

San Benito County



2011 Annual Crop Report



COUNTY OF SAN BENITO

RONALD C. ROSS AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER and SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES
3224 Southside Road, Hollister, CA 95023 Telephone (831) 637-5344, FAX (831) 637-9015

August 21, 2012

Karen Ross, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture, and

The Honorable Board of Supervisors, and

Richard Inman, County Administrative Officer

In accordance with the requirements of Section 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I hereby submit the 2011 annual crop report for San Benito County.

This year's front cover shows what is special about our county. In the shadow of the historic San Juan Bautista mission, farming thrives just as it did 200 years ago when our county was first settled. The crops and the equipment have changed over the years, but the county's farmers and ranchers still work the ground as they have done since the mission era. With its unique climate along with fertile soils and water supplies, agriculture is the county's largest industry. The county produces a variety of commodities and annually ranks as one of the top five producing counties in California for several different crops.

In 2011, the overall value of the county's agricultural production increased by almost \$8 million dollars from 2010. The largest gains were in the acreage of specialty vegetable crops and in increase in livestock values. This was mainly due to the increase of unit price for cattle and poultry. However, a cool summer and late spring rains hindered the apricot, cherry, walnut, and vine crop yields.

It should be emphasized that these figures are gross values only, and do not represent net profit to the producers.

I wish to thank the many farmers, ranchers and businesses that have cooperated in providing the information required for the compilation of this report.

Sincerely,

Ronald C. Ross

Agricultural Commissioner



San Benito County Board of Supervisors

Margie Barrios	District 1
Anthony Botelho, Vice Chair	District 2
Robert Rivas	District 3
Jerry Muenzer	District 4
Jaime De La Cruz, Chair	District 5

Rich Inman, County Administrative Officer



San Benito County Agricultural Commissioner's Office

Front Row:

Cassia Mendez, Office Assistant II
Sergio Garcia, Agricultural Technician
Ronald Ross, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures
Michael Silverman, Agricultural Biologist/Inspector III

Back Row:

Rosemary Bridwell, Agricultural Technician
Donna Carbonaro, Agricultural Biologist/Inspector III
Tony Wilson, Agricultural Technician
Lorie Tilley, Agricultural Technician
Ronald Terry, Agricultural Biologist/Inspector III
Ken Griffin, Agricultural Biologist/Inspector I
Jean Gillaspie, Secretary II
Gordon McClelland, Deputy Commissioner/Deputy Sealer of Weights & Measures
Christy Clayton, Agricultural Biologist/Inspector III

Absent:

Sally Boden, Agricultural Biologist/Inspector
Mark Klassen, USDA Wildlife Services Specialist

Commodity Summary



Field Crops	2011	\$ 26,962,000
	2010	\$ 27,315,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	2011	\$ 35,613,000
	2010	\$ 44,480,000
Vegetable and Row Crops	2011	\$ 171,120,000
	2010	\$ 159,512,000
Cattle	2011	\$ 16,639,000
	2010	\$ 14,175,000
Other Livestock/ Livestock & Poultry Products	2011	\$ 13,031,000
	2010	\$ 9,974,000
TOTALS	2011	\$ 263,365,000
	2010	\$ 255,456,000

