

Kings County



Agricultural Crop Report



2008



In the United States, as well as South America and Australia, sorghum is used primarily as a livestock feed in the form of “green chop”, hay, silage, and/or pasture. Its growing popularity in Kings County is due in large measure to its drought tolerance and nutritional value being comparable to corn. Sorghum requires little water to grow in comparison to many other crops; in fact it will go dormant in the absence of water and re-grow once water is available to the plant. These characteristics make it a viable alternative to growers looking to diversify their farming operation, while conserving the resources that are becoming increasingly restricted and less available.

Sorghum originated on the continent of Africa. One of the earliest findings of sorghum being used domestically was discovered in an archeological dig in North Africa. The excavation documented sorghum’s domesticated use 8000 years ago. It was also grown in India before recorded history and in Assyria as early as 700 B.C. The crop reached China in the 13th century, and much later the Western Hemisphere. Its introduction to what is now the United States came in the 17th century, but it was not extensively planted here until the 1850s. That’s when a forage variety called Black Amber, also known as “Chinese sugarcane” possibly alluding to its Chinese heritage, was introduced by way of France. Ben Franklin made one of the earliest notations about the plant in 1757, describing sorghum as having ideal attributes for producing brooms.

Historically in the U. S., sorghum was mostly grown as a source of sugar for syrup. Today, its uses are diverse. Sorghum is a powerhouse of nutrition for animal and human consumption alike. It is the third leading cereal crop in the United States; however, domestically it is used almost exclusively for animal feed. In other regions of the world it is still used as a major food source for humans, and worldwide it is the third largest food grain. In addition to being an animal feed source, it is used as a substitute for wheat in gluten-free food products and as a renewable source of ethanol-based energy. Grain sorghum is capable of producing the same amount of ethanol as corn, while utilizing one-third less water. In Kings County its use is primarily for animal feed.

Generally, four types of sorghum are grown in Kings County.

- Grain sorghum – includes varieties that grow 2-5 feet tall for easier harvesting of the grain.
- Forage sorghum – includes varieties that grow 6-12 feet tall and produced more dry matter tonnage than grain sorghum.
- Sudangrass – a fine stem, short season sorghum used for pasture, hay, or silage.
- Sorghum-sudangrass hybrids – cross between the two forage types that have intermediate yield potential and can be used for pasture, hay, or silage.

Sorghum acreage continues to increase in Kings County. From 2003 to 2008 sorghum acreage has increased steadily, from 43 acres to 4,500 acres. The value of sorghum is now being recognized due to new varieties with increased production and its ability to grow on less water than corn, yet maintaining comparable tonnage and nutrient values per acre. The amount of acres grown in Kings County will continue to depend on several factors, including the results of ongoing tests on the nutritional value of sorghum for cattle, fertilizer costs, as well as the increasing expense and availability of water. If the nutritional values are close to corn, growing sorghum may be an easier choice for growers looking to maximize their profit margin in these times of persistent water shortages and increased input costs.



Department of Agriculture / Measurement Standards

TIM NISWANDER
Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights and Measures

May 12, 2009

Secretary A.G. Kawamura
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 2008 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 only gross values and do not represent net income or loss to producers.

The gross value of all agricultural crops and products produced during 2008 in Kings County was \$1,760,168,000. This represents a decrease of \$1,684,000 (0.1%) from the 2007 value.

Most major crop categories decreased in value, with the exception of vegetable and field crops. Field crops (led by wheat grain) had the largest increase, up \$71,732,000 (16.8%) due to acreage and pricing increases. Vegetable Crops increased \$39,604,000 (32.9%), due to increased acreage, yield and price.

The following categories contributed to the overall decrease: Fruit and Nut Crops had the largest decrease in value, down \$55,322,000 (-17.5%), due largely to lower nut prices. Livestock and Poultry declined \$36,301,000 (-19.7%), due to decreasing prices and fewer cattle and calves on-hand. Livestock and Poultry Products decreased \$18,606,000 (-2.7%) due to lower milk prices. Seed Crops decreased \$2,039,000 (-18.9%) due to reduced acreage. Apiary Products decreased \$752,000 (-12%) due mainly to decreased pollination prices.

