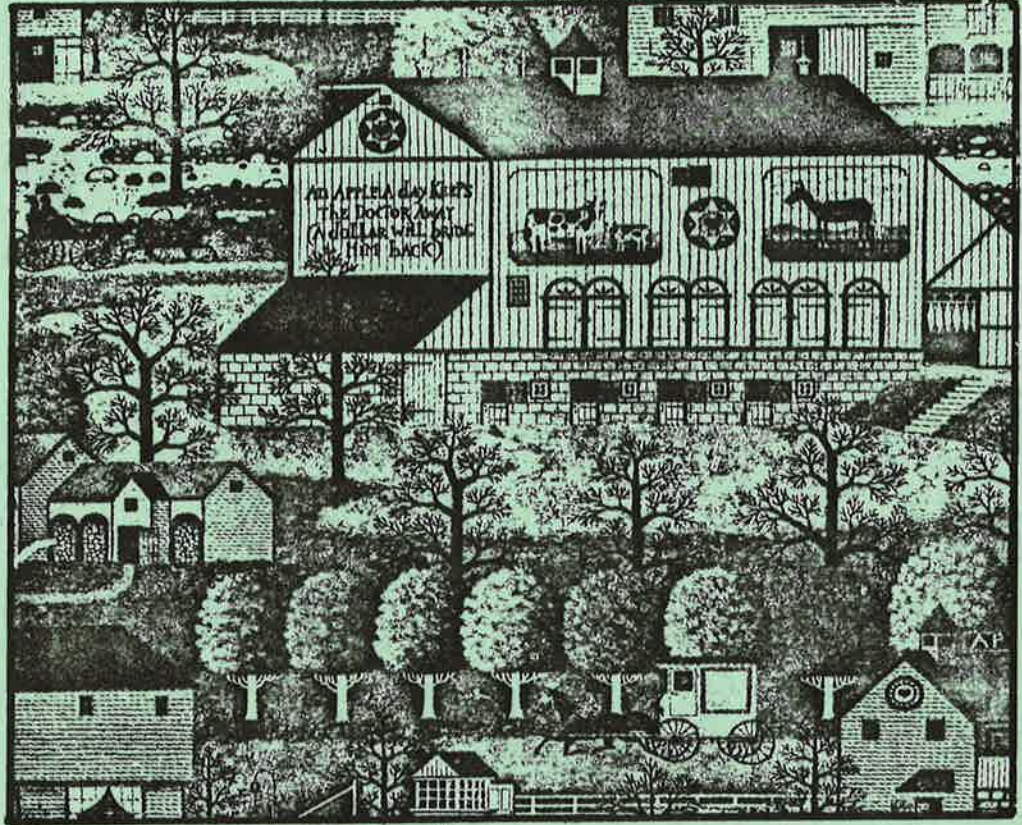


HUMBOLDT COUNTY



AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Humboldt County
Department of Agriculture
P. O. Box 3576
Eureka, Calif. 95501



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

POST OFFICE BOX 3876 EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501

PHONE (707) 443-7057

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

HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Sara Parsons, Chairperson, Arcata
Harry Pritchard, Weott
Eric Hedlund, McKinleyville
Danny Walsh, Eureka
Irvin Renner, Eureka

In accordance with Section 2279 of the Food and Agriculture Code of California, I am pleased to present a report of the agricultural production of the county of Humboldt for 1979. The figures represent value of production, regardless of utilization.

Despite strong market values agricultural production was generally down. Unfavorable weather at harvest time, high farming costs, continued loss of range-land and pasture to parks and subdivisions the last several years, and livestock depredations were some of the reasons influencing the decline. The number of small vegetable growers continued to dwindle for these same reasons.

Commercial potato acreage increased but yield and production dropped, due possibly to late planting and early rains at harvest time.

Fruit and nut acreage was down from 1978 as some producers went out of business and production went unharvested.

