



**1998**  
**AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT**  
**Kings County, California**



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## CORN SILAGE

On the cover of this report is a photo of a cornfield with an inset photo of a silage chopper filling a truck with chopped corn. In order to more fully understand the significance of this process and its importance to Kings County Agriculture, it would be helpful to begin with a brief review of the historical background on corn. Corn is native to the Americas. Some archaeologists believe that evidence indicates corn was grown 7,000 years ago in the area that is now Mexico. The Aztec and Inca Indians grew corn they called "Ma-HZ". When Christopher Columbus returned home with corn from his journey to America it started the spread of corn in Europe. English settlers called it "maize" and thus originated its species name *Zea Mays*.

The process of silage making has been around for centuries. Silage is derived from the word "silo", the name given to enclosed cylindrical pits or towers used for grain storage. Silage or "ensiling" is the process of preserving feed for cattle by fermentation in the absence of oxygen. Hungarian and German farmers began making a type of silage called "sour hay" in the early 1800's. The first attempt to make silage from corn was made in Germany in 1861. European immigrants are credited with bringing the process to this country. The root crops grown in Europe for cattle feed that were brought to America would not grow here. This caused the farmers to look for alternate crops to feed their cattle. The use of corn for livestock feed became more widespread as a result. The first American silo was built in Maryland in 1876.

Corn silage is a crop of significant importance in Kings County because it is an excellent feed for lactating dairy cows. Corn silage utilizes the entire aboveground portion of the corn plant, thus providing a very good high-energy food necessary to their diet. It contains a source of crude protein and other mineral nutrients of importance to the health of dairy cows. Corn silage also provides more carotene (vitamin A) than found in alfalfa hay.

The varieties of corn grown for silage are significantly different than corn for human consumption. The most obvious difference is the height of the plants. Silage corn varieties can reach heights of 14 feet or more while "sweet corn" varieties may grow to about 7 feet. Depending upon the variety and growing conditions, corn grown for silage may take as little as 105 days or up to 125 days to reach maturity sufficient to make good quality silage.

Corn silage is an option for farmers faced with a growing season shortened by weather conditions. It is also used as a "double crop" where an early season annual crop is harvested and can be followed by a crop of corn silage. The 1998 growing season presented many challenges. Growers who planted silage corn were able to take advantage of its relatively short growing season. Because of this and its importance to the dairy industry, corn silage will remain a crop of economic importance to Kings County Agriculture.

*Cover photos courtesy of Cal-Agro Seed Company Inc. - Goshen*

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Dennis F. Bray  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights And Measures

# COUNTY OF KINGS DEPARTMENT OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES

680 N. Campus Drive, Suite B, Hanford, California, 93230, (559) 582-3211 ext. 2830

Secretary William J. Lyons, Jr.  
California Department of Food and Agriculture  
and  
The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Kings, California

April 6, 1999

It is my pleasure to submit the 1998 Kings County Crop Report. This annual publication presents statistical information on the acreage, yield and gross value of Kings County agricultural products in accordance with Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code.

The 1998 total gross value of Kings County's number one industry was \$816,310,000. This represents a decrease of 7.9% from the 1997 gross production value (\$886,963,000).

Adverse El Nino weather brought near record rainfall, flooding and delayed planting causing a decline in most major crop categories compared to last year. This resulted in a \$94,285,000 (-29.6%) decrease to Field Crops, \$22,594,000 (-19.8%) to Fruit and Nut Crops, \$597,000 (-14%) to Apiary Products, \$3,824,000 (-3.3%) to Livestock & Poultry, and \$468,000 (-1.3%) to Vegetable Crops.

However, favorable market prices created an increase in values for two of the 1998 crop categories. Livestock and Poultry Products increased \$44,840,000 (+15.8%) and Seed Crops increased \$6,293,000 (+51.5%).

Milk remains this county's leading commodity for the third straight year with a total value of \$322,774,000 for 1998. Supported by strong prices and an increase in the number of milking cows the value of milk increased 16.4% from 1997, even with the effects of weather lowering milk production by 2.45% in 1998.

I want to emphasize that the numbers in this report are gross values only and in no way reflect the net income or loss to producers.

My thanks to Buzz Felleke, Agricultural and Standards Inspector III, and Ruben Arroyo, Deputy Commissioner in addition to other department staff who helped with the compilation and preparation of this report. Most of all, I wish to express my appreciation for the cooperation of all agricultural producers, contributing organizations and those individuals who provided necessary information for this report.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis F. Bray  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights and Measures

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**Clerical**

Diane O'Daniel

Linda Green                      Angela Davis-Hall                      Linda Lavars