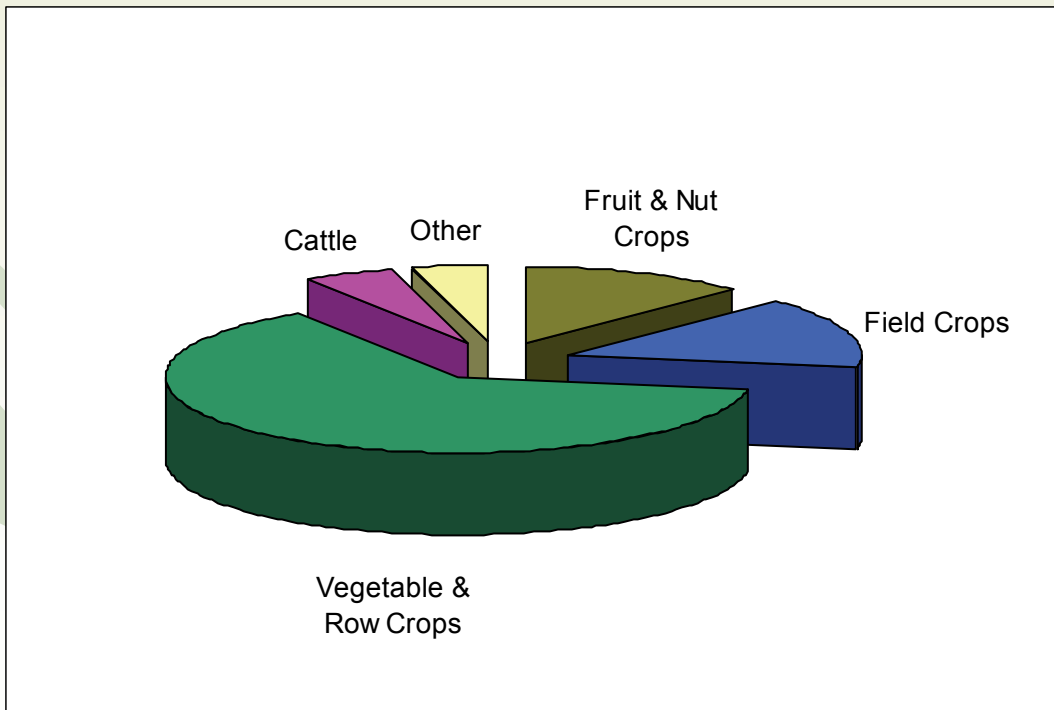
Current & Past Years Totals

2011	\$ 263,365,000	
2010	\$ 255,456,000	
2009	\$ 242,917,000	Revised
2008	\$ 262,032,000	
2007	\$ 293,090,000	
2006	\$ 270,940,000	
2005	\$ 268,846,000	
2004	\$ 266,007,000	
2003	\$ 238,767,000	
2002	\$ 214,841,000	
2001	\$ 201,580,000	

Commodity Summary



Fruit and Nut Crops	\$26,962,000	10%
Vegetable and Row Crops	\$35,613,000	14%
Cattle	\$171,120,000	65%
Other Livestock	\$16,639,000	6%
	\$13,031,000	5%
Total	\$263,365,000	100%





Field Crops

		<u>Production</u>			<u>Value</u>	
		Acres	Per Acre	TOTAL	\$ Per Unit	\$ TOTAL
*Misc. Field Crops	2011	350				\$ 183,000
	2010	468				\$ 316,000
Grain Hay	2011	14000	1.75	24,500 tons	95	\$ 2,328,000
	2010	14300	2.30	35,890 tons	65	\$ 2,138,000
*Nursery Stock	2011	295				\$ 16,902,000
	2010	326				\$ 18,392,000
Pasture/Rangeland	2011	508,000		acres	12.50	\$ 6,350,000
	2010	508,000		acres	10.00	\$ 5,080,000
Permanent Pasture	2011	500		acres	180	\$ 90,000
	2010	1,000		acres	180	\$ 180,000
*Seed Crops	2011	516		acres	2,149	\$ 1,109,000
	2010	400		acres	3,022	\$ 1,209,000
TOTALS 2011						\$ 26,962,000
2010						\$ 27,315,000