The number of sheep breeding stock continued to decrease despite a continuing strong market. Producers were strongly discouraged from increasing the size of their flocks because of heavy predator pressures. Cattle numbers, on the other hand, have risen, mainly as a result of more woolgrowers converting over to beef.

The cooperation and contributions received from the many ranchers, growers, individuals and organizations have made this report possible and to them we wish to extend our sincere appreciation.

Recognition goes to the entire department staff who, under the direction of Assistant Agricultural Commissioner James Spallino, compiled the statistics for this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward R. Urban

Edward R. Urban,
Agricultural Commissioner

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Beans, dry	1979	19	20.0	380	cwt.	\$39.33	\$14,944
	1978	12	25.7	309	cwt.	34.26	10,585
Hay, all	1979	4,715	3.2	15,287	ton	56.94	870,376
	1978	5,147	3.2	16,262	ton	50.57	822,459
Alfalfa	1979	343	2.7	933	ton	62.12	57,955
	1978	409	2.9	1,188	ton	56.54	67,169
Grass-clover	1979	4,117	3.3	13,794	ton	55.65	767,640
	1978	4,386	3.3	14,337	ton	49.80	713,980
*Oat	1979	255	2.2	560	ton	79.97	44,781
	1978	352	2.1	737	ton	56.05	41,310
Silage, all	1979	3,651	9.8	35,950	ton	16.26	584,600
	1978	3,145	8.9	27,902	ton	14.10	393,376
Pasture							
**Irrigated	1979	19,500				160.00	3,120,000
	1978	19,800				125.00	2,475,000
***Range	1979	319,000				9.00	2,871,000
	1978	415,000				8.55	3,548,250
<hr/>							
TOTAL	1979						\$7,460,920
	1978						\$7,249,670

*Includes barley

***Rangeland reduction in last 10 years due to state and federal parks, and subdivisions.

**Pastureland reduction in last 3 years due to subdivisions and parks.

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Corn, sweet	1979	40	3.63	145.06	ton	\$267.69	\$38,831
	1978	46	5.93	272.63	ton	135.09	36,830
Tomatoes	1979	10	17.61	176.14	ton	207.12	36,483
	1978	8	17.82	142.59	ton	210.19	29,971
Potatoes	1979	585	13.62	7,970.00	ton	83.75	667,458
	1978	553	16.19	8,954.00	ton	83.43	747,074
Misc. Cucurbits	1979	5	---	43.87	ton	---	14,292
	1978	29	---	111.3	ton	---	26,612
Misc. Vegetables	1979	29	---	93.12	ton	---	104,670
	1978	9	---	44.32	ton	---	53,672
<hr/>							
TOTAL	1979	669	---	8,428.19	ton	---	\$861,734
	1978	645	---	9,524.84	ton	---	\$844,159

FRUIT AND NUTS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Total			Total	
*Apples, all	1979	34	129.97		ton	\$40,568	
	1978	46	149.73		ton	38,312	
Misc. fruits	1979	17	20.32		ton	15,640	
	1978	20	35.24		ton	19,450	
Misc. nuts	1979	6	0.83		ton	1,072	
	1978	11	1.74		ton	1,843	
TOTAL	1979	57	151.12		ton	\$57,280	
	1978	77	186.71		ton	\$59,605	

*Includes processed

NURSERY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
*Cut flowers & decoratives	1979	202					\$1,103,360
	1978	217					928,430
Plants ornamentals	1979						642,064
	1978						703,186
Tree, forest nursery	1979		27,360		M	\$95.00	2,599,200
	1978		28,779		M	79.20	2,279,324
Bedding	1979						56,533
	1978						39,800
Cert. nursery stock	1979						---
	1978						---
TOTAL	1979						\$4,401,157
	1978						\$3,950,740

