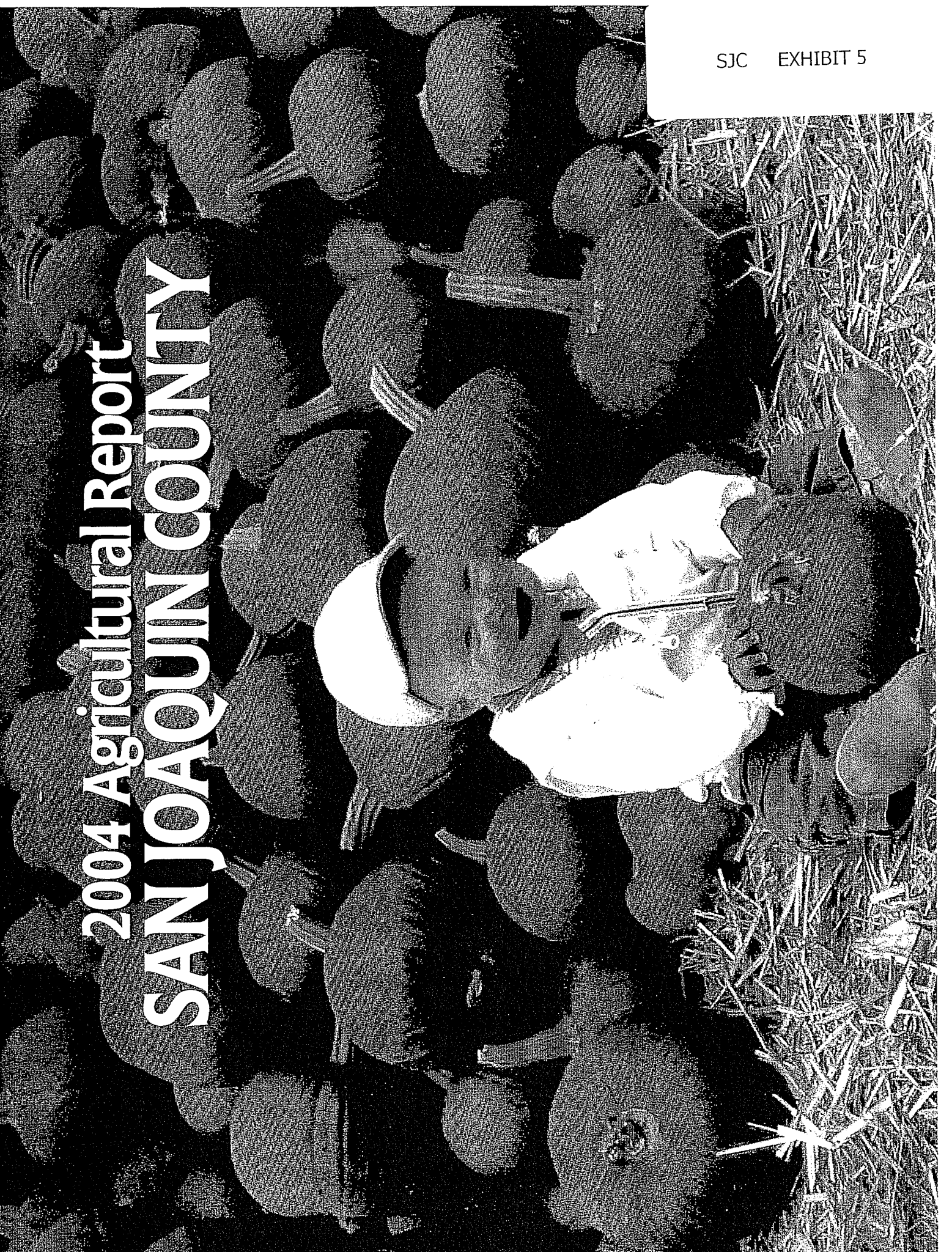


2004 Agricultural Report SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY



The Pumpkin Leader

Warm summer days, cooling evening breezes, rich fertile soil, and plenty of cool clean water. This is the ideal combination of environmental conditions that makes San Joaquin County the number one pumpkin-producing county in California. In fact, 2003 figures show that San Joaquin County produced over 70% of all the commercially grown pumpkins in the state!

Botanically, pumpkins are a type of squash and are a fruit. They belong in the family *Cucurbitaceae* that includes squash, gourds, melons, and cucumbers. Pumpkins are native to North America. Archeologists believe that pumpkins were one of the first plants to be domesticated in the Americas. Pumpkin seeds (*Cucurbita pepo*) dating back some 10,000 years have been excavated in Mexico. Pumpkins were a staple in the diet of Native American Indians.

When the Pilgrims arrived in America, they were introduced to many new foods, including the pumpkins that Native Indians had been cultivating for centuries. In 1621, at the first Thanksgiving celebration, Pilgrims took pumpkins, cut off the tops and removed the seeds. They then filled the pumpkins with a mixture of milk, maple syrup and spices, and cooked them in the shells. It is believed the Thanksgiving pumpkin pie evolved from this treat. Even today no Thanksgiving table is complete without pumpkin pie.

While history has shown the pumpkin to be an important food source, in our current society the pumpkin has gained a new role. Almost all pumpkins grown in San Joaquin County are destined for ornamental purposes. The Halloween Jack O'Lantern is the main use of local pumpkins. Every October, just before Halloween, fields take on an orange tint as the pumpkins reach maturity just in time for the festivities to begin. Ornamental use around the holiday table is the other major market. This has created an opportunity for the development of many new varieties. Seed companies are constantly trying to produce new shapes, colors, and sizes in an effort to draw consumer's dollars. We are all familiar with the small 'Jack Be Little', the white 'Lumina' and the mammoth 'Big Mack' varieties. Some varieties have a high dry-matter content, which allows a pie to cook evenly, others, an easy to eat hull-less seed.

