



**Kings County
Department of Agriculture
2019 Crop Report**

Cover Story

In 2019, the Kings County Department of Agriculture acquired a drone to be utilized in various inspection capacities assisting multiple programs within the department. Three members of the staff became FAA certified commercial drone pilots, accomplished by attending an FAA licensing program and passing the examination. The Kings County Ag Drone program continues to evolve, striving to maximize the benefits of this useful tool.

The decline in cost and advancement in drone technologies has allowed the department to take advantage of this technology in several different activities. Inspections that would previously present a higher level of risk climbing on and around dangerous equipment are now done with less risk by having the ability to simply fly the drone and get a crystal clear view unencumbered. Activities currently utilizing the drone include bulk citrus inspections, pesticide drift investigations, industrial hemp monitoring, and surveillance and mapping of apiaries. In the bulk citrus inspections, for example, quarantined fruit arriving in the county by tractor trailer are required to be properly tarped and sealed. Use of the drone, either during the day or at night, ensures the loads are arriving following shipping protocols and inspected with minimal risk to staff. Video can be recorded of the inspection process to aid in training of new inspectors as well. Future use of the drones may include noxious weed mapping, predator management, and nutria surveillance and detection.

The transformation taking place in today's agriculture due to the advancements of drone technologies is remarkable, allowing for efficient usage of limited resources. While drones have been used commercially since the early 1980's it has only been recently that practical applications have created a rapidly expanding industry. Crop monitoring, including fertility, irrigation, drainage, and pest control, including the release of beneficial insects, are just a few of the uses growers are taking advantage of today. With the 2019 drone market estimated at more than \$1.3 billion, agriculture is the second largest industry to adopt drone technologies.

Whatever the function may be, drones are allowing a new and unique view allowing growers and inspectors alike, a more efficient way to get the job done.





Department of Agriculture / Measurement Standards

JIMMY HOOK
Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights and Measures

September 1, 2020

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

It is my privilege to submit to you the 2019 Annual Agricultural Crop Report for the County of Kings. This report contains statistical information on the acreage, yield and gross values in accordance with Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. The numbers in this report are gross values and do not represent net income or loss to producers.

The gross value of all agricultural crops and products produced during 2019 in Kings County was \$2,187,693,000. This represents a decrease of \$92,982,000 (4.1%) from the 2018 value.

Fruit and Nut Crops had the largest increase in value at \$43,645,000 (7.3%) due primarily to an increase in production and price of almonds. Seed Crops increased \$1,906,000 (16.2%) due to an increase in acreage.

Livestock and Poultry Products had the largest decrease in value at \$72,682,000 (10.7%) due to a decrease in milk production. Vegetable crops decreased \$34,465,000 (16.0%) due largely to a decrease in processing tomato acreage and production. Livestock and Poultry decreased \$19,891,000 (7.1%) due to less cattle, calves and poultry sold, as well as lower poultry prices. Field crops decreased \$10,510,000 due primarily to lower pima cotton prices. Apiary products decreased \$985,000 (6.6%) due largely to less acreage pollinated.

Milk continues to be the top commodity with a value of \$602,646,000 in 2019.

My thanks and appreciation is extended to the many producers and organizations who contributed information for this report. This report was compiled and prepared by Shanna Robbins, Agricultural and Standards Inspector and Steve Schweizer, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jimmy Hook

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County Administration Ag Commissioner - Sealer Personnel

County Administrative Officer

Rebecca Campbell

Kings County Board of Supervisors

Joe A. Neves	District I	Richard Valle	District II
Doug Verboon	District III	Craig Pedersen	District IV
Richard Fagundes	District V		

Agricultural Commissioner - Sealer of Weights and Measures

Jimmy Hook

Deputy Agricultural Commissioner - Sealers

Lynda Schrupf Steve Schweizer

Deputy Agricultural Commissioner

Mario Gutierrez

Agricultural and Standards Inspectors

Mallory Areias Jared Ball Randall Bray Aaron Brown Janet Eckles
Elvis Martinez Celso Maya-Gaona Garen Oliveira Bruce Perez Jason Perez
Rafael Perla Alfredo Prieto Shanna Robbins Robert Torrez

