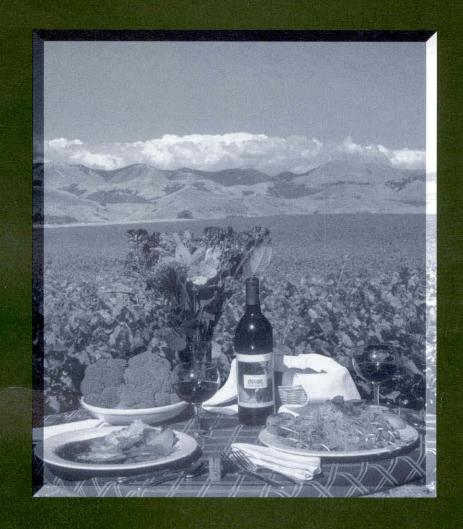
From Field to Table

San Luis Obispo County Department of Agriculture

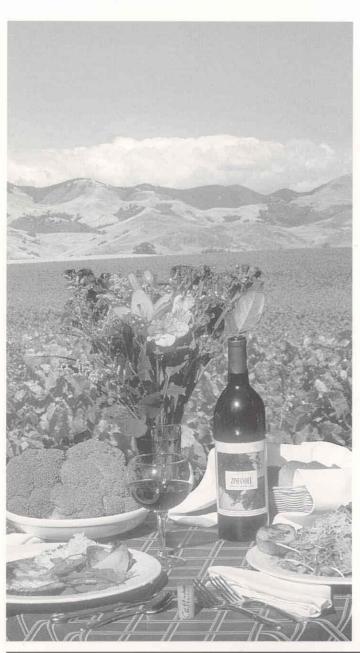


1995



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Financial Report



San Luis Obispo County Department of Agriculture Weights and Measures

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Mary Hertel Christine E. Turner Janine Newby

Cindy Douglas Brenda Mills

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Department of Agriculture/Measurement Standards COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

2156 SIERRA WAY, SUITE A • SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA 93401 FAX (805) 781-1035 RICHARD D. GREEK AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/SEALER

LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONER

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

Mr. Laurence L. Laurent, Chairman District 2 Mr. Harry Ovitt, District 1

Ms. Evelyn Delany, District 3

Ms. Ruth Brackett, District 4

Mr. Robert Hendrix, San Luis Obispo County Administrative Officer Mr. David Blakely, District 5; and Ms. Ann M. Veneman, Secretary California Department of Food and Agriculture

Please accept our 1995 Crop Report for San Luis Obispo County. Agricultural commodities sold are estimated at \$322,815,000 in gross receipts, an all time record. Vegetable crops, nursery and fruit crops overall set all time records for value in spite of intense winter storms. Field crops posted a moderate gain while the animal industries experienced a decline due to a declining price for beef cattle. These figures represent the total farmgate value of the local industry and do not reflect the net

These receipts generate substantial economic activity, through the multiplier affect, income of agricultural operations. throughout the local economy with an estimated 900 million to a billion dollars in agribusiness related commerce. We highlight the bounty of San Luis Obispo County focusing on three commodities: wine grapes, broccoli and cut flowers. As portrayed in the report, there are a myriad of steps and activities involved in the production of these commodities from the field to your dining table.

This report is only possible with the support and cooperation of the local agricultural community. We extend our gratitude to all sectors of the agricultural community for their cooperation in providing production and value information. A special thanks to Paul Wimmer of Rhythm Creekside Cafe for the use of his cafe for the table cover photo.

Sincerely,

Richard Greek

Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

From Field To Table...

It's likely that almost every time you sit down for a meal, you enjoy "the bounty of San Luis Obispo County" — a bounty that includes more than 120 different agricultural commodities. From the cut flowers and indoor plants that add color and cheer to your surroundings, to the delicious fresh fruits, vegetables, and meat you eat, or the wine you drink.

All these agricultural products are grown right here in your own backyard, and yet you probably don't think about how these delicious foods and flowers got to your table, how many hours of

labor went into their production, or how many people influenced their final presentation. You also probably don't often think about the impact agriculture has on the local economy or its importance to the livelihood of so many of your friends and neighbors. We all recognize that farmers and thousands of laborers work in the fields to produce these crops, but beyond that, how much do we really know about all the other

people and steps involved in getting the county's bounty from the field to the table?