The versatile Pumpkin has always been an important crop for Americans, and it continues to play an important role in our lives today. Whether for Jack O'Lanterns or pumpkin pie, a Thanksgiving table centerpiece or pumpkin bread, chances are that your pumpkin came from right here in *San Joaquin County, the Pumpkin Leader*.

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

2004 ANNUAL CROP REPORT

Scott Hudson
Agricultural Commissioner

Compiled by Don McCoon, Jr.

Board Of Supervisors

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Dario L. Marengo	District 2
Victor Mow	District 3
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Leroy Ornellas	District 5

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County Administrator

**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER
SCOTT HUDSON**

**ASSISTANT AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER
VICKI HELMAR**

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**Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
Deputy Agricultural Commissioner**

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**Senior Agricultural Biologist/Entomologist
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Agricultural Biologist II
Senior Agricultural Biologist
Senior Agricultural Biologist, Simms Station
Senior Agricultural Biologist, Lodi
Agricultural Biologist I
Senior Agricultural Biologist, Lodi
Senior Agricultural Biologist, Tracy
Senior Agricultural Biologist
Agricultural Biologist II
Agricultural Biologist II
Agricultural Biologist I
Senior Agricultural Biologist, Simms Station
Senior Agricultural Biologist
Senior Agricultural Biologist
Senior Agricultural Biologist**

**Victor Garcia
Jamise Miller**

**Department Information Systems Specialist II
Senior Office Assistant**

**Mary Jo Avagliano
Jo Aring-Tengonciang
Rachel Dawson
Hazel Gallego
Carol Giuffre
Hiromi Hernandez
Terry King
Laura Rocha
Laura Serrano
Noun Vetvong**

**Administrative Secretary
Senior Office Assistant, Lodi
Senior Office Assistant
Office Assistant Specialist
Senior Office Assistant
Senior Office Assistant
Accounting Technician II
Senior Office Assistant, Simms Station
Senior Office Assistant, Tracy
Accounting Technician I**

All staff are based in Stockton unless otherwise noted.



SCOTT HUDSON
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER
SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES
ANIMAL CONTROL

VICKI HELMAR
ASST. AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER
ASST. SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

POST OFFICE BOX 1809
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MAIN OFFICE - STOCKTON
1868 E. HAZELTON AVE.

LODI OFFICE
210 N. SACRAMENTO ST.

TRACY OFFICE
503 E. 10TH STREET

SIMMS STATION - RIPON
17620 E. HWY 120

A.G. KAWAMURA, SECRETARY
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
AND
THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

Dear Secretary and Board Members:

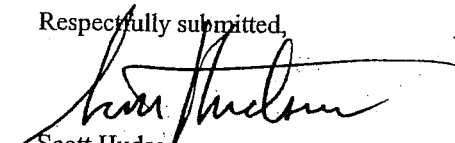
In accordance with Section 2279 of the California Food and Agriculture Code, I am pleased to present the seventy-first Annual Report of Agricultural Production in San Joaquin County. The values shown are estimates based on the most common method of sale for the individual commodity, except for fresh fruits and vegetables where the value is based on the F.O.B. packed price at the shipping point. The figures contained in this report are gross values rather than net returns to the grower.

The gross value of agricultural production for 2004 in San Joaquin County is estimated to be an all time high of \$1,613,289,000. This represents a 9% increase from the estimated 1,477,650,000 for 2003. Significant increases occurred in Livestock & Poultry, Livestock & Poultry products, Nursery, Apiary Products, and Field crops. Vegetable and Fruit & Nut crop values were up slightly. Seed crops decreased in value. Highlights of the 2004 crop year are as follows:

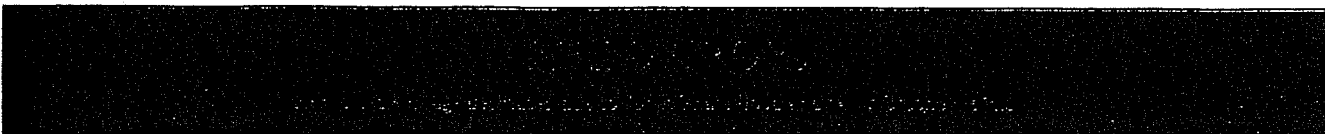
- Despite a 5% drop in harvested acreage, *total production value* increased by about 9%.
- A levee breach flooded over 11,000 acres of cropland in the Upper and Lower Jones Tract.
- Milk is the county's most valuable agricultural commodity again in 2004. Higher prices paid to producers combined with an increase in production resulted in an all time high value of over 324.6 million dollars.
- The Grape industry continued its comeback with an increase in value for the second year in a row.
- Almonds remained the number three crop, receiving prices that have doubled in the last two years.
- Continued high demand for Livestock & Poultry resulted in values increasing by 25%.
- The Nursery industry experienced continued demand for Woody Ornamentals as trees, bushes and other landscaping plants were shipped to new housing developments across the State.
- October's unexpected heavy rains wreaked havoc with bean and processing tomato crops.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all who assisted my biologists and deputies by furnishing the necessary information that made this report possible.