# FIELD CROPS

Crop	Year	Harvested Production		Total	Unit	Value	
		Acreage	Per Acre			Per Unit	Total
Barley	1998	9,709	1.45	14,078	Ton	\$93.85	\$1,321,000
	1997	18,707	1.01	18,894	Ton	\$130.00	\$2,456,000
Beans Dry a/	1998	8,074	0.97	7,832	Ton	\$681.00	\$5,333,000
	1997	5,043	0.96	4,841	Ton	\$523.00	\$2,532,000
Corn Silage	1998	42,179	24.36	1,027,480	Ton	\$18.84	\$19,358,000
	1997	30,266	17.81	539,037	Ton	\$22.16	\$11,945,000
Cotton							
Acala-Lint b/	1998	103,549	1.93	199,850	495 lb.	\$373.00	\$74,544,000
	1997	162,555	2.00	325,110	495 lb.	\$377.00	\$122,566,000
Acala-Seed	1998			82,438	Ton	\$200.00	\$16,488,000
	1997			134,041	Ton	\$187.00	\$25,066,000
Upland							
Non-Approved	1998	9,040	1.65	14,916	495 lb.	\$354.00	\$5,280,000
Non-Appv-Seed	1998			6,153	Ton	\$190.00	\$1,169,000
Cotton							
Pima-Lint b/	1998	43,740	1.52	66,485	495 lb.	\$499.00	\$33,176,000
	1997	56,245	2.26	127,114	495 lb.	\$514.00	\$65,336,000
Pima-Seed	1998			27,425	Ton	\$190.00	\$5,211,000
	1997			52,434	Ton	\$180.00	\$9,438,000
Hay							
Alfalfa	1998	47,024	5.66	266,156	Ton	\$98.98	\$26,344,000
	1997	39,312	7.88	309,779	Ton	\$119.00	\$36,864,000
Others c/	1998	3,226	3.12	10,065	Ton	\$72.86	\$733,000
	1997	2,033	3.55	7,217	Ton	\$93.00	\$671,000
Pasture							
Irrigated	1998	10,000			Acre	\$107.00	\$1,070,000
	1997	11,000			Acre	\$110.00	\$1,210,000
Range	1998	101,000			Acre	\$2.30	\$232,000
	1997	102,000			Acre	\$2.40	\$245,000
Alfalfa	1998	33,857			Acre	\$13.00	\$440,000
Stubble	1997	28,305			Acre	\$13.00	\$368,000
Safflower	1998	32,298	1.16	37,466	Ton	\$279.22	\$10,461,000
	1997	31,131	1.25	38,914	Ton	\$323.00	\$12,569,000

a/ Blackeye beans and other dry beans

b/ 495 lb. = 1 bale

c/ Includes hay and green chop from barley, oats and wheat



## FIELD CROPS

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production Per Acre	Total	Unit	Value	
						Per Unit	Total
Sugar Beets	1998	3,446	24.42	84,117	Ton	\$35.40	\$2,978,000
	1997	2,409	28.17	67,862	Ton	\$33.20	\$2,253,000
Wheat	1998	65,500	2.07	135,585	Ton	\$125.38	\$17,000,000
	1997	53,235	2.68	142,670	Ton	\$140.00	\$19,974,000
Other d/	1998	20,654					\$3,015,000
	1997	26,586					\$4,664,000
TOTAL	1998	533,296					\$223,872,000
	1997	568,827					\$318,157,000

d/ Includes corn grain, oat silage, screenings, straw, sudangrass, sorghum, wheat silage, and winter forage

## SEED CROPS

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production Per Acre	Total	Unit	Value	
						Per Unit	Total
Alfalfa Certified	1998	18,558	410	7,738,686	lb.	\$1.82	\$13,848,000
	1997	12,810	475	6,084,750	lb.	\$1.45	\$8,823,000
Non-Cert.	1998	286	684	195,624	lb.	\$0.75	\$147,000
	1997	600	475	285,000	lb.	\$1.43	\$408,000
Total	1998	18,844		7,934,310	lb.		\$13,995,000
	1997	13,410		6,369,750	lb.		\$9,231,000
Barley	1998	603	3,200	1,929,600	lb.	\$0.06	\$116,000
Cotton, Cert.	1998	6,394		5,115	Ton	\$225.00	\$1,151,000
	1997	2,620		2,167	Ton	\$310.00	\$672,000
Wheat	1998	3,140	5,114	16,057,960	lb.	\$0.07	\$1,124,000
	1997	2,740	4,444	12,176,560	lb.	\$0.07	\$852,000
Other a/	1998	1,517					\$2,125,000
	1997	814					\$1,463,000
TOTAL	1998	30,498					\$18,511,000
	1997	19,584					\$12,218,000

a/ Asparagus, broccoli, carrots, flowers, lettuce, oats, onions, and safflower

# FRUIT & NUT CROPS

Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Production Per Acre	Total	Unit	Value	
						Per Unit	Total
Almonds	1998	2,097	0.90	1,887	Ton	\$3,216.00	\$6,070,000
	1997	2,294	1.00	2,294	Ton	\$3,120.00	\$7,157,000
Almond Hulls	1998			1,000	Ton	\$82.00	\$82,000
	1997			802	Ton	\$91.00	\$73,000
Apples							
Fresh	1998			643	Ton	\$283.00	\$182,000
	1997			2,169	Ton	\$500.00	\$1,085,000
Processed	1998			1,950	Ton	\$40.00	\$78,000
	1997			1,272	Ton	\$70.00	\$89,000
Apples Total	1998	374	1.72	2,593	Ton		\$260,000
	1997	374	5.80	3,441	Ton		\$1,174,000
Apricots							
Fresh	1998			471	Ton	\$582.62	\$274,000
	1997			1,825	Ton	\$1,140.00	\$2,081,000
Processed	1998			151	Ton	\$66.00	\$10,000
	1997			150	Ton	\$250.00	\$38,000
Apricots Total	1998	327	1.44	622	Ton		\$284,000
	1997	375	4.87	1,975	Ton		\$2,119,000
Firewood a/	1998			500	Cord	\$95.00	\$48,000
	1997			450	Cord	\$105.00	\$47,000
Grapes							
Raisin Varieties							
Fresh	1998			1,300	Ton	\$900.00	\$1,170,000
		Dried		6,500	Ton	\$1,247.00	\$8,106,000
Crushed				10,116	Ton	\$185.00	\$1,871,000
Canned				800	Ton	\$245.00	\$196,000
Total		2,578		18,716			\$11,343,000
Grapes							
Raisin Varieties							
Fresh	1997			1,800	Ton	\$966.00	\$1,739,000
		Dried		5,500	Ton	\$1,052.00	\$5,786,000
Crushed				8,900	Ton	\$185.00	\$1,647,000
Canned				1,500	Ton	\$248.00	\$372,000
Total		2,079		17,700			\$9,544,9000