It's really quite amazing to think about all the lives influenced by one person's decision to work with the earth. In addition to field workers, there are many agriculture-dependent jobs that we as consumers have never considered. There are tractor sales and service people, farm suppliers, well drillers, irrigation specialists, fertilizer and pest control experts, seed suppliers, greenhouse growers, container suppliers, transplanting and harvesting contractors, cooling and storage operators, laboratory technicians, legal and professional consultants, bankers, truck drivers, equipment support service technicians, produce

brokers and salespeople, communications specialists, tractor drivers and farm managers. Believe it or not, it takes all these people and more to get that fresh stalk of broccoli, those beautiful

cut flowers and that delicious bottle of wine to your table.

So what are the steps involved in getting some of San Luis Obispo County's fastest growing commodities like broccoli, wine grapes, and cut flowers to you, the consumer?

The first and perhaps most important step is to start with a good foundation of **resources**. A farmer has to have good soil and the right climate to grow his products. He also needs an

abundant supply of water, reliable financing for his farming operations, and sound professional advice to keep the business running.

Once the foundation is firmly established, the farmer begins to take the steps necessary to produce his crop. The **production** phase includes land preparation, planting, and field management (pest control, crop nutrition, pruning, thinning etc.). Unique to wine grapes, rootstock and clonal selection from around the world occurs at this phase. In the case of broccoli, intense cultivation with specialized equipment takes place during production, and with cut flowers greenhouse construction and climate control measures are developed.



Harvesting is the next step and it may include intensive hand labor, specialized equipment for mechanical harvesting, holding and transportation equipment, quality control to make sure the crop is up to standard, and transport of the crop from the field to processing facilities.

The fourth step is **processing** and it may vary with the type of commodity. For example, processing of wine grapes includes crushing and pressing, fermentation, refinement (barrel aging, blending, tasting and racking,) and bottling (aging and bouquet development).

Broccoli **processing** includes different steps for fresh and frozen products. Fresh broccoli is vacuum cooled and placed in temporary cold storage before shipping to market, whereas broccoli to be frozen is cleaned, sorted, packed and then placed in freezers before being transported.

The **processing**stage for fresh cut
flowers includes keeping
the flowers cool in a
water staging area,

trimming, grading, sorting, wrapping and packing into shipping containers or, in the case of dried flowers, treated and dried prior to marketing.

Marketing is the fourth and final stage for all agricultural commodities. It is the last step before it gets to you, the consumer. **Marketing** includes

sales to wholesale brokers and direct sales to retail outlets and mass markets; shipping to local and sometimes international markets; and in some cases multimedia advertising. With wine grapes, *marketing* may also include varietal label recognition, tasting facilities, and festivals and

special events to introduce the wine to the public.

As you can see, there is more to that stalk of broccoli, those fresh cut flowers or that bottle of wine than you ever imagined. There are several steps and many people involved in getting the county's bounty from the field to the table. This somewhat "invisible" process is happening all around us every day of the year, 24 hours a day!

We need to remember now and again as we wander through the grocery isles and see the variety and abundance of agricultural products like vegetables and fruits, wine, cut flowers, nuts, grains, and meats how important agriculture is to our local economy. We also

need to think occasionally about the people who work with the earth on our behalf and the value and richness they add to our daily lives. That value lies in the beauty of the fields that surround us and the bounty of products we see every time we sit down to eat a meal.

In the past decade there has been a tremendous increase in the value of San Luis Obispo County wine grapes, broccoli, and cut flowers.

Wine grapes: 400% increase (\$9,814,000 to \$39,502,000) in ten years

Recently the demand for premium California varietal wines has soared. The consumer has matured in the ability to distinguish between quality of varietal wines and has become more sophisticated in the appreciation of characteristics of premium wines.

Broccoli: 350% increase (\$10,357,000 to \$36,847000) in ten years

San Luis Obispo County ranks third in broccoli value within California producing approximately 7% of the total crop.

Total pounds of broccoli (approximately): 145,304,244 Total pounds of broccoli per acre (approximately): 14,000

Cut flowers: 300% increase (\$5,264,000 to \$16,408,000) in ten years

Although the production of cut flowers has declined throughout most of California, the San Luis Obispo County industry is thriving. The growers' sophisticated production techniques and diversified product lines, coupled with the area's natural resources have made it possible for them to stay ahead in this competitive industry.