Agricultural and Standards Aides

Andrew Larson Garrett Roe

Executive Secretary

Jennifer Rios

Account Clerk

Julie Henderson

Office Assistants

Chelsey Huckabay Janet Trujillo

Field Crops

Crop	Year	Harvested	Production		Unit	Value	Total
		Acres	Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	
Alfalfa, Hay	2019	25,711	8.59	220,857	Ton	\$205.00	\$45,276,000
	2018	27,124	8.04	218,077	Ton	\$212.00	\$46,232,000
Barley, Silage	2019	6,369	15.88	101,140	Ton	\$36.60	\$3,702,000
	2018	6,189	14.03	86,832	Ton	\$36.60	\$3,178,000
Corn, Silage	2019	50,435	25.75	1,298,701	Ton	\$50.20	\$65,195,000
	2018	48,153	25.95	1,249,570	Ton	\$49.60	\$61,979,000
Cotton, Acala - Lint a/	2019	9,948	3.53	35,116	Bale	\$384.00	\$13,485,000
	2018	8,684	3.92	34,041	Bale	\$425.00	\$14,647,000
Cotton, Acala - Seed	2019			14,485	Ton	\$275.00	\$3,983,000
	2018			14,042	Ton	\$295.00	\$4,142,000
Cotton Pima - Lint a/	2019	98,511	3.43	337,893	Bale	\$569.00	\$192,261,000
	2018	91,720	3.52	322,854	Bale	\$686.00	\$221,478,000
Cotton Pima - Seed	2019			139,381	Ton	\$275.00	\$38,330,000
	2018			133,177	Ton	\$245.00	\$32,628,000
Forage b/	2019						
	2018	434	12.07	5,238	Ton	\$43.90	\$230,000
Oat, Hay	2019	980	3.12	3,058	Ton	\$153.00	\$468,000
	2018	1,656	3.85	6,376	Ton	\$170.00	\$1,084,000
Oat, Silage	2019	3,010	12.91	38,859	Ton	\$31.60	\$1,228,000
	2018	518	14.97	7,754	Ton	\$50.00	\$388,000
Pasture Range	2019	337,568				\$12.85	\$4,338,000
	2018	337,071				\$12.80	\$4,315,000
Sorghum Silage	2019	17,768	21.85	388,231	Ton	\$40.00	\$15,529,000
	2018	13,147	19.45	255,709	Ton	\$39.20	\$10,024,000
Sudan, Hay b/	2019						
	2018	1,232	7.00	8,883	Ton	\$133.80	\$1,189,000

Field Crops

Crop	Year	Harvested Acres	Production			Value	
			Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Triticale, Grain c/	2019	1,366	3.34	4,562	Ton	\$237.00	\$1,081,000
	2018						
Triticale, Silage	2019	3,957	16.42	64,974	Ton	\$37.00	\$2,404,000
	2018	3,963	16.24	64,359	Ton	\$38.50	\$2,478,000
Wheat, Grain	2019	24,276	2.11	51,222	Ton	\$223.00	\$11,423,000
	2018	20,231	2.31	46,734	Ton	\$220.00	\$10,281,000
Wheat, Hay	2019	1,564	4.70	7,351	Ton	\$149.00	\$1,095,000
	2018	1,517	3.83	5,810	Ton	\$136.00	\$790,000
Wheat, Silage	2019	40,520	18.05	731,386	Ton	\$39.70	\$29,036,000
	2018	41,640	18.57	773,255	Ton	\$40.00	\$30,930,000
Other d/	2019	58,827					\$36,588,000
	2018	59,656					\$30,119,000
Total	2019	680,810					\$465,422,000
	2018	662,935					\$475,932,000

a/ 495 lbs. = 1 bale

b/ Currently listed as "Other"

c/ Previously included in "Other"

d/ Includes alfalfa silage, alfalfa stubble, barley (grain), beans (dry), corn (grain), forage, hay (other), pasture (irrigated), ryegrass, safflower, sorghum milo, sudan hay, sudan silage, and wheat straw.



Fruit & Nut Crops

Crop	Year	Harvested	Production		Value		
		Acres	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Almonds	2019	31,928	1.19	37,994	Ton	\$5,080.00	\$193,010,000
	2018	29,856	1.07	31,946	Ton	\$4,730.00	\$151,105,000
Almond Hulls	2019			75,988	Ton	\$96.00	\$7,295,000
	2018			63,892	Ton	\$95.20	\$6,083,000
Almond Shells	2019			18,997	Ton	\$7.80	\$148,000
	2018			15,973	Ton	\$8.26	\$132,000
Apricots	2019	788	5.56	4,381	Ton	\$1,470.00	\$6,440,000
	2018	767	3.30	2,531	Ton	\$1,750.00	\$4,429,000
Cherries	2019	1,455	2.71	3,943	Ton	\$5,650.00	\$22,278,000
	2018	1,583	2.29	3,625	Ton	\$6,900.00	\$25,013,000
Grapes, Raisin	2019	1,823	2.89	5,268	Ton	\$1,560.00	\$8,218,000
	2018	1,844	2.70	4,979	Ton	\$1,890.00	\$9,410,000
Grapes, Table	2019	589	17.39	10,243	Ton	\$1,410.00	\$14,443,000
	2018	912	11.56	10,543	Ton	\$1,260.00	\$13,284,000
Grapes, Wine	2019	3,671	17.18	63,068	Ton	\$269.00	\$16,965,000
	2018	3,674	15.06	55,330	Ton	\$293.00	\$16,212,000
Grapes, Total	2019	6,083					\$39,626,000
	2018	6,430					\$38,906,000
Nectarines	2019	1,256	9.50	11,932	Ton	\$1,400.00	\$16,705,000
	2018	1,273	8.46	10,770	Ton	\$1,340.00	\$14,432,000
Peaches, Cling	2019	1,145	12.77	14,622	Ton	\$480.00	\$7,019,000
	2018	1,139	12.59	14,340	Ton	\$475.00	\$6,812,000
Peaches, Freestone	2019	1,679	12.15	20,400	Ton	\$1,250.00	\$25,500,000
	2018	1,653	10.92	18,051	Ton	\$1,330.00	\$24,008,000
Peaches, Total	2019	2,824					\$32,519,000
	2018	2,792					\$30,820,000

