

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY**  
**AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT**  
**1999**



William (Bill) J. Lyons, Jr., Secretary  
California Department of Food and Agriculture

### ***Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors***

District 1 – Donald F. Gage, Chairperson

District 2 – Blanca Alvarado

District 3 – Pete McHugh

District 4 – James T. Beall, Jr.

District 5 – S. Joseph Simitian

It is my pleasure to submit the 1999 agricultural crop report for Santa Clara County. The efforts of our agricultural industry are displayed as the acreage, yield and gross value of commodities produced in Santa Clara County. The total gross value of Santa Clara County's agricultural production for 1999 was \$176,131,000, an increase of over \$16 million from 1998.

Mushrooms remain Santa Clara County's number one agricultural crop with a 1999 gross value of \$35,204,000. Nursery crops increased over \$4 million in value and continued as the second leading crop in 1999 with a value of \$33,653,000.

Cut flowers remain as the County's number three crop despite a \$1.4 million decline in value to \$14,814,000 in 1999. The value of the cut flower crop declined due to a reduction the amount of area under production. Urbanization reduced the cut flower production area and some growers planted alternative crops, such as chinese vegetables.

Yields of many crops returned to typical levels in 1999 following the significant decreases in 1998 attributed to the strong El Niño weather pattern. For example, the garlic crop rebounded in 1999 to yield 7 tons per acre following 1998's disastrous yield of 1.2 tons per acre.

The value of local fruit and nut crops increased \$8.7 million in 1999 to total \$22,065,000. This gain can be attributed to a significant increase in cherry yields and in the yield and value of wine grapes in 1999.

Please note the valuations in this report represent gross returns to producers and do not indicate net profit. In addition, some totals are subject to rounding.

I would like to express my appreciation for the continuing cooperation of all individuals, growers and agencies who have contributed the information necessary for the preparation of this report. I wish to thank my staff and, in particular, acknowledge the efforts of Lori Oleson who made the publication of this report possible.

Sincerely,

Greg Van Wassenhove  
Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer

## LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

ITEM	YEAR	NUMBER OF HEAD	PRODUCTION TOTAL (LIVE WEIGHT)	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	TOTAL
<b>Steers &amp; Heifers</b>	1999	16,300	100,000	CWT	\$72	\$7,200,000
	1998	----	----	----	----	----
<b>Cattle &amp; Calves</b>	1999	----	----	----	----	----
	1998	17,250	105,000	CWT	\$61	\$6,405,000
<b>Cows &amp; Bulls</b>	1999	1,340	15,000	EA	\$43	\$645,000
	1998	----	----	----	----	----
<b>Breeding Stock</b>	1999	----	----	----	----	----
	1998	1,250	----	EA	\$1,200	\$1,500,000
<b>Sheep &amp; Lambs</b>	1999	600	700	CWT	\$93	\$65,100
	1998	1,500	1,800	CWT	\$55	\$99,000
<b>Hogs &amp; Pigs</b>	1999	----	----	----	----	----
	1998	600	1,350	CWT	\$35	\$47,000
<b>Miscellaneous *</b>	1999	----	----	----	----	\$72,000
	1998	----	----	----	----	\$15,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>18,240</b>				<b>\$7,982,000</b>
	<b>1998</b>	<b>20,600</b>				<b>\$8,067,000</b>

\* Includes Chickens, Goats, Hogs, Llamas, Ostriches, Pigs, etc.

## BUSHBERRIES AND STRAWBERRIES

ITEM	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	TONS PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	TOTAL
<b>Bushberries</b>	1999	27	2.8	76	TON	\$2,000	\$151,000
	1998	34	2.5	85	TON	\$2,000	\$170,000
<b>Strawberries</b>	1999	91	7.1	646	TON	\$726	\$469,000
	1998	200	5.0	1,000	TON	\$725	\$725,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>118</b>					<b>\$620,000</b>
	<b>1998</b>	<b>234</b>					<b>\$895,000</b>

