

Did you know - - - -

The **HUMBOLDT**  
**COUNTY 1973**  
**AGRICULTURAL**  
**STATISTICS** cover  
was a real BUMMER !!

Well it doesn't  
matter, it was  
ripped off  
anyway!



To: MR. C. B. CHRISTENSEN  
Director of Agriculture

and

HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Guy E. Rusher, Chairman, Orick  
Ervin Renner, Eureka  
Raymond Peart, Eureka  
Donald F. Peterson, Arcata  
Raul Murguia, Fortuna

Gentlemen:

In accordance with section 2279 of the Food and Agricultural Code of the State of California, I am pleased to present a report of the agricultural production of the County of Humboldt for 1973. These figures represent value of production, regardless of utilization.

There was a general increase in pasture acreage and hay yield while silage decreased.

Vegetable production and value took an upward swing. Corn and tomato acreage increased while potato acreage went downward. Production of all fruits and nuts has gained from last year.

Production of nursery stock increased. A local wholesale nursery has shifted from a single ornamental specialty to general ornamental production.


Beef production continues to increase whereas, sheep production continues to decline. Increased unit prices contributed to higher values.

General milk production declined somewhat but higher unit price gave increased value. Laying chickens continued to decline, lessening egg production. Declining sheep numbers had brought about a reduction in wool production. Higher unit prices for wool contributed to greater total value.

In general, all overall values increased.

We wish to acknowledge the 21 years of beneficial input that newly retired Agricultural Commissioner W."Don" Thomas has contributed to our office and the faithful service that he has rendered to the people of Humboldt County. It is our wish that we may continue with the same zeal. We also wish to extend our thanks to the many persons who furnished the information necessary for this report.

Respectfully submitted,



John F. Hart,  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER  
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Beans, dry	1973	4	30.5	122	cwt.	\$18.59	\$2,268
	1972	5	21.0	105	cwt.	25.40	2,667
Hay, all	1973	2,539	2.3	5,785	ton	35.96	208,015
	1972	2,148	3.8	8,064	ton	29.57	238,599
Alfalfa	1973	499	2.8	1,394	ton	38.25	53,318
	1972	567	5.6	3,149	ton	32.74	103,108
Grass-clover	1973	1,674	2.3	3,820	ton	33.75	128,943
	1972	1,304	3.3	4,263	ton	26.96	114,942
*Oat	1973	366	1.6	571	ton	45.10	25,754
	1972	277	2.4	652	ton	31.53	20,549
Silage	1973	163	13.0	2,120	ton	10.85	23,000
	1972	580	10.0	5,800	ton	11.90	69,020
Pasture							
Irrigated	1973	10,000				63.60	636,000
	1972	8,500				62.20	528,700
Range	1973	415,000					3,456,950
	1972	231,000					1,887,270
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TOTAL	1973						\$4,326,233
	1972						\$2,726,256

\*includes barley

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Corn, sweet	1973	69	1.38	95.40	ton	\$195.55	\$18,656
	1972	46	1.39	63.80	ton	178.48	11,387
Tomatoes	1973	26	6.61	171.76	ton	127.92	21,972
	1972	14	5.23	73.22	ton	253.05	18,528
Potatoes	1973	1,559	11.95	18,633	ton	63.71	1,187,141
	1972	1,628	14.03	22,844	ton	45.92	1,049,001
Misc. Cucurbits	1973	24		150	ton		21,287
	1972						20,231
Misc. Vegetables	1973	20		30.67	ton		12,352
	1972						17,411
TOTAL	1973	1,698		19,081	ton		\$1,261,408
	1972						\$1,116,558

FRUIT AND NUTS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
*Apples, all	1973	21		99.50	ton	\$13,782	
	1972	21				12,902	
Misc. Fruits	1973	19		36.30	ton	12,120	
	1972					1,218	
Misc. Nuts	1973	14		1.67	ton	1,212	
	1972					520	
TOTAL	1973	54		137.47	ton	\$27,114	
	1972					\$14,640	

\*Includes processed

NURSERY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Cut flowers and decoratives	1973	114					\$480,000
	1972	126					234,795
Bulbs							
Miscellaneous	1973						75,000
	1972						76,200
Plants							
Ornamental	1973						188,464
	1972						82,305
Tree, Forest Nursery	1973	14	1,379.21	19,309	M	23.00	444,107
	1972	14	630.79	8,831	M	21.98	194,082
Bedding	1973						7,568
	1972						2,715
Certified Nursery Stock	1973						14,000
	1972						27,560
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TOTAL	1973						\$1,209,139
	1972						\$ 617,657