a/ Includes all varieties



## FRUIT & NUT CROPS

Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Production Per Acre	Total	Unit	Value	
						Per Unit	Total
Table Varieties							
	1998	753	6.88	5,181	Ton	\$996.12	\$5,161,000
	1997	632	8.67	5,479	Ton	\$753.00	\$4,126,000
Wine Varieties							
	1998	1,539	11.96	18,406	Ton	\$226.00	\$4,160,000
	1997	1,503	12.18	18,307	Ton	\$312.00	\$5,712,000
Grapes Total							
	1998	4,870					\$20,664,000
	1997	4,214					\$19,382,000
Kiwifruit							
	1998	291	5.99	1,743	Ton	\$1,466.00	\$2,555,000
	1997	297	6.30	1,871	Ton	\$1,075.00	\$2,011,000
Nectarines							
	1998	1,982	7.80	15,460	Ton	\$703.82	\$10,881,000
	1997	1,948	8.54	16,636	Ton	\$587.00	\$9,765,000
Peaches							
Clingstone	1998	1,101	19.00	20,919	Ton	\$225.00	\$4,707,000
	1997	1,289	18.00	23,202	Ton	\$212.00	\$4,919,000
Freestone	1998	2,923	7.32	21,396	Ton	\$498.00	\$10,655,000
	1997	2,767	8.61	23,824	Ton	\$586.00	\$13,961,000
Peaches Total							
	1998	4,024					\$15,362,000
	1997	4,056					\$18,880,000
Pistachios							
	1998	5,670	1.53	8,675	Ton	\$2,073.00	\$17,983,000
	1997	5,670	1.36	7,711	Ton	\$2,723.00	\$20,998,000
Plums							
	1998	1,721	5.10	8,777	Ton	\$465.00	\$4,081,000
	1997	1,981	6.50	12,877	Ton	\$620.00	\$7,983,000
Pomegranates							
	1998	316	2.00	632	Ton	\$1,796.00	\$1,135,000
	1997	340	8.20	2,788	Ton	\$1,354.00	\$3,775,000
Walnuts							
	1998	6,719	1.50	10,079	Ton	\$1,046.00	\$10,543,000
	1997	6,548	1.83	11,983	Ton	\$1,550.00	\$18,573,000
Other b/							
	1998	626					\$1,703,000
	1997	676					\$2,308,000
TOTAL							
	1998	29,017					\$91,651,000
	1997	28,773					\$114,245,000

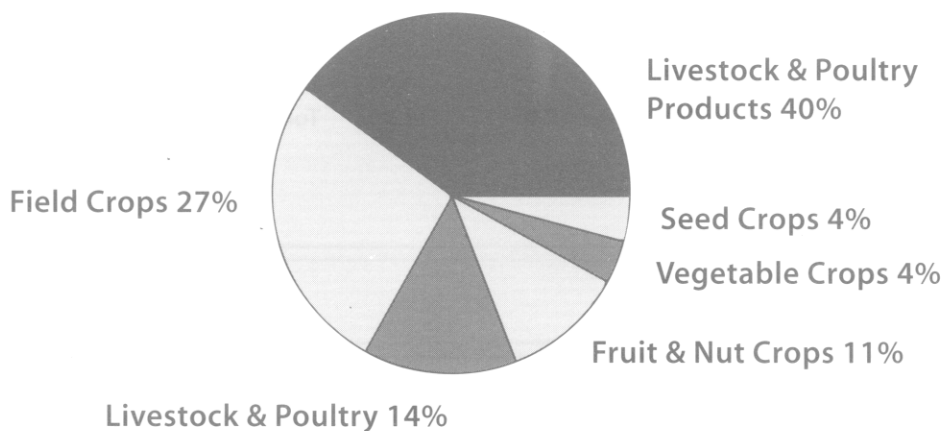
b/ Includes asian pears, cherries, jojobas, olives, pecans, persimmons, prunes, quince and strawberries

# VEGETABLE CROPS

Crop	Year	Harvested Production			Value		
		Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
<b>Broccoli</b>							
Processed	1998	890	5.00	4,450	Ton	\$380.12	\$1,692,000
	1997	1,060	5.21	5,523	Ton	\$390.00	\$2,154,000
<b>Cantaloupes</b>							
	1998	1,323	11.63	15,386	Ton	\$291.44	\$4,484,000
	1997	2,036	12.28	25,002	Ton	\$215.00	\$5,375,000
<b>Sweet Corn</b>							
	1998	684	6.50	4,446	Ton	\$223.00	\$991,000
	1997	767	7.46	5,722	Ton	\$293.00	\$1,676,000
<b>Tomatoes</b>							
Fresh	1998	1,394	16.76	23,363	Ton	\$456.14	\$10,657,000
	1997	1,393	27.80	38,725	Ton	\$376.00	\$14,561,000
Processed	1998	3,263	44.40	144,877	Ton	\$53.91	\$7,810,000
	1997	2,100	34.54	72,534	Ton	\$51.14	\$3,709,000
<b>Tomatoes Total</b>							
	1998	4,657		168,241			\$18,467,000
	1997	3,493		111,259			\$18,270,000
<b>Other a/</b>							
	1998	6,714					\$11,957,000
	1997	3,769					\$10,602,000
<b>TOTAL</b>							
	1998	14,268					\$37,591,000
	1997	11,125					\$38,077,000

a/ Includes asparagus, cauliflower, garlic, eggplant, lettuce, misc. melons, peanuts, processed carrots, processed onions, processed garlic, squash and watermelons