*See page 12 for specific list



Vegetable and Row Crops

		<u>Production</u>			<u>Value</u>	
		Acres	Per Acre	TOTAL	\$ Per Unit	\$ TOTAL
Broccoli	2011	689	8.09	5,574 tons	952	\$ 5,306,000
	2010	380	9.36	3,557 tons	939	\$ 3,340,000
Cabbage	2011	302	23.15	6,991 tons	399	\$ 2,789,000
	2010	122	26.34	3,213 tons	393	\$ 1,263,000
Celery	2011	412	37.31	15,372 tons	369	\$ 5,672,000
	2010	684	36.76	25,123 tons	369	\$ 9,270,000
Lettuce, Iceberg	2011	815	21.19	17,270 tons	367	\$ 6,338,000
	2010	439	20.79	9,127 tons	358	\$ 3,267,000
Lettuce, Leaf (mixed)	2011	671	10.86	7,287 tons	555	\$ 4,044,000
	2010	1,507	8.40	12,659 tons	691	\$ 8,747,000
Lettuce, Romaine	2011	2,052	12.95	26,573 tons	442	\$ 11,745,000
	2010	1,893	10.49	19,858 tons	583	\$ 11,577,000
* Lettuce, Salad Mix	2011	4,757	2.98	14,176 tons	1,576	\$ 22,341,000
	2010	4,850	2.95	14,308 tons	1,649	\$ 23,594,000
** Misc.Veg. & Row Crops	2011	6,345				\$ 50,387,000
	2010	5,768				\$ 40,989,000
Onions, Dry Bulb	2011	1,394	16.85	23,489 tons	298	\$ 7,000,000
	2010	1,291	18.43	23,793 tons	281	\$ 6,686,000

Vegetable and Row Crops (cont.)



		<u>Production</u>			<u>Value</u>	
		Acres	Per Acre	TOTAL	\$ Per Unit	\$ TOTAL
Peppers, Bell	2011	1,903	23.13	44,016 tons	507	\$ 22,316,000
	2010	2,047	23.00	47,081 tons	458	\$ 21,563,000
Spinach	2011	3080	3.25	10,010 tons	1,712	\$ 17,137,000
	2010	2,826	3.74	10,569 tons	1,255	\$ 13,264,000
Tomatoes, Canning	2011	2,834	47.63	134,983 tons	68	\$ 9,179,000
	2010	2,907	48.10	139,827 tons	66	\$ 9,229,000
Tomatoes, Market	2011	582	12.59	7,327 tons	937	\$ 6,866,000
	2010	621	12.43	7,719 tons	871	\$ 6,723,000
TOTALS	2011					\$ 171,120,000
	2010					\$ 159,512,000

* May include: Baby Lettuces, (Red & Green Romaine, Red & Green Oak Leaf, Butter Lettuce, Lollo Rosa, Tango) Mizuna, Red & Green Kale, Arugula, Beet Tops, Baby Spinach, Mache, Red and Green Mustard, Tat-Soi, Frisee, Red and Green Chard, Radicchio and Herbs.

** See page 12 for specific list



Fruit and Nut Crops

		<u>Production</u>			<u>Value</u>	
		Acres	Per Acre	TOTAL	\$ Per Unit	\$ TOTAL
Apples	2011	316	18.90	5,972 tons	293	\$ 1,750,000
	2010	316	18.80	5,941 tons	221	\$ 1,313,000
Apricots	2011	592	2.79	1,652 tons	567	\$ 937,000
	2010	619	2.14	1,325 tons	425	\$ 563,000
Cherries	2011	558	1.12	625 tons	2,750	\$ 1,719,000
	2010	558	2.16	1,205 tons	2,180	\$ 2,627,000
Grapes (wine)	2011	3,651	3.76	13,728 tons		\$ 14,057,000
	2010	3,691	5.13	18,935 tons	893	\$ 16,909,000
*Misc.Fruits & Nuts	2011	395				\$ 15,424,000
	2010	395				\$ 19,916,000
Olives	2011	110	.93	102 tons	1,385	\$ 141,000
	2010	110	1.260	139 tons	1,547	\$ 215,000
Walnuts	2011	1,735	0.502	871 tons	1,820	\$ 1,585,000
	2010	1,735	0.783	1,359 tons	2,161	\$ 2,937,000
TOTALS 2011						\$ 35,613,000
2010						\$ 44,480,000

