

MADERA county



Agricultural
Crop Report



2012

MADERA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

What We Do...

Our mission is to preserve and protect agriculture. Plantings must be protected from diseases and pests, including weeds. To prevent the introduction of injurious pests, we inspect incoming nursery stock, and sample seed for purity. Specialized traps are used to detect exotic insects, which may have "hitched a ride" into our county. We also inspect beehives, brought into the county for pollination, to ensure that they do not harbor Red Imported Fire Ants.



Established pests of agriculture must be managed. We regulate the purchase, use, and storage of pesticides; inspecting fields prior to application, ensuring that pesticide applicators are qualified, monitoring applications, ensuring that application records are maintained, and investigating any problems that may occur. Investigations can offer insight into what went wrong, and thus allow improvement in regulations designed to ensure the safety of our food, the agricultural workers, the people of our community, and our environment.



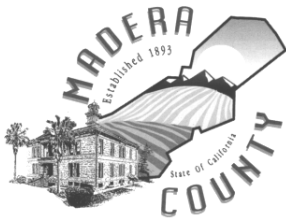
We present educational seminars to ensure that growers are abreast of changes in the regulations, and provide information helpful in the training of applicators. We offer expertise and management tools for the control of depredating vertebrate pests.



Commodities that reach the market should be mature and of good quality. Inspections are conducted at time of harvest, and at the marketplace, ensuring that fruits and vegetables meet standards set by law. Commodities bound for export are inspected to ensure freedom from injurious pests; phytosanitary certification allows import into foreign countries. We also monitor the production of organic commodities.

Our office provides agricultural information to growers, industry, and the public. We prepare a comprehensive annual report of county agricultural production; and assess and quantify weather-related crop damage.

Finally, the Agricultural Commissioner is involved on a fundamental level with other governmental agencies and industry to ensure the safety of our food supply; safeguard schoolchildren from pesticides; protect our animal industry from disease; control invasive and injurious pests, and protect air and groundwater from pollution.



Madera County Department of Agriculture Weights and Measures

Robert J. Rolan, Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights and Measures

Jay Seslowe, Assistant Agricultural
Commissioner/Sealer

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

In accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I am pleased to submit the 2002 Agricultural Crop Report.

The gross production value of Madera County agricultural commodities in 2002 was \$779,510,000. This represents an increase of nearly 20% over the 2001 production value.

Field crop production values increased for most commodities, mirroring the continuing rise in dairy production in Madera County. Cotton was a notable exception. Production costs have outpaced production values in many cases, and the resulting decline in cotton acreage caused production values to fall \$8.6 million. Alfalfa acreage rose 18% in 2002; however, an accompanying drop in price resulted in a slight loss overall in production value. Production of silage climbed, with wheat silage production increasing more than two-fold. Alfalfa, corn, oat, and winter forage also showed increases in production, and in production values. Increases were not enough to offset cotton declines, however, and the overall production value of field crops in Madera County decreased 8.7% in 2002.

With few exceptions, Madera County producers of fruits and nuts enjoyed a bountiful season in 2002. Pistachio production values climbed \$60 million, a 178% increase over 2001. Almond production values grew \$34 million, a 42% increase. Grape production values gained \$21 million overall, a 15% increase. Grape yields increased across the board in 2002; prices, on the other hand, fell for the third consecutive year for raisins, as well as grapes sent to crush. Table grapes were the exception, with prices climbing 44%. Peaches and figs also enjoyed production value increases, of \$4.8 million and \$4.4 million, respectively. Overall, the production value of Madera County fruit and nut crops increased nearly 44%, a gain of \$133 million over the 2001 value.

Dairy herd numbers continued to grow in Madera County during 2002. Market milk production increased 11%; but the gain was accompanied by a 22% drop in price, resulting in a \$6 million loss in production value. Replacement heifers saw increases in both production number and value, with an overall increase of 24%--nearly \$8.6 million—over the 2001 production value.

Nursery production values declined 26% in 2002. Demand for vine cuttings remained low during 2002, resulting in a \$6 million decrease in nursery production values. Vegetable crops, in contrast, enjoyed an 89% increase in overall production values.

