

*San Benito County*  
**Annual Crop Report**  
**2007**



Photo courtesy of Dina Bies  
Executive Secretary/Safety Coordinator



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# COUNTY OF SAN BENITO

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PAUL J. MATULICH AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER and SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES  
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July 21, 2008

A.G. Kawamura, Secretary  
California Department of Food and Agriculture  
The Honorable Board of Supervisors of San Benito County and  
Susan Thompson, County Administrative Officer

It is my pleasure to submit the 2007 Crop Report for San Benito County. This report is produced in accordance with Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, which indicates agricultural and livestock production values.

Agriculture continues to be the county's major producing industry with a 2007 gross value of \$293,090,000. This is the largest increase since 2004, and a sizeable increase of almost eight percent from the 2006 total.

Once again Nursery Stock held it's spot as the top valued crop with a gross value in excess of \$34 million dollars, a slight rise from 2006. The most significant increase was with Leaf Lettuce due to an increase in acreage. For the first time, Fresh Market Tomatoes made it into the top 10 with a considerable incline in acreage, reflecting greater demand for the product. The sharp increase in Livestock & Poultry Products was due to a major producer starting up operations in the county after the departure of a major producer two years ago. Declines showed up in the categories of Cattle and Hay production as a result of lighter than normal rainfall.

San Benito County's 2007 agricultural income of over \$293 million dollars once again shows the economic importance that agriculture, horticulture and livestock have on the quality of life of its residents.

***Please bear in mind that these figures are for gross income only and not net profit to the grower. In some cases, crops are actually produced at a loss.***

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many growers and handlers of agricultural products, and the personnel of other government agencies for their assistance in obtaining these figures. Without their help, this report would not have been possible. I would also like to acknowledge my staff and in particular Sally Boden who compiled this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul J. Matulich  
San Benito County  
Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures



Don Marcus, Anthony Botelho, Reb Monaco, Pat Loe & Jaime De La Cruz

*San Benito County  
Board of Supervisors*

District One	Don Marcus	
District Two	Anthony Botelho	(Vice-Chair)
District Three	Patricia Loe	
District Four	Reb Monaco	
District Five	Jaime De La Cruz	(Chair)

*Administration*

County Administrative Officer	Susan Thompson
Asst. County Administrative Officer	Rich Inman

# *San Benito County*

**Agricultural Commissioner &  
Sealer of Weights & Measures  
Paul J. Matulich**

**Office Supervisor/Secretary  
Jean Gillaspie**

**Deputy Agricultural Commissioner  
Ronald C. Ross**

**Deputy Sealer of Weights & Measures  
Gordon F. McClelland**

**Ag. Biologist/Inspector III  
Sally McCain Boden**

**Ag. Biologist/Inspector II  
Christina Clayton**

**Ag. Biologist/Inspector I  
Donna Carbonaro**

**Vector Control Technician II  
Sean Miller**

**USDA Wildlife Services Specialist  
Mark Klassen**

**Typist Clerk  
Julie Dikes**

**Agricultural Technicians  
Maya Flores  
Christine Nordmeyer  
Ronald Terry  
Lorie Tilley  
Tony Wilson**

San Benito County has a total area of 1,391 square miles, of which, 1,389 square miles of it is land and 2 square miles of it is water. There are 893,440 acres of land of which approximately 35,000 acres (4%) are row crops and 508,000 (57%) is rangeland. San Benito County shares its borders with Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey and Fresno Counties. The population is approximately 56,000. The population density is approximately 39 people per square miles. In 2004 there were 300 conventional producers and 35 organic producers in San Benito County.