Respectfully submitted,


Scott Hudson
Agricultural Commissioner

Production							
	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	YIELD	TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE	Gross Value SUBTOTAL TOTAL
BEANS, DRY, ALL	2004	6,800	1.22	8,300	TON	\$723.00	\$6,000,000
	2003	9,400	1.09	10,200	TON	\$640.00	\$6,526,000
KIDNEY	2004	900	1.09	1,000	TON	\$800.00	\$800,000
	2003	2,200	1.05	2,300	TON	\$616.20	\$1,421,000
GARBANZO / OTHER	2004	710	0.99	703	TON	\$683.00	\$481,000
	2003	1,200	0.73	876	TON	\$585.00	\$512,000
HAY, ALL	2004	87,100	6.53	568,500	TON	\$115.00	\$65,625,000
	2003	80,100	6.60	528,400	TON	\$96.00	\$50,467,000
OTHER	2004	22,200	3.89	86,400	TON	\$84.00	\$7,289,000
	2003	16,636	4.63	77,100	TON	\$67.00	\$5,164,000
IRRIGATED	2004	14,500			ACRE	\$138.00	\$1,989,000
	2003	15,200			ACRE	\$135.00	\$2,055,000
RICE	2004	6,030	4.70	28,300	TON	\$180.00	\$5,101,000
	2003	6,350	4.05	25,700	TON	\$216.00	\$5,552,000
SILAGE, CORN	2004	43,100	31.22	1,345,600	TON	\$21.00	\$27,706,000
	2003	40,100	28.35	1,136,800	TON	\$20.00	\$22,828,000



Production

CROP	YEAR	ACRES		YIELD	TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE	Gross Value	
		HARVESTED						SUBTOTAL	TOTAL

OTHER*	2004	4,980							\$1,526,000
	2003	4,820							\$1,695,000



NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE EXACTLY DUE TO ROUNDING

*INCLUDES BARLEY, COTTON, SUNFLOWERS AND OATS FOR GRAIN.



Production

CROP	YEAR	ACRES		YIELD	TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE	Gross Value	
		HARVESTED						SUBTOTAL	TOTAL

BEANS, OTHER*	2004	589	25.88	15,246	CWT	\$40.34			\$615,000
	2003	550	19.00	10,450	CWT	\$37.00			\$389,000



MISCELLANEOUS,	2004	570							\$368,000
SUDAN, GRAIN & ETC.*	2003	510							\$473,000



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*INCLUDES CERTIFIED SEED.

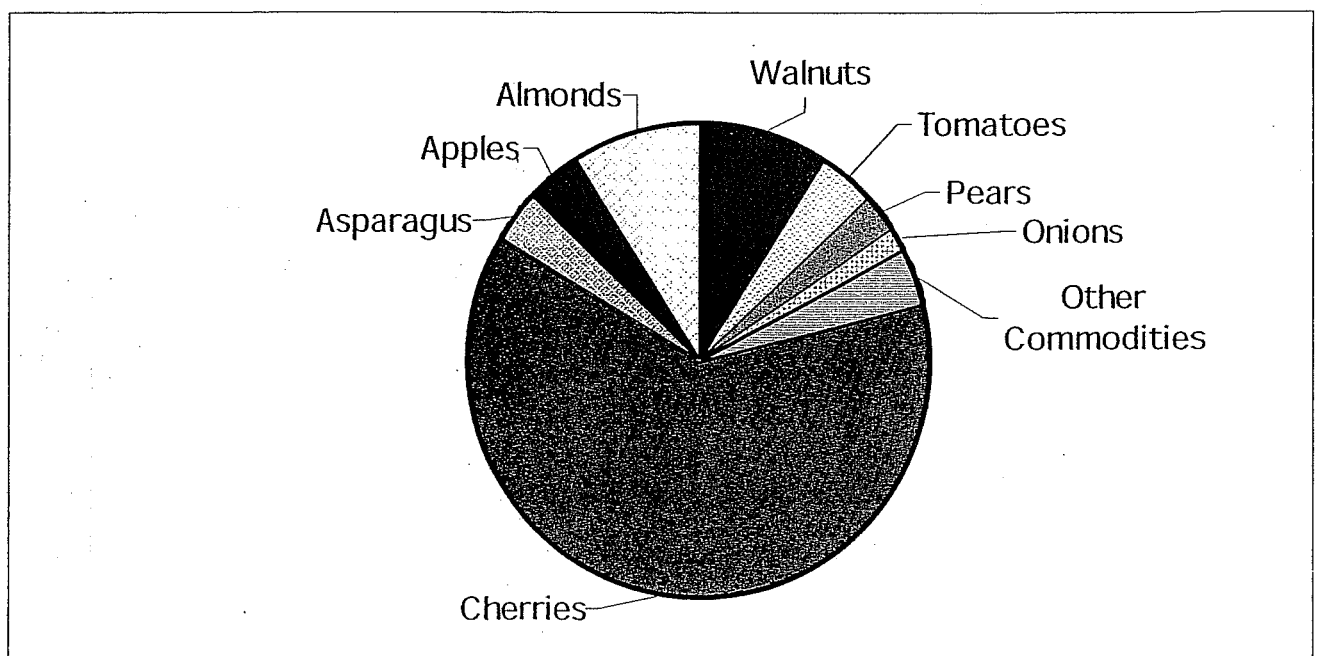
**INCLUDES POTATOES FOR SEED.