It must be emphasized that the values presented in this report reflect gross values only, and do not in any manner reflect net income or loss to producers.

The preparation of a report of this type requires extensive collaboration, and I sincerely appreciate the contributions of our growers, the staff of the University of California Cooperative Extension, and industry representatives. Additionally, I would like to thank Marilyn Key, for compiling the information found in this report; and Molly LaDou, who, together with Creative Copy Printing and Graphics, designed the report.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Rolan
Agricultural Commissioner

MADERA COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS

County Established	March 11, 1893
County Seat	Madera (city)
Population ^a	123,109

Total County Acreage ^b	1,368,587
2002 Harvested Acreage	667,000
Field Crop Acreage	121,000
Fruit and Nut Acreage	189,000
Nursery Acreage	300
Vegetable Acreage	3,700
Rangeland Acreage	353,000

Forest Acreage	414,290
U. S. Parkland Acreage	82,973

Bordering Counties	
Merced County	Northwest
Mariposa County	North
Mono County	East
Fresno County	South and West

Statewide Ranking of County	
Population ^a	35
Total Acreage	24
Total Agricultural Production ^b	14

Commodity, by value ^c	
Figs	1
Grapes, Raisin Variety	2
Pistachios	2
Olives	4
Almonds	5
Grapes, Table Variety	5
Grapes, Wine Variety	9
Milk, Market	10

San Francisco

Lake Tahoe

Yosemite
National
Park

a/ US Bureau of Census, 2000
 b/ USDA Ag Census, 1997
 c/ County Agricultural
 Commissioner's Data, 2001

MADERA county

MADERA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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District 2

Ronn Dominici

District 3

John Silva

District 4

Gary Gilbert

District 5

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Robert J. Rolan

ASSISTANT AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/SEALER

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Jose Villanueva

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Lore Ciuffoli, Office Services Supervisor

Tammy Dodson, Program Assistant II

Mary Arias, Office Assistant II

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Agricultural
Crop Report

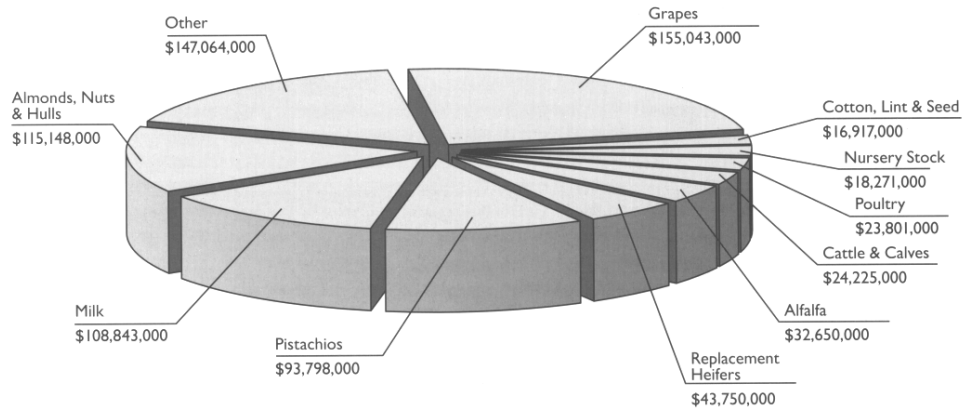
2002



TEN LEADING CROPS MADERA COUNTY - 2002

COMMODITY	2002 RANK	2002 DOLLAR VALUE	2001 RANK
Grapes	1	\$155,043,000	1
Almonds, Nuts & Hulls	2	\$115,148,000	3
Milk	3	\$108,843,000	2
Pistachios	4	\$93,798,000	5
Replacement Heifers	5	\$43,750,000	4
Alfalfa	6	\$32,650,000	6
Cattle and Calves	7	\$24,225,000	9
Poultry	8	\$23,801,000	10
Nursery Stock	9	\$18,271,000	8
Cotton, Lint & Seed	10	\$16,917,000	7

Diversity, which serves to strengthen the agricultural economy of Madera County, is evident in this listing of our Ten Leading Crops, which include fruit and nut crops, field crops, nursery stock, dairy and beef cattle. The wide range of commodities produced in our county is further underscored by that segment of the chart entitled "Other," which includes such diverse products as kiwifruit, frogs, sweet basil, wool, cutting flowers, eggplant, firewood, and beeswax.