Fruit & Nut Crops

Crop	Year	Harvested	Production		Unit	Value	Total
		Acres	Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	
Pistachios	2019	29,369	1.31	38,473	Ton	\$4,720.00	\$181,593,000
	a/ 2018	27,519	1.95	53,662	Ton	\$4,260.00	\$228,600,000
Plums	2019	1,805	9.37	16,913	Ton	\$1,290.00	\$21,818,000
	2018	2,334	7.13	16,641	Ton	\$1,680.00	\$27,957,000
Walnuts	2019	17,545	2.01	35,265	Ton	\$1,970.00	\$69,472,000
	2018	17,352	1.98	34,357	Ton	\$1,450.00	\$49,818,000
Other b/	2019	5,000					\$53,320,000
	2018	4,010					\$23,284,000
TOTAL	2019	98,053					\$644,224,000
	a/ 2018	93,916					\$600,579,000

a/ Revised

b/ Includes apples, asian pears, berries (other), blackberries, blueberries, cherry plums, firewood, kiwifruit, olives, oranges, pecans, persimmons, pluots, pomegranates, prunes, quince, strawberries, and tangerines.



Seed Crops

Crop	Year	Harvested Acres	Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total
Seed Crops a/	2019	17,196		Lbs		\$13,637,000
b/	2018	13,148		Lbs		\$11,731,000

a/ Includes alfalfa (certified & non-certified), asparagus, barley (certified), broccoli, cabbage, cotton (certified & non-certified), lettuce, onion, triticale (certified), and wheat (certified)

b/ Revised



Vegetable Crops

Crop	Year	Harvested Acres	Production Per Acre	Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total
Tomatoes, Processed	2019	27,287	58.51	1,596,562	Ton	\$74.40	\$118,784,000
	2018	32,350	62.23	2,013,141	Ton	\$73.70	\$148,368,000
Other a/	2019	8,462					\$61,865,000
	2018	8,157					\$66,746,000
TOTAL	2019	35,749					\$180,649,000
	2018	40,507					\$215,114,000

a/ Includes asparagus, bell peppers, cantaloupe, carrots, corn (sweet), garlic (fresh), garlic (processed), melons (misc.), onions (fresh), onions (processed), parsley, radicchio, tomatoes (fresh), transplants, and watermelons.

Inventories of Livestock & Poultry

Item	December, 2019 Number of Head	December, 2018 Number of Head
Cattle and Calves		
All	325,000	325,000
Dairy Cows 2 Years and Over	170,000	170,000
Cattle and Calves on Feed	3,900	4,200
Other	151,100	150,800
Sheep and Lambs	17,805	12,475
Goats	17,030	19,133
Hogs and Pigs	184	608
Turkeys	464,961	557,008

*Revised

Livestock & Poultry

Item	Year	Number of Head	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total
Cattle and Calves	2019	202,519	Head	\$884.00	\$179,027,000
	2018	210,531	Head	\$876.00	\$184,425,000
Poultry a/	2019	19,636,285	Lb.		\$82,074,000
	2018	16,643,377	Lb.		\$96,628,000
Other b/	2019	35,033			\$911,000
	2018	32,583			\$850,000
TOTAL	2019				\$262,012,000
	2018				*\$281,263,000

a/ Includes chickens, ducks, and turkeys

b/ Includes goats, hogs, pigs, and sheep

* Revised

Livestock & Poultry Products

Item	Year	Total Production	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total
Manure a/	2019	679,487	Ton	\$7.20	\$4,892,000
	2018	842,794	Ton	\$4.30	\$3,624,000
Milk, Market	2019	36,660,000	Cwt.	\$16.30	\$597,558,000
	2018	41,052,289	Cwt.	\$16.18	\$671,507,000
Milk, Mfg. b/	2019		Cwt.		
	2018	25,212	Cwt.	\$17.22	\$434,000
Milk, Goats	2019	122,303	Cwt.	\$41.60	\$5,088,000
	2018	115,598	Cwt.	\$40.90	\$4,728,000
Milk Total	2019	36,782,303	Cwt.		\$602,646,000
	2018	41,643,099	Cwt.		\$676,669,000
Wool c/	2019	127,430	Lb.	\$2.35	\$299,000
	2018	95,030	Lb.	\$2.38	\$226,000
TOTAL	2019				\$607,837,000
	2018				\$680,519,000

