

# SAN BENITO COUNTY

2022

CROP & LIVESTOCK  
REPORT





# COUNTY OF SAN BENITO

**Ken Griffin** Acting AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER and SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES  
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Karen Ross, Secretary California Department of Food and Agriculture  
The Honorable San Benito County Board of Supervisors  
Ray Espinosa, County Administrative Officer

In accordance with the requirements of section 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I respectfully submit the Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures' 2022 Annual Livestock and Crop Report.

Farmers and ranchers throughout San Benito County were thrown a major curveball in 2022. Changes in weather patterns affected growers and producers immensely. From south county seeing a few snow days in the beginning of the year to the San Juan Valley, which is known for its typically moderate climate, having record high temperatures in late summer as well as throughout the county. The ongoing drought took a toll on almost all farmers and ranchers. The vast majority of cattle ranchers were forced to cut down herd sizes in order to prevent overgrazing on their rangelands. Farmers had to be cautious of water usage, those dependent on the Blue Valve water were cut off ultimately leading to the termination of their crop. Despite these hardships, San Benito County agricultural industry powered through.

The San Benito County Agricultural Commissioner's Office prides itself with the close net relationships it has with our county's farmers and ranchers. We strive to build rapport and open communication with our growers thus a special thank you to all who have contributed to the data collection process. This report could not have been done without the efforts of our community and department staff. Thank you to all who call agriculture their professional career and especially to the staff who collected, analyzed, and published this important data.

These figures represent gross returns to the producer and do not take into consideration the cost of production, marketing, or transportation. Net income of the producer is not reflected in this report. The figures are also periodically averaged and or rounded in the process to achieve the end value.

To learn more about the Agricultural Commissioner's Office and the services we provide including crop reports, visit us @ <https://www.cosb.us/departments/agriculture/crop-report>.

Sincerely,

*Ken Griffin*

Ken Griffin

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# SAN BENITO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSONER and SEALERS OFFICE

**Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures**

*Karen Overstreet*

**Deputy Ag Commissioner/Deputy Sealer of Weights & Measures**

*Ken Griffin*

**Supervising Agricultural Biologist/Inspector**

*Donna Carbonaro*

## **Agricultural Biologist**

- *Rafael Martinez*
- *Michael Silverman*
- *Belen Velasquez*
- *Kacy Wentzell*
- *Mary Ramirez*

## **Agricultural Technician**

- *Jose Carapia*
- *Clayton Holly*
- *Gabby Jimenez*
- *Elyssa Soria*
- *Lorie Tilley*

## **Administrative Support**

- *Angie Pate*
- *Lisa Zavala*

### **County Board of Supervisors**

Betsy Dirks	District 1	
Kollin Kosmicki	District 2	
Peter Hernandez	District 3	
Bob Tiffany	District 4	Vice Chairman
Bea Gonzales	District 5	Chairman

