$ VALUE	
		HARVESTED ACREAGE	PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
BEANS							
Green and Dry Limas,	2003	2,073	1.99	4,112	Tons	544.51	\$2,239,000
Green Snap	2002	1,944	1.65	3,201	"	748.21	2,395,000
BROCCOLI							
Fresh and Processed	2003	2,775	7.81	21,646	"	609.26	13,188,000
	2002	2,799	7.43	20,784	"	638.81	13,277,000
CABBAGE							
	2003	2,134	25.53	54,465	"	177.92	9,690,000
	2002	2,067	26.75	55,277	"	192.67	10,650,000
CELERY							
	2003	11,030	39.75	438,359	"	258.65	113,381,000
	2002	10,622	38.09	404,583	"	283.52	114,707,000
CILANTRO							
	2003	1,328	7.35	9,760	"	574.39	5,606,000
	2002	1,257	8.53	10,711	"	624.88	6,693,000
CUCUMBERS							
	2003	149	10.67	1,589	"	724.99	1,152,000
	2002	72	9.17	660	"	845.56	558,000
GREENS⁴							
	2003	1,644	-	1,683,546	Ctns	8.69	14,619,000
	2002	1,353	-	978,049	"	11.82	11,554,000
KALE							
	2003	159	15.92	2,531	Tons	668.91	1,693,000
	2002	304	24.09	7,322	"	507.65	3,717,000
LETTUCE							
Total	2003	2,199	11.17	24,544	"	457.84	11,237,000
	2002	2,258	11.96	26,993	"	411.37	11,104,000
Head	2003	235	12.90	3,030	"	334.33	1,013,000
	2002	547	14.49	7,924	"	185.90	1,473,000
Romaine	2003	980	12.91	12,650	"	431.55	5,459,000
	2002	925	12.64	11,690	"	451.33	5,276,000
Leaf	2003	984	9.02	8,874	"	536.97	4,765,000
	2002	1,145	9.32	10,669	"	580.10	6,189,000

⁴ Includes: chard, collard, mustard, turnip and watercress.

VEGETABLE CROPS ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUES 2002-03

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION			UNIT	\$ VALUE	
		HARVESTED ACREAGE	PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
ORIENTAL VEG.	2003	630	7.13	4,491	Tons	801.39	\$3,599,000
	2002	773	8.49	6,556	"	452.72	2,968,000
ONIONS Green & Dry	2003	699	13.17	9,202	"	461.21	4,244,000
	2002	781	11.01	8,597	"	540.19	4,644,000
PARSLEY	2003	342	20.94	7,159	"	476.47	3,411,000
	2002	477	16.50	7,866	"	590.01	4,641,000
PEPPERS							
Fresh and Processed	2003	1,647	26.19	43,119	"	532.58	22,964,000
	2002	2,599	23.67	61,515	"	521.33	32,069,000
PUMPKIN	2003	72	13.21	951	"	212.41	202,000
	2002	129	15.84	2,043	"	259.43	530,000
RADISHES	2003	467	10.73	5,008	"	494.81	2,478,000
	2002	1,152	9.90	11,395	"	594.56	6,775,000
SPINACH	2003	1,041	8.18	8,509	"	726.76	6,184,000
	2002	956	8.07	7,711	"	708.47	5,463,000
SWEET CORN	2003	677	6.08	4,114	"	335.93	1,382,000
	2002	894	6.75	6,026	"	432.63	2,607,000
TOMATOES ⁵							
	2003	167	157.02	26,222	"	1,775.69	46,562,000
	2002	201	138.96	27,929	"	1,350.57	37,720,000
VEGETABLES, MISC. ⁶							
Field, Indoor, and Processed	2003	1,895			"		34,912,000
	2002	1,478			"		28,662,000
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TOTAL	2003	31,128					\$298,743,000
	2002	32,799					\$304,020,000

⁵ Includes hydroponics

⁶ Includes: artichokes, arugula, asparagus, baby vegetables, beets, carrot, cauliflower, eggplant, endive, garlic, gourds, herbs, kohlrabi, leeks, melons, mushrooms, peas, radicchio, sprouts, squash, tomatillos, and turnips.

NURSERY STOCK PRODUCTION AND VALUES 2002-03

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION		PRODUCTION AREA		Per Unit	TOTAL
				Greenhouse Square Feet	Field Acres		
NURSERY STOCK							
	2003	-----	-----	5,980,229	3,635		\$173,073,000
	2002	-----	-----	5,514,352	3,571		173,669,000
Fruit and Nut Trees	2003	473,056	Trees		51	12.92	6,109,000
	2002	639,298	Trees		85	12.25	7,830,000
Potted Plants	2003	3,116,020	Pots	1,770,510	63	5.45	16,961,000
	2002	3,456,384	Pots	997,388	113	4.66	16,101,000
Propagative Mat	2003	87,939,580	Cuttings	308,540	9	.11	9,658,000
	2002	92,989,390	Cuttings	743,640	22	.12	10,455,000
Herb. Perennials	2003	5,429,550	Containers	947,962	61	2.29	12,408,000
	2002	5,141,704	Containers	926,172	53	2.12	10,855,000
Woody Orn.	2003	10,194,728	Tree/Shrubs	956,000	1,242	6.82	69,444,000
	2002	9,762,450	Tree/Shrubs	955,000	978	6.20	60,443,000
Bed. Plants And Turf	2003	58,638,344	Flats	611,540	2,167	.89	52,075,000
	2002	61,859,924	Flats	805,420	2,279	1.00	61,616,000
Veg. Transplants	2003	2,895,968	Flats	1,385,677	42	2.22	6,418,000
	2002	2,114,274	Flats	1,086,732	41	3.02	6,369,000
CHRISTMAS TREES (CUT)	2003	7,585	Trees		36	24.92	189,000
	2002	6,771	Trees		53	33.53	227,000
TOTAL	2003						\$173,262,000
	2002						\$173,896,000