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 Joan Vernon and Robbie Coelho, Agricultural and Standards Inspectors, and Steve Schweizer, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer, with assistance from Roberta Spomer and Janet Eckles, Agricultural and Standards Aides.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Niswander



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Fruit & Nut Crops

Crop	Year	Harvested Production		Total	Unit	Value	
		Acres	Per Acre			Per Unit	Total
Almond	2008	13,054	0.71	9,268	TON	\$2,700.00	\$25,024,000
	2007	13,017	1.01	13,151	TON	\$3,600.00	\$47,344,000
Almond Hulls	2008			18,517	TON	\$159.00	\$2,944,000
	2007			7,550	TON	\$116.00	\$876,000
Almond Shells a/	2008			2,222	TON	\$42.30	\$94,000
	2007				TON		\$0
Apricots Fresh	2008	696	7.40	5,153	TON	\$1,700.00	\$8,760,000
	2007	486	2.19	1,064	TON	\$1,360.00	\$1,447,000
Firewood	2008			610	CORD	\$103.00	\$63,000
	2007			1,500	CORD	\$110.00	\$165,000
Grapes Raisin Varieties	2008						
Fresh, Table				36	TON	\$1,090.00	\$39,100
Dried				5,113	TON	\$1,260.00	\$6,442,000
Crushed				567	TON	\$225.00	\$128,000
Canned				1,032	TON	\$282.00	\$291,000
Total		2,256		6,747	TON		\$6,900,000
Grapes Raisin Varieties	2007						
Fresh, Table				0	TON	\$0.00	\$0
Dried				3,940	TON	\$1,120.00	\$4,413,000
Crushed				270	TON	\$150.00	\$40,500
Canned				933	TON	\$260.00	\$243,000
Total		1,910		5,143	TON		\$4,697,000
Grapes Table Varieties	2008	935	9.31	8,705	TON	\$1,100.00	\$9,576,000
	2007	1,187	6.63	7,870	TON	\$1,150.00	\$9,051,000
Wine Varieties Total	2008	3,297	10.83	35,707	TON	\$245.00	\$8,748,000
	2007	3,372	8.16	27,516	TON	\$230.00	\$6,329,000
Grapes Total	2008	6,488					\$25,224,000
	2007	6,469					\$20,077,000
Nectarines	2008	2,796	8.38	23,430	TON	\$981.00	\$22,985,000
	2007	2,720	8.93	24,290	TON	\$910.00	\$22,104,000



Fruit & Nut Crops

Crop	Year	Harvested Acres	Production Per Acre	Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total
Peaches Clings	2008	847	20.26	17,168	TON	\$314.00	\$5,391,000
	2007	820	20.29	16,638	TON	\$290.00	\$4,825,000
Peaches Freestone	2008	3,651	8.79	32,091	TON	\$963.00	\$30,904,000
	2007	3,533	10.30	36,390	TON	\$940.00	\$34,207,000
Peaches Freezer	2008	442	19.30	8,527	TON	\$282.00	\$2,405,000
	2007	363	22.11	8,026	TON	\$270.00	\$2,167,000
Peaches Total	2008	4,940					\$38,700,000
	2007	4,716					\$41,199,000
Pistachios	2008	14,396	0.88	12,668	TON	\$4,190.00	\$53,079,000
	2007	14,015	1.98	27,750	TON	\$2,840.00	\$78,810,000
Plums	2008	2,610	7.14	18,637	TON	\$916.00	\$17,071,000
	2007	2,466	7.87	19,407	TON	\$900.00	\$17,466,000
Walnuts	2008	12,630	2.00	25,261	TON	\$1,320.00	\$33,345,000
	2007	10,998	1.92	21,116	TON	\$2,180.00	\$46,033,000
Others b/	2008	4,750					\$33,746,000
	2007	6,027					\$40,836,000
TOTAL	2008	62,361					\$261,035,000
	2007	60,914					\$315,481,000

a/ Previously included in "Others"

b/ Includes apples, cherries, kiwifruit, oranges, pecans, persimmons, pluots, pomegranates, quince, strawberries and tangerine.

“Advances in medicine and agriculture have saved vastly more lives than have been lost in all the wars in history.”