CROP	PRODUCTION				GROSS VALUE			
	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	YIELD	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL
ALMOND, HULLS	2004			95,400	TON	\$81.00		\$7,726,000
	2003			98,400	TON	\$75.00		\$7,383,000
FRESH	2004			47,049		\$770.00	\$36,232,000	
	2003			61,974		\$812.00	\$50,297,000	
APRICOTS	2004	1,139	9.31	10,600	TON	\$430.00		\$4,579,000
	2003	1,364	10.00	13,600	TON	\$284.00		\$3,877,000
CHERRIES, ALL	2004	16,200	2.65	43,000	TON	\$2,280.00		\$97,904,000
	2003	15,700	2.64	41,400	TON	\$2,650.00		\$109,869,000
PROCESSING	2004			6,000	TON	\$100.00	\$600,000	
	2003			5,405	TON	\$394.00	\$2,130,000	
TABLE, CRUSHED	2004	650	3.26	2,120	TON	\$205.69	\$436,100	
	2003	650	4.77	3,100	TON	\$86.00	\$263,880	
FRESH	2004			3,400	TON	\$250.00	\$850,000	
	2003			4,600	TON	\$200.00	\$920,000	

CROP	PRODUCTION				GROSS VALUE		
	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	YIELD	TOTAL UNIT	PER UNIT	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL
CLINGSTONE	2004	1,360	15.00	20,400	TON	\$203.00	\$4,141,000
	2003	2,060	20.20	41,600	TON	\$236.00	\$9,818,000
PEARS	2004	549	18.00	9,070	TON	\$240.00	\$2,177,000
	2003	549	18.00	9,880	TON	\$215.00	\$2,125,000
MISCELLANEOUS	2004	1,124					\$4,106,000
	2003	897					\$4,198,000
TOTAL	2004	196,000					\$617,275,000
	2003	195,000					\$587,116,000

*A NEW CATEGORY, BIOMASS INCLUDES FIREWOOD, NUTSHELLS, ETC.
 NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE EXACTLY DUE TO ROUNDING

Agricultural Export Shipments Certified in San Joaquin County in 2004



CROP	Production				Gross Value			
	YEAR	ACRES		TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL
		HARVESTED	YIELD					
CORN, SWEET	2004	1,700	8.76	14,900	TON	\$590.00		\$8,781,000
	2003	3,210	8.29	26,600	TON	\$229.00		\$6,096,000
MELONS, ALL	2004	3,470	18.70	64,800	TON	\$227.00		\$14,698,000
	2003	3,140	18.10	56,900	TON	\$264.00		\$15,012,000
OTHER	2004	760	13.96	10,600	TON	\$302.00	\$3,208,000	
	2003	1,860	11.31	21,000	TON	\$236.00	\$4,961,000	
PEPPERS	2004	1,300	12.00	15,600	TON	\$692.00		\$10,804,000
	2003	1,050	15.00	15,800	TON	\$576.00		\$9,072,000
PUMPKINS	2004	3,120	14.21	44,300	TON	\$152.00		\$6,751,000
	2003	3,470	14.00	48,500	TON	\$150.00		\$7,279,000
SHIPPING	2004	10,130	10.78	109,200	TON	\$408.00	\$44,492,000	
	2003	10,580	10.97	116,100	TON	\$525.00	\$60,920,000	
MISCELLANEOUS VEGETABLES	2004	5,610						\$18,859,000
	2003	5,610						\$22,227,000

NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE EXACTLY DUE TO ROUNDING



ITEM	YEAR	QUANTITY SOLD BY PRODUCERS		UNIT	GROSS VALUE TOTAL
	2004				
	2003				
VEGETABLE PLANTS	2004	280,656,000		PLANT	\$9,277,000
	2003	283,714,000		PLANT	\$7,568,000
	2004				
	2003				
FOLIAGE PLANTS	2004	3,335,000		EACH	\$16,219,000
	2003	4,317,000		EACH	\$13,469,000
	2004				
	2003				
WOODY ORNAMENTALS	2004	50,212,000		EACH	\$54,490,000
	*2003	7,371,000		EACH	\$42,542,000
	2004				
	2003				
TOTAL	2004				\$137,657,000
	2003				\$112,974,000

*REVISED

NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE EXACTLY DUE TO ROUNDING



ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	PER		TOTAL
				UNIT		
	2004	170,000	LBS	22.00		\$3,740,000
	2003	180,000	LBS	21.30		\$3,834,000
BEE SWAX	2004	2,990	LBS	\$1.12		\$3,330
	2003	3,022	LBS	\$1.00		\$3,000
	2004					
	2003					
TOTAL	2004					\$10,573,000
	2003					\$8,892,000

NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE EXACTLY DUE TO ROUNDING

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	PER UNIT	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL
SHEEP & LAMBS	2004	19,500	25,350	CWT	\$105.30	\$2,668,000
	2003	14,000	18,000	CWT	\$94.00	\$1,711,000

OTHER CHICKENS	2004	1,248,100		EACH	\$0.02	\$25,000
& SPENT HENS	2003	1,629,700		EACH	\$0.02	\$33,000

OTHER LIVESTOCK*	2004					\$6,914,000
	2003					\$6,679,000

NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE EXACTLY DUE TO ROUNDING
 *OTHER LIVESTOCK INCLUDES HOGS, SQUAB, DUCKS AND OTHER FOWL.

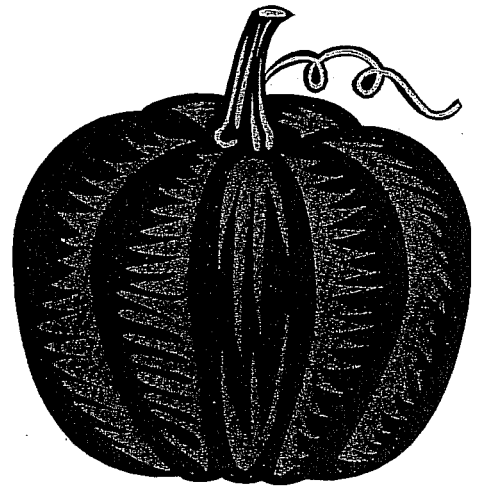
ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	PER UNIT	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL
MARKET	2004	21,768,000	CWT	\$15.00	\$323,478,000	
	2003	21,398,000	CWT	\$12.00	\$255,918,000	


WOOL	2004	132,000	LBS	\$0.77		\$101,000
	2003	119,000	LBS	\$0.75		\$89,000


MANURE	2004	399,000	TON	\$3.00		\$1,202,000
	2003	382,000	TON	\$5.00		\$1,908,000


NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE EXACTLY DUE TO ROUNDING


Pumpkin Facts And Trivia





 Pumpkins and other squashes have been grown in North America for 10,000 years. They are indigenous to the western hemisphere and are believed to be the first plants domesticated by early Americans.


