



El Dorado ~ Alpine Counties

2008

Agricultural Crop & Livestock Report



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

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In accordance with Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I hereby submit the 2008 El Dorado & Alpine Counties Crop Report.


The El Dorado County gross crop value for 2008 was \$35.4 million which is an overall decrease of 33.5% from the 2007 values. The decline in total value was mainly due to weather related damage caused by low springtime temperatures and a dramatic decrease in timber harvesting. Specifically, timber values saw a precipitous 67.6% decrease from the prior year while many of the other crops experienced lower harvests of higher quality fruits.

The monetary values in this report are F.O.B. (Freight On Board) and do not reflect net returns or profits realized by the growers. It is estimated that the impact of agriculture on El Dorado County's economy totaled approximately \$377 million in 2008 of which the wine industry contributed an estimated \$171 million while Apple Hill added another \$101 million.

The Alpine County gross crop value for 2008 was estimated to be \$4.1 million which is a \$600,000 decrease from the 2007 value.

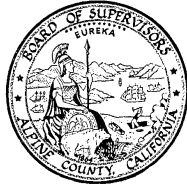
I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the many individuals and organizations that have contributed information to make this report possible. I particularly wish to thank members of my staff, Heather Meleski and Jesse Honeycutt, for compiling, tabulating and formatting the data.

Respectfully Submitted,


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2008 Crop Report

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El Dorado County

Fruit and Nut Crops

| Crop | Year | Acreage | Production Per Acre | Total Production | Unit | Value per Unit | Total Value |
|------------------------|------|---------|---------------------|------------------|------|----------------|--------------|
| PEARS | | | | | | | |
| Bartlet/Bosc | 2008 | | | 427 | Tons | \$ 1,580 | \$ 674,660 |
| | 2007 | | | 305 | Tons | \$ 1,600 | \$ 488,000 |
| Cannery | 2008 | | | 42 | Tons | \$ 41 | \$ 1,722 |
| | 2007 | | | 89 | Tons | \$ 62 | \$ 5,518 |
| Total Bart/Bosc | 2008 | 84 | 5.58 | 469 | Tons | \$ 1,442 | \$ 676,382 |
| | 2007 | 84 | 4.69 | 394 | Tons | \$ 1,253 | \$ 493,518 |
| Asian | 2008 | 41 | 10.15 | 416 | Tons | \$ 3,420 | \$ 1,422,720 |
| | 2007 | 41 | 6.34 | 260 | Tons | \$ 2,000 | \$ 520,000 |
| TOTAL PEARS | 2008 | 125 | | | | | \$ 2,099,102 |
| | 2007 | 125 | | | | | \$ 1,013,518 |

| Crop | Year | Acreage | Production Per Acre | Total Production | Unit | Value per Unit | Total Value |
|------------------------------|------|---------|---------------------|------------------|---------|----------------|--------------|
| APPLES | | | | | | | |
| Fresh | 2008 | | | 3,765 | Tons | \$ 1,360 | \$ 5,120,400 |
| | 2007 | | | 5,378 | Tons | \$ 1,336 | \$ 7,185,008 |
| Cannery/Apple Hill Products* | 2008 | | | 2,200 | Tons | | \$ 418,000 |
| | 2007 | | | 3,072 | Tons | | \$ 583,680 |
| Juice/Cider | 2008 | | | 44,566 | Gallons | | \$ 307,060 |
| | 2007 | | | 55,627 | Gallons | | \$ 383,826 |
| TOTAL APPLES | 2008 | 845 | | | | | \$ 5,845,460 |
| | 2007 | 845 | | | | | \$ 8,152,514 |