Dr. Carl Sagan 1934-1996



Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production Per Acre	Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total
Alfalfa, Hay	2008	75,941	6.51	494,376	TON	\$208.00	\$102,830,000
	2007	61,255	7.45	456,350	TON	\$179.00	\$81,687,000
Alfalfa, Silage	2008	10,204	4.01	40,918	TON	\$38.70	\$1,584,000
	2007	16,208	6.18	100,165	TON	\$39.00	\$3,906,000
Alfalfa, Stubble	2008	18,985			TON	\$25.00	\$475,000
	2007	15,314			TON	\$25.00	\$383,000
Barley, Grain a/	2008				TON		
	2007	1,829	2.00	3,658	TON	\$150.00	\$549,000
Barley, Silage	2008	962	11.10	10,678	TON	\$31.00	\$331,000
	2007	800	14.00	11,200	TON	\$20.00	\$224,000
Corn Grain	2008	2,953	5.29	15,621	TON	\$196.00	\$3,062,000
	2007	3,415	5.74	19,602	TON	\$124.00	\$2,431,000
Corn Silage	2008	73,944	27.00	1,996,488	TON	\$48.10	\$96,031,000
	2007	55,383	26.96	1,493,126	TON	\$33.00	\$49,273,000
Cotton Acala-Lint b/	2008	13,515	3.04	41,086	495 lbs.	\$374.00	\$15,366,000
	2007	21,150	3.47	73,391	495 lbs.	\$355.00	\$26,054,000
Cotton Acala- Seed	2008			17,751	TON	\$260.00	\$4,615,000
	2007			31,713	TON	\$290.00	\$9,197,000
Cotton Pima- Lint b/	2008	72,465	2.49	180,438	495 lbs.	\$569.00	\$102,669,000
	2007	110,245	2.91	320,813	495 lbs.	\$503.00	\$161,369,000
Cotton Pima- Seed	2008			78,165	TON	\$230.00	\$17,978,000
	2007			138,966	TON	\$275.00	\$38,216,000
Forage a/	2008				TON		
	2007	1,772	14.67	25,995	TON	\$25.00	\$650,000



Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production Per Acre	Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total
Pasture Irrigated	2008	11,000				\$145.00	\$1,595,000
	2007	11,000				\$135.00	\$1,485,000
Pasture Range	2008	189,237				\$15.00	\$2,839,000
	2007	189,237				\$10.00	\$1,892,000
Oat, Hay	2008	3,553	3.04	10,800	TON	\$170.00	\$1,836,000
	2007	2,143	3.17	6,793	TON	\$130.00	\$883,000
Safflower c/	2008	19,387	1.04	20,162	TON	\$443.00	\$8,932,000
	2007				TON		
Sorghum Silage	2008	8,662	16.50	142,923	TON	\$35.40	\$5,059,000
	2007	2,682	19.24	51,602	TON	\$29.00	\$1,496,000
Sudan Hay c/	2008	1,404	2.60	3,651	TON	\$139.00	\$507,000
	2007						
Sudan Silage c/	2008	1,394	12.80	17,843	TON	\$34.50	\$616,000
	2007						
Triticale, Hay	2008	2,533	3.36	8,511	TON	\$250.00	\$2,128,000
	2007	1,076	2.98	3,206	TON	\$150.00	\$481,000
Triticale, Silage	2008	2,573	17.90	46,057	TON	\$40.00	\$1,842,000
	2007	1,124	15.28	17,175	TON	\$26.00	\$447,000
Wheat Grain	2008	91,987	3.39	311,836	TON	\$240.00	\$74,841,000
	2007	63,140	2.00	126,280	TON	\$161.00	\$20,331,000
Wheat Silage	2008	57,727	17.80	1,027,548	TON	\$39.10	\$40,177,000
	2007	32,540	18.53	602,966	TON	\$26.00	\$15,677,000
Wheat Straw	2008	90,653	2.50	226,633	TON	\$45.00	\$10,198,000
	2007	36,500	1.25	45,625	TON	\$63.00	\$2,874,000

Field Crops

Crop	Year	Harvested	Production	Total	Unit	Value	Total
		Acreage	Per Acre			Per Unit	
Others d/	2008	5,801					\$3,937,000
	2007	16,750					\$8,211,000
TOTAL	2008	754,880					\$499,448,000
	2007	643,563					\$427,716,000

a/ Currenty included in Others

b/ 495 lbs. = 1 bale

c/ Previously included in Others

d/ Beans Dry, Barley Grain, Corn Grain Ethanol, Forage, Other Hay, Ryegrass, Screenings, Sugar Beets, Sugar Beets-Silage.