What We Do

Our mission is to serve the public's interests with a cooperative spirit. We are responsible for insuring equity in the marketplace, promoting and protecting agriculture, environmental quality and the health and welfare of San Luis Obispo County's citizens. We fulfill our mission through our six program areas.

Pest Prevention

Interception of destructive insects and diseases through an aggressive pest prevention program begins with inspections of incoming plant material at post offices, shipping companies, and nurseries. Protection of local agriculture and the environment continues with an extensive pest detection program including up to 27 insect traps per square mile in our urban areas. These efforts provide for the early detection and eradication of exotic pests.

1995 Achievements

- · 30 destructive pests intercepted
- · 1,906 shipments certified for export

Product Quality

Inspections of produce, eggs, honey and nursery products, ensure that the highest quality product is available to consumers. We certify the 13 local Farmers' Markets for produce being sold directly to the consumers.

1995 Achievements

- · 3,159 lettuce premises inspected
- · 70 nurseries inspected
- · Certified 180 producers for direct marketing

Agricultural Resources

Agricultural lands are afforded protection from conversion and from residential land use conflicts through our proactive participation in the land use planning process. When nuisance complaints occur agricultural operators are assisted by the County's Right-To-Farm Ordinance. Emergency plans as well as vital agricultural information and computerized maps are maintained for the local nuclear power emergency planning program.

1995 Achievements

- · Responded to 11 nuisance complaints
- · Reviewed 73 land use projects

Pest Management

The department continued efforts to present growers and the public Integrated Pest Management (IPM) measures for weed control by sponsoring a "Thistle Management in California" seminar in partnership with the UC Cooperative Extension. The department facilitated input from growers, the public and environmental groups in the preparation of a local protection plan for the endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox. Africanized Honey Bee safety training continued throughout the year with the focused outreach toward children.

1995 Achievements

- · Expansion of IPM outreach efforts
- Public presentation of Africanized Bee Safety Program to 800 county citizens
- Completed ground squirrel management training video

Environmental Protection

We protect the public's health and safety with a comprehensive pesticide regulatory program. We do this through user education, protection of agricultural workers, samples of pesticide residues, monitoring use and enforcement. Pesticide use is restricted by a detailed permit process and tracked by a 100% use reporting system. Farmers register hazardous materials storage locations with our office.

1995 Achievements

- Monitored 11,702 application requirements
- · An application compliance rate of 99%
- Conducted 21 industry and general public educational workshops

Measurement Standards

Fairness is our business. The groceries, gasoline, and other items you buy are tested for correct weight, measure or count. We protect the public from purchasing goods that are "short" weight or measure and verify that prices are correctly scanned at the checkout counter. The importance of local input to the National Institute of Standards & Technology becomes critical now that federal law preempts state law in the field of weights and measures.

1995 Achievements

- Richard Greek, Sealer of Weights and Measures, was named Chairman of the Western Weights and Measures Association and starts his third year on the Administration and Public Affairs Committee for the National Conference of Weights and Measures
- Steve Morrison, Chief Deputy Sealer of Weights and Measure, starts his first year on the Laws and Regulations Committee for the National Conference on Weights and Measures

Departmental Goals for 1996

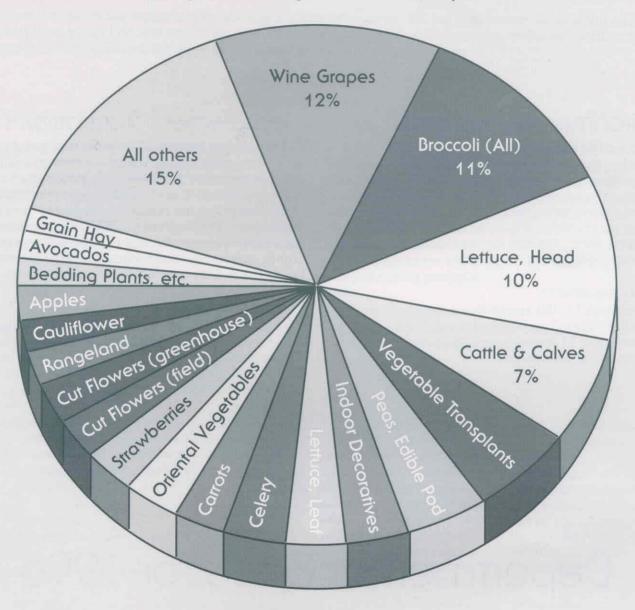
The department will host the 1996 Western Weights and Measures Conference in Pismo Beach with more than 150 members, representing all the western states, attending.