* Includes all "Enhanced Agricultural Products" such as fruit/nut pies and jams

El Dorado County

Fruit and Nut Crops (continued)

| Crop | Year | Acreage | Production Per Acre | Total Production | Unit | Ave. Value per Unit | Total Value |
|--------------------|------|---------|----------------------|------------------|------|---------------------|--------------|
| WINE GRAPES | | | | | | | |
| Bearing | 2008 | 1901 | 2.20 | 4,182 | Tons | \$ 1,265 | \$ 5,229,088 |
| | 2007 | 1747 | 2.88 | 5,029 | Tons | \$ 1,228 | \$ 6,021,458 |
| Non-Bearing | 2008 | 319 | Total Acreage = 2220 | | | | |
| | 2007 | 353 | | | | | |

| Crop | Year | Acreage | Production Per Acre | Total Production | Unit | Value per Unit | Total Value |
|----------|-------|---------|---------------------|------------------|------|----------------|-------------|
| Cherries | 2008 | 50 | 0.22 | 11 | Tons | \$ 5,580 | \$ 61,380 |
| | 2007 | 51 | 0.78 | 40 | Tons | \$ 4,800 | \$ 192,000 |
| Peaches | 2008 | 105 | 1.34 | 141 | Tons | \$ 2,740 | \$ 386,340 |
| | 2007 | 105 | 3.28 | 344 | Tons | \$ 2,640 | \$ 908,160 |
| Plums | 2008 | 52 | 1.60 | 83 | Tons | \$ 2,000 | \$ 166,000 |
| | 2007 | 52 | 2.96 | 154 | Tons | \$ 1,960 | \$ 301,840 |
| Walnuts | 2008 | 145 | 0.33 | 48 | Tons | \$ 1,360 | \$ 65,280 |
| | 2007 | 158 | 0.50 | 79 | Tons | \$ 1,580 | \$ 124,820 |
| Olives | 2008 | 33 | 0.29 | 10 | Tons | \$ 4,000 | \$ 38,000 |
| | 2007* | 0 | | 0 | Tons | \$ - | \$ - |

*2008 is first year olives are being reported as a separate category

| Totals | Year | Total Acreage | Total Value |
|---------------------------------|------|---------------|---------------|
| FRUIT & NUT CROPS | 2008 | 3575 | \$ 13,891,569 |
| | 2007 | 3435 | \$ 16,714,310 |
| MINOR & MISC. CROPS* | 2008 | | \$ 561,000 |
| | 2007 | | \$ 566,817 |

*Minor and Miscellaneous includes: Truck Gardens, Berries, Nectarines, Citrus, Chestnuts, Avocados, Pumpkins, Tomatoes and Persimmons

El Dorado County

Livestock

| | Year | Number of Head | Total Live Weight | Unit | Average Unit Value | Total Value |
|-------------------|------|----------------|-------------------|----------|--------------------|--------------|
| Cattle and Calves | 2008 | 6146 | 63,304 | cwt.** | \$ 85.80 | \$ 5,431,483 |
| | 2007 | 7025 | 72,896 | cwt. | \$ 90.28 | \$ 6,581,051 |
| Goats and Kids*** | 2008 | 2500 | | per head | \$ 210.00 | \$ 525,000 |
| | 2007 | 2500 | | per head | \$ 214.12 | \$ 535,300 |
| Misc.* | 2008 | | | | | \$ 1,254,770 |
| | 2007 | | | | | \$ 1,568,463 |
| TOTAL LIVESTOCK | 2008 | | | | | \$ 7,211,253 |
| | 2007 | | | | | \$ 8,684,814 |

*Misc. Includes: Turkeys, Ducks, Geese, Chickens, Hatching Eggs, Llamas, Alpacas, Hogs/Pigs, Sheep, Emu, Ostrich and Wool/By-products

**cwt. = hundredweight = 100 pounds

***Goats and Kids represents - Meat, Dairy, Show and By-products

Apiary Products

| | Year | Units | Total Value |
|-----------------|------|---------------|-------------|
| Apiary Products | 2008 | 4000 colonies | \$ 650,000 |
| | 2007 | 4000 colonies | \$ 600,000 |