*Agricultural  
Commissioner's  
Office*

## Commodity Summary

Field Crops	2007	\$ 41,939,000
	2006	\$ 42,967,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	2007	\$ 37,938,000
	2006	\$ 32,722,000
Vegetable and Row Crops	2007	\$ 182,264,000
	2006	\$ 168,239,000
Cattle	2007	\$ 17,358,000
	2006	\$ 21,073,000
Other Livestock/ Livestock & Poultry Products	2007	\$ 13,591,000
	2006	\$ 5,939,000
TOTALS	2007	\$ 293,090,000
	2006	\$ 270,940,000

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## Current & Past Years Totals

2007	\$ 293,090,000
2006	\$ 270,940,000
2005	\$ 268,846,000
2004	\$ 266,007,000
2003	\$ 238,767,000
2002	\$ 214,841,000
2001	\$ 201,580,000
2000	\$ 208,899,000
1999	\$ 179,848,000
1998	\$ 160,647,000
1997	\$ 164,792,000
1996	\$ 159,899,000

## *Top 10 Commodities/Categories*

2007		*	2006	
Nursery Stock	\$34,420,000	*	Nursery Stock	\$33,428,000
		*		
Misc.Veg.& Row Crops	\$29,054,000	*	Peppers, Bell	\$28,418,000
		*		
Grapes, Wine	\$24,296,000	*	Misc.Veg.& Row Crops	\$25,781,000
		*		
Peppers, Bell	\$22,500,000	*	Grapes, Wine	\$19,569,000
		*		
Lettuce, Salad	\$19,174,000	*	Lettuce, Romaine	\$18,329,000
		*		
Lettuce, Leaf (mixed)	\$18,638,000	*	Lettuce, Salad	\$18,233,000
		*		
Lettuce, Romaine	\$17,210,000	*	Spinach	\$16,829,000
		*		
Spinach	\$17,060,000	*	Onions, Dry Bulb	\$14,275,000
		*		
Tomatoes, Market	\$14,289,000	*	Pasture and Stockers	\$10,819,000
		*		
Other Livestock / Livestock & Poultry Products	\$13,591,000	*	Lettuce, Iceberg	\$8,881,000

## Field Crops

		Acres	<u>Production</u>		\$ Per Unit	\$	TOTAL
			Per Acre	TOTAL			
Barley	2007	400	1.02	408 tons	100	\$	41,000
	2006	500	1.42	710 tons	117	\$	83,000
*Misc.Field Crops	2007	1,250				\$	505,000
	2006	1,405				\$	253,000
Grain Hay	2007	11,800	0.65	7,670 tons	119	\$	913,000
	2006	13,950	1.80	25,110 tons	87	\$	2,185,000
*Nursery Stock	2007	669				\$	34,420,000
	2006	689				\$	33,428,000
Pasture/Rangeland	2007	510,000		acres	9.20	\$	4,692,000
	2006	510,000		acres	10.00	\$	5,100,000
Permanent Pasture	2007	1,000		acres	450	\$	450,000
	2006	1,000		acres	400	\$	400,000
*Seed Crops	2007	155		acres	5,366	\$	832,000
	2006	282		acres	5,099	\$	1,438,000
Wheat	2007	500	1.56	780 tons	110	\$	86,000
	2006	500	1.20	600 tons	134	\$	80,000
<b>TOTALS</b>							
	<b>2007</b>					<b>\$</b>	<b>41,939,000</b>
	<b>2006</b>					<b>\$</b>	<b>42,967,000</b>

\*See page 11 for specific list

## Vegetable and Row Crops

		<u>Production</u>			<u>Value</u>	
		Acres	Per Acre	TOTAL	\$ Per Unit	\$ TOTAL
Artichokes	2007	(See Misc. Crops)				
	2006	231	6.30	1,455 tons	1,402	\$ 2,040,000
Broccoli	2007	476	7.50	3,570 tons	669	\$ 2,388,000
	2006	572	6.90	3,947 tons	755	\$ 2,980,000
Cabbage	2007	466	22.44	10,457 tons	325	\$ 3,399,000
	2006	706	20.20	14,261 tons	273	\$ 3,893,000
Celery	2007	1,010	36.00	36,360 tons	302	\$ 10,981,000
	2006	631	38.00	23,978 tons	299	\$ 7,169,000
Cilantro	2007	333	8.49	2,827 tons	1,057	\$ 2,988,000
	2006	556	9.05	5,032 tons	1,210	\$ 6,089,000
Lettuce, Iceberg	2007	2,082	20.45	42,577 tons	294	\$ 12,518,000
	2006	2,339	16.80	39,295 tons	226	\$ 8,881,000
Lettuce, Leaf (mixed)	2007	3,024	10.70	32,357 tons	576	\$ 18,638,000
	2006	756	9.60	7,258 tons	533	\$ 3,869,000
Lettuce, Romaine	2007	2,408	13.09	31,521 tons	546	\$ 17,210,000
	2006	3,057	10.50	32,099 tons	571	\$ 18,329,000
* Lettuce, Salad	2007	3,727	3.72	13,864 tons	1,383	\$ 19,174,000
	2006	5,159	2.70	13,929 tons	1,309	\$ 18,233,000
** Misc.Veg. & Row Crops	2007	5,391				\$ 29,054,000
	2006	4,787				\$ 25,781,000
Onions, Dry Bulb	2007	1,247	21.84	27,234 tons	240	\$ 6,536,000
	2006	1,742	20.59	35,868 tons	398	\$ 14,275,000