Vegetable & Seed Crops

Crop	Year	Harvested	Production	Total	Unit	Value	Total
		Acreage	Per Acre			Per Unit	
Garlic Processed	2008	1,835	10.43	19,132	TON	\$248.00	\$4,737,000
	2007	1,893	7.87	14,898	TON	\$220.00	\$3,278,000
Melons, All a/	2008	1,173	17.63	20,674	TON	\$133.50	\$2,760,000
	2007	828	16.86	13,960	TON	\$280.00	\$3,909,000
Seed Crops b/	2008	6,404			TON		\$8,763,000
	2007	13,319			TON		\$10,802,000
Tomatoes Processed	2008	30,425	49.88	1,517,750	TON	\$66.60	\$101,083,000
	2007	26,041	45.12	1,174,970	TON	\$60.00	\$70,498,000
Other c/	2008	7,241					\$51,471,000
	2007	6,846					\$42,762,000
TOTAL	2008	47,087					\$168,814,000
	2007	48,927					\$131,249,000

a/ Includes Cantaloupes, Specialty Melons and Watermelons.

b/Alfalfa Certified, Asparagus, Carrot, Corn, Lettuce and Onion.

c/ Asparagus, Broccoli, Broccoli Organic, Carrots, Cauliflower, Fresh Tomatoes, Peppers and Onions Processed.

Inventories of Livestock & Poultry

Item	January 1, 2008 Number of Head	January 1, 2007 Number of Head
Cattle and Calves		
All	326,000	285,000
Dairy Cows 2 Years and Over	180,000	178,000
Cattle and Calves on Feed	7,000	4,000
Other	201,000	145,000
Sheep and Lambs	9,669	10,768
Goats	7,220	5,247
Hogs and Pigs	141	1,337
Turkeys	481,866	577,824

Livestock & Poultry

Item	Year	Number of Head	Total Liveweight	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total
Cattle and Calves*	2008	208,230	1,831,416	Cwt.	\$65.70	\$120,324,000
	2007	237,486	1,943,320	Cwt.	\$83.00	\$161,296,000
Sheep and Lambs	2008	9,669	11,392	Cwt.	\$124.00	\$1,413,000
	2007	10,768	11,187	Cwt.	\$106.00	\$1,186,000
Turkeys	2008	1,927,465	44,162,921	lb.	\$0.59	\$25,950,000
	2007	1,837,395	45,604,144	lb.	\$0.46	\$20,978,000
Others a/	2008	24,868				\$205,000
	2007	28,953				\$733,000
TOTAL	2008					\$147,892,000
	2007					\$184,193,000

*Includes Breeding Stock Value in Total.

a/ Includes chickens, goats, hogs and pigs.

Livestock & Poultry Products

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Eggs- Chicken Market	2008	2,755,800	Doz.	\$1.46	\$4,023,000
	2007	2,967,315	Doz.	\$0.88	\$2,611,000
Manure	2008	1,252,869	Ton	\$2.35	\$2,945,000
	2007	1,285,644	Ton	\$0.95	\$1,221,000
Milk Market	2008	40,179,265	Cwt.	\$16.60	\$666,976,000
	2007	38,467,560	Cwt.	\$17.83	\$685,877,000
Milk Mfg.	2008	113,188	Cwt.	\$18.70	\$2,117,000
	2007	264,838	Cwt.	\$18.92	\$5,011,000
Milk- Goats	2008	36,229	Cwt.	\$36.30	\$1,315,000
	2007	39,915	Cwt.	\$32.50	\$1,297,000
Milk Total	2008	40,328,682	Cwt.		\$670,408,000
	2007	38,772,313	Cwt.		\$692,185,000
Wool*a/	2008	76,800	lb.	\$1.20	\$92,000
	2007	81,298	lb.	\$0.70	\$57,000
TOTAL	2008				\$677,468,000
	2007				\$696,074,000

a/ price does not include incentive.