## 1998 Percent of Total Value





## INVENTORIES OF LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

Item	December 31, 1998 Number of Head	December 31, 1997 Number of Head
Cattle and Calves		
All	190,000	189,100
Dairy Cows 2 Years and Over	112,557	100,600
Cattle and Calves on Feed	3,900	3,800
other	135,000	133,000
Sheep and Lambs	12,642	12,768
Goats	3,500	3,200
Hogs and Pigs	17,500	16,450
Turkeys	582,944	662,753

## LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Value	
		Number Of Head	Total Liveweight		Per Unit	Total
Breeding	1998					\$1,958,000
Stock a/	1997					\$1,755,000
Cattle an	1998	150,033	913,701	Cwt.	\$53.28	\$48,682,000
Calves	1997	158,689	966,416	Cwt.	\$53.00	\$51,220,000
Hogs and Pigs	1998	16,539	30,597	Cwt.	\$39.00	\$1,193,000
	1997	16,458	34,891	Cwt.	\$54.00	\$1,884,000
Sheep and Lambs	1998	12,642	13,401	Cwt.	\$77.00	\$1,032,000
	1997	12,768	13,534	Cwt.	\$100.00	\$1,353,000
Turkeys	1998	2,525,829	60,821,962	lb.	\$0.73	\$44,400,000
	1997	2,651,015	62,192,812	lb.	\$0.70	\$43,535,000
Other b/	1998					\$15,022,000
	1997					\$16,364,000
TOTAL	1998					\$112,287,000
	1997					\$116,111,000

a/ For all animals except horses

b/ Includes catfish, chickens, and goats

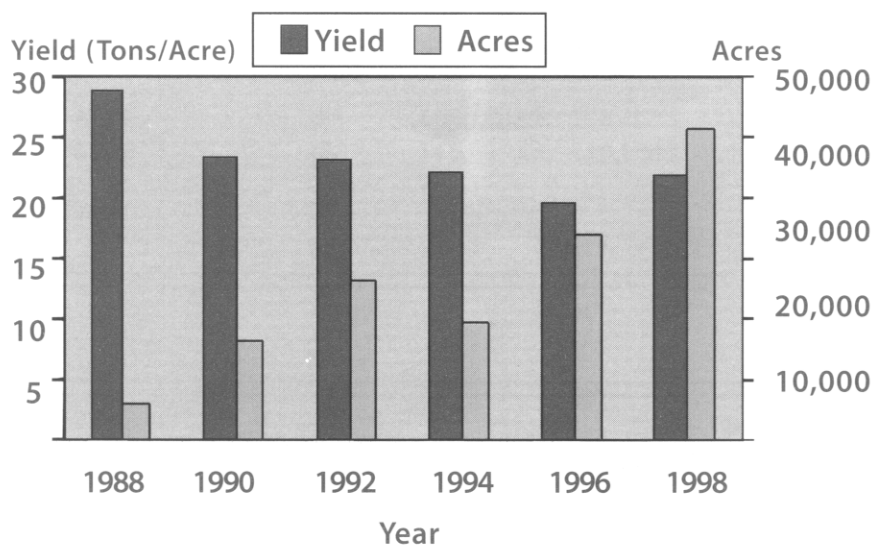
*"The best fertilizer for a piece of land is the footprints of its owners" L.B. Johnson*

# LIVESTOCK & POULTRY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Eggs-Chicken Market	1998	3,359,000	Doz.	\$0.78	\$2,620,000
	1997	3,011,666	Doz.	\$0.89	\$2,680,000
Manure	1998	437,036	Ton	\$7.50	\$3,278,000
	1997	391,628	Ton	\$10.00	\$3,916,000
Milk					
Market	1998	21,705,185	Cwt.	\$14.79	\$321,020,000
	1997	22,265,197	Cwt.	\$12.38	\$275,643,000
Mfg.	1998	93,658	Cwt.	\$12.92	\$1,210,000
	1997	79,266	Cwt.	\$11.27	\$893,000
Milk, Goats	1998	19,135	Cwt.	\$28.45	\$544,000
	1997	22,390	Cwt.	\$28.00	\$627,000
Milk Total	1998	21,817,978			\$322,774,000
	1997	22,366,853			\$277,163,000
Wool	1998	131,477	lb.	\$0.40	\$53,000*
	1997	132,787	lb.	\$0.95	\$126,000*
TOTAL	1998				\$328,725,000
	1997				\$283,885,000