*Vegetable and Row Crops (cont.)*

		Acres	<u>Production</u>		\$ Per Unit	<u>Value</u>	
			Per Acre	TOTAL		\$	TOTAL
Peppers, Bell	2007	1,667	26.57	44,292 tons	508	\$	22,500,000
	2006	1,696	29.50	50,032 tons	568	\$	28,418,000
Radicchio	2007	313	4.56	1,427 tons	1,476	\$	2,106,000
	2006	243	4.01	974 tons	1,426	\$	1,389,000
Spinach	2007	2,942	5.77	16,975 tons	1,005	\$	17,060,000
	2006	3,898	4.10	15,982 tons	1,053	\$	16,829,000
Tomatoes, Canning	2007	1,141	50.00	57,050 tons	60	\$	3,423,000
	2006	500	40.20	20,100 tons	59	\$	1,186,000
Tomatoes, Market	2007	1,064	18.73	19,929 tons	717	\$	14,289,000
	2006	742	15.60	11,575 tons	767	\$	8,878,000
<b>TOTALS</b>							
	<b>2007</b>					<b>\$</b>	<b>182,264,000</b>
	<b>2006</b>					<b>\$</b>	<b>168,239,000</b>

\* May include: Baby Lettuces, (Red & Green Romaine, Red & Green Oak Leaf, Butter Lettuce, Lollo Rosa, Tango) Mizuna, Red & Green Kale, Arugula, Beet Tops, Baby Spinach, Mache, Red & Green Mustard, Tat-Soi, Frisee, Red & Green Chard, Radicchio & Herbs.

\*\* See page 11 for specific list

## *Fruit and Nut Crops*

		<u>Production</u>			<u>Value</u>	
		Acres	Per Acre	TOTAL	\$ Per Unit	\$ TOTAL
Apples	2007	395	15.05	5,945 tons	245	\$ 1,457,000
	2006	395	16.10	6,360 tons	249	\$ 1,584,000
Apricots	2007	729	3.50	2,552 tons	379	\$ 967,000
	2006	987	2.50	2,468 tons	393	\$ 970,000
Cherries	2007	650	3.22	2,093 tons	2,755	\$ 5,766,000
	2006	606	3.61	2,188 tons	2,786	\$ 6,096,000
Grapes (wine)	2007	3,806	5.41	20,590 tons	1,180	\$ 24,296,000
	2006	3,788	4.20	15,910 tons	1,230	\$ 19,569,000
*Misc.Fruits & Nuts	2007	181				\$ 2,564,000
	2006	199				\$ 2,493,000
Olives	2007	110	1.250	138 tons	820	\$ 113,000
	2006			(See Misc. Crops)		
Walnuts	2007	1,796	0.713	1,281 tons	2,166	\$ 2,775,000
	2006	1,905	0.700	1,334 tons	1,507	\$ 2,010,000
<b>TOTALS 2007</b>						<b>\$ 37,938,000</b>
<b>2006</b>						<b>\$ 32,722,000</b>