Sorghum Facts

The United States was the top sorghum producing country in the world in 2005.

Grain sorghum produces the same amount of ethanol per bushel as corn while utilizing one-third less water.*

Dried sorghum plant stems are used to make parts of brooms.

* Information courtesy of CA News Net

Apiary Products

Item	Year	Total Production	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total
Honey	2008	560,860	lb.	\$1.33	\$746,000
	2007	773,224	lb.	\$0.97	\$750,000
Beeswax	2008	11,800	lb.	\$1.39	\$16,400
	2007	21,160	lb.	\$1.96	\$41,000
Seed Alfalfa	2008	17,619	Colonies	\$34.20	\$603,000
	2007	13,794	Colonies	\$50.00	\$690,000
Tree Fruit a/	2008	29,460	Colonies	\$138.60	\$4,083,000
	2007	33,800	Colonies	\$138.00	\$4,664,000
Melons	2008	1,616	Colonies	\$25.90	\$41,800
	2007	2,016	Colonies	\$55.00	\$111,000
Vegetable Seed	2008	595	Colonies	\$34.10	\$20,300
	2007	251	Colonies	\$28.00	\$7,000
TOTAL	2008				\$5,511,000
	2007				\$6,263,000

a/ almonds, apricot, cherries, and plums.

Agricultural Quick Facts

Kings County is ranked 8th among California counties in agricultural production. (2007)

Kings County is ranked 2nd among California counties in the production of cotton lint and cottonseed. (2007)

Kings County is ranked 3rd in the commodity categories of nectarines, plums and wheat. (2007)

Kings County produces 9.5% of all milk and cream in the state, making it the state's 4th largest producer, a rank shared with Kern County. (2007)

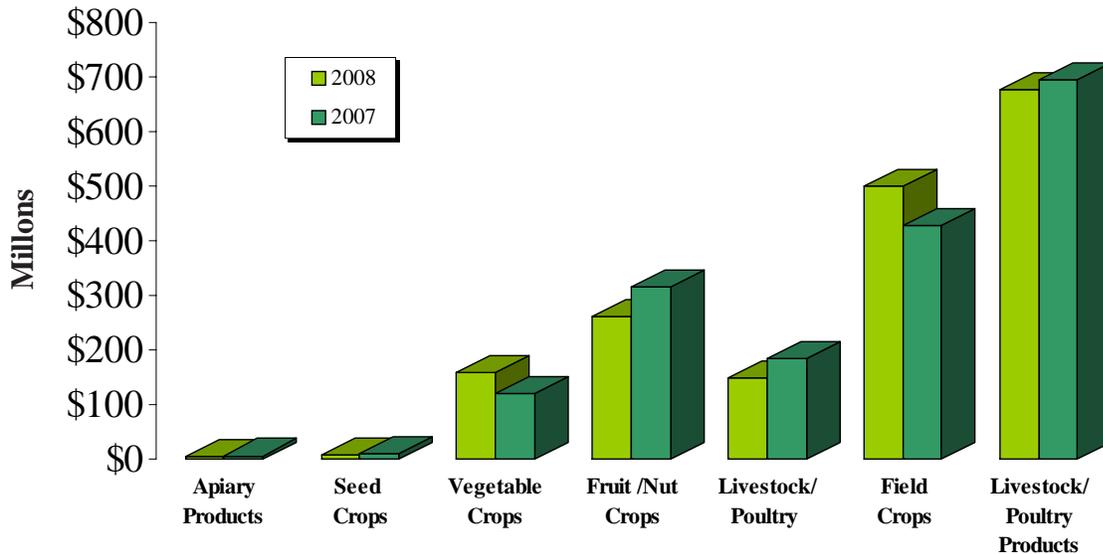
The most prolific milk producing cow the world has ever known, No. 289, lived in this county for 19 years and gave 54,070 gallons of milk - enough to fill more than eight 60-foot tanker trucks.