MADERA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION & VALUE

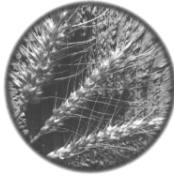
The information in the following tables is compiled and made available in order to provide an annual record of agricultural production within the county. Yield, production, and pricing information is gathered from both growers and processors. Acreages shown are not intended to reflect planted acreage, but rather the total acreage harvested during the current growing season. Weighted averages of yields and unit values are then prepared for the individual commodities, allowing determination of countywide totals for production and value. Values represent the gross value of the commodities produced; no attempt is made to reflect the cost of production and marketing, or net income to the producer.





FIELD CROPS

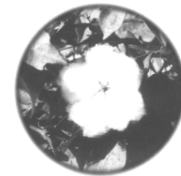
Item	Year	PRODUCTION			VALUE		
		Harvested Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Alfalfa							
Hay	2002	40,700	7.42	301,994	Ton	\$102.00	\$30,803,000
	2001	34,500	7.50	258,750	Ton	124.00	32,085,000
	2000	36,500	7.08	258,420	Ton	94.00	24,291,000
Silage ^a	2002			63,700	Ton	29.00	1,847,000
	2001			38,112	Ton	29.00	1,105,000
	2000			41,718	Ton	24.00	1,001,000
Total	2002	40,700					32,650,000
	2001	34,500					33,190,000
	2000	36,500					25,292,000
Beans, Dry^b							
	2002	460	1.35	621	Ton	616.00	383,000
	2001	220	1.35	297	Ton	562.00	167,000
	2000	200	1.45	290	Ton	487.00	141,000
Corn							
Grain	2002	2,700	5.13	13,851	Ton	136.00	1,884,000
	2001	2,000	4.24	8,480	Ton	131.00	1,111,000
	2000	5,800	4.66	27,028	Ton	106.00	2,865,000
Silage	2002	18,700	25.48	476,476	Ton	20.00	9,530,000
	2001	15,600	25.75	401,700	Ton	21.00	8,436,000
	2000	11,300	27.11	306,343	Ton	18.00	5,514,000
Total	2002	21,400					11,414,000
	2001	17,600					9,547,000
	2000	17,100					8,379,000
Cotton							
Lint	2002	17,300	1,438 ^c	51,828	Bale ^d	.68 ^c	16,917,000
	2001	25,500	1,471	78,147	Bale	.68	25,507,000
	2000	27,500	1,338	76,656	Bale	.69	25,389,000
Seed	2002			20,735	Ton	154.00	3,193,000
	2001			34,125	Ton	146.00	4,982,000
	2000			33,474	Ton	151.00	5,055,000
Oat							
Hay	2002	5,900	2.99	17,641	Ton	80.00	1,411,000
	2001	4,500	3.26	14,670	Ton	89.00	1,306,000
	2000	4,200	2.48	10,416	Ton	69.00	719,000



FIELD CROPS

Item	Year	PRODUCTION				VALUE	
		Harvested Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Pasture							
Irrigated	2002	4,900			Acre	\$125.00	\$613,000
	2001	4,800			Acre	125.00	600,000
	2000	4,500			Acre	125.00	563,000
Rangeland	2002	353,000			Acre	9.00	3,177,000
	2001	353,000			Acre	9.00	3,177,000
	2000	353,000			Acre	9.00	3,177,000
Sugar Beets	2002	300	33.00	9,900	Ton	37.00	366,000
	2001	630	30.00	18,900	Ton	37.00	699,000
	2000	620	29.66	18,389	Ton	35.00	644,000
Wheat							
Grain	2002	5,900	2.85	16,815	Ton	113.00	1,900,000
	2001	13,500	2.68	36,180	Ton	110.00	3,980,000
	2000	12,500	1.95	24,375	Ton	114.00	2,779,000
Silage	2002	17,800	13.48	239,944	Ton	17.00	4,079,000
	2001	8,500	10.27	87,295	Ton	18.00	1,571,000
	2000	11,100	11.98	132,978	Ton	16.00	2,128,000
Total	2002	23,700					5,979,000
	2001	22,000					5,551,000
	2000	23,600					4,907,000
Winter Forage	2002	2,800	14.94	41,832	Ton	15.00	627,000
	2001	2,000	12.40	24,800	Ton	15.00	372,000
	2000	1,000	13.26	13,260	Ton	15.00	199,000
Miscellaneous ^f	2002	3,800					4,340,000
	2001	4,000					3,681,000
	2000	1,400					3,718,000
TOTAL	2002	474,000					\$81,070,000
	2001	468,750					88,779,000
	2000	469,620					78,183,000