 Pumpkins are fruits. A Pumpkin is a type of squash and is a member of the gourd family (Cucurbitaceae), which includes squash, cucumbers, gourds, and melons.


 Pumpkins range in size from less than 1 pound to just over 1400 pounds.


 Pumpkin flowers are edible. They can be stuffed, fried, candied or used as a garnish for soups and salads.


 Pumpkins are grown on six of the seven continents, with Antarctica being the only continent where they are not grown.

 *Apocolocynosis* is the fear of turning into a pumpkin.

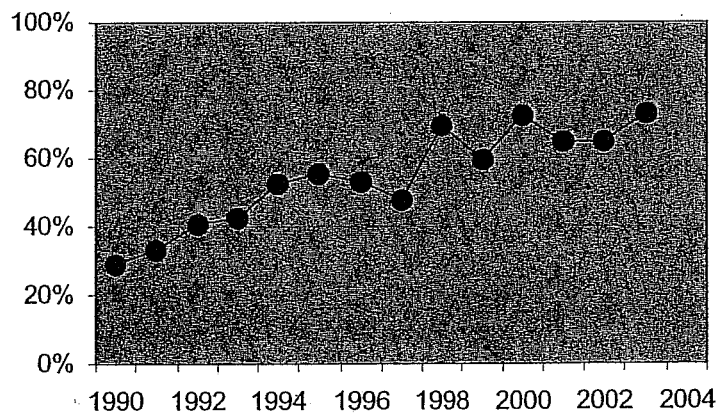
 Pumpkins were once recommended for removing freckles and curing snakebites.

 Pumpkins are low in calories, fat and sodium and high in fiber. They are good sources of vitamin A, vitamin B, potassium, protein and iron.

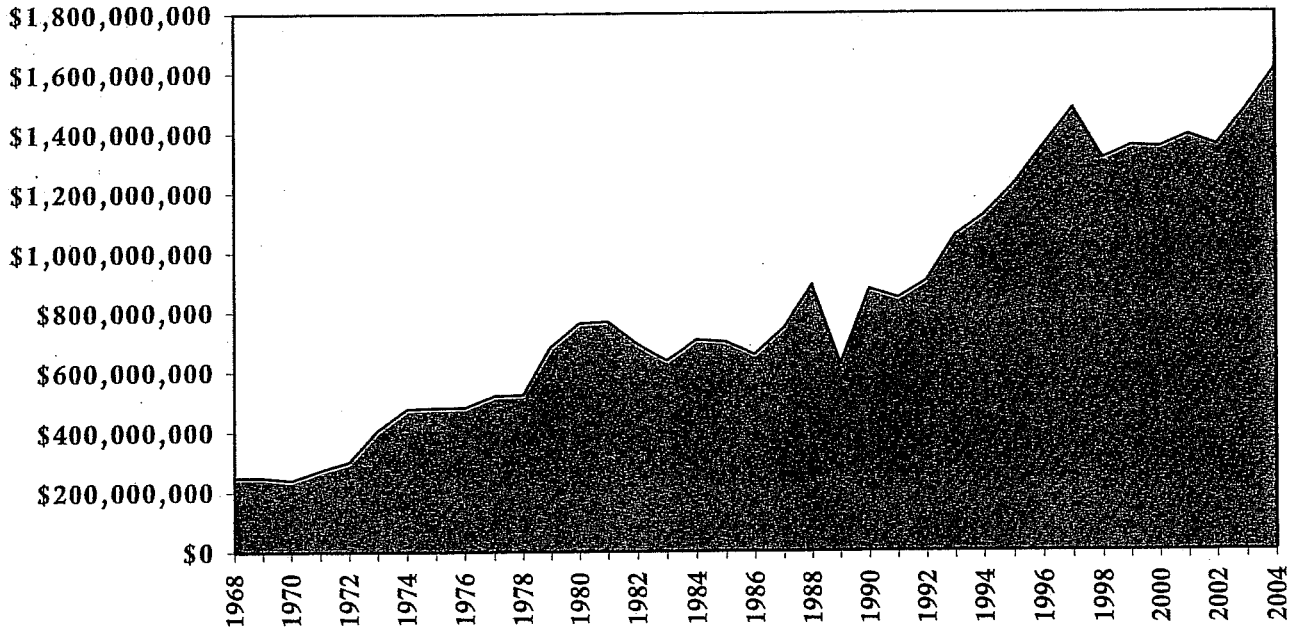
 90% of all pumpkins sold are used for Jack O' Lanterns.

 In 1621, at the first Thanksgiving celebration, Pilgrims took pumpkins, cut off the tops and removed the seeds. They then filled the pumpkins with a mixture of milk, maple syrup and spices, and cooked them in the shells. It is believed the Thanksgiving pumpkin pie evolved from this treat.