\*Not including wool incentive

## Corn Silage

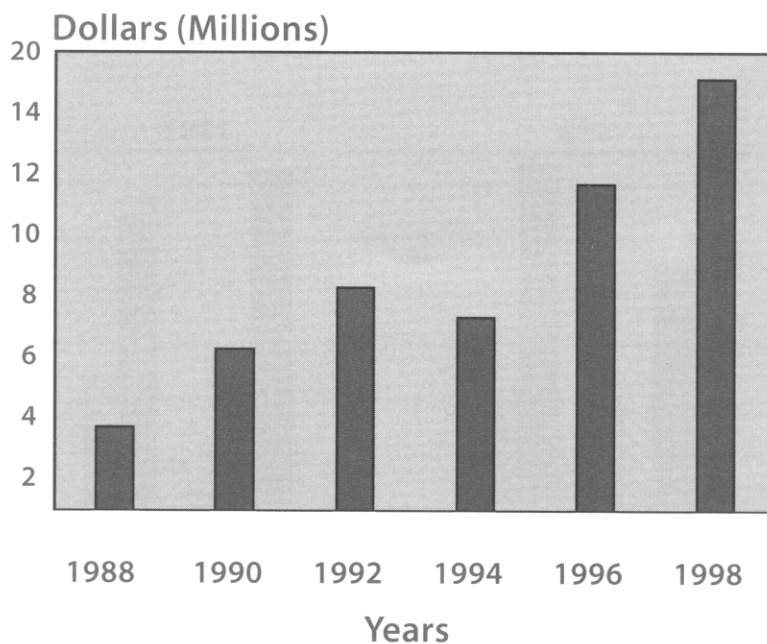


# APIARY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Total Production	Unit	Per Unit	Total
<b>Apiary Products</b>					
Honey	1998	3,039,576	lb.	\$0.64	\$1,945,000
	1997	3,922,016	lb.	\$0.70	\$2,745,000
Beeswax	1998	50,659	lb.	\$1.45	\$73,000
	1997	65,367	lb.	\$1.72	\$112,000
<b>Pollination</b>					
Seed Alfalfa	1998	42,906	Colonies	\$30.00	\$1,287,000
	1997	38,610	Colonies	\$27.00	\$1,042,000
Tree Fruit a/	1998	9,470	Colonies	\$36.88	\$349,000
	1997	10,144	Colonies	\$33.76	\$342,000
Cantaloupe	1998	1,238	Colonies	\$15.00	\$19,000
	1997	2,036	Colonies	\$14.00	\$29,000
TOTAL	1998				\$3,673,000
	1997				\$4,270,000

a/ almonds, apples, cherries and plums

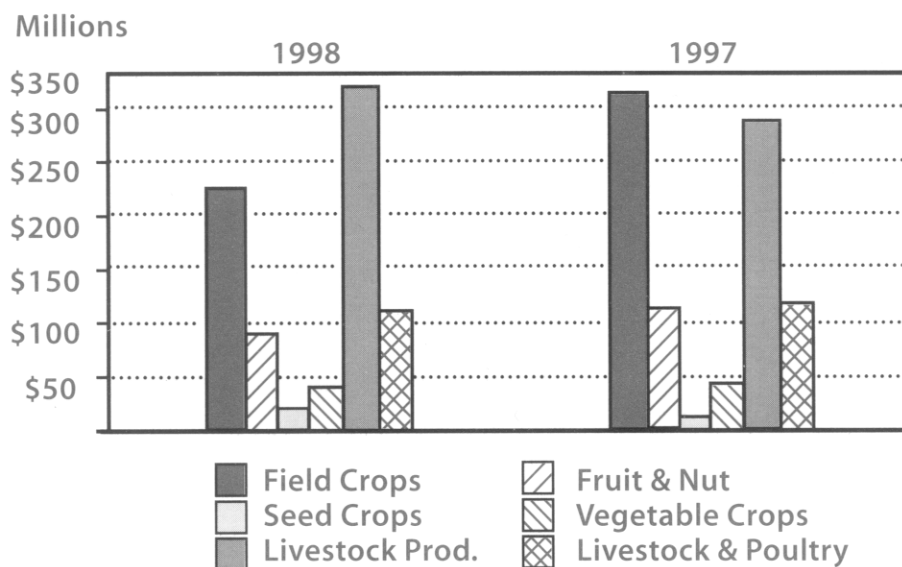
## Corn Silage Total Production Value



# FIVE YEAR COMPARISON OF ACREAGE & CROP VALUES

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Apiary Products	2,281,000	2,801,000	3,776,000	4,270,000	3,673,000
Field Crops	339,361,000	350,118,000	330,146,000	318,157,000	223,872,000
Acreage	558,061	602,598	577,871	568,827	533,296
Fruit and Nut	84,343,000	105,133,000	97,968,000	114,245,000	91,651,000
Crops Acreage	27,586	29,631	28,766	28,773	29,017
Livestock and Poultry	105,980,000	99,199,000	112,813,000	116,111,000	112,287,000
Livestock and Poultry Products	222,794,000	231,211,000	283,059,000	283,885,000	328,725,000
Seed Crops	13,813,000	16,793,000	20,561,000	12,218,000	18,511,000
Acreage	19,651	23,935	25,042	19,584	30,498
Vegetable Crops	44,231,000	44,086,000	32,644,000	38,077,000	37,591,000
Acreage	18,743	21,004	16,585	11,125	14,268
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$812,803,000</b>	<b>\$849,341,000</b>	<b>\$880,967,000</b>	<b>\$886,963,000</b>	<b>\$816,310,000</b>