### **County Administrative Officer**

Ray Espinosa

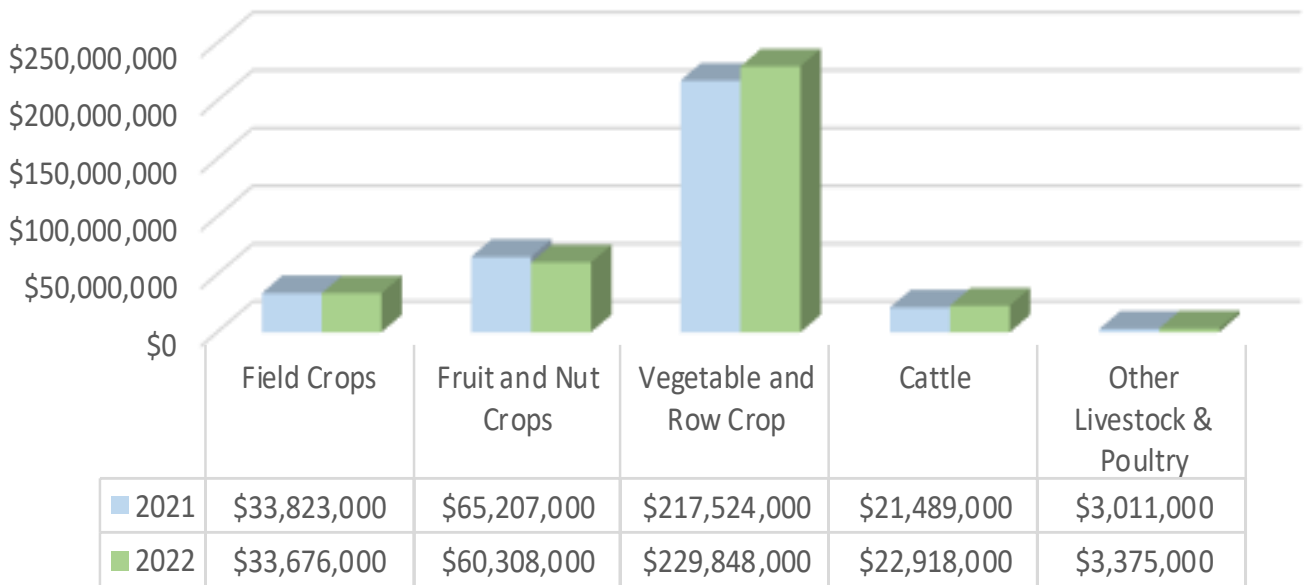
# COMMODITY SUMMARY



SAN BENITO COUNTY'S AGRICULTURAL VALUE INCREASED BY 9 MILLION DOLLARS IN GROSS SALES FOR 2022. THE BIGGEST INCREASE WAS FOUND IN VEGETABLE AND ROW CROPS.

TOTAL GROSS SALES	
2021	\$ 341,054,000
2022	\$ 350,125,000

## COMMODITY SUMMARY



# TOP 10 COMMODITIES



## 2022 Top 10 Commodities

2021 Rank	2022 Rank	Product	Value	% of Total	% difference
1	1	Misc. Veg & Row	\$48,304,000	8%	-5%
2	2	Wine Grapes	\$40,616,000	7%	-10%
4	3	Spinach	\$37,353,000	6%	6%
10	4	Tomato, Fresh mkt.	\$30,490,000	5%	143%
7	5	Lettuce, Romaine	\$24,432,000	4%	47%
5	6	Broccoli/Brocchettoe	\$24,046,000	4%	-5%
6	7	Cattle & Livestock	\$22,918,000	4%	7%
3	8	Lettuce, Salad Mix	\$22,450,000	4%	-38%
8	9	Pasture/ Rangeland	\$17,438,000	3%	6%
9	10	Peppers, All Reported	\$17,084,000	3%	19%

**Total Value**

**\$285,131,000**

**80% of ALL Commodities**

# VEGETABLE AND ROW CROPS

Commodity	Year	Acres	Per Acre	Total Tons	\$ per unit	Total
<b>Broccoli/Brocquette</b>	2021	3003	6.99	20,991	1200	\$25,189,000
	2022	2792	7.1	19,823	1213	\$24,046,000
<b>Celery</b>	2021	557	32.5	18,103	320	\$5,793,000
	2022	468	22.8	10,670	285	\$3,041,000
<b>Kale</b>	2021	656	9.3	6,101	1190	\$7,260,000
	2022	920	7.1	6,532	1200	\$7,838,000
<b>Lettuce, Iceberg</b>	2021	865	12.4	10,726	368	\$3,947,000
	2022	1062	14.38	15,272	336	\$5,131,000
<b>Lettuce, Romaine</b>	2021	2855	13	37,115	448	\$16,628,000
	2022	3533	14.2	50,169	487	\$24,432,000
<b>Peppers, All Reported</b>	2021	1562	20	31,240	460	\$14,370,000
	2022	1315	32	42,080	406	\$17,084,000
<b>Tomatoes, Fresh</b>	2021	690	14	9,660	1300	\$12,558,000
	2022	1087	22	23,914	1275	\$30,490,000
<b>Carrot</b>	2021	553	4,680	-	-	\$2,580,000
	2022	315	4,680	-	-	\$1,474,000
<b>Lettuce, Salad Mix</b>	2021	6650	5,223	34,732,950	-	\$36,077,000
	2022	5635	4,426	24,940,510	-	\$22,450,000
<b>Misc. Veg &amp; Row*</b>	2021	6202	-	-	-	\$50,993,000
	2022	5875	-	-	-	\$48,304,000
<b>Onions-Shallots-Garlic</b>	2021	661	-	-	-	\$6,891,000
	2022	787	-	-	-	\$8,205,000
<b>Spinach</b>	2021	5063	-	-	-	\$35,441,000
	2022	4410	-	-	-	\$37,353,000