## FLORAL CROPS - CUT FLOWERS

CROP	YEAR	HOUSE (SQ. FT.)	FIELD ACRES	SOLD BY PRODUCERS	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	TOTAL
<b>Carnations</b>	1999	600,000	----	8,200,000	BLOOM	\$0.18	\$1,476,000
	1998	700,000	----	9,450,000	BLOOM	\$0.18	\$1,701,000
<b>Roses</b>	1999	300,000	----	3,335,000	BLOOM	\$0.27	\$900,000
	1998	375,000	----	5,500,000	BLOOM	\$0.24	\$1,320,000
<b>Chrysanthemums</b>							
<i>Standard</i>	1999	4,050,000	----	10,940,000	BLOOM	\$0.28	\$3,063,000
	1998	4,650,000	----	12,555,000	BLOOM	\$0.28	\$3,515,000
<i>Pompon</i>	1999	4,150,000	----	2,450,000	BUNCH	\$1.10	\$2,695,000
	1998	4,650,000	----	2,750,000	BUNCH	\$1.10	\$3,025,000
<i>Other Types</i>	1999	5,250,000	----	12,900,000	BLOOM	\$0.20	\$2,580,000
	1998	5,700,000	----	14,000,000	BLOOM	\$0.20	\$2,800,000
<b>Total (Chrysanthemums)</b>	1999	13,450,000	----	----	----	----	\$8,338,000
	1998	15,000,000	----	----	----	----	\$9,340,000
<b>Miscellaneous *</b>	1999	----	----	----	----	----	\$4,100,000
	1998	----	----	----	----	----	\$3,900,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1999</b>						<b>\$14,814,000</b>
	<b>1998</b>						<b>\$16,261,000</b>

\* Includes Asters, Delphiniums, Gardenias, Gerber Daisy, Lisianthus, Snapdragons, Statice, Sunflowers, etc.  
(Turf has been removed from this category for 1999).

## FIELD CROPS

ITEM	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	TONS PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	TOTAL
Hay (Alfalfa)	1999	600	9.4	5,640	TON	\$153	\$863,000
	1998	875	9.5	8,313	TON	\$195	\$1,621,000
Hay (Grain)	1999	5,500	2.5	13,750	TON	\$99	\$1,361,000
	1998	6,600	2.5	16,500	TON	\$90	\$1,485,000
Pasture (Improved)	1999	3,500	---	---	ACRE	\$50	\$175,000
	1998	4,500	---	---	ACRE	\$50	\$225,000
Pasture (Irrigated)	1999	2,000	---	---	ACRE	\$250	\$500,000
	1998	2,250	---	---	ACRE	\$250	\$563,000
Range	1999	205,000	---	---	ACRE	\$10	\$2,050,000
	1998	210,000	---	---	ACRE	\$10	\$2,100,000
Sugar Beets	1999	---	---	---	TON	---	---
	1998	110	33.0	3,630	TON	\$36	\$131,000
Miscellaneous *	1999	453	---	---	---	---	\$123,000
	1998	600	---	---	---	---	\$255,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>217,053</b>					<b>\$5,072,000</b>
	<b>1998</b>	<b>224,935</b>					<b>\$6,380,000</b>

\* Includes Barley, Green Chop, Oats, Safflower, Sugarbeets, Wheat, etc.

## FRUITS AND NUTS

ITEM	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	TONS PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	TOTAL
<b>Apples</b>	1999	45	9.9	446	TON	\$325	\$145,000
	1998	55	5.0	275	TON	\$150	\$41,000
<b>Apricots (Fresh)</b>	1999	500	2.9	1,450	TON	\$375	\$544,000
	1998	500	3.0	1,500	TON	\$325	\$488,000
<b>Cherries</b>	1999	1,150	7.1	8,165	TON	\$960	\$7,838,000
	1998	1,150	0.7	805	TON	\$4,000	\$3,220,000
<b>Grapes, Wine</b>	1999	1,600	4.4	7,040	TON	\$1,780	\$12,531,000
	1998	1,700	3.8	6,460	TON	\$1,300	\$8,398,000
<b>Pears</b>	1999	60	5.1	306	TON	\$345	\$106,000
	1998	140	5.0	700	TON	\$240	\$168,000
<b>Prunes</b>	1999	280	1.0	280	TON	\$710	\$199,000
	1998	300	2.1	630	TON	\$870	\$548,000
<b>Walnuts</b>	1999	525	1.0	525	TON	\$765	\$402,000
	1998	550	0.4	220	TON	\$900	\$198,000
<b>Miscellaneous *</b>	1999	80	----	----	----	----	\$300,000
	1998	120	----	----	----	----	\$300,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>4,240</b>					<b>\$22,065,000</b>
	<b>1998</b>	<b>4,515</b>					<b>\$13,361,000</b>

\* Includes Kiwis, Nectarines, Peaches, Persimmons, Plums, Peaches, etc.

