



Tehama County 2015 Annual Crop Report



Mt. Lassen eruption photographs courtesy of the National Park Service

1915 – 2015: Centennial Year of the Eruption of Mt. Lassen

By Loren Gehrung, Agricultural Biologist/Weights & Measures Specialist III

One of the things we love about Tehama County is our dramatic skyline. High mountains surround and define us from South Yolla Bolly Mountain to our west at 8,098 feet to Mt. Shasta towering over the north at 14,179 feet. But the subject of this year's Crop Report cover is Mt. Lassen, which rises to 10,457 feet. It lies just outside the northeast corner of Tehama County. One hundred years ago the Great Eruption of Mt. Lassen startled the nation, much as Mount St. Helens would today.

Mt. Lassen first came to life on May 22, 1914, just before the opening of World War I. It erupted with a blast of steam and ash that opened a crater on the summit of Mt. Lassen. Similar eruptions continued throughout 1914, enlarging the crater until it was 1,000 feet long. It was the first time an active volcano had erupted in the lower 48 states. It was recorded in photographs and even some video footage, which can be viewed on You Tube.

After about 180 steam eruptions, Mt. Lassen produced the "Great Eruption", the culmination of volcanic activity at the peak. On May 14, 1915, lava rose up, filled the crater and spilled over the side, producing glowing boulders that were seen that night from as far away as Manton. Five nights later, on May 19th, a fresh blast shattered the lava dome causing an avalanche and mudflow towards Hat Creek and Lost Creek north of the peak. This was the beginning of the Great Eruption of May 19 and May 22. Ranches were destroyed along Hat Creek, but the families were able to escape with their lives. That same night an upwelling of lava oozed over the western rim of the crater forming a glowing tongue of red fire. Observers said they could see it break up into red-hot boulders tumbling down the mountain. Today, this lava flow is still visible, even from the valley, as a tongue of black rock at the summit. This is the youngest rock in California.

During the afternoon of May 22nd, the mountain exploded into a huge column of ash, gas and rock that rose to 30,000 feet. A pyroclastic cloud blew out the northeast side of the mountain, creating the Devastated Area still evident today. Ash from the eruption fell as far as 280 miles to the east. Gentler steam eruptions continued periodically until 1917, and trailed off for several more years. About 298 eruptions in all were recorded between 1914 and 1921. The craters at the summit vented steam into the 1950's, but that is seldom seen today. Although Mt. Lassen has returned to its slumbers, the ongoing presence of hot springs and bubbling mudpots warns of the magma far below.



COUNTY OF TEHAMA

Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures

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August 23, 2016

Karen Ross, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture, and
Tehama County Board of Supervisors

It is my pleasure to present the 2015 Tehama County Crop Report, which is prepared pursuant to the provisions of Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. This annual report provides a statistical description of Tehama County's agricultural production. All figures in the report represent gross returns only and do not reflect net income of producers.

The total gross value of Tehama County agricultural production in 2015 was \$321,005,400, which represents a 15.6% (\$59,334,900) decrease from 2014 historic values.

Walnuts continue as the leading crop, however, their total value was the primary contributor to the overall crop value decrease. While walnut production remained relatively stable, the total value declined 51.6% (\$87,379,400) due to severe price decreases. Almonds remain the number two commodity dipping 4.5% in total value due to slight production drop. Prune values increased 115.8% (\$21,136,300) due to production increases returning to historical averages.

Other noteworthy changes in 2015 include increases of nursery products (91.9%), field crops (37.8%) and apiary products & services (126.7%). Commodities experiencing value decreases include table olives (35.7%), milk (39.4%) and seed crops (88.6%).

My sincere appreciation is extended to the growers, processors, government agencies, and others that provided information used in preparing this report, as this publication would not be possible without their combined efforts.