- a/ Alfalfa acreage yields both hay and silage
 b/ Includes black-eyes, kidneys and limas
 c/ Pounds
 d/ Bale: 480 pounds
 e/ Per pound
 f/ Includes barley, rice, safflower, Sudan grass, seed crops, field stubble and straw





FRUIT & NUT CROPS

Item	Year	PRODUCTION				VALUE	
		Harvested Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Almonds ^a	2002	52,900	1.04	55,016 ^b	Ton	\$2,093.00	\$115,148,000
	2001	49,200	.90	44,280	Ton	1,830.00	81,032,000
	2000	47,600	.70	33,320	Ton	2,040.00	67,973,000
Almond Hulls	2002			104,530	Ton	77.00	8,049,000
	2001			84,132	Ton	75.00	6,310,000
	2000			63,308	Ton	75.00	4,748,000
Apples	2002	1,670	8.90	14,863	Ton	236.00	3,508,000
	2001	1,880	6.68	12,558	Ton	215.00	2,700,000
	2000	2,300	8.70	20,010	Ton	521.00	10,425,000
Figs	2002	8,330	1.89	15,744	Ton	985.00	15,508,000
	2001	8,510	1.43	12,169	Ton	912.00	11,098,000
	2000	9,550	1.63	15,567	Ton	591.00	9,200,000
Grapes							
Raisin Varieties							
Crushed	2002	16,300	11.23	183,049	Ton	76.00	13,912,000
	2001	7,800	7.16	55,848	Ton	78.00	4,356,000
	2000	8,640	10.45	90,288	Ton	119.00	10,744,000
Dried	2002	19,300	2.77	53,461	Ton	433.00	23,149,000
	2001	33,480	1.87	62,608	Ton	525.00	32,869,000
	2000	34,640	2.64	91,450	Ton	600.00	54,870,000
Fresh	2002	2,380	9.68	23,038	Ton	997.00	22,969,000
	2001	2,480	7.00	17,360	Ton	690.00	11,978,000
	2000	2,520	7.85	19,782	Ton	893.00	17,665,000
Table Varieties	2002	2,370	8.11	19,221	Ton	1,006.00	19,336,000
	2001	2,580	7.08	18,266	Ton	700.00	12,786,000
	2000	2,640	7.27	19,193	Ton	960.00	18,425,000
Wine Varieties ^c							
Red Varieties	2002	27,300	10.23	279,279	Ton	161.00	44,964,000
	2001	24,780	8.26	204,683	Ton	188.00	38,480,000
	2000	24,030	9.60	230,688	Ton	237.00	54,673,000
White Varieties	2002	24,000	9.55	229,200	Ton	134.00	30,713,000
	2001	23,390	9.09	212,615	Ton	159.00	33,806,000
	2000	23,740	10.05	238,587	Ton	161.00	38,413,000
Total Grapes	2002	91,650					155,043,000
	2001	94,510					134,275,000
	2000	96,210					194,790,000
Nectarines	2002	450	7.66	3,447	Ton	530.00	1,827,000
	2001	690	4.74	3,271	Ton	615.00	2,011,000
	2000	610	7.59	4,630	Ton	626.00	2,898,000



