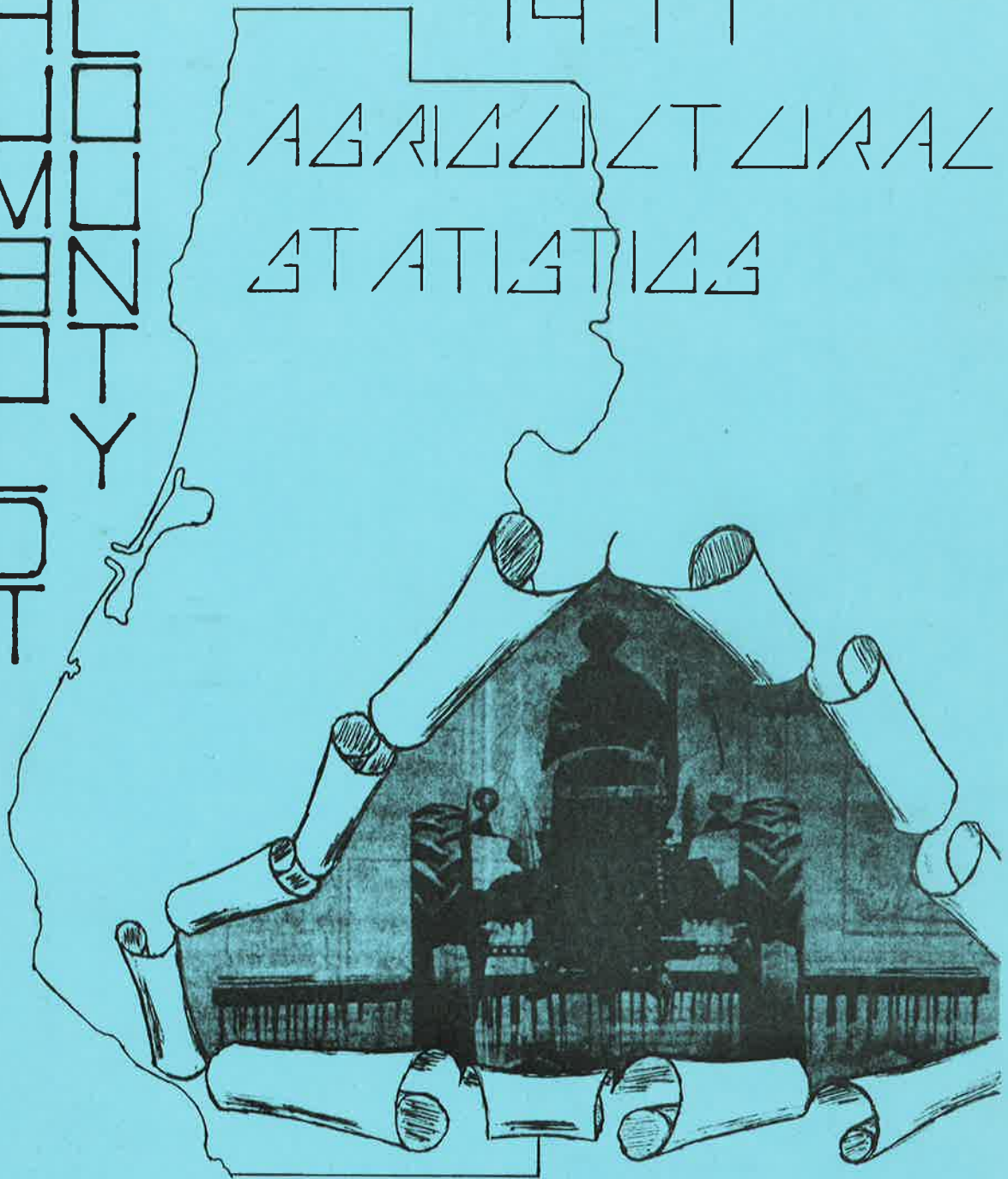


HOPEWELL COUNTY

1977

AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS



To: Mr. Richard E. Rominger
Director of Food and Agriculture

and

HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Irvin Renner, Chairman, Eureka
Pat Dorsey, Orick
Sara Parsons, Arcata
O.H. Bass, Eureka
Harry Pritchard, Weott

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Section 2279 of the Food and Agriculture Code of the State of California, I am pleased to present a report of the agricultural production of the County of Humboldt for 1977. The figures represent value of production, regardless of utilization.

Despite drought conditions field crop acreage and production rose sharply from 1976. Mild weather with wide, but timely, spaced rains and irrigation produced a long growing season for grass, clover, and alfalfa. Good hay curing conditions reduced spoilage. Lower hay prices were more than off set by the higher production. The increasing demand for irrigated pasture caused a corresponding increase in acre value. Rangeland acre value, on the other hand, remained unchanged.

