

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL  
CROP REPORT  
1953

W. DONALD THOMAS  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT      DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
EUREKA                      CALIFORNIA

ANNUAL CROP REPORT

1953

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

W. C. JACOBSEN

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HUMBOLDT COUNTY

## Department of Agriculture

EUREKA, CALIFORNIA

The Director of Agriculture

Members of the Board of Supervisors

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Section 65.5 of the Agricultural Code of the State of California, I submit herewith the 1953 Agricultural Crop Report for Humboldt County.

This report covers the acreage, production and value of all crops including livestock and dairy products produced in Humboldt County. The figures shown herein are based on the average return to the farmer and represent the gross farm income.

The 1953 income decreased approximately \$1,269,480.00. This is the result of declining prices in most farm commodities and especially those for livestock products. Though there was an increase in the number of sales of livestock products the increase was not enough to compensate for the drop in prices.

Through the courtesy of the Eureka Chamber of Commerce we have devoted a page to the lumber industry of Humboldt County as information for those who may be interested.

A sincere effort has been made by our department to find every available source of information in order to make this report as accurate as possible. Information from all individual sources is held in strict confidence.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to my staff and the many persons who have cooperated so well with our department to make the compilation of this report possible.

Respectfully submitted,

*W. Donald Thomas*  
W. Donald Thomas,  
Agricultural Commissioner  
County of Humboldt

HUMBOLDT COUNTY STATISTICS

U. S. FEDERAL CENSUS 1950

Population	1940	45,812
Population	1950	69,241
Population Jan. 1	1952*	78,800
Population Jan. 1	1953*	82,750
Population Jan. 1	1954*	86,200

\*Estimate by California Taxpayer's Association

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Land area in County	2,286,720 acres
Proportion in Farms	858,515 acres
Average size of Farms	452 acres
Land pastured	664,496 acres
Number of Farms	1,899

PRODUCT	PRODUCTION	VALUE	TOTAL
<u>POULTRY PRODUCTS</u>			
Eggs	797,706 doz.	\$442,992.00	
Meat birds			
hens	117,403 lbs.	26,033.00	
fryers	239,314 lbs.	83,073.00	
Turkeys	2,057 birds	22,457.00	
Ducks, Geese & Pigeons	1,173 birds	1,918.00	
Hatchery eggs	4,515 doz.	4,515.00	
			\$580,988.00
<u>LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS</u>			
Milk*			
Manufactured	6,476,273 lbs.	5,935,777.00	
Market	1,089,581 lbs.	1,434,307.00	
Cows	9,543 head	1,087,774.00	
Steers	6,695 head	1,294,506.00	
Bulls	1,325 head	232,898.00	
Calves	11,468 head	748,546.00	
Sheep (lambs)	91,847 head	1,494,260.00	
Wool	735,360 lbs.	455,945.00	
Hogs	5,786 head	314,224.00	
Rabbits	12,784 head	17,578.00	
Fur Farming	5,931 pelts	100,489.00	
Refuse animals		11,300.00	
			\$13,127,604.00

\*Butterfat

PRODUCT	ACRES	PRODUCTION	VALUE	TOTAL
<u>NURSERY STOCK</u>				
Cut Flowers	133	7,829,988 blooms	\$101,619.00	
Ornamentals & Bedding Plants		392,845 plants	292,011.00	
Bulbs	107*	5,229 cases	195,746.00	
Decorative Material			184,203.00	
Cascara & Tan bark		2,411,462 lbs.	55,410.00	\$828,989.00

<u>HAY, SEED &amp; GRAIN</u>				
Alfalfa	64	181 ton**	4,990.00	
Oat & Vetch	69	208 ton	6,240.00	
Grass	671	1,384 ton	47,435.00	
Pasture			25,860.00	
Barley	4	9 ton	180.00	84,705.00

<u>FRUITS &amp; NUTS</u>				
Apples ***	46 $\frac{1}{2}$	6,641 boxes	18,964.00	
Cider		3,740 gallon	3,366.00	
Peaches	21	2,433 L. A. lugs	4,489.00	
Misc. Fruits	8	662 L. A. lugs	2,215.00	
Misc. Nuts	43	7,363 lbs.	1,911.00	30,945.00

<u>TRUCK CROPS</u>				
Corn	40 $\frac{1}{2}$	5,776 crates	16,703.00	
Tomatoes	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	4,658 lugs	8,037.00	
Potatoes	133	1,075 ton	50,040.00	
Misc.	27 $\frac{1}{2}$		9,920.00	84,700.00

\*Commercial

\*\*Tonnage sold

\*\*\*Harvested only

## HUMBOLDT COUNTY

### LUMBERING INDUSTRY

Courtesy, Eureka Chamber of Commerce

Humboldt County is the second largest lumber producing county in the United States. Official estimates place the total amount of standing timber in the county at 46 billion feet of which 9 billion is publicly owned. Seventy two percent of the total area of Humboldt County is timberland. In Humboldt there is 994,000 acres of Douglas Fir, 618,000 acres of Redwood, and 37,000 acres of other conifers making a total of 1,649,000 acres of commercial timberland.

In 1941 there were 24 mills in the county -- today there are approximately 262 active mills ranging in size from two-man operations to the world's largest redwood mill. In addition there are shingle and shake mills. The 1940 employment figure for men in the lumbering industry in Humboldt County was 3,920 while today the estimate is around 8,700.

#### LUMBER PRODUCTION FOR HUMBOLDT COUNTY, PRICE BASED ON "ROUGH GREEN"

1941	24 mills	365,762,000 ft. cut	\$15,690,000.
1942	33 mills	411,026,000 ft. cut	\$18,675,000.
1943	38 mills	434,545,000 rt. cut	\$19,740,000.
1944	45 mills	435,951,000 ft. cut	\$20,000,000
1945	49 mills	418,951,000 ft. cut	\$20,000,000.
1946	99 mills	271,440,000 ft. cut	\$19,000,000.
1947	108 mills	597,082,000 ft. cut	\$38,300,000.
1948	160 mills	815,810,000 ft. cut	\$53,027,650.
1949	200 mills	849,000,000 ft. cut	\$61,050,000.
1950	252 mills	1,000,000,000 ft. cut	\$70,000,000.
1951	262 mills	1,223,447,000 ft. cut	\$85,641,290.
1952	262 mills	1,230,470,000 ft. cut	\$86,132,900.
1953*	262 mills	1,200,000,000 ft. cut	\$84,000,000.

\*Best estimate available for 1953

Sources of information: U. S. D. A. Forest Service, Berkeley  
State Forestry Office, Sacramento

R E C A P I T U L A T I O N      1953

NURSERY STOCK	\$828,989.00
HAY, SEED & GRAIN	84,705.00
FRUIT & NUTS	30,945.00
TRUCK CROPS	84,700.00
POULTRY PRODUCTS	580,988.00
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS	13,127,604.00
P. M. A. PAYMENTS	<u>107,000.00</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$14,844,931.00

1948 FARM INCOME	\$17,084,807.00
1949 FARM INCOME	11,187,332.00
1950 FARM INCOME	12,115,774.00
1951 FARM INCOME	15,598,431.00
1952 FARM INCOME	16,114,411.00
1953 FARM INCOME	14,844,931.00