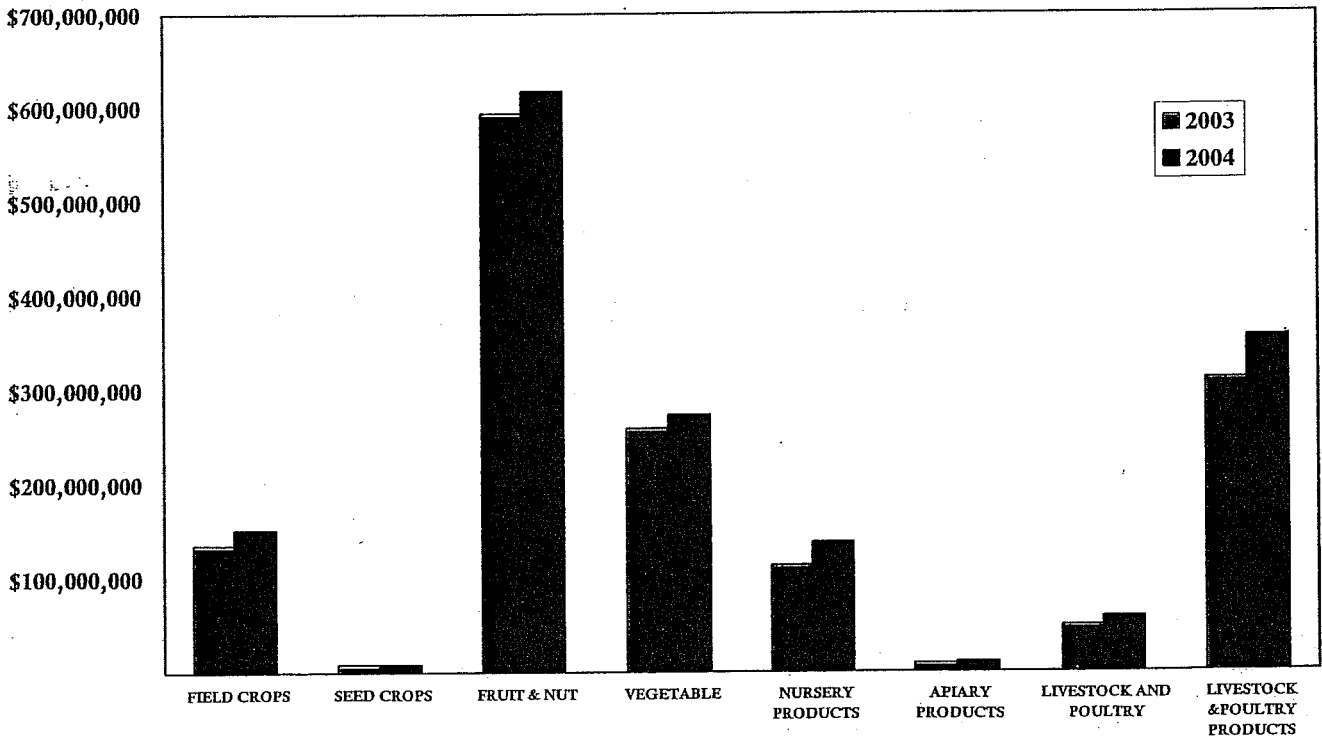
**San Joaquin County's
Share of State Pumpkin Crop**