I wish to thank my staff that assisted in compiling this report with special recognition to Heather Kelly for the report's overall coordination and production.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rick Gurrola

Rick Gurrola
Agricultural Commissioner

Tehama County Board of Supervisors

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Table of Contents

| | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Fruit and Nut Crops | 1 |
| Field Crops | 2 |
| Pasture & Range | 2 |
| Seed Crops | 3 |
| Vegetable Crops | 3 |
| Nursery Products | 3 |
| Livestock & Poultry | 4 |
| Livestock & Poultry Products | 4 |
| Apiary Products & Services | 5 |
| Timber Products | 5 |
| Five-Year Trend | 6 |
| A Glimpse into the Past | 7 |
| Agricultural Report | 8 |
| Tehama County Exports | 10 |

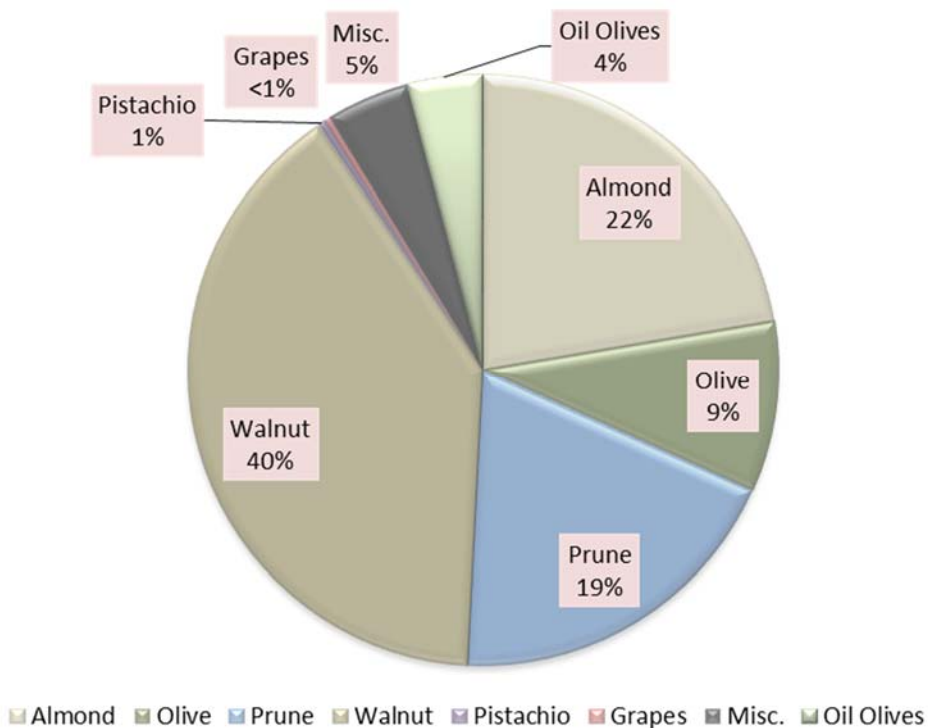
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Erruption of Mt Lassen from Red Bluff, Cal.

Fruit & Nut Crops

| Crop | Year | Bearing Acres | Production/ Acre (tons) | Total Tons | Value/ Ton | Total Value |
|----------------|------|---------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Almond (Meats) | 2015 | 10,870 | 0.71 | 7,718 | \$5,969 | \$46,065,000 |
| | 2014 | 10,749 | 0.78 | 8,384 | 5,751 | 48,216,400 |
| Olives, Table | 2015 | 5,311 | 3.91 | 20,766 | 932 | 19,362,400 |
| | 2014 | 5,977 | 5.10 | 30,483 | 988 | 30,117,200 |
| Olives, Oil | 2015 | 3,278 | 5.62 | 18,422 | 463 | 8,529,400 |
| | 2014 | 3,853 | 2.94 | 11,328 | 556 | 6,298,400 |
| Pistachio | 2015 | 172 | 0.95 | 163 | 5,316 | 866,400 |
| | 2014 | 226 | 0.64 | 145 | 5,691 | 825,200 |
| Prunes | 2015 | 6,020 | 2.86 | 17,217 | 2,288 | 39,386,600 |
| | 2014 | 6,343 | 1.11 | 7,041 | 2,592 | 18,250,300 |
| Walnuts | 2015 | 23,738 | 2.02 | 47,951 | 1,710 | 81,996,200 |
| | 2014 | 24,560 | 2.10 | 51,576 | 3,284 | 169,375,600 |
| Grapes | 2015 | 162 | 4.70 | 762 | 927 | 706,400 |
| | 2014 | 121 | 6.40 | 774 | 793 | 613,800 |
| Misc.* | 2015 | | | | | 9,346,600 |
| | 2014 | | | | | 6,353,800 |
| Total | 2015 | | | | | \$206,259,000 |
| | 2014 | | | | | \$280,050,700 |