The department plans to initiate a computer network to link all computers in the three offices, and expand its connections with other departments, agencies and the private sector. Other planned technological applications include expansion of computerized maps' global positioning technology and electronic data transfer.

The department was awarded a grant from the Department of Pesticide Regulations for the development of an Integrated Pest Management forum. Alternatives to pesticide use will be investigated and implemented on public lands along with an outreach to the private land owners.

The department will continue to provide valuable input into the completion of the Agriculture and Open Space Element of the General Plan as the plan proceeds through the public hearing process.

Top Twenty Value Crops



2. Broccoli (All) 36,847,000 12. Strawberries 9,160,000 3. Lettuce, Head 32,678,000 13. Cut Flowers (field) 8,271,000 4. Cattle & Calves 22,295,000 14. Cut Flowers (greenhouse) 8,137,000 5. Vegetable Transplants 17,915,000 15. Rangeland 6,695,000 6. Peas, Edible Pod 13,684,000 16. Cauliflower 6,657,000 7. Indoor Decoratives 11,453,000 17. Apples 6,647,000 8. Lettuce, Leaf 10,550,000 18. Bedding Plants, Sod & Ground cover 5,472,000 9. Celery 10,128,000 19. Avocados 5,199,000 10. Carrots 9,661,000 20. Grain Hay 4,864,000	1.	Wine Grapes \$	40,719,000	11.	Oriental Vegetables	9,497,000
4. Cartle & Calves 22,295,000 14. Cut Flowers (greenhouse) 8,137,000 5. Vegetable Transplants 17,915,000 15. Rangeland 6,695,000 6. Peas, Edible Pod 13,684,000 16. Cauliflower 6,657,000 7. Indoor Decoratives 11,453,000 17. Apples 6,647,000 8. Lettuce, Leaf 10,550,000 18. Bedding Plants, Sod & Ground cover 5,472,000 9. Celery 10,128,000 19. Avocados 5,199,000	2.	Broccoli (All)	36,847,000	12.	Strawberries	9,160,000
5. Vegetable Transplants 17,915,000 15. Rangeland 6,695,000 6. Peas, Edible Pod 13,684,000 16. Cauliflower 6,657,000 7. Indoor Decoratives 11,453,000 17. Apples 6,647,000 8. Lettuce, Leaf 10,550,000 18. Bedding Plants, Sod & Ground cover 5,472,000 9. Celery 10,128,000 19. Avocados 5,199,000	3.	Lettuce, Head	32,678,000	13.	Cut Flowers (field)	8,271,000
6. Peas, Edible Pod 13,684,000 16. Cauliflower 6,657,000 7. Indoor Decoratives 11,453,000 17. Apples 6,647,000 8. Lettuce, Leaf 10,550,000 18. Bedding Plants, Sod & Ground cover 5,472,000 9. Celery 10,128,000 19. Avocados 5,199,000	4.	Carrle & Calves	22,295,000	14.	Cut Flowers (greenhouse)	8,137,000
7. Indoor Decoratives 11,453,000 17. Apples 6,647,000 8. Lettuce, Leaf 10,550,000 18. Bedding Plants, Sod & Ground cover 5,472,000 9. Celery 10,128,000 19. Avocados 5,199,000	5.	Vegetable Transplants	17,915,000	15.	Rangeland	6,695,000
8. Lettuce, Leaf 10,550,000 18. Bedding Plants, Sod & Ground cover 5,472,000 9. Celery 10,128,000 19. Avocados 5,199,000	6.	Peas, Edible Pod	13,684,000	16.	Cauliflower	6,657,000
9. Celery	7.	Indoor Decoratives	11,453,000	17.	Apples	6,647,000
	8.	Lettuce, Leaf	10,550,000	18.	Bedding Plants, Sod & Ground cover	5,472,000
10. Carrots	9.	Celery	10,128,000	19.	Avocados	5,199,000
	10.	Carrots	9,661,000	20.	Grain Hay	4,864,000