Yearly Values of Agricultural Commodities in San Joaquin County



Gross Values by Crop Category



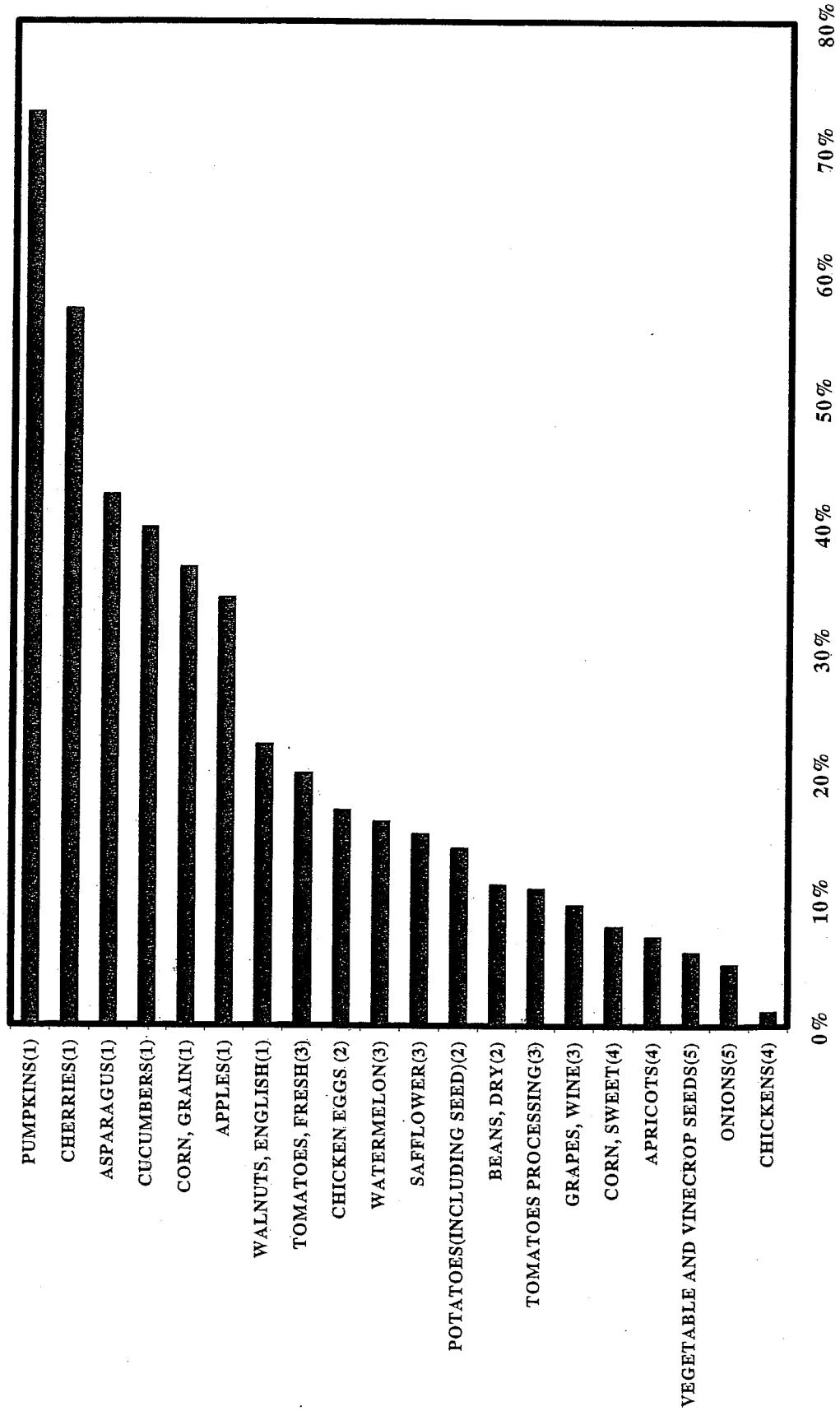
TOTAL VALUE 2003: \$1,477,650,000*

TOTAL VALUE 2004: \$1,613,289,000

*revised

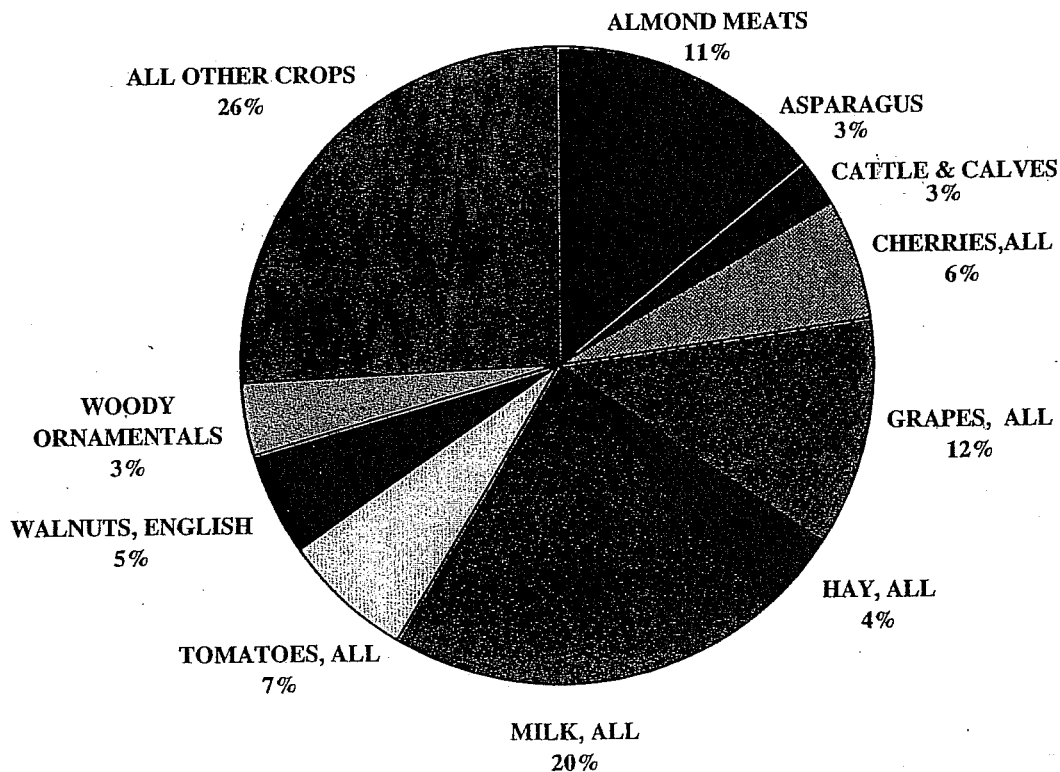
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY'S SHARE OF STATEWIDE PRODUCTION

Listed below are the crops in which San Joaquin County ranked in the top 5 in the State based on gross value during the 2003 crop year. The bars represent San Joaquin County's percentage of the state value for that crop. The numbers in parentheses next to the crop labels show San Joaquin County's ranking for that crop.



SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY'S TOP TEN LEADING CROPS

MILK, ALL	324,657,000
GRAPES, ALL	188,824,000
ALMOND MEATS	172,030,000
TOMATOES, ALL	107,053,000
CHERRIES, ALL	97,904,000
WALNUTS, ENGLISH	87,926,000
HAY, ALL	65,625,000
ASPARAGUS	56,056,000
WOODY ORNAMENTALS	54,490,000
CATTLE & CALVES	40,559,000
ALL OTHER CROPS	418,361,000



Sustainable Agriculture

Insect Trapping Program

To protect our agricultural resources from non-native insects, San Joaquin County maintains a Detection Trapping Program. In 2004, San Joaquin County deployed over 6,500 traps. The majority of these traps targeted the **Glassy Winged Sharpshooter**. Additionally, over 1,400 traps were utilized for the detection of various fruit flies. Among others, these included the **Mediterranean Fruit Fly** and **Oriental Fruit Fly**. The **Red Imported Fire Ant** program (RIFA) had over 19,000 bait stations placed in various apiaries, nurseries, fairgrounds and newly landscaped areas. Interstate sealed shipments from high risk areas were also profiled for the RIFA. A few of the other pests that county biologists watch for are **Gypsy Moth**, **Japanese Beetle**, **Khapra Beetle** and **European Corn Borer**.