\*See page 11 for specific list

## Cattle

		<u>Production</u>		<u>Value</u>	
		<u># of Head</u>	<u>Total Cwt</u>	<u>\$ per Cwt</u>	<u>\$ Total</u>
All Cattle	2007	45,200			
	2006	44,000			
Calves	2007	12,900	72,370 cwt.	110.00	\$ 7,961,000
	2006	13,000	71,240 cwt.	118.00	\$ 8,406,000
Pasture and Stockers	2007	28,000	82,600 cwt.	95.00	\$ 7,847,000
	2006	28,000	103,040 cwt.	105.00	\$ 10,819,000
Cows	2007	2,600	31,200 cwt.	45.00	\$ 1,404,000
	2006	2,800	33,880 cwt.	50.00	\$ 1,694,000
Bulls	2007	200	2,800 cwt.	52.00	\$ 146,000
	2006	200	2,800 cwt.	55.00	\$ 154,000
<b>TOTALS 2007</b>					<b>\$ 17,358,000</b>
<b>2006</b>					<b>\$ 21,073,000</b>

## Other Livestock/Livestock & Poultry Products

		<u>Production</u>	<u>Value</u>
			<u>\$ Total</u>
*Misc.Livestock & Poultry Products	2007		\$ 13,591,000
	2006		\$ 5,939,000
<b>TOTALS 2007</b>			<b>\$ 13,591,000</b>
<b>2006</b>			<b>\$ 5,939,000</b>

\*See Page 11 for Specific List

## Miscellaneous Crops and Products

\*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. This is to avoid disclosure of the business affairs of the firms involved.

### Vegetable & Row Crops

Artichokes	Arugula	Asparagus	Beans
Beets, table	Bok Choy	Borage	Braising Mix
Broccoflower	Brussel Sprouts	Cantaloupe	Carrots
Cauliflower	Celery Root	Chard	Chinese Cabbage
Chinese Greens	Chinese Mustard	Chinese Vegetables	Collards
Corn, ornamental	Corn, sweet	Cucumbers	Dandelion Greens
Eggplant	Endive	Escarole	Fennel
Frisee	Garlic	Garlic, green	Herbs
Kale	Kohlrabi	Leafy Greens	Leeks
Mache	Melons	Micromix	Mixed Vegetables
Mushrooms	Mustard	Napa Cabbage	Okra
Oriental Kale	Parsley	Parsnips	Peas
Peppers, spice	Potatoes	Pumpkins	Radishes
Rapini	Rutabagas	Shallots	Squash
Tomatilloes	Turnips	Watermelons	

### Field Crops

Alfalfa	Barley	Honey & Pollination	Oats
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### Fruit & Nut Crops

Avocados	Kiwi	Lemons	Misc Fruit
Peaches	Persimmons	Plums	Raspberries
Strawberries			

### Seed Crops

Flowers	Vegetable Crops	Vine Crops	Field Crops
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### Nursery Stock

Cut Flowers (dry & fresh)	Mushroom Spawn	Nursery Plants & Trees
Turf	Vegetable Transplants	Christmas Trees

### Livestock & Poultry Products

Chicken	Eggs (chicken & turkey)	Hogs	Lambs	Milk	Turkeys	Wool
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## *Sustainable Agricultural Report*

### *Biological Control*

<u>PEST</u>	<u>AGENT</u>	<u>SCOPE OF PROGRAM</u>
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Hairy Weevil <u>Eustenopus Villosus</u>	21 previous releases/ ongoing collection & relocation

### *Eradication*

<u>PEST</u>	<u>MECHANISM</u>	<u>SCOPE OF PROGRAM</u>
Scotch Thistle <u>Onopordum Acanthium</u>	Mechanical/Chemical	2 sites
Artichoke Thistle <u>Cynara Cardunculus</u>	Chemical	3 sites

### *Pest Detection*

There are up to 815 pest detection traps placed throughout the county.

Champ Trap	European Corn Borer	Gypsy Moth
Japanese Beetle	Mediterranean Fruit Fly	Oriental Fruit Fly
Melon Fruit Fly	European Pine Shoot Moth	McPhail
Khapra Beetle	Light Brown Apple Moth	Glassy-winged Sharpshooter

### *Organic Farm Statistics*

The county has approximately 30 organic growers, growing 60 different crops on over 6,100 acres.

# Notes