**2021 Total \$217,727,000**

**2022 Total \$229,848,000**



# FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

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Commodity	Year	Acres	Per Acre	Total Tons	\$ per unit	Total
<b>Apples</b>	2021	330	21.6	7,128	214	\$1,525,000
	2022	366	20	7,320	380	\$2,781,600
<b>Apricots</b>	2021	545	3.46	1,886	790	\$1,490,000
	2022	500	3	1,500	1255	\$1,883,000
<b>Cherries</b>	2021	510	5.55	2,831	1305	\$3,694,000
	2022	448	2	896	1772	\$1,588,000
<b>Grapes</b>	2021	4800	6	28,800	1560	\$44,928,000
	2022	5323	5.4	28744.2	1413	\$40,616,000
<b>Misc</b>	2021	523		-	-	\$11,800,000
	2022	519		-	-	\$12,426,000
<b>Olives</b>	2021	174	1.88	327	704	\$230,000
	2022	198	1.3	257.4	852	\$219,305
<b>Walnuts</b>	2021	1266	0.58	734	1526	\$1,121,000
	2022	1326	0.5	663	1200	\$796,000

**2021 Total** **\$64,787,000**

**2022 Total** **\$60,308,000**

# FIELD CROPS



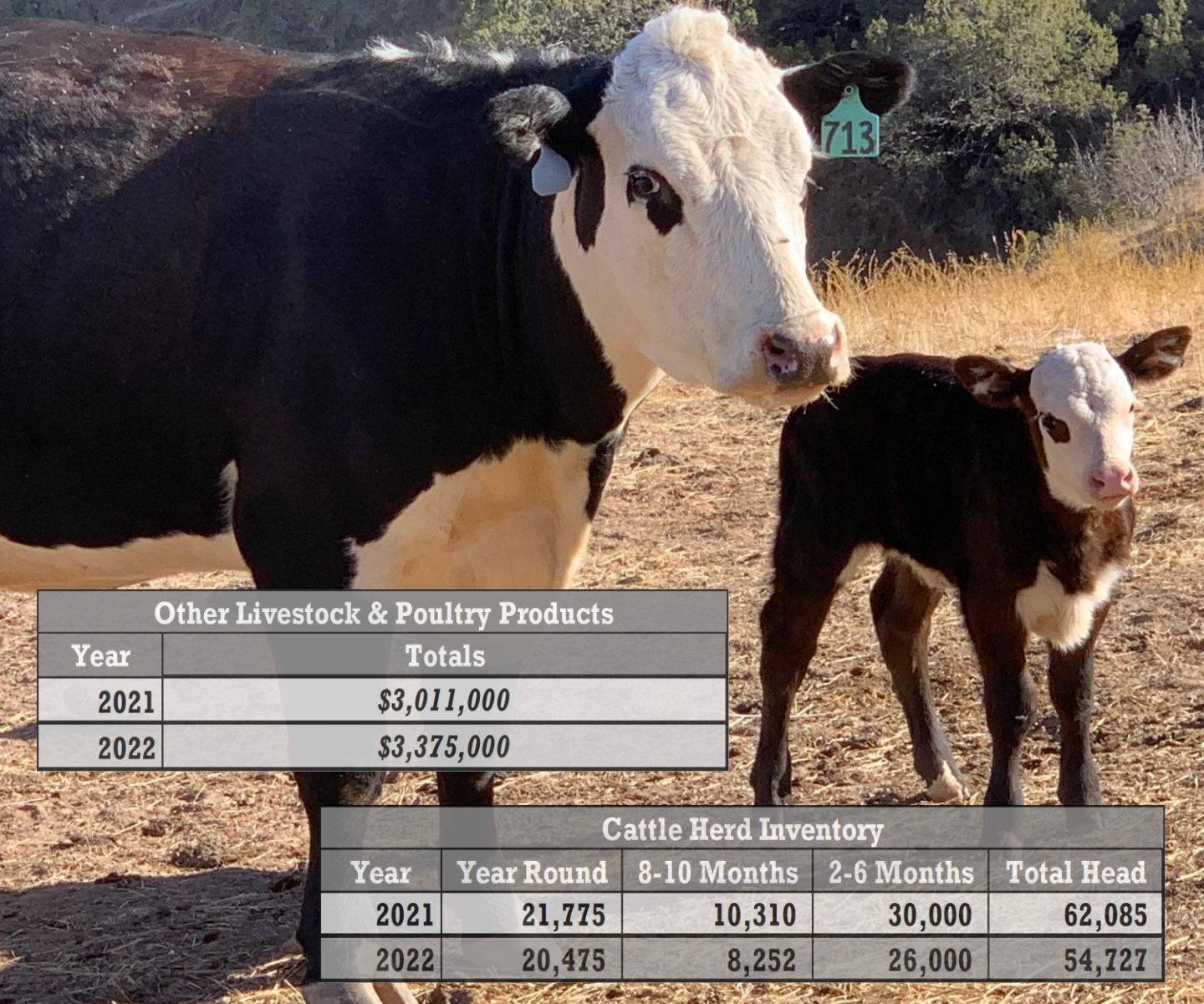
Commodity	Year	Acres	Per Acre	Total Tons	\$ per unit	Total
<b>Misc Field Crops</b>	2021					\$708,000
	2022					\$815,000
<b>Grain Hay</b>	2021	10000	2.66	26,600	240	\$6,384,000
	2022	8750	2.46	21,525	275	\$5,919,000
<b>Nursery Stock</b>	2021	135				\$6,801,000
	2022	85				\$4,252,000
<b>Pasture/Rangeland</b>	2021	504000			32.5	\$16,380,000
	2022	504000			34.6	\$17,438,000
<b>Seed Crops</b>	2021	229				\$1,603,000
	2022	623				\$4,361,000
<b>Hemp</b>	2021	105				\$1,947,000
	2022	48				\$890,000