* Misc.: Almond Hulls, Apples, Apricots, Blueberries, Cherries, Figs, Lemons, Mandarins, Nectarines, Oranges, Peaches, Pecans, Pears, Persimmons, Plums, Pomegranates, Strawberries, Walnuts (Black), & Walnut Shells



Field Crops

| Crop | Year | Harvested Acres | Production/Acre (tons) | Total Tons | Value/Ton | Total Value |
|------------------|------|-----------------|------------------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
| Wheat | 2015 | 4,381 | 2.74 | 12,004 | \$185 | \$2,217,600 |
| | 2014 | 2,610 | 2.29 | 5,977 | 232 | 1,386,700 |
| Corn | 2015 | 262 | 4.81 | 1,260 | 159 | 200,700 |
| | 2014 | 882 | 5.60 | 4,939 | 144 | 711,200 |
| Alfalfa, Hay | 2015 | 2,378 | 6.30 | 14,981 | 195 | 2,925,200 |
| | 2014 | 1,184 | 6.60 | 7,814 | 239 | 1,867,500 |
| Grain Hay (Oats) | 2015 | 4,746 | 1.94 | 9,207 | 137 | 1,264,400 |
| | 2014 | 3,489 | 1.1 | 3,838 | 212 | 813,700 |
| Hay, Other | 2015 | 2,560 | 4.33 | 11,085 | 135 | 1,496,500 |
| | 2014 | 2,158 | 2.34 | 5,050 | 220 | 1,111,000 |
| Silage, Corn | 2015 | 975 | 18.04 | 17,589 | 107 | 1,877,800 |
| | 2014 | 792 | 28.00 | 22,176 | 38 | 842,700 |
| Misc.* | 2015 | | | | | 2,318,000 |
| | 2014 | | | | | 2,190,500 |
| Total | 2015 | | | | | \$12,300,200 |
| | 2014 | | | | | \$8,923,300 |

*Misc: Barley, Beans, Corn (sweet), Rice, Rye Grass, Safflower, Sudangrass Hay, Sorghum, Sunflower, Triticale

Pasture & Range

| | Year | Harvested Acres | Value/Acre | Total Value |
|-------------------|------|-----------------|------------|--------------|
| Irrigated Pasture | 2015 | 21,000 | \$180 | \$3,780,000 |
| | 2014 | 22,000 | 180 | 3,960,000 |
| Range | 2015 | 920,000 | 10 | 9,200,000 |
| | 2014 | 922,500 | 10 | 9,225,000 |
| Stubble* | 2015 | 6,803 | 7 | 47,600 |
| | 2014 | 5,478 | 7 | 38,300 |
| Total | 2015 | | | \$13,027,600 |
| | 2014 | | | \$13,223,300 |

*Includes Rice, Sudangrass, Barley & Wheat Acreages



Seed Crops

| | Year | Harvested Acres | Total Value |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Misc. | 2015* | 159 | \$175,000 |
| | 2014** | 1,407 | \$1,539,700 |

*2015: Beans, Cucumber, Squash, Sudangrass, Sunflower (Certified Seed)