*See page 12 for specific list



Cattle

		<u>Production</u>		<u>Value</u>	
		<u># of Head</u>	<u>Total Cwt</u>	<u>\$ per Cwt</u>	<u>\$ Total</u>
All Cattle	2011	35,900			
	2010	35,800			
Calves	2011	8,802	58,436 cwt.	134.00	\$ 7,834,000
	2010	8,048	54,105 cwt.	101.00	\$ 5,465,000
Pasture and Stockers	2011	24,000	64,800 cwt.	105.00	\$ 6,804,000
	2010	22,400	72,800 cwt.	94.50	\$ 6,880,000
Cows	2011	1,950	24,375 cwt.	72.00	\$ 1,755,000
	2010	2,600	28,340 cwt.	56.00	\$ 1,587,000
Bulls	2011	170	2,890 cwt.	85.00	\$ 246,000
	2010	200	3,580 cwt.	68.00	\$ 243,000
TOTALS 2011					\$ 16,639,000
2010					\$ 14,175,000

Other Livestock/Livestock & Poultry Products

		<u>Production</u>	<u>Value</u>
			<u>\$ Total</u>
*Misc.Livestock & Poultry Products	2011		\$ 13,031,000
	2010		\$ 9,974,000
TOTALS 2011			\$ 13,031,000
2010			\$ 9,974,000

*See Page 12 for Specific List

Miscellaneous Crops and Products

*Commodities in these categories are combined with other similar products because the number of producers of each commodity were less than three, or one producer is responsible for 60 percent or more of the product. This is to avoid disclosure of the business affairs of the firms involved.

Vegetable & Row Crops

Artichokes	Arugula	Asparagus	Basil
Beans	Beets, table	Bok Choy	Borage
Broccoli	Brussels Sprouts	Cantaloupe	Carrots
Cauliflower	Celery Root	Chard	Chicory
Chinese Cabbage	Chinese Greens	Cilantro	Collards
Corn, ornamental	Corn, sweet	Cucumbers	Dandelion Greens
Eggplant	Endive	Escarole	Fennel
Frisee	Garbanzo Beans	Garlic	Gourds
Herbs	Kale	Kohlrabi	Leafy Greens
Leeks	Melons	Mixed Vegetables	Mushrooms
Mustard	Okra	Parsley	Parsnips
Peas	Peppers, spice	Potatoes	Pumpkins
Radicchio	Radishes	Rapini	Rutabagas
Shallots	Snow Peas & shoots	Squash	Tomatillos
Turnips	Vegetable Sprouts	Watermelons	

Field Crops

Garbanzo Beans Alfalfa Honey & Pollination Oats Wheat

Fruit & Nut Crops

Almonds Figs Peaches Raspberries Avocados Kiwi Pears Strawberries Blackberries Lemons Persimmons Blueberries Misc Fruit Plums

Seed Crops

Flowers Vegetable Crops Vine Crops Field Crops

Nursery Stock

Cut Flowers (dry & fresh) Turf Mushroom Spawn Vegetable Transplants Nursery Plants & Trees Christmas Trees

Livestock & Poultry Products

Chickens Turkeys Eggs Hogs Lambs Milk Wool

Sustainable Agricultural Report



Biological Control

PEST
Yellow Starthistle
Centaurea solstitialis

AGENT
Hairy Weevil
Eustenopus villosus

SCOPE OF PROGRAM
Generally Distributed

Seed Head Weevil
Bagasternus orientalis

Widely Distributed

Pest Eradication

PEST
Scotch Thistle
Onopordum Acanthium

MECHANISM
Mechanical/Chemical

SCOPE OF PROGRAM
2 sites

Artichoke Thistle
Cynara Cardunculus

Chemical

4 sites

Pest Detection

At the peak season, our office deploys up to 950 insect detection traps throughout the county. These traps are designed to intercept new exotic and non-native insect species before they become established. Some of the insects we are monitoring for are:

Asian citrus psyllid
European Pine Shoot Moth
Japanese Beetle
Mediterranean Fruit Fly
Mexican Fruit Fly

European Corn Borer
Glassy-winged Sharpshooter
Khapra Beetle
Melon Fruit Fly

European Grapevine Moth
Gypsy Moth
Light Brown Apple Moth
Oriental Fruit Fly

Organic Farm Statistics

The county has approximately 64 organic growers, growing 74 different vegetable, vine, and orchard crops on approximately 7,900 acres.