**2021 Total \$33,823,000**

**2022 Total \$33,676,000**

# CATTLE & LIVESTOCK

	Year	# of Head	Total Cwt	\$ per Cwt	Total
<b>Calves</b>	2021	13,160	83,829	153	\$12,826,000
	2022	12,950	82,491	160	\$13,199,000
<b>Pasture</b>	2021	28,860	80,808	48.00	\$3,879,000
	2022	22,500	63,000	48.00	\$3,024,000
<b>Cows</b>	2021	3,800	53,960	81.00	\$4,371,000
	2022	5,000	71,000	86.00	\$6,106,000
<b>Bulls</b>	2021	260	4,862	85.00	\$413,000
	2022	300	5,610	105.00	\$589,000
<b>2021 Total</b>	<b>All Cattle Sold</b>	<b>50,640</b>			<b>\$21,489,000</b>
<b>2022 Total</b>	<b>All Cattle Sold</b>	<b>40,750</b>			<b>\$22,918,000</b>



<b>Other Livestock &amp; Poultry Products</b>	
Year	Totals
2021	\$3,011,000
2022	\$3,375,000

<b>Cattle Herd Inventory</b>				
Year	Year Round	8-10 Months	2-6 Months	Total Head
2021	21,775	10,310	30,000	62,085
2022	20,475	8,252	26,000	54,727

# MISCELLANEOUS CROPS

\*COMMODITIES IN THESE CATEGORIES ARE COMBINED WITH OTHER SIMILAR PRODUCTS BECAUSE THE NUMBER OF PRODUCERS OF EACH COMMODITY WERE LESS THAN THREE, OR ONE PRODUCER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR 60 PERCENT OR MORE OF THE PRODUCT.

## VEGETABLE & ROW CROPS



## FRUIT & NUT CROPS



## SALAD MIX



## LIVESTOCK & POULTRY PRODUCTS



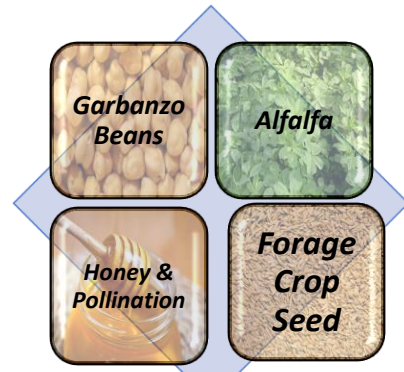
## NURSERY STOCK



## SEED CROPS



## FIELD CROPS



# FRUIT AND VEGETABLE STANDARDIZATION

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THIS PROGRAM ENSURES COMPLIANCE WITH CALIFORNIA'S MINIMUM STANDARDS REGARDING QUALITY AND MARKETING OF ALL PRODUCE COMMERCIALY GROWN AND/OR MARKETED IN THE STATE. DIRECT MARKETING REGULATION AND ORGANIC LAW ENFORCEMENT ARE PART OF A PROGRAM THAT PROVIDES FOR LOCAL PROTECTION TO GROWERS, MARKETERS AND CONSUMERS.