**2014: Kohlrabi, Sunflower, Pumpkin, Watermelon, Beans (Certified & Uncertified Seeds)

Vegetable Crops

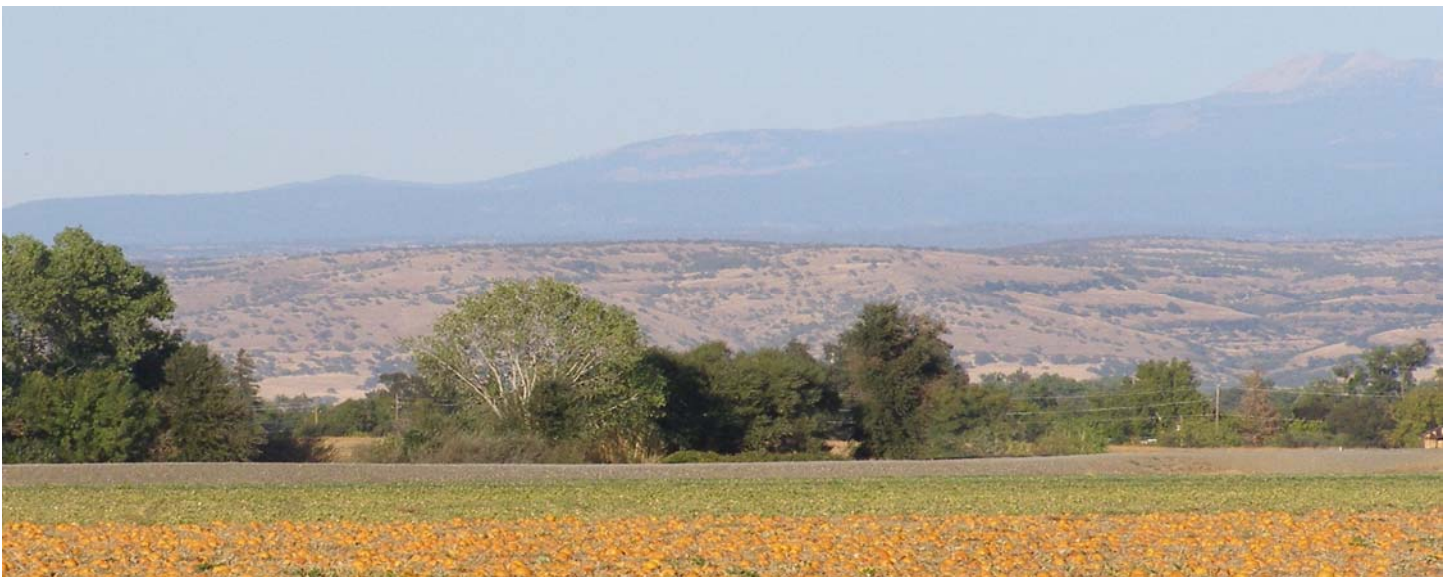
| | Year | Harvested Acres | Total Value |
|------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Misc. Vegetables* | 2015 | 180 | \$481,000 |
| | 2014 | 150 | \$350,000 |

*Direct sales, Farmer's Markets, and Roadside Stands

Nursery Products

| | Year | Total Value |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Nursery* | 2015 | \$18,766,600 |
| | 2014 | \$9,779,100 |

*Includes Christmas Trees, Berry & Bedding Plants



Livestock & Poultry

| | Year | Number of Head Sold | Total Live Weight (cwt) | Value/CWT | Total Value |
|------------------|------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Calves | 2015 | 5,100 | 27,999 | \$208 | \$5,823,800 |
| | 2014 | 4,896 | 26,879 | 254 | 6,827,300 |
| Feeders | 2015 | 11,900 | 83,300 | 196 | 16,326,800 |
| | 2014 | 11,424 | 79,968 | 202 | 16,153,500 |
| Feedlot | 2015 | 20,000 | 40,000 | 170 | 6,800,000 |
| | 2014 | 19,200 | 38,400 | 187 | 7,180,800 |
| Cows & Bulls | 2015 | 3,200 | 42,200 | 104 | 4,388,800 |
| | 2014 | 3,072 | 40,512 | 91 | 3,686,600 |
| Dairy Cattle | 2015 | | | | 2,944,200 |
| | 2014 | | | | 3,335,800 |
| Sheep & Lambs | 2015 | 4,750 | 4,750 | 157 | 745,800 |
| | 2014 | 4,750 | 4,750 | 143 | 679,300 |
| Hogs & Pigs | 2015 | 1,000 | 1,750 | 74 | 129,500 |
| | 2014 | 1,000 | 1,750 | 82 | 143,500 |
| Misc. Livestock* | 2015 | | | | 2,852,000 |
| | 2014 | | | | 2,688,000 |
| Total | 2015 | | | | \$40,010,900 |
| | 2014 | | | | \$40,694,800 |

*Misc.: Aquaculture, Meat Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, and Misc. Fowl

Livestock & Poultry Products

| | Year | Production (cwt) | Value/CWT | Total Value |
|---------------|------|------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Milk (Market) | 2015 | 655,261 | \$16.18 | \$10,602,100 |
| | 2014 | 705,031 | 23.29 | 16,420,200 |
| Milk (Mfg.) | 2015 | 8,670 | 17.30 | 150,000 |
| | 2014 | 57,325 | 23.32 | 1,336,800 |
| Animal Fiber* | 2015 | | | 68,500 |
| | 2014 | | | 68,500 |
| Misc.** | 2015 | | | 2,313,300 |
| | 2014 | | | 522,000 |
| Total | 2015 | | | \$13,133,900 |
| | 2014 | | | \$18,347,500 |