Comparison 160,000,000 140,000,000 of Valuation of 120,000,000 100,000.000 Major Groups -80 000 000 During the Past 60,000,000 40.000.000 Ten Years 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 Vegetable Fruit & Nut Nursery & Seed Field Total Acreage: 1995 1.231,535 Animal 1994** 1,240,246 YEAR ANIMAL FIELD NURSERY & SEED FRUIT & NUT VEGETABLE TOTAL 1986 54,024,000 28,367,000 12,148,000 23,740,000 114,314,000 232,593,000 1987 59,770,000 24,323,000 18,143,000 27,126,000 118,449,000 247.811.000 1988 55,415,000 30,240,000 22,635,000 41,122,000 117.448.000 266,860,000 1989 30,875,000 25,370,000 26,645,000 59,946,000 137.859.000 280,695,000 1990 30,276,000 17,666,000 35,657,000 53,541,000 135,349,000 272,489,000 1991 26,440,000 16,989,000 36,070,000 54,746,000 126,352,000 260,597,000 1992 28,419,000 18,575,000 37.749.000 56,619,000 136,324,000 277,686,000 1993 33,102,000 20,666,000 39,783,000 60,353,000 137,316,000 291,220,000 1994 31,431,000 21,020,000 45,517,000 65,476,000** 298,228,000** 134,784,000** 1995 26,188,000 21,340,000 56,541,000 70,975,000 147,771,000 322,815,000 **Revised

Animal Industry

Cattle and calves continued the downward trend in value of last year resulting in a decline in this category of approximately 16%. On the positive side, sheep, lambs and wool soared in value; and significant increases in honey production and value were also recorded.

COMMODITY Cattle and Calves	YEAR 1995 1994	NO. OF HEAD 58,000 57,000	PRODUCTION 359,600 347,700	UNIT Cwt Cwt	VALUE PER UNIT \$62.00 \$83.00	TOTAL \$22,295,000 \$28,859,000
Hogs	1995 1994	2,387 2,934	4,994 6,003	Cwt	48.46 51.04	242,000 306,000
Honey	1995 1994		329,382 145,350	Lbs Lbs	0.66 0.42	217,000 61,000
Market Milk	1995 1994		64,915 74,864	Cwt Cwt	12.12 11.54	787,000 864,000
Sheep and Lambs	1995 1994	7,610 7,679	9,896 10,013	Cwt Cwt	78.01 65.78	772,000 659,000
Wool	1995 1994		72,981 85,959	Lbs Lbs	1.06 0.62	77,000 53,000
*Miscellaneous	1995 1994					1,798,000 629,000
TOTAL ANIMAL INDUSTRY	1995 1994					\$26,188,000 \$31,431,000

^{**}Eggs, Poultry, Goats, Game Birds, Bee wax, Pollination, Aquaculture

^{**}Revised

Fruit & Nut Crops

Fruit and nut crops increased to another all time high up 8.4% above 1994. Wine grapes posted the biggest gain up eight million dollars over adjusted 1994 figures. The value for varietal wine grapes jumped sharply and average to above average tonnage in the interior portions of the county set the stage for the increase.

CROP	YEAR	ACREAGE BEARING ACREAGE	PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	TOTAL
Almonds	1995* 1994	2,200	0.040	88	Ton	\$4,605.00	\$ 405,000
Apples	1995 1994	1,285 1,250	10.890 13.136	13,994 16,420	Ton Ton	475.00 450.00	6,647,00 7,389,00
Avocados (Hass)	1995 1994**	868 1,090	3.330 2.895	2.890 3.156	Ton Ton	1,738.00 1,875.00	5,024,00 5,917,00
Avocados (Other)	1995	123	2.960	364	Ton	482.00	175,00
Bushberries	1995* 1994	46	5,390	248	Ton	3,337.00	827,00
Grapes (All)	1995 1994	9,380 9,080		47,604 39,589			40,719,00 32,287,00
Chardonnay	1995 1994	3,450 2,960	3.550 3.820	12,248 11,307	Ton Ton	1,130,00 1,061,00	13,840,00 11,997,00
Sauvignon Blanc	1995 1994	637 655	7.560 6.970	4,816 4,565	Ton Ton	682.00 564.00	3,284,00 2,575,00
Cabernet Sauvignon	1995 1994	2,601 2,595	5,660 4,460	14,722 11,574	Ton Ton	866.00 788.00	12,749,00 9,120,00
Merlot	1995	462	3.520	1,626	Ton	1,295.00	2,106,00
Zinfandel	1995 1994	1,200 1,040	7.390 6.510	8,868 6,770	Ton Ton	555.00 489.00	4,922,000 3,311,000
All Other	1995 1994	1,030 1,830	5.170 3.850	5,325 7,046	Ton Ton	717.00 750.00	3,818,000 5,284,000
Lemons	1995 1994	1,035 1,035	16.630 17.950	17,212 18,578	Ton Ton	193.00 221.00	3,322,000 4,106,000
Pistachios	1995 1994	120 90	0.420 0.460	50 41	Ton Ton	2,800.00 2,500.00	141,00 104,00
Strawberries	1995 1994	530 650	22.130 20.860	11,729 13,559	Ton Ton	781.00 730.00	9,160,000
Valencia Oranges	1995 1994	272 262	12.270 13.890	3,337 3,639	Ton Ton	216.00 153.00	721,000 557,000
English Walnuts	1995 1994	2,700 2,700	0.390 0.435	1,053 1,175	Ton Ton	1,345.00 1,010.00	1,416,000
*Miscellaneous	1995 1994	2,300 730					3,650,000
TOTAL FRUIT & **NUT CROPS	1995 1994	18,490 19,133					\$70,975,000 \$65,476,000