As with field crops, a long mild growing season contributed to a general increase in production, in spite of a reduction in acreage. Commercial potato acreage continued to decline. Competition for acreage, higher acreage fees, and poor market conditions were contributing factors. Commodity prices fluctuated generally. Large gains in miscellaneous vegetables were due to a new vegetable sprout industry.


Apple production showed a considerable drop. Drought had some effect however, much of the crop was left unharvested for various reasons. New miscellaneous dwarf fruit trees entered production this year, increasing acreage.

Nursery production increased significantly in conifer seedlings, due to changing forestry practices. Gains were also notable in bedding stock. Commodity prices were generally all higher.

Beef production declined from 1976. Drought conditions reduced calf production and ranchers held back shipments early in the year when market prices were poor. Sheep numbers continue to decline despite favorable market conditions. Increasing lamb loss to coyotes and domestic dogs, have discouraged ranchers to the point of shifting from sheep to cattle.

Appreciation is expressed to the many people who aided gathering this data and to J. Spallino, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner, who prepared the compilation.

Respectfully submitted


John F. Hart
AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage (hectare)	Per Acre (per hectare)	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Beans, dry	1977	18	21.7	390	cwt.	\$33.09	\$12,905
		7	2,532	17,727	kg	0.728	---
	1976	5	32	160	cwt.	27.50	4,400
Hay, all	1977	4,987	8.1	40,631	ton	55.78	2,266,263
		1,995	18,515	36,937,272	kg	0.061	---
	1976	3,001	2.8	8,286	ton	58.10	481,793
Alfalfa	1977	307	3.9	1,189	ton	64.55	76,745
		123	8,787	1,080,909	kg	0.071	---
	1976	361	3.8	1,368	ton	65.76	89,965
Grass- clover	1977	4,195	2.7	38,298	ton	55.49	2,125,183
		1,678	20,749	34,816,363	kg	0.061	---
	1976	2,273	2.8	6,342	ton	55.52	352,116
*Oat	1977	485	2.4	1144	ton	56.24	64,335
		194	5,361	1,040,000	kg	0.062	---
	1976	372	1.6	582	ton	68.23	39,712
Silage, all	1977	341	15.2	5,194	ton	23.72	123,190
		136	34,719	4,721,818	kg	0.026	---
	1976	315	17.0	5,361	ton	23.10	123,860
Pasture							
Irrigated	1977	20,000				100.00	2,000,000
		8,000				250.00	---
	1976	20,000				85.00	1,700,000
Range	1977	415,000				8.55	3,548,250
		166,000				21.37	---
	1976	415,000				8.55	3,548,250
TOTAL							
	1977						\$10,216,871
	1976						\$ 5,858,303

* Includes barley

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage (hectare)	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre (per hectare)	Total		Per Unit	Total
Corn, sweet	1977	52	2.50	130.00	ton	\$265.31	\$34,491
		21	5,628	118,182	kg	0.292	---
	1976	60	2.00	120.00	ton	217.52	26,102
Tomatoes	1977	13	13.60	177.00	ton	144.55	25,586
		5	32,182	160,909	kg	0.159	---
	1976	25	7.09	177.38	ton	204.05	36,194
Potatoes	1977	633	13.95	8,830.50	ton	80.84	713,900
		253	31,730	8,027,727	kg	0.089	---
	1976	652	11.80	7,697.00	ton	77.43	596,010
* Misc. Cucurbits	1977	16	---	67.20	ton	---	13,525
		6	---	61,091	kg	---	---
	1976	20	---	93.98	ton	198.74	18,678
** Misc. Vegetable	1977	3	---	95.23	ton	---	33,038
		1	---	32,027	kg	---	---
	1976	4	---	5.55	ton	---	6,147
TOTAL	1977	717	---	9,239.93	ton	---	820,540
		287	---	8,399,936	kg	---	---
	1976	761		8,093.91	ton		683,131

* Includes cucumbers, melons, pumpkin, and squash

** Includes alfalfa, grain, and pulse sprouts

FRUIT AND NUTS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage (hectare)	<u>Production Total</u>	Unit	<u>Value Total</u>
* Apples, all	1977	46	124.46	ton	\$24,784
		18	113,145	kg	---
	1976	47	1,837.66	ton	28,175
** Misc. Fruits	1977	45	32.43	ton	16,205
		18	29,482	kg	---
	1976	14	27.02	ton	12,614
Misc. Nuts	1977	9	1.19	ton	1,286
		4	1,082	kg	---
	1976	11	1.70	ton	1,129
TOTAL	1977	100	158.08	ton	42,275
		40	143,709	kg	---
	1976	72	1,866.38	ton	\$41,918

* Includes processed

** Includes berries

NURSERY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Acreage (hectare)	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre (per hectare)	Total		Per Unit	Total
* Cut flowers & decoratives	1977	144 58					\$648,500
	1976	136					472,000
Plants Ornamental	1977						817,791
	1976						899,321
Tree, Forest Nursery	1977	23 9		20,409	M	\$72.48	1,479,255
	1976	21		10,056	M	68.35	687,338
Bedding	1977						26,000
	1976						9,000
Certified Nursery Stock	1977						---
	1976						---
TOTAL	1977						\$2,971,546
	1976						\$2,130,327