a/ includes poultry manure

b/ Included in Market Milk for 2019

c/ price does not contain wool incentive



Apiary Products

Item	Year	Total Production	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total
Honey	2019	414,036	Lb.	\$1.91	\$791,000
	2018	405,265	Lb.	\$1.99	\$806,000
Beeswax	2019	7,127	Lb.	\$2.40	\$17,100
	2018	8,300	Lb.	\$3.19	\$26,500
Pollination, Seed Alfalfa	2019	1,782	Colonies	\$60.00	\$107,000
	2018	2,862	Colonies	\$60.00	\$172,000
Pollination, Tree Fruit & Nuts a/	2019	69,939	Colonies	\$184.11	\$12,876,000
	2018	78,711	Colonies	\$174.00	\$13,696,000
Pollination, Melons	2019	544	Colonies	\$38.00	\$20,700
	2018	524	Colonies	\$37.50	\$19,700
Pollination, Vegetable Seed	2019	1,911	Colonies	\$52.50	\$100,000
	b/ 2018	2,363	Colonies	\$75.00	\$177,000
TOTAL	2019				\$13,912,000
	b/ 2018				\$14,897,000

a/ Includes almonds, cherries, kiwis, pluots, plums, and pomegranates.

b/ Revised

Kings County is ranked:

- 8th among California counties in agricultural production.
- 1st among California counties in the production of cotton lint and cottonseed.
- 2nd among California counties in tomatoes (processing).
- 3rd among California counties in the production of milk and cream, nectarines, plums and turkeys.
- 4th among California counties in the production of apricots and silage.
- 5th among California counties in the production of pistachios and peaches.

Information is based on 2018 County Agricultural Commissioners' Crop Reports

5 Year Comparison of Acreage and Crop Values

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Apiary Products	\$13,912,000	*\$14,897,000	\$15,637,000	\$10,457,000	\$9,376,000
Field Crops	\$465,422,000	*\$475,932,000	\$392,836,000	\$367,600,000	\$387,531,000
Acreage	680,810	*\$662,935	652,933	622,290	628,287
Fruit & Nut Crops	\$644,224,000	*\$600,579,000	\$513,212,000	\$525,113,000	\$513,301,000
Acreage	98,053	*93,916	88,435	78,646	76,893
Livestock and Poultry	\$262,012,000	*\$281,903,000	270,313,000	\$309,001,000	\$255,110,000
Livestock and Poultry Products	\$607,837,000	\$680,519,000	\$680,145,000	\$640,259,000	\$655,555,000
Seed Crops	\$13,637,000	\$11,731,000	\$6,622,000	\$8,739,000	\$4,315,000
Acreage	17,196	13,148	12,732	6,039	4,790
Vegetable Crops	\$180,649,000	\$215,114,000	\$179,650,000	\$175,833,000	\$195,864,000
Acreage	35,749	40,507	36,011	39,480	40,557
TOTAL	\$2,187,693,000	*\$2,280,675,000	\$2,058,415,000	\$2,037,002,000	\$2,021,052,000

*Revised

AGRICULTURAL EFFICIENCY...

Production Per Acre Comparison for Miscellaneous Crops

2019 & 1969

Crop	2019 Production/Acre	Unit	1969 Production/Acre	Unit
Cotton	3.53	Bales	1.87	Bales
Tomatoes	58.51	Tons	17.70	Tons
Wheat, Grain	4.70	Tons	1.65	Tons

Top 10 Commodities

Crop	2019 Rank	Dollar Value	2018 Rank	2017 Rank	1969 Rank
Milk, Total	1	\$602,646,000	1	1	2
Cotton, Total	2	\$248,059,000	3	2	1
Almonds	3	\$200,453,000	5	4	46
Pistachios	4	\$181,593,000	2	5	N/A
Cattle & Calves	5	\$179,027,000	4	3	3
Tomatoes, Processed	6	\$118,784,000	6	6	21
Livestock, Poultry	7	\$82,074,000	7	7	7
Walnuts	8	\$69,472,000	9	8	19
Corn, Silage	9	\$65,195,000	8	9	8
Alfalfa, Hay	10	\$45,276,000	10	12	4

A Look Back, 50 Years Ago.....1969 Kings County's Top 10 Commodities

Crop	Rank	Dollar Value
Cotton	1	\$21,898,000
Milk	2	\$19,846,000
Cattle & Calves	3	\$15,482,000
Alfalfa	4	\$10,948,000
Barley	5	\$7,420,000
Cattle, Feed Yard Gain	6	\$6,174,000
Poultry	7	\$4,078,000
Corn	8	\$3,566,000
Cattle, Feeders	9	\$3,003,000
Sorghum Grain	10	\$2,738,000
	Total	\$93,627,000