THE HOLLISTER FARMER'S MARKET WAS ESTABLISHED TO OFFER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS DIRECTLY TO THE CONSUMERS IN SAN BENITO COUNTY. SAN BENITO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE CERTIFIED ONE FARMER'S MARKET AND ISSUED NUMEROUS CERTIFIED PRODUCER'S CERTIFICATES. STAFF CONDUCTED INSPECTIONS AT THE MARKETS AND THE CERTIFIED GROWING SITES IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE INTEGRITY OF THE DIRECT MARKETING PROGRAM.

# AG PROGRAMS

## PEST DETECTION

AT THE PEAK SEASON, OUR OFFICE DEPLOYED 906 INSECT DETECTION TRAPS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY. THESE TRAPS ARE DESIGNED TO INTERCEPT NEW EXOTIC AND NON-NATIVE INSECT SPECIES BEFORE THEY BECOME ESTABLISHED. SOME OF THE INSECTS WE MONITOR FOR INCLUDE ASIAN CITRUS PSYLLID - EUROPEAN PINE SHOOT MOTH - JAPANESE BEETLE - MELON FRUIT FLY - MEXICAN FRUIT FLY - EUROPEAN CORN BORER - GLASSY-WINGED SHARPSHOOTER - KHAPRA BEETLE - MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY - EUROPEAN GRAPEVINE MOTH - GYPSY MOTH - ORIENTAL FRUIT FLY - LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH ALL AMOUNT TO 11,910 SERVICING'S COMPLETED IN OVER 3728 HOURS.



## PEST EXCLUSION

PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATES ARE ISSUED UPON THE INSPECTION OF A MULTITUDE OF FRESH VEGETABLES OR SEED CROPS TO ENSURE CLEANLINESS FOR PRODUCT DESTINED AROUND THE WORLD. IN 2022 OUR DEPARTMENT ISSUED 3580 FEDERAL CERTIFICATES AND 543 STATE CERTIFICATES. OUR TOP EXPORTING COUNTRIES INCLUDED MEXICO, CANADA AND CHINA..



## PEST ERADICATION

INVASIVE PLANT PESTS ARE ERADICATED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR USING A COMBINATION OF CHEMICAL, MECHANICAL, AND BIOLOGICAL CONTROL METHODS. TARGET SPECIES INCLUDE YELLOW & PURPLE STAR-THISTLE, SCOTCH & ARTICHOKE THISTLE.



# WEIGHTS & MEASURES



WEIGHTS AND MEASURES INSPECTORS CERTIFY DEVICES USED IN COMMERCE THAT WEIGH, MEASURE, OR COUNT A PRODUCT ARE ACCURATE AND WITHIN TOLERANCE ANNUALLY. UPON THE COMPLETION OF AN INSPECTION A SEAL, AS PICTURED ABOVE, IS PLACED ON THE DEVICE.



THE W&M INSPECTORS ARE SEEN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY INSPECTING SCALES AND METERS SMALL AND LARGE. THE TOP LEFT PICTURE IS OF CATTLE SCALE LOCATED AT OUR LOCAL FAIRGROUNDS. PICTURED ABOVE IS AN INSPECTOR PERFORMING AN INSPECTION ON A COMPUTING SCALE AT A GROCERY STORE. TO THE LEFT IS A SEALED WIRE METER AT A HARDWARE STORE.

# 15 CONSUMER PROTECTION



ALL FUEL DELIVERY METERS ARE INSPECTED ANNUALLY TO ENSURE THE CORRECT AMOUNT IS DISPENSED TO THE CONSUMER.

PRICE VERIFICATION INSPECTIONS ARE CONDUCTED TO ASSURE CONSUMERS ARE CHARGED THE LOWEST ADVERTISED PRICE AT CHECKOUT.



## MEASURING DEVICE INSPECTIONS

- 3 FABRIC/CORD/WIRE METERS
- 26 RETAIL WATER METERS
- 469 ELECTRIC SUBMETERS
- 387 GAS & DIESEL PUMPS
- 11 FUEL DELIVERY TRUCK METERS
- 20 LPG METERS
- 238 VAPOR SUB METERS

## WEIGHING DEVICE INSPECTIONS

- 1 RAILWAY SCALE
- 24 PRESCRIPTION/ JEWELER'S SCALES
- 39 VEHICLE SCALES
- 47 PLATFORM SCALES
- 66 CATTLE SCALES
- 120 FARMERS MARKET SCALES
- 140 RETAIL STORE SCALES