Includes: Honey, Bees Wax, Pollen and Pollination

Hay and Pasture

| Crop | Year | Acres | Units | Value Per Unit | Total Value |
|-----------------------|------|---------|----------|----------------|--------------|
| Hay, Tame | 2008 | 216 | 281 Tons | \$ 135.00 | \$ 37,935 |
| | 2007 | 216 | 367 Tons | \$ 121.00 | \$ 44,407 |
| Irrigated Pasture | 2008 | 927 | Acres | \$ 142.00 | \$ 131,634 |
| | 2007 | 927 | Acres | \$ 128.00 | \$ 118,656 |
| Rangeland (Dryland) | 2008 | 233,000 | Acres | \$ 12.00 | \$ 2,796,000 |
| | 2007 | 233,000 | Acres | \$ 13.00 | \$ 3,029,000 |
| TOTAL HAY AND PASTURE | 2008 | | | | \$ 2,965,569 |
| | 2007 | | | | \$ 3,192,063 |

El Dorado County

Nursery Products

| | Year | Acreage | Value |
|----------------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| TOTAL NURSERY | 2008 | 40 | \$ 1,560,001 |
| | 2007 | 40 | \$ 2,168,978 |

Christmas Trees

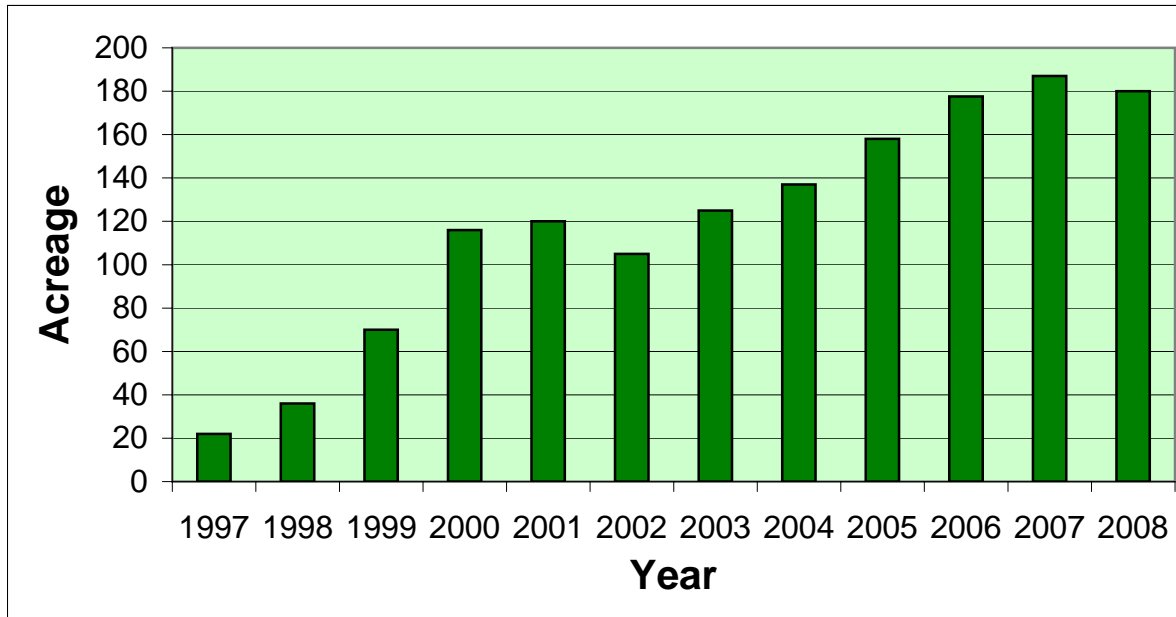
| | Year | Production | Unit | Unit | Value |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Wholesale | 2008 | 8,412 | Each | \$ 25.00 | \$ 210,300 |
| | 2007 | 8,454 | Each | \$ 25.34 | \$ 214,224 |
| Choose and Cut | 2008 | 54,701 | Each | \$ 42.23 | \$ 2,310,023 |
| | 2007 | 54,976 | Each | \$ 45.50 | \$ 2,501,408 |
| TOTAL CHRISTMAS TREES | 2008 | | | | \$ 2,520,323 |
| | 2007 | | | | \$ 2,715,632 |