Sustainable Agriculture Report

County Biological Control

Puncture Vine <u>Tribulus terrestris</u>	Stem Mining Weevil <u>Microlarinus lypriformis</u>	Generally Distributed
	Seed Head Weevil <u>Microlarinus lareynil</u>	Generally Distributed
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Seed Head Weevil <u>Bangastemus orientalis</u>	Generally Distributed
	Gall Fly <u>Urophora sirunaseva</u>	Generally Distributed
	Hairy Weevil <u>Eustenopus villosus</u>	Generally Distributed
Ash Whitefly <u>Siphoninus phillyreae</u>	Parasitic Wasp <u>Encarsia partenopea</u>	Generally Distributed
Red Gum Lerp Psyllid <u>Glycaspis brimblecombei</u>	Parasitic Wasp <u>Psyllaephagus bliteus</u>	Generally Distributed
Russian Knapweed <u>Acroptilon repens</u>	Russian Knapweed Gail Wasp <u>Aulacidea acroptilonica</u>	Limited Distribution Introduced in 2019
Silverleaf Whitefly <u>Bemisia argentifolii</u>	Parasitic Wasp <u>Eretmocerus sp. (M95104)</u>	Generally Distributed
	<u>Eretmocerus sp. (M95012)</u>	Generally Distributed

County Pest Exclusion

Pest	Agent/Mechanism	Scope of Program
Glassy Winged Sharpshooter	Nursery/Citrus Inspections	1,856 Shipments Inspected
Gypsy Moth <u>Lymantria dispar</u>	Household Goods Shipments	3 Shipments Inspected
Various Pests	Truck Shipments	1,355 Units Inspected
Crops	Activity	Scope of Program
Export Commodities	Phytosanitary Certification	2,164 Issued
Export Seed	Field Inspections	33 Sites / 678.28 Acres

Sustainable Agriculture Report

County Pest Eradication

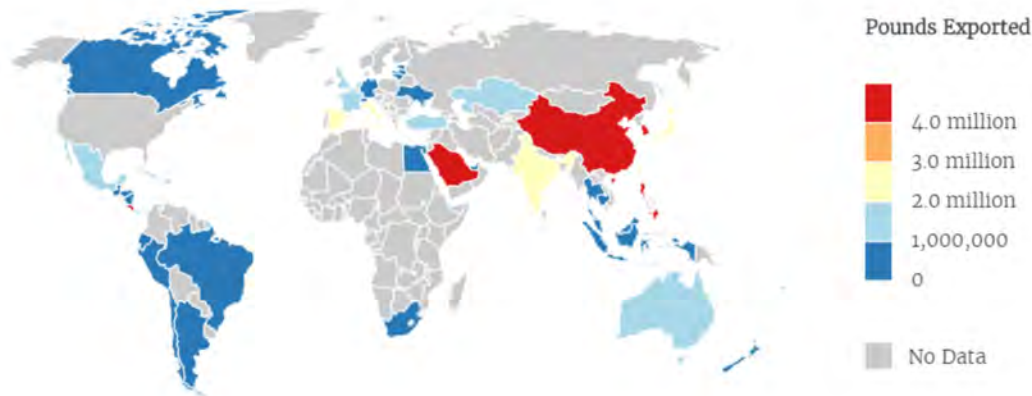
Pest	Agent/Mechanism	Scope of Program
Pink Bollworm <u>Pectinophora gossypiella</u>	Mechanical/Host Free Period	98,510 Acres
Alligatorweed <u>Alternanthera philoxeroides</u>	Visual Inspection Mechanical/Chemical	34 Sites Treated

Pest	Number of Traps	Number of Servicings	Type of Trap
All Purpose Fruit Fly	116	1,069	Champ
Asian Citrus Psyllid	282	4,379	Yellow Panel
European Corn Borer	13	155	Pherocon II
European Grape Vine Moth	570	7,287	Delta
European Pine Shoot Moth	5	26	Pherocon II
Glassy Wing Sharpshooter	211	858	Yellow Panel
Gypsy Moth	82	655	Delta
Japanese Beetle	82	655	Japanese Beetle
Light Brown Apple Moth	152	2,146	Jackson
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	152	2,146	Jackson
Melon Fly	75	636	Jackson
Mexican Fruit Fly	99	2,353	McPhail
Oriental Fruit Fly	152	2,146	Jackson
TOTAL	1,991	24,511	

Export Commodities

Commodities Grown and Exported From Kings County

Alfalfa Seed	Cottonseed	Pears
Almonds	Grapes	Pistachios
Apricots	Kiwifruit	Plums
Asparagus Seed	Nectarines	Pluots
Blueberries	Onions	Pomegranates
Cherries	Oranges	Sudan Grass Seed
Cotton	Peaches	Tangerines