* Includes bulbs

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Value	
		No. of head	Live weight		Per Unit	Total
**Cattle and Calves, all	1977	12,400	65,410	cwt.	\$31.57	\$2,065,070
			2,973,181	kg	0.695	---
	1976	18,000	94,950	cwt.	30.58	2,903,259
Cows	1977	3,658	29,996	cwt.	24.70	740,891
			1,363,454	kg	0.543	---
	1976	5,310	43,542	cwt.	25.55	1,112,498
Steers	1977	2,356	20,026	cwt.	40.40	809,050
			910,273	kg	0.889	---
	1976	3,420	29,070	cwt.	37.78	1,098,265
Bulls	1977	310	3,844	cwt.	32.80	126,083
			174,727	kg	0.723	---
	1976	450	5,580	cwt.	28.00	156,240
Calves	1977	6,076	11,544	cwt.	33.70	389,046
			524,727	kg	0.741	---
	1976	8,820	16,758	cwt.	32.00	536,256
Sheep & Lambs, all	1977	15,493	14,191	cwt.	30.79	436,899
			645,045	kg	0.677	---
	1976	21,600	18,852	cwt.	36.00	678,731
Sheep	1977	5,520	7,010	cwt.	10.90	76,413
			318,636	kg	0.240	---
	1976	6,000	7,620	cwt.	20.00	152,400
Lambs	1977	9,973	7,181	cwt.	50.20	360,486
			326,409	kg	0.905	---
	1976	15,600	11,232	cwt.	46.86	526,331
Hogs	1977	200	414	cwt.	40.90	16,933
			18,818	kg	0.900	---
	1976	200	414	cwt.	23.91	9,899
Chickens	1977	6,650		head	.237	1,576
	1976	5,500		head	.93	5,115
* Misc.	1977					4,237
	1976					2,650
TOTAL	1977					\$2,524,715
	1976					\$3,599,654

* Includes rabbits, earthworms and misc. poultry

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Milk, all	1977	1,587,000	cwt.	\$9.96	\$15,800,000
		72,136,363	kg	0.219	---
	1976	1,529,000	cwt.	\$9.25	14,144,950
Manufacturing	1977	648,000	cwt.	9.330	6,046,000
		29,454,545	kg	0.205	---
	1976	731,000	cwt.	8.51	6,220,810
Market	1977	939,000	cwt.	10.388	9,754,000
		42,681,818	kg	0.228	---
	1976	798,000	cwt.	9.93	7,924,140
Eggs	1977	54,570	doz.	.70	38,251
	1976	63,034	doz.	.65	40,972
Wool	1977	72,975	lbs.	.67	48,893
		33,170	kg	1.47	---
	1976	93,600	lb.	.69	64,584
TOTAL	1977				\$15,887,144
	1976				\$14,250,506

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

Item	January 1977	January 1976
Cattle and calves	40,400	35,700
Milk cows, 2 years and older	15,900	14,500
Beef cows and calves (excluding steers)	24,500	21,200
Sheep and lambs		
Sheep (breeding stock)	23,000	25,000
Hogs	200	300
Poultry		
Hens and pullets of laying age	5,000	5,000

MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Value	
		Per Unit	Total
Honey	1977		\$5,954
	1976		3,710
TOTAL	1977		\$5,954
	1977		3,710

RECAPITULATION

	<u>1977</u>	<u>1976</u>
Field Crops	\$10,216,871	\$5,858,303
Vegetable	820,540	683,131
Fruit and nut crops	42,275	41,918
Nursery stock	2,971,546	2,130,327
Livestock and poultry	2,524,715	3,599,654
Livestock and poultry products	15,887,144	14,250,506
Miscellaneous products	5,954	3,710
GRAND TOTAL	\$32,469,045	\$26,567,549

FIVE-YEAR AVERAGE

1971 - 1975	\$19,979,350
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

ADENDA

ACP payment information unavailable
 Lamb payment " "
 Wool payment " "

Bark products \$5,500
 Decorative greens \$6,700
 Christmas trees cut 10,000
 Timber cut information unavailable

HUMBOLDT COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PERSONNEL

James Spallino, Assistant Commissioner
Richard Drewry, Senior Inspector
Richard Sorenson, Senior Inspector
Eugene Whitney, Senior Inspector
Richard Bennett, Inspector II
Peter Haggard, Inspector II
Michael Kelly, Inspector II
Warren Simas, Inspector II
John Sievert, Inspector II
Ron Hunt, Inspector I
Paul Holzberger, Inspector I
Stanley Pittman, Weed Control Operator
Ann Summers, Secretary
Alma Swanson, Secretary

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