* Animal Fiber: Includes Wool & Alpaca Fiber

** Misc: Includes Eggs & Other Dairy Products

Apiary Products & Services

| | Year | Production (colonies) | Value/Colony | Total Value |
|-----------------------------|------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Pollination | 2015 | 22,981 | \$167 | \$3,837,800 |
| | 2014 | 21,498 | 156 | 3,353,700 |
| Apiary Products* | 2015 | | | 13,013,400 |
| | 2014 | | | 4,078,200 |
| Total | 2015 | | | \$16,851,200 |
| | 2014 | | | \$7,431,900 |

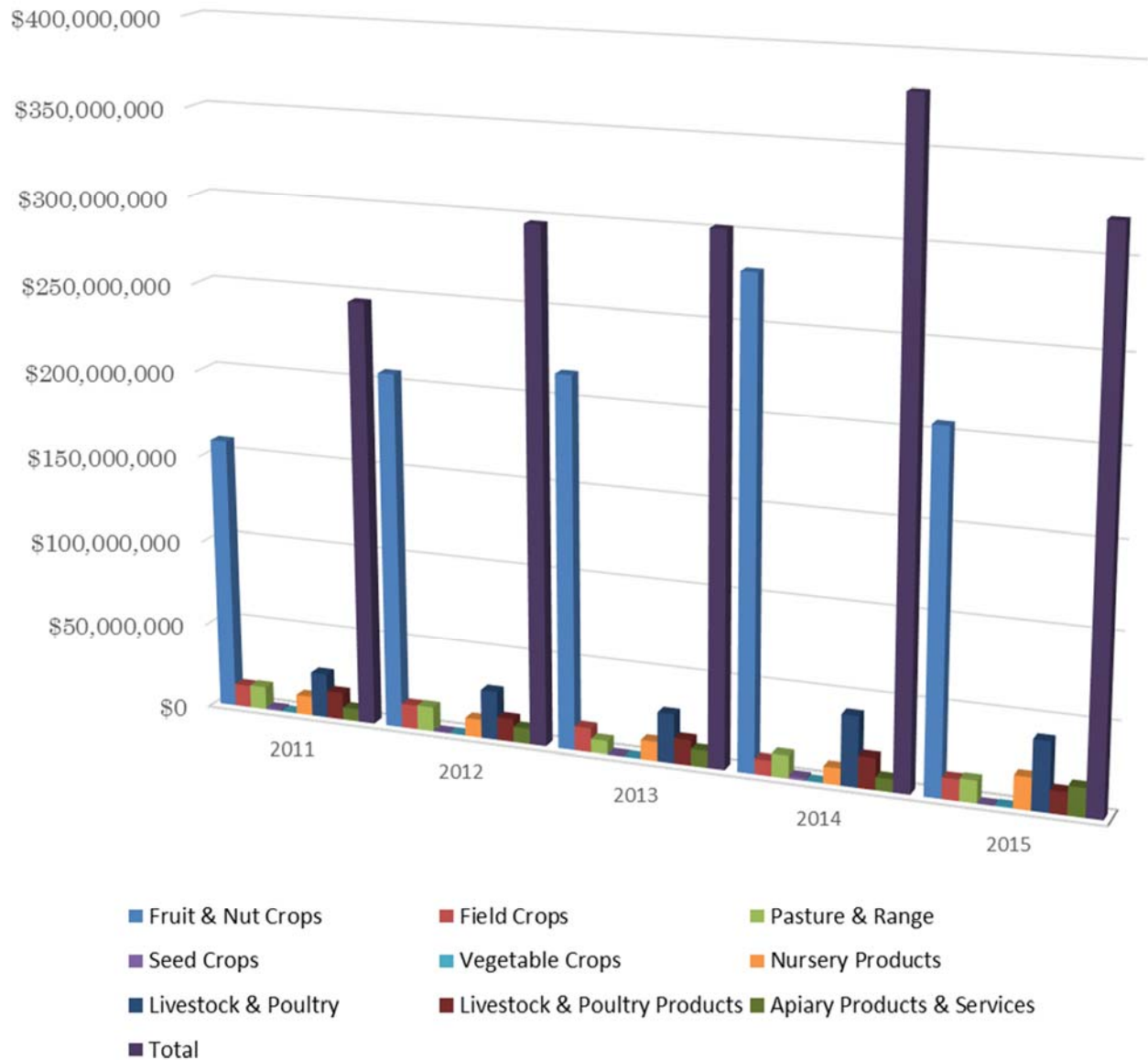
*Honey, Queens, Wax, & Package Bees

Timber Products

| | Year | Harvested Board Feet | Total Value |
|--|------|----------------------|--------------|
| | 2015 | 18,762,000 | \$3,196,500 |
| | 2014 | 48,570,000 | \$10,406,000 |



Five-Year Trend



| Commodity | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Fruit & Nut Crops | \$158,133,800 | \$206,903,200 | \$215,608,600 | \$280,050,700 | \$206,259,000 |
| Field Crops | \$12,913,800 | \$14,044,600 | \$14,027,800 | \$8,923,300 | \$12,300,200 |
| Pasture & Range | \$13,369,500 | \$14,283,700 | \$7,824,800 | \$13,223,300 | \$13,027,600 |
| Seed Crops | \$1,018,700 | \$284,700 | \$489,100 | \$1,539,700 | \$175,000 |
| Vegetable Crops | \$250,000 | \$350,000 | \$350,000 | \$350,000 | \$481,000 |
| Nursery Products | \$11,103,000 | \$10,539,900 | \$11,083,000 | \$9,779,100 | \$18,766,600 |
| Livestock & Poultry | \$25,900,200 | \$28,356,100 | \$28,353,000 | \$40,694,800 | \$40,010,900 |
| Livestock & Poultry Products | \$15,777,600 | \$13,337,300 | \$14,700,400 | \$18,347,500 | \$13,133,900 |
| Apiary Products & Services | \$7,203,400 | \$8,882,100 | \$9,570,700 | \$7,431,900 | \$16,851,200 |
| Total | \$245,670,000 | \$296,981,600 | \$302,007,400 | \$380,340,300 | \$321,005,400 |

A Glimpse into the Past