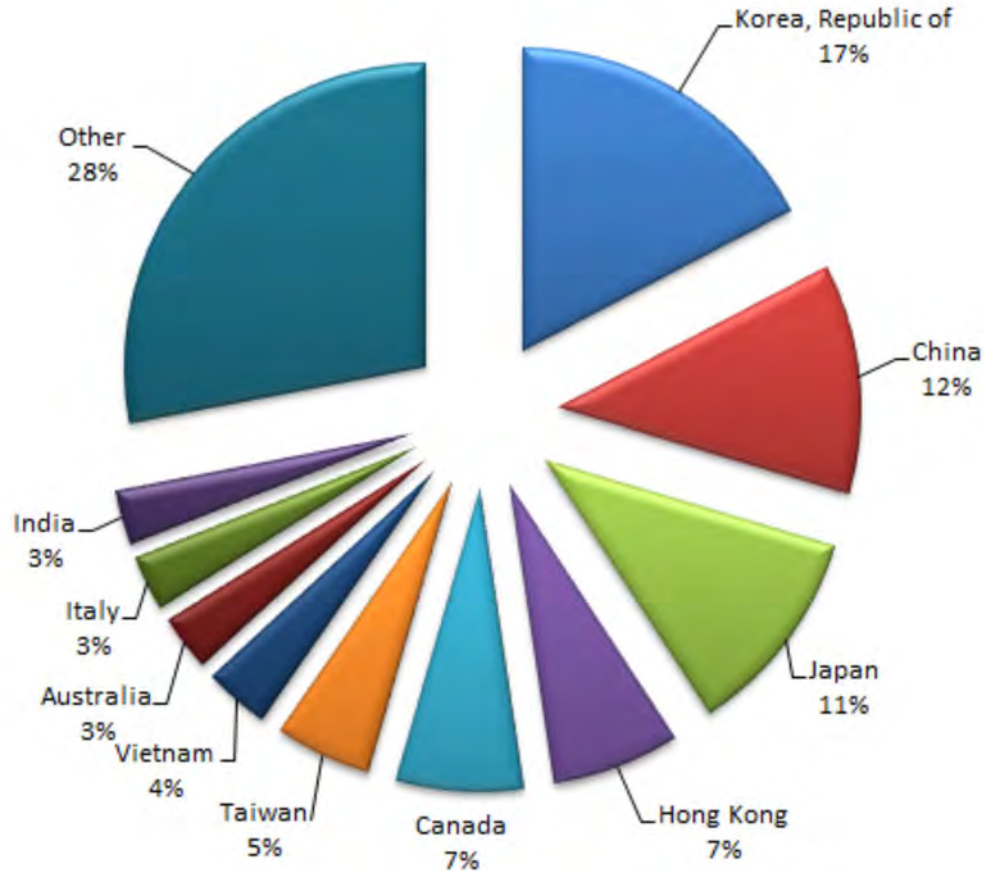


Export Trade Partners

Argentina	Fiji	Kuwait	Qatar
Australia	France	Latvia	Saudi Arabia
Belarus	Germany	Lebanon	South Africa
Brazil	Guatemala	Lithuania	Spain
Cambodia	Honduras	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Canada	Hong Kong	Malaysia	Taiwan
Chile	India	Mexico	Thailand
China	Indonesia	Netherlands	Turkey
Costa Rica	Israel	New Zealand	Ukraine
Cyprus	Italy	Nicaragua	United Arab Nations
Ecuador	Japan	Panama	United Kingdom
Egypt	Kazakhstan	Peru	Vietnam
Estonia	Korea, Republic of	Philippines	

Export Partners

Percentage of Total Export Certificates Issued 2019



Industrial Hemp

In 2018, industrial hemp was removed from the Controlled Substances Act, which meant that it was no longer an illegal substance under federal law.

In 2019 Kings County growers produced their first crop of industrial hemp. Seventeen registrants grew the crop on a total of 663.5 acres. Growers navigated regulations covering registration, testing and other requirements. Our department worked with these growers, assuring compliance with state laws and regulations, as well as the Kings County Hemp Ordinance. Careful monitoring and testing was done to ensure the crop was at or below the 0.3% tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) concentration requirement. Unfortunately, for the 2019 season, not enough production information was received to compile an accurate representation of production value.

Organic Production

Working in conjunction with agencies such as the California Department of Health, Department of Pesticide Regulation, Department of Justice, National Organic Program and other accrediting agencies the California State Organic Program aims to ensure the compliance and integrity of the organic program. Kings County has a total of over 33,600 registered organic acres growing a wide variety of crops. The county has 37 organic registrants, including producers, processors, and handlers.

Use of the organic label means that great care has been taken by the producer to ensure that there have been no prohibited substances applied. The label also means the producer is a good steward of the land, implementing practices to replenish nutrients into the ground as well as manage erosion. The label is a coveted badge that shows the utmost care has been taken by all involved in the production process so that consumers can confidently purchase organic products knowing that great care has been taken in the growth, harvest, and packing processes.