## 1998 and 1997 Production Value Comparisons

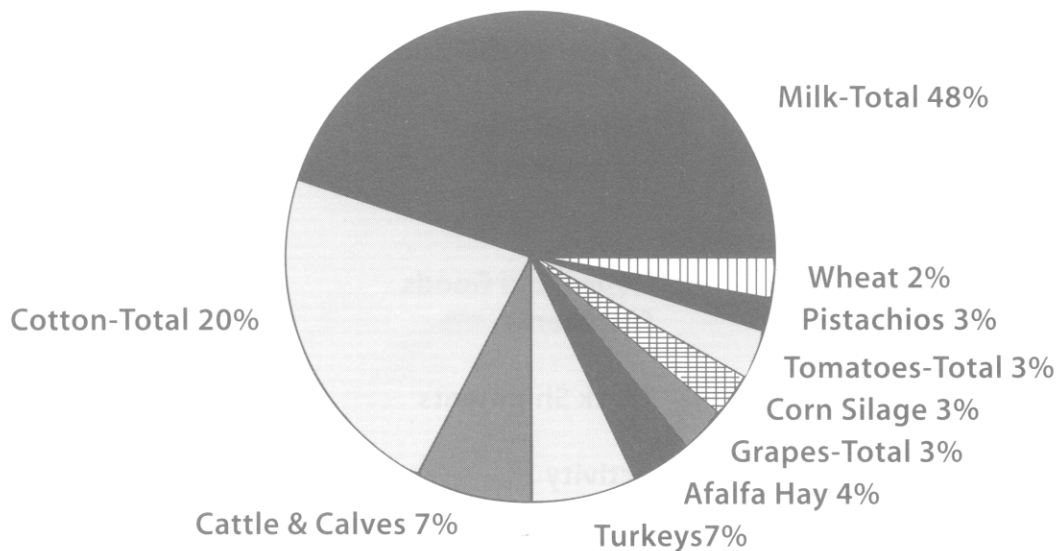




# KINGS COUNTY'S TEN LEADING COMMODITIES

CROP	1998 RANK	1998 DOLLAR VALUE	1997 RANK	1996 RANK	1995 RANK
Milk, Total	1	\$322,774,000.00	1	1	2
Cotton, Total	2	\$135,587,000.00	2	2	1
Cattle and Calves	3	\$48,682,000.00	3	3	3
Turkeys	4	\$44,400,000.00	4	4	4
Alfalfa, Hay	5	\$26,344,000.00	5	5	8
Grapes, Total	6	\$20,664,000.00	8	6	5
Corn Silage	7	\$19,358,000.00	13	14	16
Tomatoes	8	\$18,467,000.00	11	9	9
Pistachios	9	\$17,983,000.00	6	12	7
Wheat	10	\$17,000,000.00	7	7	10
TOTAL		\$671,259,000.00			

## Top Ten Commodities of Kings County for 1998



# KINGS COUNTY SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL REPORT

## County Biological Control

Pest	Agent/Mechanism	Scope of Program
Puncture Vine <u>Tribulus terrestris</u>	Stem Mining Weevil <u>Microlarinus lypriformis</u> Seed Head Weevil <u>Microlarinus lareynii</u>	Generally Distributed  Generally Distributed
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Seed Head Weevil <u>Bangasternus orientalis</u> Gall Fly <u>Urophora sirunaseva</u> Hairy Weevil <u>Eustenopus villosus</u>	 2 sites  1 sites  1 sites
Ash Whitefly <u>Siphoninus phillyreae</u>	Parasitic Wasp <u>Encarsia partenorea</u>	 Generally Distributed
Silverleaf Whitefly <u>Bemisia argentifolii</u>	Parasitic Wasp <u>Eretmocerus sp.(M95104)</u> <u>Eretmocerus sp.(M95012)</u> <u>Eretmocerus mundus</u>	 6 sites 6 sites 6 sites

## County Pest Exclusion

Pest	Agent/Mechanism	Scope of Program
European Corn Borer <u>Ostrinia nubilalis</u>	Railroad Corn Shipments	867 Inspections
Gypsy Moth <u>Lymantria dispar</u>	Household Goods Shipments	22 Inspections
Various Pests	Truck Shipments	7,691 Inspections
Crops	Activity	Scope of Program
Export Commodities Export Seed	Origin Certification Field Inspections	1,001 issued 162 sites/19,474 acres

# KINGS COUNTY SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL REPORT

## County Pest Eradication

Pest	Agent/Mechanism	Scope of Program
Pink Bollworm <u>Pectinophora gossypiella</u>	Mechanical/Host Free Period	156,329 Acres
Alligatorweed <u>Alternanthera philoxeroides</u>	Visual Inspection	1 Site Treated

## County Pest Detection

Pest	Number of Traps	Type of Traps
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	259	Jackson Traps
Mexican Fruit Fly	60	McPhail Traps
Oriental Fruit Fly	30	Jackson Traps
Melon Fly	30	Jackson Traps
Gypsy Moth	74	Delta Traps
Japanese Beetle	70	Japanese Beetle Traps
European Corn Borer	15	Pherocon 1 c Traps
European Pine Shoot Moth	6	Pherocon II Traps
Khapra Beetle	240	Trogo Traps
Western Cherry Fruit Fly	18	Adult Monitoring Traps
Apple Maggot	96	Adult Monitoring Traps
<b>Total Traps</b>	<b>863</b>	



# EXPORTED COMMODITIES

## Commodities Exported From Kings County

Alfalfa Seed  
Almonds  
Apples  
Asparagus  
Carrot Seed  
Cherries  
Cotton Lint  
Cotton Seed  
Fresh Garlic



Garlic Plants  
Garlic Seed  
Grapes  
Lemons  
Lettuce  
Kiwifruit  
Nectarines  
Nypa Forage

Onions  
Onion Seed  
Oranges  
Peaches  
Pears  
Pistachios  
Plums  
Safflower Seed  
Tomatoes

## Export Trade Partners of Kings County in 1998

Argentina  
Australia  
Bangladesh  
Belgium  
Brazil  
Bahrain  
Canada  
China  
Colombia  
Costa Rica  
Cypress  
Dominican Republic  
Ecuador  
Egypt  
El Salvador



Greece  
Guatemala  
Honduras  
Hong Kong  
Hungary  
India  
Indonesia  
Israel  
Italy  
Japan  
Jordan  
Korea  
Luxemburg  
Mexico  
Morocco

Panama  
Paraguay  
Peru  
Philippines  
Portugal  
Russia  
Saudi Arabia  
Singapore  
Spain  
Switzerland  
Taiwan  
Thailand  
Turkey  
United Arab Emirates  
United Kingdom