| Commodity | 1965 Total Sold | 2015 Total Sold | 1965 Value | 2015 Value |
|--------------------------------|---|--|---------------------|----------------------|
| Almonds | 573 tons (1,513 acres) | 7,718 tons (10,870 acres) | \$342,000 | \$46,065,000 |
| Olives (table) | 10,100 tons (4,531 acres) | 20,766 tons (5,311 acres) | \$2,050,000 | \$19,362,400 |
| Prunes | 8,790 tons (4,396 acres) | 17,217 tons (6,020 acres) | \$1,900,000 | \$39,386,600 |
| Walnuts | 1,590 tons (3,067 acres) | 47,951 tons (23,738 acres) | \$636,000 | \$81,996,200 |
| Grapes | * | 762 tons (162 acres) | * | \$706,400 |
| Pistachio | * | 163 tons (172 acres) | * | \$866,400 |
| Corn | 2,850 tons (865 acres) | 1,260 tons (262 acres) | \$147,000 | \$200,700 |
| Alfalfa | 44,900 tons (7,300 acres) | 14,981 tons (2,378 acres) | \$1,055,000 | \$2,925,200 |
| Misc. Truck Crops | | | \$47,400 | \$481,000 |
| Other Hay | 6,800 tons (5,690 acres) | 11,085 tons (2,560 acres) | \$105,000 | \$1,496,500 |
| Sugar Beets | 15,600 tons (750 acres) | * | \$156,000 | * |
| Corn Silage | 1,800 tons (180 acres) | 17,589 tons (975 acres) | \$18,000 | \$1,877,800 |
| Ladino Clover Seed | 594,000 lbs (1,930 acres) | * | \$269,800 | * |
| Other Seed (Sudan, Alfalfa) | 3,208,000 lbs (3,000 acres) | * | \$326,400 | * |
| Nursery Stock | Olives, Deciduous Fruit and Nut Trees, Strawberry Plants & Decorative Material | Christmas Trees, Berry & Bedding Plants | \$496,000 | \$18,766,600 |
| Dairy Cattle | 6,160 head | | \$456,000 | \$2,944,200 |
| Beef Cattle | 40,900 head | 40,200 head | \$3,720,000 | \$33,339,400 |
| Dairy Products | | | \$1,637,000 | \$10,752,100 |
| Sheep & Lambs | 80,400 head | 4,750 head | \$1,380,000 | \$745,800 |
| Hogs | 8,120 head | 1000 head | \$356,000 | \$129,500 |
| Chicken Eggs | 1,615,000 dozen | * | \$446,000 | * |
| Year Total** | | | \$15,645,600 | \$321,005,400 |