^{*}Almonds, Apricot, Black Walnut, Bushberry, Cherry, Feijoa, Fig, Grapefruit, Kiwi, Lime, Navel Orange, Nectarine, Peach, Pear, Persimmon, Pomegranate, Plum, Table Grape, Starfruit, Pepino, Raisin Grape, Tangelo

**Revised

Vegetable Crops

In spite of disruption to planting schedules due to winter rains, the acreage committed to vegetable production was consistent with previous years. Many crops, especially lettuce and broccoli, benefited from increased value, with vegetable crops increasing by nearly 10% more than in 1994. Broccoli, which is one of our featured commodities, was the number one vegetable crop with a combined fresh and frozen crop at more than 36 million dollars.

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PER ACRE	RODUCTION TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	ALUE TOTAL
Beans (Green)	1995	473	481	227,513	30#	\$5.08	\$ 1,156,000
	1994	276	356	98,256	30#	\$5.36	\$ 527,000
Bell Peppers	1995	1,075	694	746,050	30#	6.06	4,521,000
	1994**	1,227	660	809,820	30#	6.86	5,555,000
Broccoli	1995	9,738	606	5,901,228	23#	5.96	35,171,000
(Fresh)	1994	9,224	578	5,331,472	23#	5.04	26,871,000
Broccoli	1995	840	5.7	4,788	Ton	350.00	1,676,000
(Freezer)	1994	1,135		6,810	Ton	395.00	2,690,000
Cabbage	1995	463	684	316,692	45#	6.88	2,179,000
	1994	842	873	735,066	45#	4.91	3,609,000
Carrots	1995	2,939	30.9	90,815	Ton	106.38	9,661,000
	1994	2,897	38	110,086	Ton	75.00	8,256,000
Cauliflower	1995	1,726	645	1,113,270	25#	5.98	6,657,000
	1994	2,131	696	1,483,176	25#	5.46	8,098,000
Celery	1995	1,278	1181	1,509,318	60#	6.71	10,128,000
	1994	1,393	1100	1,532,300	60#	7.34	11,247,000
Oriental	1995	1,551	778	1,206,678	80#	7.87	9,497,000
Vegetables	1994	1,009	740	746,660	80#	9.79	7,310,000
Lettuce	1995	6,438	704	4,532,352	50#	7.21	32,678,000
Head	1994	7,388	714	5,275,032	50#	6.12	32,283,000
Lettuce	1995	2,118	822	1,740,996	25#	6.06	10,550,000
Leaf	1994	1,359	893	1,213,587	25#	5.50	6,675,000
Peas	1995	3,350	521	1,745,350	10#	7.84	13,684,000
Edible Pod	1994	2,800	544	1,523,200	10#	7.42	11,302,000
Spinach	1995 1994*	249	625	155,625	20#	4.1	638,000
Squash	1995	560	628	351,680	30#	3.29	1,157,000
	1994	525	628	329,700	30#	5.34	1,761,000
Tomato	1995	98	1422	139,356	20#	13.76	1,918,000
	1994	94	1002	94,188	20#	13.27	1,250,000
*Miscellaneous	1995 1994	1,200 1,300					6,500,000 7,350,000
TOTAL VEGETABLE CROPS	1995 1994**	33,847 33,600					\$147,771,000 \$134,784,000

^{*}Anise, Artichokes, Baby Vegetables, Brussel Sprouts, Cilantro, Chili Peppers, Cucumber, Endive, Escarole, Garlic, Herbs, Kale, Mushrooms, Onions, Parsley, Parsnips, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Radishes, Sweet Corn, Tomatillos, Watermelon
**Revised

Nursery Stock

Nursery products again increased sharply with nearly a 25% increase above 1994 values. All reported categories increased in value, with the exception of Christmas trees. Vegetable transplants and cut flowers lead the way with about five million and two million increases respectively.