FRUIT & NUT CROPS

Item	Year	PRODUCTION				VALUE	
		Harvested Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Olives	2002	1,820	5.63	10,247	Ton	\$625.00	\$6,404,000
	2001	1,730	4.88	8,442	Ton	728.00	6,146,000
	2000	1,780	3.84	6,835	Ton	736.00	5,031,000
Oranges	2002	3,910	10.42	40,742	Ton	208.00	8,474,000
	2001	3,460	10.73	37,126	Ton	169.00	6,274,000
	2000	3,830	12.37	47,377	Ton	128.00	6,064,000
Peaches							
	Cling						
	2002	990	17.08	16,909	Ton	211.00	3,568,000
	2001	940	10.27	9,654	Ton	221.00	2,133,000
	2000	1,130	18.83	21,278	Ton	220.00	4,681,000
	Freestone						
	2002	940	14.50	13,630	Ton	490.00	6,679,000
	2001	870	10.76	9,361	Ton	357.00	3,342,000
	2000	950	12.69	12,056	Ton	359.00	4,328,000
Pistachios	2002	21,500	1.87	40,205^b	Ton	2,333.00	93,798,000
	2001	19,600	0.80	15,680	Ton	2,144.00	33,618,000
	2000	19,270	1.59	30,639	Ton	2,051.00	62,841,000
Plums	2002	970	8.48	8,226	Ton	535.00	4,401,000
	2001	1,050	5.87	6,164	Ton	525.00	3,236,000
	2000	990	10.50	10,395	Ton	634.00	6,590,000
Plums, Dried^d	2002	1,810	3.60	6,516	Ton	793.00	5,167,000
	2001	1,750	2.56	4,480	Ton	756.00	3,387,000
	2000	1,580	2.63	4,155	Ton	926.00	3,848,000
Walnuts	2002	940	1.25	1,175	Ton	1,126.00	1,323,000
	2001	1,020	1.37	1,397	Ton	1,226.00	1,713,000
	2000	1,210	1.33	1,609	Ton	1,290.00	2,076,000
Miscellaneous							
	Fruits & Nuts^e	2002	1,180				4,203,000
	2001	960					3,167,000
	2000	1,080					4,394,000
	Orchard Firewood	2002		6,600	Cord		759,000
	2001			6,000	Cord		660,000
	2000			5,000	Cord		525,000
TOTAL	2002	189,000					\$433,859,000
	2001	186,170					301,102,000
	2000	188,090					390,412,000

a/ Meat basis

b/ Reflects total production, including imperfect stock; price weighted accordingly

c/ Includes table grapes crushed

d/ Reported previously under Prunes; dried weight

e/ Includes apricots, berries, cherries, kiwis, pears, pecans, persimmons, pomegranates, tangelos, tangerines, and strawberries



VEGETABLE CROPS

Item	Year	Harvested Acreage	Total Value
Vegetables ^a	2002	3,700	\$25,763,000
	2001	3,100	13,602,000
	2000	3,400	15,400,000

a/ Includes artichokes, all cabbage, carrots, cucumbers, eggplant, garlic, herbs, melons, onions, all peppers, potatoes, all squash, all tomatoes, and miscellaneous truck crops



LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

Item	Year	Head	Liveweight	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Cattle and Calves ^a	2002	57,800	425,000	CWT^b	\$57.00	\$24,225,000
	2001	52,600	390,400	CWT	61.00	23,814,000
	2000	50,700	375,000	CWT	59.00	22,125,000
Replacement Heifers ^c	2002	25,000			1,750.00	43,750,000
	2001	22,000			1,600.00	35,200,000
	2000	21,000			1,490.00	31,290,000
Poultry	2002					23,801,000
	2001					23,489,000
	2000					26,291,000
TOTAL	2002					\$91,776,000
	2001					82,503,000
	2000					79,706,000

a/ Range and dairy cattle sold for beef

b/ Hundredweight: 100 pounds

c/ Milk cows



NURSERY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Field Acres	House Sq. Ft.	Total Value
Nursery Stock ^a	2002	300	555,000	\$18,271,000
	2001	860	507,000	24,543,300
	2000	740	515,000	37,500,000