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Value	
		No. of Head	Live-Weight		Per Unit	Total
Cattle and Calves, all	1973	19,325	103,650			\$4,224,167
	1972	19,050	100,490			2,933,792
Cows	1973	5,701	48,458	cwt.	31.80	1,540,964
	1972	5,620	46,082	cwt.	23.90	1,101,359
Steers	1973	3,672	31,212	cwt.	47.63	1,486,627
	1972	3,620	30,766	cwt.	31.80	978,351
Bulls	1973	483	5,989	cwt.	38.21	228,840
	1972	476	5,906	cwt.	28.40	167,716
Calves	1973	9,469	17,991	cwt.	53.79	967,736
	1972	9,335	17,736	cwt.	38.70	686,366
Sheep and lambs, all	1973	30,044	28,380			562,284
	1972	28,701	25,141			436,283
Sheep	1973	14,060	16,872	cwt.	11.50	194,028
	1972	9,326	11,191	cwt.	6.70	74,978
Lambs	1973	15,984	11,508	cwt.	32.00	368,256
	1972	19,375	13,950	cwt.	25.90	361,305
Hogs	1973	400	828	cwt.	37.52	31,067
	1972	435	900	cwt.	23.91	21,521
Chickens	1973	6,200		head	.22	1,364
	1972	7,950		head	.14	1,065
Misc.*	1973					1,300
	1972					1,360
TOTAL	1973					\$4,820,182
	1972					\$3,394,021

\* Includes rabbits

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Milk, all	1973	1,502,000	cwt.		\$10,114,000
	1972	1,540,000	cwt.		8,467,000
Manufacturing	1973	881,000	cwt.	\$5.74	5,057,000
	1972	945,000	cwt.	5.07	4,790,000
Market	1973	621,000	cwt.	7.10	5,057,000
	1972	595,000	cwt.	6.18	3,677,000
Eggs	1973	195,260	doz.	.50	97,322
	1972	230,115	doz.	.50	115,058
Wool	1973	173,333	lbs.	.83	144,815
	1972	335,539	lbs.	.29	97,306
TOTAL	1973				\$10,356,137
	1972				\$ 8,679,364

JANUARY 1 INVENTORIES OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY  
(in number of head)

Item	January 1974	January 1973
Cattle and calves	78,000	77,300
Milk cows, 2 years and older	17,200	17,450
Beef cows and calves (excluding steers)	38,600	38,200
Sheep and lambs		
Sheep (breeding stock)	25,200	35,300
Hogs	450	426
Poultry		
Hens and pullets of laying age	8,500	16,000

MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Value	
		Per Unit	Total
Honey	1973		\$2,323
	1972		2,175
Fur, Mink	1973		-0-
	1972		5,000
TOTAL	1973		\$ 2,323
	1972		\$ 7,175

RECAPITULATION

	<u>1973</u>	<u>1972</u>
Field Crops	\$4,326,233	\$2,726,256
Vegetable	1,261,408	1,116,558
Fruit and nut crops	27,114	14,640
Nursery stock	1,209,139	617,657
Livestock and poultry	4,820,182	3,394,021
Livestock and poultry products	10,356,137	8,679,364
Miscellaneous products	<u>2,323</u>	<u>7,175</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$22,002,536	\$16,555,671

FIVE-YEAR AVERAGE

1971-- 1973	\$18,371,292
1966 - 1970	14,334,554
1961 - 1965	12,673,306
1956 - 1960	11,740,257
1951 - 1955	15,105,355
1946 - 1950	14,030,702

ADDENDA

ACP payment	(Program inactive most of year)	\$16,108.83
Lamb payment	(incentive programs were down due to	
Wool payment	high prices)	
Bark products		2,976
Decorative greens		5,000
Christmas trees cut	4,000	
Timber cut	1,100,000 MBM	



HUMBOLDT COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
PERSONNEL

Richard Drewry, Senior Inspector  
Richard Sorenson, Senior Inspector  
Eugene Whitney, Senior Inspector  
Richard Bennett, Inspector II  
Michael Kelly, Inspector II  
Warren Simas, Inspector II  
James Spallino, Inspector II  
Robert Doyle, Inspector II  
Barry Johnson, Inspector I  
Peter Haggard, Inspector I  
Stanley Pittman, Weed Control Operator  
Alma Gentry, Secretary  
Ann Summers, Secretary

The above staff wishes to express their appreciation to  
all those who assisted in the compilation of this report.