CROP Cut Flowers (Field)	YEAR 1995 1994	PRODUCTION (acres) 530 469	PRODUCTION (Sq Ft)	VALUE \$8,271,000 \$7,700,000
Cut Flowers (Greenhouse)	1995 1994		1,693,399 1,672,272	8,137,000 6,406,000
Woody Ornamentals **Ornamentals and Bedding	1995	32	443,920	1,819,000
	1994	24	404,664	1,511,000
Bedding Plants, Sod,	1995	25	189,000	5,472,000
& Ground Cover	1994	19	219,815	5,251,000
Fruit & Nut Trees	1995	46	90,000	1,856,000
	1994	32	90,010	1,575,000
Vegetable Transplants	1995	52	668,225	17,915,000
	1994	68	666,975	12,068,000
Indoor Decoratives	1995 1994		1,428,233 1,077,650	11,453,000 9,708,000
Christmas Trees, Cut	1995 1994	57 67		183,000 241,000
*Miscellaneous	1995	4	220,530	508,000
	1994	5	40,000	125,000
TOTAL NURSERY	1995	744	4,733,307	\$55,614,000
STOCK	1994	684	4,171,386	\$44,585,000

^{*}Herbs, Specialty plants, Cacti, Succulents, Propagative plants

Seed Crops

The overall value for seed crops was essentially the same as 1994. Field seed crops generally declined while vegetable seed crops increased drastically.

CROP	YEAR	PLANTED ACREAGE	HARVESTED ACREAGE	VALUE
Barley	1995	450	450	\$62,000
	1994	610	610	\$73,000
Oats	1995	674	580	90,000
	1994	720	720	220,000
Vegetable	1995	167	167	600,000
	1994	79	79	362,000
*Miscellaneous	1995	370	370	175,000
	1994	705	705	277,000
TOTAL SEED CROP	1995	1,661	1,567	\$927,000
	1994	2,114	2,114	\$932,000

^{*}Dry bean, Flower seeds, Sudangrass

^{**}Revised

Field Crops

Values for grain prices increased sharply contributing to a slight increase in the overall value of field crops. The above average precipitation during the year overall created favorable conditions for most field crops, the majority of which are produced without irrigation. However, the extremely heavy rainfall in January and March and a late frost reduced yields and quality in some locations.

coop		ACREAGE		PRODUCTION				VALUE
CROP	YEAR	PLANTED	HARVESTED	PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Alfalfa Hay	1995 1994		3,750 3,800	7.00 7.20	26,250 27,360	Ton Ton	\$118.00 \$131.00	\$3,098,000 \$3,584,000
Barley	1995 1994	28,000 36,500	25,000 34,500	1.05 1.02	26,250 35,190	Ton Ton	138.00 108.00	3,623,000 3,801,000
Garbanzo Beans	1995 1994	883 950	883 605	8.83 10.17	7,797 6,153	CWT	49.00 35.00	382,000 215,000
++Grain Hay	1995 1994	32,500 22,500	32,000 22,200	2.00 1.90	64,000 42,180	Ton Ton	76.00 92.00	4,864,000 3,881,000
Grain Stubble (Grazed)	1995 1994		70,000 77,000			Acre Acre	3.50 4.50	245,000 347,000
Irrigated Pasture	1995 1994		5,250 5,400			Acre Acre	220.00 300.00	1,155,000 1,620,000
Rangeland, Grazed	1995 1994		1,030,000 1,030,000			Acre Acre	6.50 6.00	6,695,000 6,180,000
Safflower	1995 1994	4,010 2,070	4,010 2,040	0.28 0.29	1,123 592	Ton Ton	300.00 300.00	337,000 177,000
Wheat	1995 1994	7,000 8,000	4,500 7,900	1.12 0.97	5,040 7,663	Ton Ton	143.00 122.00	721,000 935,000
*Miscellaneous	1995 1994		1,400 1,600					220,000 280,000
TOTAL FIELD CROPS	1995 1994		1,176,793 1,185,045					\$21,340,000 \$21,020,000