Biological Control

Weeds – 16 different insects were enlisted to aid in the battle against 9 different weed pests. **Yellow Starthistle** is one of the County's most invasive weeds, and there are 5 different insects working to control it. Other weeds currently targeted for biocontrol are **Puncturevine**, **Water Hyacinth** and various **Thistle** species.

Insect Predators – The **Ladybird beetle**, *Clitostethus arcuatus*, and its cousin the **Asiatic Ladybird beetle**, *Harmonia axyridis* are well known for the insatiable appetite for aphid and scale insects. Other predators employed in the fight are the **Vedalia beetle**, *Rodolia cardinalis*, and a **Parasitic fly**, *Cryptochaetum iceryae*, which target the Cottony Cushion Scale. Two **Encarsia wasps**, *Encarsia formosa* and *Encarsia partenopea* feed on the Greenhouse whitefly and Ash whitefly respectively. Two species of **Predator mites**, *Galendromus* and *Phytoseiulus spp.*, attack Twospotted spider mites. **Encyrtid wasps**, *Psyllaephagus bliteus*, parasitize Red Gum Lerp Psyllids on eucalyptus trees, while a **Nematode**, *Steinernema feltiae*, acts on fungus gnat larvae in greenhouses.

Vertebrate pests – **Owls** are predators of many nocturnal vertebrate pests, especially **gophers**, **voles** and **mice**. The easiest way to introduce owls to an area is to provide habitat for them. Owl boxes have proven to be the best way to do this. Plans to build these owl boxes are distributed for free by the **Lodi-Woodbridge Winegrape** commission. Plans are also available at any **San Joaquin County Agricultural office**. It is estimated that around 1,000 Owl boxes have been built and deployed by property owners around the county.

Quarantine Interceptions

In an effort to stop smuggled or hitchhiking pests from entering our county, the Agricultural Commissioner's office conducts inspections at the USPS Regional Distribution Center, UPS, FedEx and express mail carriers in San Joaquin County. In 2004 San Joaquin County biologists intercepted 133 "Q" and "A" rated pests through quarantine inspections. The most commonly rejected pests were Lesser Snow Scale and various life stages of leafhoppers. Other significant pests intercepted include Glassy Winged Sharpshooter, Magnolia White Scale, Green Shield, and Cockerell Scales, Spiraling Whitefly and assorted mealybugs.

Punagrass Eradication Project

Punagrass, *Acnatherum brachychaetum*, is a tough, unpalatable weed of pastures and hay crops. Localized infestations of this noxious weed occur in the Tracy/Banta area. This native of South America forms large tough clumps that out compete our native plants. Manual removal of mature plants has proven to be the most effective method of control. In 2004 over 2,900 plants were dug up by hand. Since 1996, a total of 78,785 plants have been removed from 21 different alfalfa fields. Eradication has been achieved in 7 of these fields.

San Joaquin County Trading Partners 2004

San Joaquin County Growers export to all corners of the globe. In 2004 locally grown agricultural commodities were shipped to 139 different countries!



Organic Agriculture

In 2000, the USDA implemented the National Organics Program (NOP). This was done in an effort to certify the availability of clean, organically grown foods to the American Public. In order to market agricultural products as organic, growers must register with NOP and adhere to a strict set of guidelines. These stringent guidelines help to ensure that all foods labeled as organic are indeed organically grown. The California Organic Products Act of 2003 was enacted in an effort to align the current California Organic laws with the National Organics Program. San Joaquin County has 19 registered growers of organic commodities. In 2004, local growers farmed over 2000 acres to produce 19 different organic commodities. San Joaquin County's 5 most valuable Organic crops are:

1. Peaches
2. Cherries
3. Walnuts
4. Almonds
5. Corn

GENERAL SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY INFORMATION

COUNTY SEAT	STOCKTON
COUNTY POPULATION (2004)	630,600
POPULATION PER SQUARE MILE	450
INCORPORATED CITIES (7)	
ESCALON, LATHROP, LODI, MANTECA, RIPON, STOCKTON AND TRACY	
LAND AREA (SQUARE MILES)	1,400
LAND IN FARMS (ACRES - 2002)	812,629
TOTAL CROPLAND (ACRES - 2002)	574,752
IRRIGATED CROPLAND (ACRES - 2002)	520,172
NUMBER OF FARMS (2002)	4,026
AVERAGE SIZE OF FARMS (ACRES - 2002)	202
AGRICULTURAL WORK FORCE (MONTHLY AVERAGE)	16,800
SEASON HIGH - JUNE	28,400
SEASON LOW - DECEMBER	11,000
LOWEST ELEVATION IN COUNTY (DELTA AREA)	12' BELOW SEA LEVEL
HIGHEST ELEVATION IN COUNTY (SOUTHWESTERN AREA)	3065' ABOVE SEA LEVEL
LENGTH OF COUNTY (NORTH TO SOUTH)	75 MILES
WIDTH OF COUNTY (EAST TO WEST)	65 MILES
AVERAGE JANUARY TEMPERATURE	53°
AVERAGE JULY TEMPERATURE	93°
AVERAGE ANNUAL RAINFALL	
NORTH COUNTY 16 INCHES	EAST COUNTY 12 INCHES
SOUTH COUNTY 14 INCHES	WEST COUNTY 9 INCHES

A SPECIAL "THANK YOU"

The San Joaquin County Agricultural Commissioner's Office expresses its deep appreciation to the



and



for their contributions to the 2005 Crop Report. We would also like to thank the San Joaquin County Cooperative Extension for their assistance. Without their support the publication of this report would not be possible. Cover photo credit to M. Mirisch.

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

P.O. BOX 1809

STOCKTON, CA 95201