* No correlating values between 1965 and 2015

**Totals will not add to above values listed

Agricultural Report

In accordance with Section 2272 of the California Food and Agriculture Code, the Agricultural Report provides a brief account of efforts being made to exclude or eradicate exotic pests and to best manage those which already exist in a manner most conducive to the protection of our environment.

Quarantine Inspections

During 2015, 135 shipments of agricultural products were inspected for compliance with quarantine requirements, which resulted in 14 detections of small hive beetle, a 'B'-rated species.



Small Hive Beetle

Pest Prevention

Tehama County's pest prevention program included pest detection trapping for several exotic pests. Trapping and nursery inspections were conducted for light brown apple moth and glassy winged sharpshooter. European grapevine moth traps are also placed in commercial grape vineyards.



Glassy Winged Sharpshooter

126 traps deployed
No detections



Light Brown Apple Moth

70 traps deployed
No detections



European Grapevine Moth

13 traps deployed
No detections



Mediterranean Fruit Fly

45 traps deployed
No detections



Oriental Fruit Fly

13 traps deployed
No detections



Melon Fly

13 traps deployed
No detections



Japanese Beetle

29 traps deployed
No detections



Gypsy Moth

216 traps deployed
No detections

Agricultural Report

Noxious Weeds

Tehama County encompasses approximately 1,904,640 acres, which are surveyed by our department for noxious weeds listed by California Department of Food and Agriculture. In 2015, three 'A' rated noxious weeds were under eradication and five 'B' rated species were under limited control treatment.

A-rated Species

Skeleton Weed



Dalmatian Toad-Flax



Spotted Knapweed



B-rated Species

Oblong Spurge



Whitehorse Nettle



Perennial Peppergrass



Heart-podded Hoarygrass



Courtesy Joseph DiTomaso

Canada Thistle



Courtesy Joseph DiTomaso

Organic Farming

Thirty-four organic growers registered in Tehama County in 2015, which is up 26% from 2014. Organically farmed land totaled 36,847 acres. Operations range from small gardens catering to local Certified Farmer's Markets to livestock, dairy, orchard and field crop producers providing products on a larger scale.



Tehama County Exports

Phytosanitary certificates are documents stating that a said plant or plant product is free from pests and diseases, which are required by an importing country. Import requirements are designed to protect the importing countries' agricultural industry from insects and diseases, which have the potential to arrive with the shipment, and ensure a higher quality product.

USDA Phytosanitary Certificates Issued: 2,505

Products Exported to other Countries: Almonds, Figs, Lumber, Pecans, Strawberry Plants, Walnuts, Walnut Trees & Walnut Shells

Importing Countries:

| | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Algeria | Argentina | Australia | Austria | Belgium |
| Brazil | Canada | Chile | China | Colombia |
| Costa Rica | Cyprus | Dominican Republic | Ecuador | Egypt |
| El Salvador | Finland | France | Germany | Greece |
| Guatemala | Hong Kong | India | Indonesia | Israel |
| Italy | Japan | Jordan | Korea | Kuwait |
| Lebanon | Lithuania | Malaysia | Mexico | Nepal |
| Netherlands | New Zealand | Norway | Panama | Philippines |
| Portugal | Qatar | San Marino | Saudi Arabia | Singapore |
| South Africa | Spain | Switzerland | Taiwan | Thailand |
| Tunisia | Turkey | Ukraine | United Arab Emirates | |
| United Kingdom | Uruguay | Vietnam | | |

State Phytosanitary Certificates Issued: 15

Products Exported to Other States: Strawberry Plants, Bamboo

Importing States: Florida, Missouri, North Carolina, Oregon, Virginia



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<http://www.co.tehama.ca.us/>