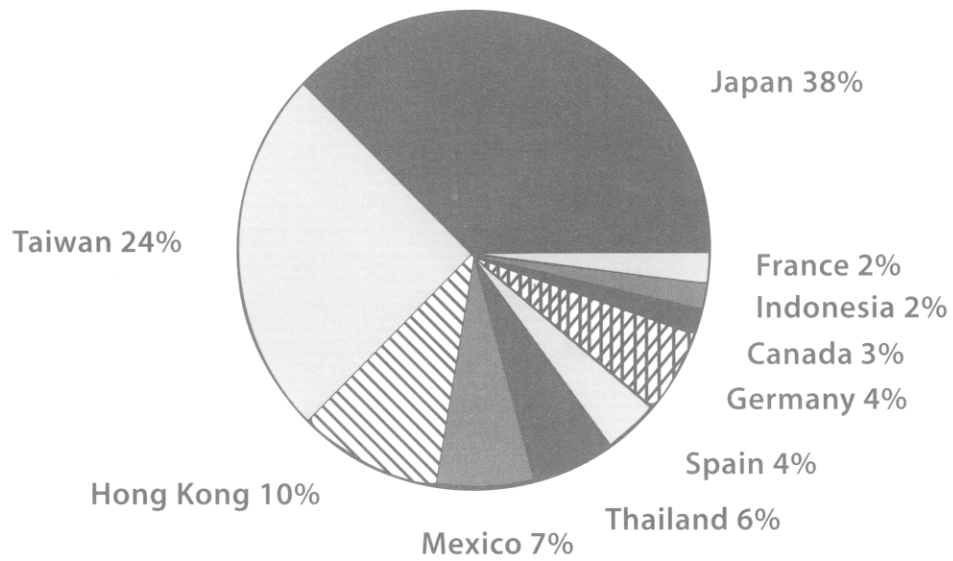
*"Let us never forget that the cultivation of the earth is the most important labor of man" Webster*

To Learn More About Kings County Exports, Visit Our Web Site  
@ <http://www.kingsagcomm.com>

## Export Trade Partners



## Top Ten Export Partners of Kings County for 1998





# KINGS COUNTY QUICK FACTS

## Kings County Quick Facts

- 84% of the land area in Kings County is farmland
- 21.5 % of the total workforce in Kings County is in Agriculture (1998)
- 681 acres is the average farm size in Kings County
- The average age of a person that operates a farm in Kings County is about 50
- There are 1,187 farms in Kings County
- The most prolific milk producing cow the world has ever known, No. 289, lived in this county for 19 years and gave 54,070 gallons of milk - enough to fill more than eight 60-foot tanker trucks

## Certified Farmer's Market

Hanford Certified Farmer's Market  
116 W. Seventh Street  
Hanford, CA 93230  
Thursday's 4 P.M. to 7 P.M.  
May thru October

## Kings County Produce Normally Available At The Farmer's Market

Almonds	Cherry Tomatoes	Onions
Apples	Chili Peppers	Peanuts
Apricots	Cucumbers	Pears
Artichokes	Eggplant	Peaches
Asparagus	Figs	Persimmons
Bell Peppers	Fresh Cut Flowers	Pomogranates
Boysenberries	Garlic	Plums
Blue Berries	Grapes	Potatoes
Broccoli	Honey	Squash
Beans	Mixed Melons	Strawberries
Cantaloupe	Nectarines	Sweet Corn
Carrots	Okra	Tomatoes
Cherries	Olives	Walnuts
		Watermelon

To Learn More About Kings County Agriculture, Visit Our Web Site  
@ <http://www.kingsagcomm.com>

# LAND USE

Surrounding Counties	1997 Rank	1997 Gross Value	Total County Area Acres	Top Commodity	1997 Value	Acres or Number of Head
Fresno	1	\$3,435,227,500	4,080,000	Grapes	\$663,075,000	219,156
Tulare	2	\$2,900,892,000	3,158,400	Milk	\$718,739,000	305,319
Monterey	3	\$2,266,853,488	2,127,360	Lettuce	\$423,653,000	60,847
Kern	4	\$2,192,923,000	5,223,000	Grapes	\$496,287,000	77,239
Kings	12	\$886,963,000	893,440	Milk	\$277,163,000	189,000

## Kings County Land Use Summary

Land Use Category	1994		1996		Acreage Change
	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	
Prime Farmland	144,816	16	143,003	16	-1,813
Farmland of Statewide Importance	446,226	50	435,166	49	-11,060
Unique Farmland	25,302	3	24,846	3	-456
Farmland of Local Importance	5,220	1	5,795	1	575
Grazing Land	234,247	26	244,500	27	*10,253
Urban and Built-up Land	26,465	3	27,308	3	843
Other Land	11,089	1	12,757	1	1,668
Water Area	75	0	65	0	-10
TOTAL ACRES	893,440		893,440		

\* Dry farming land converted back to grazing land

The dynamics of this Valley continue to evolve with the population growth and the corresponding needs for water and land. Population growth provides greater marketing opportunities, and in turn increases the demand for production agriculture. Agriculture needs the increasing marketing opportunities and the increasing population for agriculture. However, in California, the two are competing for the same land and the same water. It is vital for the future of agriculture and it's populus that we work together to maintain and preserve the farmland that we still have.

# **KINGS COUNTY GENERAL INFORMATION**

County Seat	Hanford
County Population (1998)	122,848
Population per Square Mile	87.62
Total Assessed Value (1998)	\$4,070,903,215
Land Area (Square Miles)	1,402
Total Acres	897,280
Total Harvested Crop Acreage (1998)	628,309
Foreign Ownership (1995)	4,009 (acres)
Total Farmland (Acres - 1998)	749,100
Public Ownership of Land (Acres - 1990)	
Federal	20,912.69
State	1,684.99
County	5,556.25
Local Agencies	9,460.34

Agricultural production ranked 12th among California counties and 16th among U.S. counties (based on 1997 total value).

Railroads - Santa Fe, Southern Pacific & San Joaquin Railroad.