Certified Producers

Kings County is home to more than 20 certified producers growing dozens of different types of fruits and vegetables and serving markets up and down the state. Kings County is also the home of the vibrant Thursday Night Market Place located in Downtown Hanford.

The Thursday Night Market got its start 20 years ago when Craig Scharton used it as a revitalization tool to draw commerce to downtown. Today the market has grown considerably boasting 25 certified producers, as well as 25 food vendors and many other craft and informational booths.

**Thursday Night Market Place
Downtown Hanford
Every Thursday
May - October
5:30 pm-9:00 pm**



Land Use

Surrounding Counties	2018 Rank	2018 Gross Value	Total County Area Acres	Value Per Acre	Top Commodity	2018 Gross Value
Fresno	1	\$ 7,887,583,790	5,166,720	\$ 1,532	Almonds	\$ 1,178,182,069
Kern	2	\$ 7,466,152,000	3,112,320	\$ 2,400	Grapes	\$ 1,512,473,000
Tulare	3	\$ 7,213,303,400	3,840,000	\$ 1,878	Milk	\$ 1,683,747,000
Monterey	4	\$ 4,258,629,000	2,217,359	\$ 1,920	Leaf Lettuce	\$ 733,171,000
Kings	8	\$ 2,280,675,000	890,545	\$ 2,560	Milk	\$ 676,669,000

Based on 2018 crop report data

Land Use Summary

Land Use Category	2016*		2014		Acreage Change
	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	
Prime Farmland	110,915	12	112,254	13	-1,339
Farmland of Statewide Importance	339,020	38	365,024	41	-26,004
Unique Farmland	18,920	2	19,221	2	-301
Farmland of Local Importance	10,984	1	11,034	1	-50
Grazing Land	338,243	38	313,863	35	24,380
Urban and Built-Up Land	40,075	4	37,196	4	2,879
Other Land	32,579	4	32,144	4	435
Water Area	62	0	62	0	0
Total Acres	890,798		890,798		

*Latest data available, courtesy of the California Department of Conservation

Weight & Measurement Standards



In 2019, the Kings County Department of Measurement Standards:

- Inspected 2,484 devices including:
 - 1,383. retail motor fuel meters representing 67 gas stations
 - 142 mobile home park submeters
 - 84 vehicle scales
 - 15 livestock & animal scales
 - 860 miscellaneous weighing and measuring devices
- Inspected gas stations for petroleum advertising and labeling compliance
- Verified scanned prices of 1276 packages and made 84 test purchases in Quantity Control
- Conducted 6 weighmaster audits



Kings County General Information

County Seat	Hanford
County Population (7/1/2019)	154,446*
Population per Square Mile	111.03
Total Assessed Value (2019)	\$10,620,528,908
Land Area (Square Miles)	1,391
Total Acres	890,545*
Total Farmland	818,082**
Public Ownership of Land (Acres - 2008)	
Federal	27,313.76
State	4,015.99
County	1,421.61
Local Agencies	3,587.01

Agricultural production ranked 8th among California counties (based on 2018 total value).

Railroads - Burlington Northern Santa Fe, Union Pacific & San Joaquin Railroad.

Major Roads - Interstate 5, Highway 41, Highway 43, Highway 33 & Highway 198.

Water Sources - Kings River, Tule River, Kaweah River, Kern River, & California Aqueduct.

Elevation - 175 feet above sea level at Tulare Lake to 3473 feet above sea level at the Kings/Monterey County line boundary.

Average length of growing season: 296 days.***

Average climate: 196 sunny clear days, 74 partly cloudy days & 95 cloudy days.

Average date of last spring frost: March 3.***

Average date of first fall frost: November 18.***

*Courtesy of the California Department of Finance (Estimate)