^{*}Buckwhear, Oars, Sudangrass, Straw ++includes winter forage

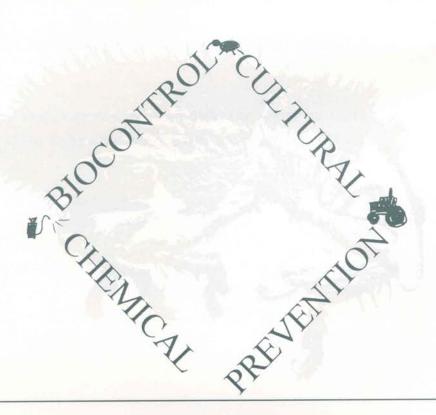


Sustainable Agriculture San Luis Obispo County

There are many sustainable agricultural activities occurring in San Luis Obispo County. Many growers use cover crops, minimum tillage, integrated pest management, crop rotation, along with a wide array of other practices, all within the realm of sustainable agriculture. Our bio-control program, reported here, develops activities designed to reduce pest problems in an economical and environmentally sensitive manner.

County Biological Control Program

PEST	BIO-CONTROL AGENT	SCOPE OF PROGRAM
Ash Whitefly	Wasp	Countywide
Western Grapeleaf Skeletonizer	Wasp & Fly	North County
Blue Gum Psyllid	Wasp	1 site (monitored)
Eugenia Psyllid	Wasp	San Luis Obispo
Puncture Vine	Seedhead & Stem-mining Weevils	Countywide
Yellow Starthistle	3 Seedhead Weevils, 1 Fly	32 sites
Bull Thistle	Gall Fly	1 site
Skeleton Weed	Rust, Mite, Midge	5 sites (monitored)

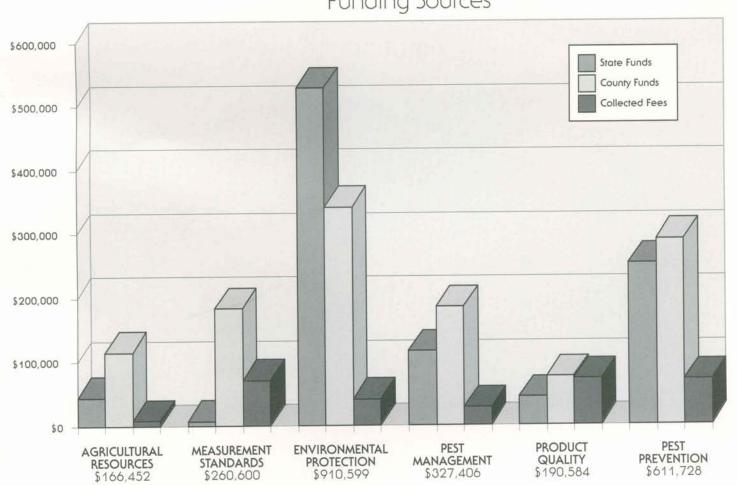


Financial Report

Fiscal Ye	ear 1994 - 1995
37%	\$914,889
40%	\$987,678
12%	\$289,333
11%	\$275,469
74%	\$1,832,123
12%	\$290,989
11%	\$275,469
3%	\$68,788
	37% 40% 12% 11% 74% 12% 11%

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES Total Funding: \$166,452	State Funds	\$43,739	26%
	County Funds	\$114,717	69%
	Collected Fees	\$7,996	5%
MEASUREMENT STANDARDS Total Funding: \$260,600	State Funds	\$6,966	3%
	County Funds	\$183, 286	70%
	Collected Fees	\$70,348	27%
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	State Funds	\$528,647	58%
Total Funding:	County Funds	\$341,646	38%
\$910,599	Collected Fees	\$40,306	4%
PEST MANAGEMENT	State Funds	\$115,861	35%
Total Funding:	County Funds	\$184,835	57%
\$327,406	Collected Fees	\$26,710	8%
PRODUCT QUALITY Total Funding: \$190,584	State Funds	\$43,575	23%
	County Funds	\$75,455	40%
	Collected Fees	\$71,554	37%
PEST PREVENTION Total Funding: \$611,728	State Funds	\$251,908	41%
	County Funds	\$290,525	48%
	Collected Fees	\$69,295	11%

Funding Sources







Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures 2156 Sierra Way, Suite A San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