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

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

Elevation - 225 to 250 feet above sea level (800 feet in the Kettleman Hills).

Average length of growing season: 257 days.

Average date of last spring frost: March 3.

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

Average date of first fall frost: November 18.

# RAINFALL - HANFORD, CA

YEAR	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	TOTAL
1949-50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.60	0.68	1.48	1.13	1.10	0.40	5.39
1950-51	0.07	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.34	0.63	1.06	1.24	0.76	0.22	1.17	5.57
1951-52	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	1.11	2.39	3.03	0.27	2.18	0.79	0.01	9.88
1952-53	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.05	0.65	2.96	1.10	0.27	0.34	0.83	0.29	6.68
1953-54	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.01	0.09	1.89	0.78	2.21	0.52	0.34	6.94
1954-55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.66	1.61	3.25	1.31	0.43	0.69	0.90	8.85
1955-56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.92	4.67	1.10	0.38	0.10	0.73	0.77	8.69
1956-57	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.73	0.00	0.15	1.39	1.22	0.05	0.88	0.61	5.10
1957-58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	1.19	1.41	1.85	2.30	3.93	2.38	0.24	13.50
1958-59	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.11	0.00	0.23	0.16	1.35	1.90	0.11	0.52	0.00	4.49
1959-60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.80	1.71	0.61	0.57	0.00	3.97
1960-61	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.53	0.00	2.61	0.03	1.34	0.22	0.67	0.22	0.37	6.01
1961-62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.11	1.28	0.71	4.88	1.06	0.00	0.11	9.15
1962-63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.10	0.00	0.19	1.19	1.68	1.37	2.88	0.56	7.98
1963-64	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.75	1.23	0.31	0.61	0.02	0.94	0.64	0.20	5.20
1964-65	0.00	0.00	0.34	0.00	0.95	1.31	1.44	1.18	0.33	0.33	1.57	0.00	7.45
1965-66	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.07	0.05	2.15	1.97	0.63	0.71	0.10	0.00	0.07	5.80
1966-67	0.06	0.04	0.00	0.29	0.09	1.28	2.57	1.41	0.05	2.42	2.95	0.07	11.23
1967-68	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.31	0.00	1.99	0.50	0.62	0.64	1.00	0.50	0.08	5.87
1968-69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.33	0.98	1.64	6.69	4.54	0.79	0.85	0.32	17.14
1969-70	0.21	0.07	0.00	0.15	0.05	0.51	0.70	1.60	1.33	1.42	0.14	0.00	6.18
1970-71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.40	1.23	0.35	0.19	0.23	0.40	1.44	6.24
1971-72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.06	0.41	1.87	0.04	0.35	0.00	0.23	0.00	3.00
1972-73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.21	2.90	0.65	2.44	2.29	2.20	0.12	0.00	11.05
1973-74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.76	0.46	0.94	2.97	0.13	1.75	0.03	0.00	7.04
1974-75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.65	0.24	1.40	0.09	2.26	1.24	0.49	0.00	6.37
1975-76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.98	0.76	0.05	0.22	0.00	2.94	0.19	1.47	0.03	6.64
1976-77	0.01	0.00	0.22	1.47	0.00	1.15	0.96	0.96	0.03	0.43	0.00	0.01	5.24
1977-78	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.06	2.85	2.22	5.05	4.12	1.71	0.00	16.13
1978-79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.10	0.00	0.79	0.50	1.84	1.61	1.16	0.03	0.00	7.03
1979-80	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.08	0.41	0.62	0.41	2.90	2.71	1.28	0.05	0.04	8.54
1980-81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.21	1.80	0.86	2.10	0.68	0.17	5.91
1981-82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.76	1.08	0.29	0.84	0.33	3.52	1.75	0.00	8.57
1982-83	0.45	0.18	0.00	0.64	1.03	2.15	0.71	3.74	2.59	3.39	1.63	0.04	16.55
1983-84	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.82	0.43	1.66	1.22	0.01	0.42	0.27	0.18	0.00	5.06
1984-85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.52	1.41	1.66	0.59	0.61	0.68	0.12	0.01	5.61
1985-86	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.54	2.11	0.56	1.46	2.60	3.40	0.45	0.00	11.17
1986-87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.21	0.77	1.77	2.04	2.02	0.06	0.13	7.15
1987-88	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.86	0.72	1.74	1.37	0.40	0.93	2.65	0.07	8.79
1988-89	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.33	2.29	1.02	2.03	0.85	0.02	0.39	7.99
1989-90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.67	0.32	0.20	0.53	1.79	1.02	0.30	0.97	0.87	6.67
1990-91	0.00	0.00	0.66	0.00	0.01	0.22	0.09	0.37	1.32	6.67	0.19	0.66	10.19
1991-92	0.36	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.38	0.14	1.32	1.40	3.32	0.85	0.10	0.00	7.98
1992-93	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.58	0.00	2.62	3.88	2.48	2.16	0.07	0.08	11.88
1993-94	0.26	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.24	0.68	0.66	1.45	1.02	0.70	0.69	0.00	5.94
1994-95	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.06	0.35	1.54	0.33	4.70	0.51	4.77	0.65	0.87	14.78
1995-96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.59	1.79	2.55	2.15	0.89	0.16	9.13
1996-97	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.65	0.87	3.03	3.02	0.12	0.21	0.00	0.00	8.94
1997-98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.09	1.96	1.80	2.00	4.05	2.60	1.68	1.31	15.55
1998-99	0.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.68	0.63	0.64						
AVERAGE	0.05	0.01	0.03	0.20	0.32	0.91	1.17	1.61	1.46	1.44	0.73	0.26	7.16