**Courtesy of the California Department of Conservation

***Courtesy of The Old Farmer's Almanac

Rainfall - Hanford CA

YEAR	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1969-70	0.07	0.00	0.15	0.05	0.51	0.70	1.60	1.33	1.42	0.14	0.00	0.21	6.18
1970-71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.40	1.23	0.35	0.19	0.23	0.40	1.44	0.00	6.24
1971-72	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.06	0.41	1.87	0.04	0.35	0.00	0.23	0.00	0.00	3.00
1972-73	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.21	2.90	0.65	2.44	2.29	2.20	0.12	0.00	0.00	11.05
1973-74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.76	0.46	0.94	2.97	0.13	1.75	0.03	0.00	0.00	7.04
1974-75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.64	0.24	1.40	0.09	2.26	1.24	0.49	0.00	0.00	6.37
1975-76	0.00	0.00	0.98	0.76	0.05	0.22	0.00	2.94	0.19	1.47	0.03	0.00	6.64
1976-77	0.00	0.22	1.47	0.00	1.15	0.96	0.96	0.03	0.43	0.00	0.01	0.01	5.24
1977-78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.06	2.85	2.22	5.05	4.12	1.71	0.00	0.07	16.13
1978-79	0.00	0.00	1.10	0.00	0.79	0.50	1.84	1.61	1.16	0.03	0.00	0.00	7.03
1979-80	0.04	0.00	0.08	0.41	0.62	0.41	2.90	2.71	1.28	0.05	0.04	0.00	8.54
1980-81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.21	1.80	0.86	2.10	0.68	0.17	0.00	5.91
1981-82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.76	1.08	0.29	0.84	0.33	3.52	1.75	0.00	0.00	8.57
1982-83	0.18	0.00	0.64	1.03	2.15	0.71	3.74	2.59	3.39	1.63	0.04	0.45	16.55
1983-84	0.00	0.05	0.82	0.43	1.66	1.22	0.01	0.42	0.27	0.18	0.00	0.00	5.06
1984-85	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.52	1.41	1.66	0.59	0.61	0.68	0.12	0.01	0.00	5.61
1985-86	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.54	2.11	0.56	1.46	2.60	3.40	0.45	0.00	0.00	11.17
1986-87	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.21	0.77	1.77	2.04	2.02	0.06	0.13	0.00	7.15
1987-88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.86	0.72	1.74	1.37	0.40	0.93	2.65	0.07	0.05	8.79
1988-89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.33	2.29	1.02	2.03	0.85	0.02	0.39	0.06	7.99
1989-90	0.00	0.00	0.67	0.32	0.20	0.53	1.79	1.02	0.30	0.97	0.87	0.00	6.67
1990-91	0.00	0.66	0.00	0.01	0.22	0.09	0.37	1.32	6.67	0.19	0.66	0.00	10.19
1991-92	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.38	0.14	1.32	1.40	3.32	0.85	0.10	0.00	0.36	7.98
1992-93	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.58	0.00	2.62	3.88	2.48	2.16	0.07	0.08	0.00	11.88
1993-94	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.24	0.68	0.66	1.45	1.02	0.70	0.69	0.00	0.26	5.94
1994-95	0.00	0.00	1.06	0.35	1.54	0.33	4.70	0.51	4.77	0.65	0.87	0.00	14.78
1995-96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.59	1.79	2.55	2.15	0.89	0.16	0.00	9.13
1996-97	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.65	0.87	3.03	3.02	0.12	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.04	8.94
1997-98	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.09	1.96	1.80	2.00	4.05	2.60	1.68	1.31	0.00	15.55
1998-99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.68	0.63	0.64	3.01	0.56	0.43	1.37	0.00	0.44	7.76
1999-00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.00	1.08	3.28	1.59	0.97	0.48	0.00	7.55
2000-01	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.31	0.00	0.03	1.98	1.48	1.24	1.12	0.00	0.35	7.54
2001-02	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.18	1.84	1.99	0.87	0.31	1.04	0.03	0.01	0.00	6.36
2002-03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.42	1.14	0.25	1.13	1.05	1.67	0.67	0.82	8.15
2003-04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.47	2.05	0.97	2.32	0.25	0.01	0.02	0.00	6.16
2004-05	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.09	0.44	2.13	2.55	1.69	2.02	0.70	0.84	0.00	12.46
2005-06	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.21	1.15	3.07	0.48	2.60	2.98	0.54	0.00	11.06
2006-07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.16	0.90	0.61	0.90	0.22	0.27	0.01	0.00	3.16
2007-08	0.00	0.05	0.32	0.30	0.10	1.17	1.86	1.10	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	5.00
2008-09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14	1.03	1.36	0.60	1.43	0.21	0.03	0.43	0.37	5.60
2009-10	0.00	0.00	0.20	1.31	0.23	1.27	2.30	1.93	0.31	1.63	0.32	0.00	9.50
2010-11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.76	1.24	5.29	0.88	0.96	2.70	0.32	0.41	0.91	13.47
2011-12	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.48	0.71	0.01	0.61	0.43	1.72	1.79	0.03	0.00	5.82
2012-13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.34	1.52	0.25	0.42	0.67	0.08	0.18	0.00	3.60
2013-14	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.33	0.16	0.30	1.38	0.27	0.35	0.01	0.00	2.81
2014-15	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.94	2.52	0.08	0.72	0.02	0.77	0.10	0.00	5.18
2015-16	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.38	0.91	1.40	3.09	0.05	1.99	0.57	0.02	0.09	8.95
2016-17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.76	0.40	1.60	3.70	2.80	0.31	1.02	0.36	0.01	10.96
2017-18	0.00	0.01	0.17	0.06	0.21	0.08	1.37	0.30	2.33	0.29	0.00	0.00	4.82
2018-19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	1.41	0.42	1.90	2.29	1.28	0.31	1.81	0.00	9.46
2019-2020	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.49	1.97							2.46
AVERAGE	0.02	0.02	0.17	0.39	0.79	1.28	1.72	1.55	1.49	0.69	0.26	0.09	8.48