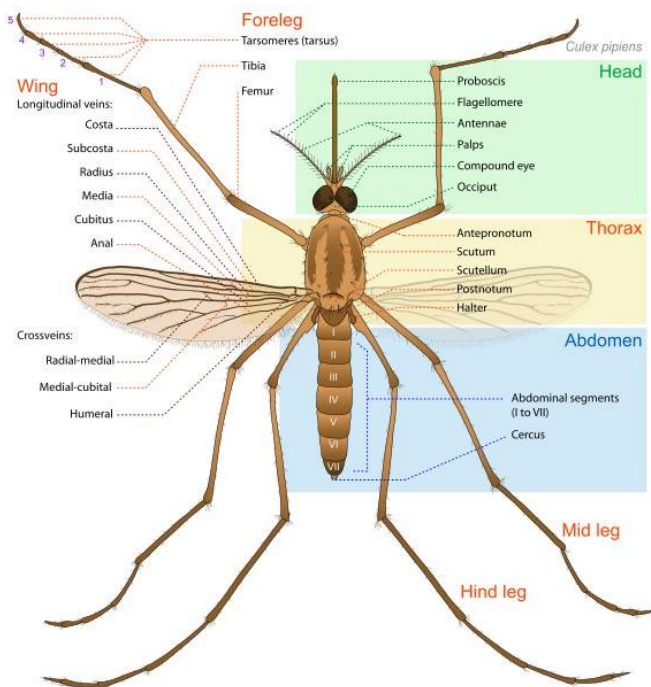


# MOSQUITO ABATEMENT PROGRAM

IN RESPONSE TO THE INTRODUCTION OF WEST NILE VIRUS (WNV) TO CALIFORNIA, THE SAN BENITO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE MOSQUITO ABATEMENT PROGRAM. OUR PROGRAM UTILIZES INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES INCORPORATING PUBLIC EDUCATION, BIOLOGICAL CONTROL, SOURCE REDUCTION AND USE OF THE LEAST TOXIC PESTICIDES THAT HAVE MINIMAL IMPACT ON PEOPLE, WILDLIFE, AND THE ENVIRONMENT



ADULT MOSQUITO MONITORING IS CONDUCTED EACH YEAR DURING MOSQUITO SEASON FROM APRIL-NOVEMBER. STANDARDIZED TRAPS EMITTING CARBON DIOXIDE ARE USED TO DETERMINE MOSQUITO POPULATIONS, LOCATION, AND SPECIES. MOSQUITO SAMPLES ARE COLLECTED FROM SPECIFIC TRAPS AND SENT TO A STATE LABORATORY FOR WNV TESTING. VISUAL SITE EVALUATIONS FOR LARVAE DETECTION ARE ALSO COMPLETED IN CERTAIN PROBLEM AREAS. A FLOCK OF TEN SENTINEL CHICKEN ARE KEPT THROUGHOUT THE SEASON AND BLOOD SAMPLES ARE COLLECTED EVERY TWO WEEKS FOR SCREENING.



# SPECIAL THANK YOU TO DEPARTMENT STAFF



KAREN OVERSTREET SERVED AS THE AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER FOR SAN BENITO COUNTY FOR MANY YEARS. KAREN PREVAILED AS THE COMMISSIONER AS SHE STRIVED TO UPHOLD THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF CALIFORNIA'S AGRICULTURE, THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AS WELL AS THE PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH AND SAFETY.

LORI TILLEY WAS AN AGRICULTURAL TECHNICIAN IN OUR OFFICE FOR SEVERAL YEARS WORKING IN THE PEST DETECTION PROGRAM AND MOSQUITO ABATEMENT PROGRAM. LORI WAS OUR LEAD TRAPPER, SHE AIDED WITH DETECTION OF NUMEROUS PESTS. WITH SUCH A SOLID GRASP OF THE PROGRAM SHE TRAINED MANY OF OUR CURRENT BIOLOGISTS AND NEW TRAPPERS.



TONY WILSON WAS AN AGRICULTURAL TECHNICIAN IN OUR OFFICE FOR MANY YEARS HELPING WITH THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES PROGRAM AND THEN MORE RECENTLY HE AIDED WITH THE MOSQUITO ABATEMENT PROGRAM. PRIOR TO WORKING FOR THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT, TONY HAS WORKED WITHIN THE AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY THROUGH MANY OUTLETS SUCH AS OPERATING THE FIELD RESEARCH STATION FOR A LOCAL SEED COMPANY TO WORKING AS A LOADER AT A PACKING FACILITY.