CUT FLOWERS PRODUCTION AND VALUES 2002-03

ITEM	YEAR	ACRES	PRODUCTION	UNIT	TOTAL \$ VALUE
FLOWER BLOOMS & STEMS	2003	13	2,326,447	Blooms	\$1,361,000
	2002	30	4,347,427	"	1,525,000
CUT GREENS & DRIED FLOWERS	2003	131	1,323,158	Bunches	1,237,000
	2002	149	1,244,423	"	993,000
FLOWER BUNCHES Total	2003	908	20,253,406	Bunches	41,917,000
	2002	1,015	15,784,190	"	37,831,000
Gypsophila and Queen Anne's Lace	2003	103	1,600,636	"	2,970,000
	2002	154	811,352	"	1,216,000
Chrysanthemums, Sunflowers & Stock	2003	120	3,542,040	"	5,090,000
	2002	131	2,953,989	"	5,057,000
Lilies & Irises	2003	71	1,640,979	"	6,719,000
	2002	84	2,243,424	"	10,032,000
Lisianthus	2003	32	1,179,266	"	3,506,000
	2002	37	789,514	"	3,132,000
Statice, Larkspur & Snapdragons, Delphinium	2003	285	5,692,306	"	9,982,000
	2002	284	4,695,042	"	8,525,000
Miscellaneous	2003	297	6,598,129	"	13,650,000
	2002	325	4,290,869	"	9,869,000
TOTAL	2003	1,052			\$44,515,000
	2002	1,194			\$40,349,000

FIELD CROPS ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE 2002-03

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	TOTAL \$ VALUE
ALFALFA AND PASTURE Irrigated and Non-Irrigated	2003	135,195	\$1,239,000
	2002	143,423	1,227,000
GRAIN ⁷ , HAY, FLOWER & VEGETABLE SEED	2003	1,239	1,869,000
	2002	2,434	2,401,000
TOTAL	2003		\$3,108,000
	2002		\$3,628,000

⁷ Includes green barley

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTION AND VALUES 2002-03

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	\$ VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL
LIVESTOCK					
Cattle, Hogs	2003	20,236	cwt.	\$90.88	\$1,839,000
Sheep	2002	20,233	cwt.	85.26	1,725,000
POULTRY					
Eggs, Ducks	2003				210,000
	2002				250,000
OTHER LIVESTOCK⁸					
	2003				77,000
	2002				448,000
TOTAL					
	2003				\$2,126,000
	2002				\$2,423,000

APIARY PRODUCTS PRODUCTION AND VALUES 2002-03

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	\$ VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL
HONEY					
	2003	757,419	lbs.	\$1.48	\$1,115,000
	2002	476,661	lbs.	1.32	625,000
BEE SWAX					
	2003	5,851		2.40	14,000
	2002	10,843		1.57	17,000
POLLINATION USE					
	2003				210,000
	2002				221,000
TOTAL					
	2003				\$1,339,000
	2002				\$863,000

TIMBER PRODUCTION AND VALUES 2002-03

CROP	YEAR		\$VALUE
TIMBER⁹			
	2003		\$61,000
	2002		\$69,000

⁸ Deer, squab and alpaca

⁹ Timber harvested for lumber.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

ITEM	PEST	AGENT	SCOPE OF PROGRAM
BIOLOGICAL CONTROL			
Commercial Insectaries	Red and black scale, Mealybug, snails, various aphids mites and flies	<u>Aphytus melinus</u> , <u>Cryptolemus</u> , Decollate snails, various predators, parasitic wasps and nematodes	Estimate 3,622,047,145 beneficials, released on 700 ranches. Valued at \$2,807,000
COLONIZATION OF BENEFICIAL ORGANISMS ¹⁰	Giant Whitefly	<u>Encarsiella noysi</u> <u>Idiopus affinis</u>	25 releases/total 32,875 22 releases/total 17,250
PEST ERADICATION	Scotch Thistle	Mechanical/Pulling	1 Site
PEST EXCLUSION	Various	<u>Incoming Shipments</u> Postal/UPS/Fed Express (Parcels) Truck/Air Freight	13,819 9,058
	Gypsy Moth	Household Goods (Inspections)	150
		Total	23,027
ORGANIC FARMING	Number of registered growers	44	Vegetables Acreage 1,844 Fruits and Nuts Acreage 1,655 Field Crops Acreage 355 Flowers Acreage 6

¹⁰ Released cooperative effort: U.C. Cooperative Extension and Univ. of CA, Riverside