5 Year Comparison Of Acreage & Crop Values

	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
Apiary Products	\$5,511,000	\$6,263,000	\$5,415,000	\$2,994,000	\$2,518,000
Field Crops	\$499,448,000	\$427,716,000	\$364,106,000	\$381,789,000	\$379,551,000
Acreage	754,880	643,563	695,489	710,331	699,129
Fruit and Nut Crop	\$261,035,000	\$316,357,000	\$252,347,000	\$245,365,000	\$172,792,000
Acreage	62,361	60,914	53,438	49,201	48,575
Livestock and Poultry	\$147,892,000	\$184,193,000	\$161,497,000	\$202,234,000	\$173,532,000
Livestock and Poultry Products	\$677,468,000	\$696,074,000	\$417,994,000	* \$463,117,000	\$459,386,000
Seed Crops	\$8,763,000	\$10,802,000	\$12,962,000	\$8,340,000	\$7,112,000
Acreage	6,404	13,319	21,907	9,164	6,694
Vegetable Crops	\$160,051,000	\$120,447,000	\$74,865,000	\$103,380,000	\$97,199,000
Acreage	40,674	35,608	29,675	31,597	32,224
TOTAL	\$1,760,168,000	\$1,761,852,000	\$1,289,186,000	*\$1,407,219,000	\$1,292,090,000

* Revised

2008 and 2007 Production Value Comparisons



Kings County's 10 Leading Commodities

Crop	2008 Rank	Dollar Value	2007 Rank	2006 Rank	1958 Rank
Milk, Total	1	\$670,408,000	1	1	3
Cotton, Total	2	\$140,628,000	2	2	1
Cattle and Calves	3	\$120,324,000	3	3	5
Alfalfa, Total	4	\$104,889,000	4	4	4
Tomatoes, Processed	5	\$101,083,000	6	5	n/a
Corn Silage	6	\$96,031,000	7	7	16
Wheat Grain	7	\$74,841,000	17	18	19
Pistachios	8	\$53,079,000	5	8	n/a
Wheat, Silage	9	\$40,177,000	20	20	n/a
Peaches, Total	10	\$38,700,000	10	6	9
Total		\$1,440,160,000			

A Look Back 50 Years Ago.....1958 Kings County's 10 Leading Commodities

Crop	Rank	Dollar Value
Cotton, Total	1	\$33,869,465
Barley, Total	2	\$ 9,883,363
Cattle & Calves	3	\$ 9,204,638
Milk, Total	4	\$ 8,761,440
Alfalfa, Total	5	\$ 7,909,937
Permanent Pasture	6	\$ 2,695,500
Grapes, Total	7	\$ 1,889,168
Turkeys	8	\$ 1,537,869
Peaches	9	\$ 1,325,848
Cantaloupes	10	\$ 769,107

“No race can prosper till it learns there is as much dignity in tilling a field as writing a poem.”

- Booker T. Washington

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 lypriformi</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 3 Sites
Ash Whitefly <u>Siphoninus phillyreae</u>	Parasitic Wasp <u>Encarsia parenorea</u>	Generally Distributed
Red Gum Lerp Psyllid <u>Glycaspis brimblecombei</u>	Parasitic Wasp <u>Psyllaephagus bliteus</u>	1 Site
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
Glassy Winged Sharpshooter	Nursery Inspections	1,129 Inspections
Gypsy Moth <u>Lymantria dispar</u>	Household Goods Shipments	171 Inspections
Various Pests	Truck Shipments	39,611 Inspections
Crops	Activity	Scope of Program
Export Commodities	Origin Certification	1,441 issued
Export Seed	Field Inspections	173 sites / 13,955 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	85,980 Acres
Alligatorweed <u>Alternanthera philoxeroides</u>	Visual Inspection Mechanical/Chemical	2 Sites Treated

County Pest Detection

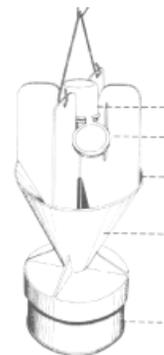
Pest	Number of Traps	Type of Traps
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	214	Jackson Traps
Mexican Fruit Fly	101	McPhail Traps
All Pupose Fruit Fly	116	Champ Traps
Oriental Fruit Fly	80	Jackson Traps
Melon Fly	80	Jackson Traps
Gypsy Moth	83	Delta Traps
Japanese Beetle	80	Japanese Beetle Traps
Glassy Wing Sharpshooter	87	Yellow Panel Trap
European Pine Shoot Moth	5	Pherocon II Traps
Khapra Beetle	204	Trogo Traps
Apple Maggot	4	Adult Monitoring Traps
European Corn Borer	13	Pherocon II Traps
Total Traps	1,092	