a/ Includes grapevines, fruit trees, nut trees and ornamentals



LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	PRODUCTION		VALUE	
		Production	Unit	Per Unit	Per Total
Milk Market ^a	2002	10,073,081	CWT	\$10.73	\$108,120,000
	2001	9,039,069	CWT	13.76	124,345,000
	2000	8,442,327	CWT	11.30	95,389,000
Milk Manufacturing ^a	2002	65,472	CWT	11.04	723,000
	2001	47,386	CWT	13.86	657,000
	2000	73,977	CWT	10.19	753,000
Other Products ^b	2002				10,779,000
	2001				8,798,000
	2000				5,992,000
TOTAL	2002				\$119,622,000
	2001				133,800,000
	2000				102,134,000

a/ Madera County has 56 dairies, with 40,800 lactating cows

b/ Includes aquaculture, beneficial insect production, ducks, market eggs, hogs, manure, sheep, lambs and wool



APIARY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	PRODUCTION		VALUE	
		Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Apiary Products					
Beeswax	2002	11,900	Pound	\$1.00	\$12,000
	2001	10,300	Pound	1.04	11,000
	2000	14,500	Pound	1.20	17,000
Honey	2002	815,000	Pound	1.24	1,011,000
	2001	668,000	Pound	0.53	354,000
	2000	664,200	Pound	0.49	325,000
Pollination	2002	146,000	Colony	45.90	6,701,000
	2001	124,800	Colony	43.50	5,429,000
	2000	131,900	Colony	40.90	5,393,000
TOTAL	2002				\$7,724,000
	2001				5,794,000
	2000				5,735,000



FOREST PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Total Value
Timber	2002	5,905	MBF^a	\$1,125,000
	2001	6,672	MBF	1,353,000
	2000	8,228	MBF	2,082,000
Firewood	2002	3,000	Cords^b	300,000
	2001	3,530	Cords	318,000
	2000	2,970	Cords	253,000
TOTAL	2002			\$1,425,000
	2001			1,671,000
	2000			2,335,000

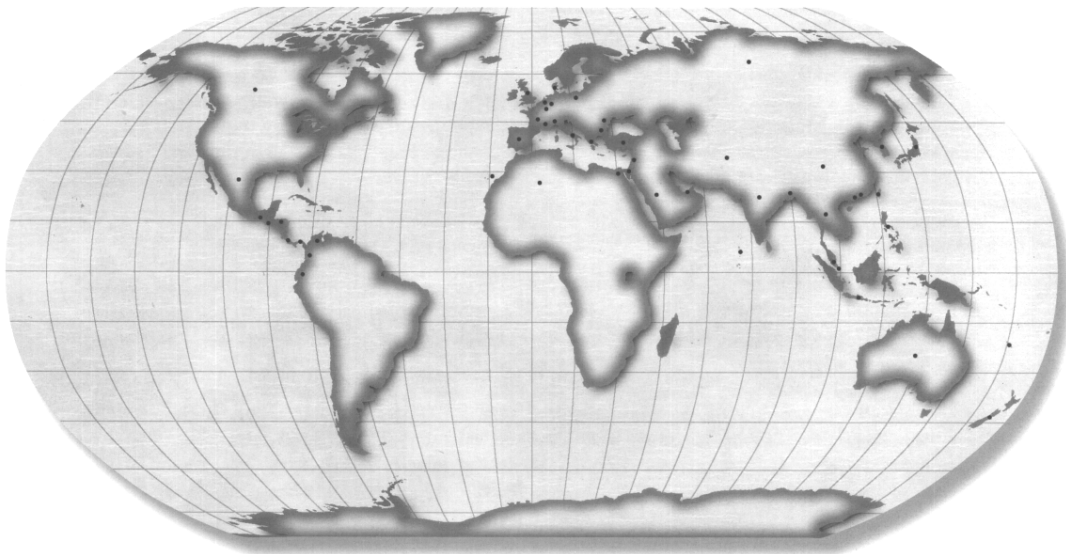
^{a/} Million Board Feet

^{b/} Cord: 128 cubic feet



COUNTRIES RECEIVING MADERA COUNTY PRODUCE IN 2002

Afghanistan	Guatemala	People's Republic of
Algeria	Honduras	China
Australia	Hong Kong	Philippines
Austria	India	Poland
Bangladesh	Indonesia	Romania
Belgium	Israel	Russian Federation
Bulgaria	Italy	Saudi Arabia
Canada	Japan	Singapore
Canary Islands	Korea	Spain
Columbia	Lebanon	Switzerland
Costa Rica	Macau	Taiwan
Denmark	Malaysia	Thailand
Ecuador	Maldives	Turkey
Egypt	Mexico	United Arab Emirates
El Salvador	Netherlands	United Kingdom
France	New Caledonia	Venezuela
Germany	New Zealand	
Greece	Panama	





SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORT

PEST PREVENTION

Pest prevention programs are mandated by the California Food and Agricultural Code to prevent the introduction and spread of pests in California. Pest prevention involves three strata: pest exclusion, pest detection, and integrated pest control.

The **Pest Exclusion Program** prevents the introduction of injurious pests that are not of common occurrence in the county.

Twenty-one nursery locations were inspected to ensure pest cleanliness. In addition, 650 shipments of plant material, received by nurseries, were inspected for potentially injurious pests prior to retail sale.

Over 4,000 beehives, transported into the county for pollination, were inspected for Red Imported Fire Ants (*Solenopsis invicta*). Over 17,000 acres were surveyed for the presence of Red Imported Fire Ants. An infestation was discovered on a 40-acre site; the infestation was treated. Of the 742 acres under treatment for Red Imported Fire Ants in 2000, 122 acres continue to be treated.

Countries receiving agricultural commodities require certification that the commodities are free from potentially injurious pests. Over 1,550 phytosanitary inspections were performed on Madera County commodities destined for export.

The **Pest Detection Program** utilizes insect traps and surveys for the detection of foreign pests which may have eluded exclusion efforts.

The trapping program in Madera County targeted multiple pests, including the following:

Apple Maggot (<i>Rhagoletis pomonella</i>)	Caribbean Fruit Fly (<i>Anastrepha suspense</i>)
Gypsy Moth (<i>Lymantria dispar</i>)	Mediterranean Fruit Fly (<i>Ceratitis capitata</i>)
Japanese Beetle (<i>Popillia japonica</i>)	Melon Fly (<i>Dacus cucurbitae</i>)
Khapra Beetle (<i>Trogoderma granarium</i>)	Mexican Fruit Fly (<i>Anastrepha ludens</i>)
European Corn Borer (<i>Ostrinia nubilalis</i>)	Oriental Fruit Fly (<i>Dacus dorsalis</i>)
European Pine Shoot Moth (<i>Rhyacionia buoliana</i>)	

Over 1,000 traps were placed in the county, with 11,500 trap servicings performed during the 2002 season.

On May 9, 2002, routine trap servicing revealed a single male Oriental Fruit Fly, the first ever found in the history of Madera County. Over 340 traps were immediately deployed over an 81-square-mile area, centered on the initial find. Nearly 4,000 trap servicings over the ensuing three months revealed no additional Oriental Fruit Flies.

The **Integrated Pest Control Program** strives to eradicate infestations of new pests before they become widespread. Pink Bollworm (*Pectinophora gossypiella*), a non-established and economically significant pest of cotton, is controlled by post-season plowdown of cotton plants. In Madera County, plowdown of 17,300 acres was verified, ensuring the destruction of habitat supportive of this pest.

PEST MANAGEMENT

The Biological Control Program involves the utilization of natural parasites and predators to reduce populations of insects or weeds. We have distributed biological control agents active against one insect pest as well as three invasive weeds.

Pest:

Ash Whitefly (*Siphoninus phillyreae*)

Klamath Weed (*Hypericum perforatum*)

Puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*)

Yellow Starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*)

Control Agent(s):

Parasitic wasp (*Encarsia nr. inaron*)

Leaf beetle (*Chrysolina quadrigemina*)

Stem and seed weevils

(*Microlarinus lypriformis and lareynii*)

Bud weevil (*Bangasternus orientalis*)

Hairy weevil (*Eustenopus villosus*)

Peacock fly (*Chaetorellia australis*)

Seed head gall fly (*Urophora sirunaseva*)

Control agents against the Ash Whitefly and puncturevine were released countywide. Control agents against Klamath Weed and Yellow Starthistle were released at three locations each.