## MILK AND EGGS

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE PER ITEM	TOTAL
<b>Milk (Market)</b>	1999	112,314	CWT	\$13.04	\$1,465,000
	1998	230,383	CWT	\$14.90	\$3,433,000
<b>Milk (Manufacturing)</b>	1999	97	CWT	\$12.86	\$1,250
	1998	6,088	CWT	\$14.76	\$89,860
<b>Miscellaneous *</b>	1999	----	----	----	\$658,000
	1998	----	----	----	\$650,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	1999				\$2,124,000
	1998				\$4,173,000

\* Includes Chicken Eggs & Hatching Eggs.

**NURSERY CROPS -  
INDOOR AND OUTDOOR GROWN PRODUCTION AREA**

CROP	YEAR	HOUSE (SQ. FT.)	FIELD ACRES	SOLD BY PRODUCERS	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	TOTAL
<b>Bedding Plants</b>	1999	1,479,000	41	1,349,500	FLATS	VARIOUS	\$8,453,000
	1998	1,450,000	35	930,000	FLATS	VARIOUS	\$6,970,000
<b>Christmas Trees</b>	1999	----	275	27,600	TREE	\$32	\$883,000
	1998	----	350	35,000	TREE	\$25	\$875,000
<b>Ornamental Trees, Roses &amp; Shrubs</b>	1999	25,500	324	2,891,000	PLANT	VARIOUS	\$18,745,000
	1998	20,000	300	2,725,500	PLANT	VARIOUS	\$17,810,000
<b>Miscellaneous *</b>	1999	1,086,000	266	----	----	----	\$5,572,000
	1998	650,000	200	----	----	----	\$3,530,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1999</b>						<b>\$33,653,000</b>
	<b>1998</b>						<b>\$29,185,000</b>

\* Includes Herbaceous Perennials, Indoor Decoratives, Propagative Materials, Turf, Vegetable Plants, etc.  
(Turf has been added to this category for 1999).

## SEED CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVEST ACREAGE	TOTAL
Vegetable and Flower	1999	576	\$1,259,000
	1998	575	\$1,250,000

## VEGETABLE CROPS

ITEM	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	TONS PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	TOTAL
Beans, Snap	1999	450	2.8	1,260	TON	\$1,200	\$1,512,000
	1998	325	3.0	975	TON	\$1,250	\$1,219,000
Broccoli	1999	820	5.4	4,428	TON	\$637	\$2,821,000
	1998	675	4.5	3,038	TON	\$325	\$987,000
Cabbage	1999	410	14.0	5,740	TON	\$250	\$1,435,000
	1998	425	14.0	5,950	TON	\$220	\$1,309,000
Cauliflower	1999	120	6.0	720	TON	\$625	\$450,000
	1998	120	7.0	840	TON	\$650	\$546,000
Celery	1999	350	36.4	12,740	TON	\$230	\$2,930,000
	1998	375	33.0	12,375	TON	\$175	\$2,166,000
Chinese Vegetables	1999	500	14.4	7,200	TON	\$429	\$3,089,000
	1998	400	12.0	4,800	TON	\$450	\$2,160,000
Corn	1999	1,465	5.7	8,351	TON	\$244	\$2,038,000
	1998	1,450	8.4	12,180	TON	\$220	\$2,680,000
Cucumbers	1999	360	17.0	6,120	TON	\$193	\$1,181,000
	1998	325	11.0	3,575	TON	\$270	\$965,000
Garlic	1999	350	7.0	2,450	TON	\$458	\$1,122,000
	1998	375	1.2	450	TON	\$600	\$270,000
Lettuce (Leaf)	1999	1,100	10.5	11,550	TON	\$660	\$7,623,000
	1998	1,100	10.5	11,550	TON	\$650	\$7,508,000
Lettuce (Head)	1999	1,100	16.0	17,600	TON	\$220	\$3,872,000
	1998	1,500	16.0	24,000	TON	\$220	\$5,280,000
Lettuce (Romaine)	1999	200	14.0	2,800	TON	\$425	\$1,190,000
	1998	185	9.0	1,665	TON	\$475	\$791,000
Mushrooms	1999	115	120.9	13,904	TON	\$2,532	\$35,204,000
	1998	109	140.0	15,260	TON	\$2,260	\$34,488,000
Onions, Dry (Yellow & Red)	1999	240	18.2	4,368	TON	\$450	\$1,966,000
	1998	250	16.0	4,000	TON	\$280	\$1,120,000
Peppers (Bell)	1999	1,380	18.9	26,082	TON	\$378	\$9,859,000
	1998	1,300	21.0	27,300	TON	\$260	\$7,098,000
Peppers (Wax & Chili)	1999	530	15.6	8,268	TON	\$402	\$3,324,000
	1998	400	21.0	8,400	TON	\$550	\$4,620,000
Pumpkins	1999	185	12.9	2,387	TON	\$477	\$1,138,000
	1998	115	14.0	1,610	TON	\$200	\$322,000
Spinach	1999	200	8.0	1,600	TON	\$600	\$960,000
	1998	225	9.0	2,025	TON	\$500	\$1,013,000
Squash	1999	251	8.0	2,008	TON	\$475	\$954,000
	1998	225	8.5	1,913	TON	\$700	\$1,339,000
Tomatoes (Fresh)	1999	275	9.0	2,475	TON	\$475	\$1,176,000
	1998	325	11.0	3,575	TON	\$560	\$2,002,000
Tomatoes (Processed)	1999	625	49.1	30,688	TON	\$64	\$1,964,000
	1998	650	40.0	26,000	TON	\$53	\$1,378,000
Miscellaneous *	1999	450	9.0	4,050	TON	\$675	\$2,734,000
	1998	375	---	---	---	---	\$937,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>11,476</b>					<b>\$88,542,000</b>
	<b>1998</b>	<b>11,229</b>					<b>\$80,198,000</b>