Jackson Trap



McPhail Trap



Japanese Beetle Trap



Commodities Exported From Kings County

Alfalfa
Alfalfa Seed
Almonds
Asparagus Seed
Celery Seed
Cherries
Cotton Seed

Garlic
Garlic Seed
Grapes
Kiwifruit
Nectarines
Onions
Onion Seed

Peaches
Pistachios
Plums
Wheat
Wheat Grain
Wheat Seed
Walnuts

Export Trade Partners of Kings County in 2008

Australia
Austria
Brazil
Canada
Chile
China
Colombia
Costa Rica
Cyprus
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
France
Germany
Guatemala

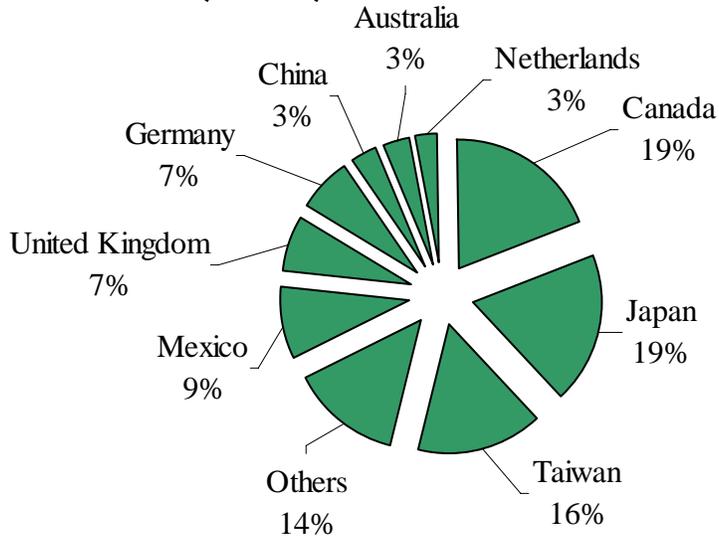
Honduras
Hong Kong
India
Italy
Japan
Jordan
Korea
Lebanon
Luxembourg
Mexico
Morocco
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Panama

Peru
Philippines
Portugal
Puerto Rico
Romania
Russian Federation
Saudi Arabia
Spain
Sweden
Taiwan
Trinidad
Turkey
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
Venezuela

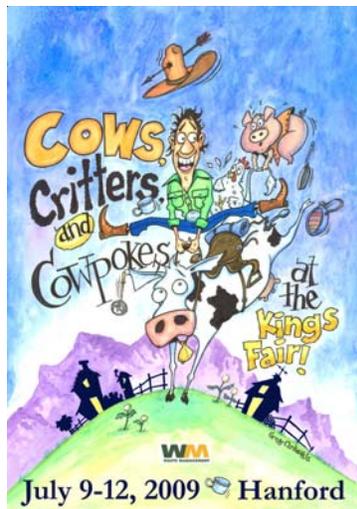
To Learn More About Kings County Exports, Visit Our Web Site
@ <http://www.countyofkings.com>

Export Partners

Top Export Countries 2008



Fairs & Expositions



801 S. 10th Ave. Hanford, CA 93230
Phone (559) 584-3318



Certified Farmer's Market

Certified Farmer's Market

Hanford Certified Farmer's Market

116 W. Seventh Street

Hanford, CA 93230

Thursdays 5:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.