The **Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Program** serves to detect and control the vector of Pierce's Disease, a potentially catastrophic disease of vineyards. This program involved the placement of 640 traps, with 9,000 subsequent trap servicings. In addition, incoming shipments of host material and susceptible county plantings were inspected.

The **Vertebrate Pest Management Program** provides expertise and materials, to growers and homeowners, for the control of certain depredating vertebrate pests.

ORGANIC FARMING

Thirty organic farms, totaling 3,850 acres, were registered in Madera County in 2002. Utilizing organic principles defined in the California Organic Food Act of 1990, these farms produce a wide array of commodities:

almonds, apples, artichokes, arugula, basil, green beans, beets, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, cantaloupe, cardoon, carrots, celery, chard, cherries, chicory, cilantro, collards, sweet corn, cotton, cucumbers, eggplant, fennel, figs, edible flowers, garlic, gourds, grapes (table, raisin, wine), honeydew, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce, nectarines, okra, onions, parsley, parsnips, peaches, peas, peppers, plums, dried plums, potatoes, radish, spinach, squash, tomatillos, tomatoes, turnips, watermelons

The total value of organic production in Madera County during 2002 was \$5,382,000.



AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT SUMMARY

Item	Year	Harvested Acreage	Total Value
Apiary	2002		\$7,724,000
	2001		5,794,000
	2000		5,735,000
Field Crops	2002	474,000	81,070,000
	2001	468,750	88,779,000
	2000	469,620	78,183,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	2002	189,000	433,859,000
	2001	186,170	301,102,000
	2000	188,090	390,412,000
Livestock and Poultry	2002		91,776,000
	2001		82,503,000
	2000		79,706,000
Livestock and Poultry Products	2002		119,622,000
	2001		133,800,000
	2000		102,134,000
Nursery	2002	300	18,271,000
	2001	860	24,543,000
	2000	740	37,500,000
Timber Products	2002		1,425,000
	2001		1,671,000
	2000		2,335,000
Vegetable Crops	2002	3,700	25,763,000
	2001	3,100	13,602,000
	2000	3,400	15,400,000
TOTAL	2002		\$779,510,000
	2001		651,794,000
	2000		711,405,000

MADERA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

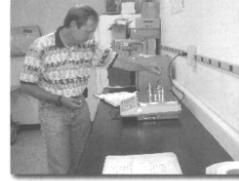
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

What We Do...

Our mission is to ensure fairness in business transactions. Regulation requires that packages be labeled to inform the consumer of the contents. We inspect packages, counting or weighing or measuring the contents to verify that the label is correct. We measure bulk firewood, ensuring that the advertised quantity was delivered.



Each of the commercial scales in the county is checked for accuracy, including scales used to weigh grocery items, cattle, prescription medicines, bulk feed or hardware, recycled cans, trucks, or train cars. Commercial meters are also tested, ensuring that petroleum products, propane, water, and electricity are delivered as advertised.



We verify that prices advertised by stores are honored, checking price tags, signs, and advertisements against scanner prices. We routinely make undercover purchases, and investigate overcharges reported by consumers.



On any given day in Madera County, there may be as many as 100 heavy-capacity scales in use. Scales are considered to be in the heavy-capacity category when they are capable of receiving loads of one thousand pounds or more.

Our department is responsible for ensuring that each scale has been installed properly and is being used correctly for its intended purpose. Madera County personnel regularly inspect and test each of the 70 vehicle scales used to determine the weight, and therefore the value, of truckloads of grapes, nuts, tomatoes, or hay.

Inspectors also test the 30 large-capacity platform scales, used to weigh bins of raisins, nuts or fruits, as well as bales of cotton.

These scales are tested using a heavy-capacity test truck. The ten-wheel diesel truck is modified with a hydraulic crane capable of lifting four 1,000-lb weights. The truck carries a motorized weight mover capable of transporting up to three 1,000-lb weights. The weight mover is used during the shift test, in which weight is moved across the surface of the scale. The shift test ensures that the scale provides an accurate weight, unchanged by the position of the load on the surface of the scale.