\* Beets, Carrots, Cherry Tomatoes, Eggplants, Melons, Mint, Parsley, Potatoes, Tomatillos, etc.

## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

### 1998

<u>AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
1. Mushrooms	\$34,488,000
2. Nursery Crops	\$29,185,000
3. Cut Flowers	\$16,261,000
4. Grapes, Wine	\$8,398,000
5. Lettuce, Leaf	\$7,508,000
6. Peppers, Bell	\$7,098,000
7. Cattle & Calves	\$6,405,000
8. Lettuce, Head	\$5,280,000
9. Peppers, Wax & Chili	\$4,620,000
10. Milk, Market	\$3,433,000
11. Cherries	\$3,220,000
12. Corn, Fresh	\$2,680,000
13. Celery	\$2,166,000
14. Chinese Vegetables	\$2,160,000
15. Range	\$2,100,000
16. Tomatoes, Fresh	\$2,002,000
17. Hay, Alfalfa	\$1,621,000
18. Breeding Stock	\$1,500,000
19. Hay, Grain	\$1,485,000
20. Tomatoes, Processed	\$1,378,000
21. Squash	\$1,339,000
22. Cabbage	\$1,309,000
23. Seed Crops	\$1,250,000
24. Beans, Snap	\$1,219,000
25. Onions, Dry	\$1,120,000
26. Spinach	\$1,013,000

<b>Total Gross \$ 1998 Agriculture</b>	<b>\$159,769,360</b>
--	----------------------

### 1999

<u>AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
1. Mushrooms	\$35,204,000
2. Nursery Crops	\$33,653,000
3. Cut Flowers	\$14,814,000
4. Grapes, Wine	\$12,531,000
5. Peppers, Bell	\$9,859,000
6. Cherries	\$7,838,000
7. Lettuce, Leaf	\$7,623,000
8. Steers & Heifers	\$7,200,000
9. Lettuce, Head	\$3,872,000
10. Peppers, Wax & Chili	\$3,324,000
11. Chinese Vegetables	\$3,089,000
12. Celery	\$2,930,000
13. Broccoli	\$2,821,000
14. Range	\$2,050,000
15. Corn	\$2,038,000
16. Onions, Dry	\$1,966,000
17. Tomatoes, Processed	\$1,964,000
18. Beans, Snap	\$1,512,000
19. Milk, Market	\$1,465,000
20. Cabbage	\$1,435,000
21. Hay, Grain	\$1,361,000
22. Seed Crops	\$1,259,000
23. Lettuce, Romaine	\$1,190,000
24. Cucumbers	\$1,181,000
25. Tomatoes, Fresh	\$1,176,000
26. Pumpkins	\$1,138,000
27. Garlic	\$1,122,000

<b>Total Gross \$ 1999 Agriculture</b>	<b>\$176,131,000</b>
--	----------------------