Timber Harvested and By-Products

| | Year | Production | Unit | Value |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Private and Public Forest | 2008 | 44,726 | MBF | \$ 5,963,675 |
| | 2007 | 91,055 | MBF | \$ 18,521,478 |
| Wood Sales and Permits | 2008 | 2,443 | MBF | \$ 57,406 |
| | 2007 | 2,517 | MBF | \$ 38,436 |
| TOTAL TIMBER | 2008 | 47,169 | | \$ 6,021,081 |
| | 2007 | 93,572 | | \$ 18,559,914 |

El Dorado County

Registered Organic Farm Acreage In El Dorado County



Total Values For All Categories

| Crop | Year | Value |
|------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Fruit and Nut | 2008 | \$ 13,891,569 |
| | 2007 | \$ 16,714,310 |
| Minor and Misc. Crops | 2008 | \$ 561,000 |
| | 2007 | \$ 566,817 |
| Apiary Products | 2008 | \$ 650,000 |
| | 2007 | \$ 600,000 |
| Livestock | 2008 | \$ 7,211,253 |
| | 2007 | \$ 8,684,814 |
| Hay and Pasture | 2008 | \$ 2,965,569 |
| | 2007 | \$ 3,192,063 |
| Nursery Products | 2008 | \$ 1,560,001 |
| | 2007 | \$ 2,168,978 |
| Christmas Trees | 2008 | \$ 2,520,323 |
| | 2007 | \$ 2,715,632 |
| Timber | 2008 | \$ 6,021,081 |
| | 2007 | \$ 18,559,914 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 2008 | \$ 35,380,796 |
| | 2007 | \$ 53,202,528 |

Alpine County

Livestock

| | Year | Number of Head | Total Live Weight | Unit | Value per Unit | Total Value |
|-------------------|------|----------------|-------------------|--------|----------------|--------------|
| Cattle and Calves | 2008 | 1820 | 27,646 | cwt.** | \$ 85.80 | \$ 2,372,027 |
| Cattle and Calves | 2007 | 2079 | 31,564 | cwt. | \$ 90.28 | \$ 2,849,598 |

**cwt. = hundredweight = 100 pounds

Hay and Pasture

| Crop | Year | Acres | Units | Value Per Unit | Total Value |
|------------------------------|------|---------|---------|----------------|--------------|
| Hay, Tame | 2008 | 8 | 16 Tons | \$ 135.00 | \$ 2,160 |
| | 2007 | 8 | 16 Tons | \$ 121.00 | \$ 1,936 |
| Irrigated Pasture | 2008 | 1,143 | Acres | \$ 125.00 | \$ 142,875 |
| | 2007 | 1,143 | Acres | \$ 125.00 | \$ 142,875 |
| Rangeland (Dryland) | 2008 | 133,000 | Acres | \$ 12.00 | \$ 1,596,000 |
| | 2007 | 133,000 | Acres | \$ 13.00 | \$ 1,729,000 |
| TOTAL HAY AND PASTURE | 2008 | | | | \$ 1,741,035 |
| | 2007 | | | | \$ 1,873,811 |