*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	1979	16,000	84,400	cwt.	\$61.23	\$5,168,006
	1978	15,499	81,761	cwt.	44.46	3,634,743
Cows	1979	4,720	38,704	cwt.	\$49.80	\$1,927,459
	1978	4,572	37,494	cwt.	36.60	1,372,280
Steers	1979	3,040	25,840	cwt.	\$69.10	\$1,785,544
	1978	2,945	25,032	cwt.	51.50	1,289,148
Bulls	1979	400	4,960	cwt.	\$63.00	\$ 312,480
	1978	387	4,805	cwt.	45.80	220,069
Calves	1979	7,840	14,896	cwt.	\$76.70	\$1,142,523
	1978	7,595	14,430	cwt.	52.20	753,246
Sheep & lambs, all	1979	20,976	18,745	cwt.	\$46.28	\$ 866,512
	1978	14,994	13,821	cwt.	38.46	531,580
Sheep	1979	6,624	8,412	cwt.	\$21.20	\$ 178,334
	1978	5,500	6,985	cwt.	16.60	115,951
Lambs	1979	14,352	10,333	cwt.	\$66.60	\$ 688,178
	1978	9,494	6,836	cwt.	60.80	415,629
Hogs	1979	200	414	cwt.	\$45.90	\$ 19,003
	1978	200	414	cwt.	48.30	19,996
Chickens	1979	---	---	---	---	---
	1978	---	---	---	---	---
*Misc.	1979					\$ 63,148
	1978					4,655
TOTAL	1979					\$6,116,669
	1978					\$4,190,974

* Includes rabbits, earthworms, eggs and poultry.

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Milk, all	1979	1,766,000	cwt.	\$11.60	\$20,480,000
	1978	1,652,000	cwt.	10.38	17,151,000
Manufacturing	1979	693,000	cwt.	\$10.60	\$ 7,346,000
	1978	640,000	cwt.	9.78	6,262,000
Market	1979	1,073,000	cwt.	\$12.24	\$13,134,000
	1978	1,012,000	cwt.	10.76	10,889,000
Eggs	1979	---	---	---	---
	1978	63,840	doz.	.70	44,688
Wool	1979	94,723	lbs.	.91	\$85,939
	1978	71,382	lbs.	.85	60,675
TOTAL	1979				\$20,565,939
	1978				\$17,256,363

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

Item	January 1980	January 1979
Cattle and calves	72,000	64,000
Milk cows, 2 years and older	12,525	16,000
Beef cows and calves (excluding steers)	25,000	24,000
Sheep and lambs		
Sheep (breeding stock)	26,000	27,600
Hogs	200	200
Poultry		
Hens and pullets of laying age	-0-	5,000

MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Value	
		Per Unit	Total
Honey	1979		\$9,168
	1978		1,920
TOTAL	1979		\$9,168
	1978		1,920

RECAPITULATION

	1979	1978
Field Crops	\$7,460,920	\$7,249,670
Vegetable	861,734	844,159
Fruit and nut crops	57,280	59,605
Nursery Stock	4,401,157	3,950,740
Livestock and poultry	6,116,669	4,190,974
Livestock and poultry products	20,565,939	17,256,363
Miscellaneous products	9,168	1,920
GRAND TOTAL	\$39,472,867	\$33,553,431

FIVE-YEAR AVERAGE

1975 - 1979 \$30,721,233

ADENDA

ACP payment		\$82,073
Lamb payment		\$10,611
Wool payment		\$110,337
Decorative greens		\$8,000
Christmas trees	10,000	
Timber cut	870 MBF	

HUMBOLDT COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PERSONNEL

James Spallino, Assistant Commissioner
Richard Drewry, Senior Inspector
Peter Haggard, Inspector II
Warren Simas, Inspector II
John Sievert, Inspector II
Ron Hunt, Inspector I
Paul Holzberger, Inspector I
Richard Spadoni, Inspector I
Roger Keller, Inspector I
Gregory Mann, Inspector I
Stanley Pittman, Weed Control Operator
Alma Swanson, Secretary

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