May thru October - Irwin Street

Alliums	Figs	Pistachios
Almonds	Fresh Cut Flowers	Plums
Apples	Garlic	Pluots
Apricots	Grapefruit	Pomegranates
Aprium	Grapes	Pommelos
Asian Pears	Herbs	Potatoes
Arugula	Honey	Pumkins
Asparagus	Hot Peppers	Quince
Basil	Kale	Radicchio
Beets	Kiwifruit	Radishes
Bell Peppers	Legumes	Raisins
Blackberries	Lillies	Soybeans
Blueberries	Lemons	Spinach
Cactus	Lillys	Raspberries
Camellias	Limes	Squash
Cantaloupes	Mandarin	Sunflowers
Celery	Marigold	Strawberries
Carrots	Mixed Melons	Sweet Onions
Cherries	Nectarines	Swiss Chard
Chestnuts	Olives	Tangerines
Chilies	Oranges	Tomatoes
Chestnuts	Oregano	Tsatsumas
Corn	Peaches	Walnuts
Cucumbers	Pears	Watermelon
Eggplant	Pepper	Wild Flower Mix
Eggs	Persimmons	Zucchini

Land Use

Surrounding Counties	2007 Rank	2007 Gross Value*	Total County Area Acres	Top Commodity	2007 Value	Acres or No. of Head
Fresno	1	\$5,345,352,000	3,840,000	Grapes	\$613,710,000	195,515
Tulare	2	\$4,873,743,000	3,112,320	Milk	\$1,897,457,000	615,000
Kern	3	\$4,092,107,000	2,127,359	Milk	\$692,173,000	293,000
Monterey	4	\$3,823,287,000	5,166,720	Leaf Lettuce	\$613,306,000	94,608
Kings	8	\$1,761,852,000	890,545	Milk	\$692,185,000	178,000

* Gross Value does not include timber.

Kings County Land Use Summary

Land Use Category	2004		2006		Acre Change
	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	
Prime Farmland	140,582	16	139,212	16	- 1370
Farmland of Statewide Importance	429,773	48	420,422	47	- 9,351
Unique Farmland	28,523	3	25,982	3	- 2541
Farmland of Local Importance	8,283	1	8,868	1	+ 585
Grazing Land	233,493	26	243,183	27	+ 9,690
Urban and Built-Up Land	30,767	3	31,448	3	+ 681
Other Land	19,297	2	21,603	2	+ 2,306
Water Area	66	0	66	0	0
Total Acres	890,784		890,784		

From the California Department of Conservation.

Kings County General Information

County Seat	Hanford
County Population (2008)	154,434
Population per Square Mile	104.05
Total Assessed Value (2008)	\$8,467,007,072
Land Area (Square Miles)	1,391
Total Acres	890,545*
Total Harvested Crop Acreage (2008)	675,082
Foreign Ownership (2008)	4,009 (acres)
Total Farmland	749,100
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 2007 total value).

Railroads - Burlington Northern & Santa Fe and Union 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 - 175 feet above sea level at Tulare Lake to 3500 feet above sea level at the Kings/ Monterey County line boundary.

Average length of growing season: 257 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.

*From the Kings County Planning Department.

Rainfall - Hanford, CA

YEAR	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
1959-60	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.80	1.71	0.61	0.57	0.00	0.00	3.97
1960-61	0.02	0.00	0.53	0.00	2.61	0.03	1.34	0.22	0.67	0.22	0.37	0.00	6.01
1961-62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.11	1.28	0.71	4.88	1.06	0.00	0.11	0.00	9.15
1962-63	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.10	0.00	0.19	1.19	1.68	1.37	2.88	0.56	0.00	7.98
1963-64	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.75	1.23	0.31	0.61	0.02	0.94	0.64	0.20	0.17	5.20
1964-65	0.00	0.34	0.00	0.95	1.31	1.44	1.18	0.33	0.33	1.57	0.00	0.00	7.45
1965-66	0.00	0.05	0.07	0.05	2.15	1.97	0.63	0.71	0.10	0.00	0.07	0.00	5.80
1966-67	0.04	0.00	0.29	0.09	1.28	2.57	1.41	0.05	2.42	2.95	0.07	0.06	11.23
1967-68	0.00	0.00	0.31	0.00	1.99	0.50	0.62	0.64	1.00	0.50	0.08	0.23	5.87
1968-69	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.33	0.98	1.64	6.69	4.54	0.79	0.85	0.32	0.00	17.14
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	0.65	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	trace	trace	0.10	0.00	5.00
2008-09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14	1.03	1.36							
AVERAGE	0.01	0.03	0.20	0.38	0.90	1.12	1.60	1.50	1.43	0.74	0.21	0.07	8.13