El Dorado & Alpine Counties

Pest Management and Eradication

| Pest | Agent/Mechanism | Scope of Program |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Canada thistle (<i>Cirsium arvense</i>) | Chemical/Mechanical | Eradication |
| Diffuse knapweed (<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>) | Chemical/Mechanical | Eradication |
| Gill's Mealybug (<i>Ferrisia gilli</i>) | Chemical | Management |
| Hoary cress (<i>Cardaria pubescens</i>) | Chemical/Mechanical | Eradication |
| Oblong spurge (<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>) | Chemical/Mechanical | Eradication |
| Purple loosestrife (<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>) | Chemical/Mechanical | Eradication |
| Russian knapweed (<i>Acroptilon repens</i>) | Chemical/Mechanical | Eradication |
| Skeletonweed (<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>) | Chemical/Mechanical | Management |
| Spotted knapweed (<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>) | Chemical/Mechanical | Eradication |
| Tall whitetop (<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>) | Chemical/Mechanical | Eradication |
| Toadflax ssp. (<i>Linaria genistifolia</i>) | Chemical/Mechanical | Eradication |
| Yellow starthistle (<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>) | Mechanical/Chemical/Bio-control | Management |

Sustainable Agriculture Reporting for El Dorado and Alpine Counties

| |
|--|
| Pest Exclusion |
| <i>Prevents the introduction of detrimental pests that are not of common occurrence in California. Over 1709 inspections at 444 locations were made during 2008.</i> |
| Pest Detection |
| <i>Monitoring program to detect pests that may have entered El Dorado County despite pest exclusion efforts. Over 900 traps were placed in 2008 in both rural and urban areas to detect various pests.</i> |
| Pest Eradication |
| <i>Includes chemical and mechanical treatments. Gill's Mealybug infestations were treated by the growers in cooperation with this Department during the 2008 growing season.</i> |
| Pest Management |
| <i><u>El Dorado County Noxious Weed Management Group:</u> Coordinates invasive weed control, education and eradication among federal, state, county and private agencies along the west slope, within the Lake Tahoe Basin and throughout Alpine County.</i> |
| <i><u>Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) Pest Management Program:</u> Includes inspections of all nursery stock shipped into the county from known GWSS infested areas. Over 400 insect traps have been deployed and monitored throughout the county.</i> |
| <i><u>Biological Control Program:</u> Releases insects and other organisms that act as natural enemies against noxious pests. Biocontrol projects include: Leaf beetle (<i>Chrysolina quadrigemina</i>) to control Klamath Weed. Seed weevil (<i>Eustenopus villosus</i>), the Peacock fly (<i>Chaetorellia australis</i>), the bud weevil (<i>Bangasternus orientalis</i>), the gall fly (<i>Urophora sirunaseva</i>), the flower weevil (<i>Larinus curtus</i>), the hairy weevil (<i>Eustenopus villosus</i>), and the rust fungus (<i>Puccinia jaceae</i> var. <i>solstitialis</i>) to reduce the spread of Yellow Starthistle. The El Dorado County Department of Agriculture monitors and relocates the organisms in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture.</i> |
| <i><u>Vertebrate Pest Management Program:</u> Assists growers and homeowners in the control of destructive vertebrate pests (i.e., mice, rats, etc.).</i> |
| <i><u>Wildlife Management Program:</u> Provides management of wildlife that are deprecating livestock, property and/or presenting a hazard to public health and safety in El Dorado and Alpine County.</i> |
| Pesticide Monitoring |
| <i>Monitoring program to protect public health, property, the environment and agricultural workers. This program is conducted in partnership with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.</i> |

Commodity Evaluation and Marketing Programs

Certified Farmer's Market Program: *Allows farmers to market directly to consumers at area Certified Farmer's Markets. Grower inspections are conducted by the Department to validate the registration. There were **56 growers** registered as certified growers with production areas within the county.*

Organic Program: *Includes registration by growers in order to market farm products as organically grown. Grower inspections are conducted by the Department to validate the registration. In 2008, **18 growers** were registered as organic, **representing 180 acres** under production.*

Standardization Program: *Protects consumers and the fresh fruit, nut and vegetable industry from distribution of substandard products. Standardization laws establish minimum specifications for maturity, quality and size of commodities (i.e., apples, pears) plus standard container pack and labeling. Quality Control inspections are also conducted on nursery stock, eggs and seeds.*

