

San Benito County



***2012
Annual
Crop Report***



COUNTY OF SAN BENITO

RONALD C. ROSS AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER and SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES
3224 Southside Road, Hollister, CA 95023 Telephone (831) 637-5344, FAX (831) 637-9015

September 10, 2013

Karen Ross, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture, and

The Honorable Board of Supervisors, and

Ray Espinosa, Interim County Administrative Officer:

In accordance with the requirements of Section 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I hereby submit the 2012 annual crop report for San Benito County.

With its unique climate along with fertile soils and water supplies, agriculture is the county's largest industry. The county produces a variety of commodities and is one of the top five producing counties in California for several crops.

In 2012, the overall value of the county's agricultural production increased by over \$34 million dollars from 2011. This was a very good year across the board for vegetable production. The largest gains were in romaine, spinach, salad mix and specialty vegetable crops. Acreage devoted to these commodities increased and the prices were favorable during the harvest season. Apricot, cherry, walnut and vine crops yields rebounded from poor weather related yields last year. Cattle production was consistent and prices continued to rise. As in past years, nursery stock production continued to decline in value.

It should be emphasized that these figures are gross values only, and do not represent net profit to the producers.

I wish to thank the many farmers, ranchers and businesses that have cooperated in providing the information required for the compilation of this report

Sincerely,

Ronald C. Ross

Agricultural Commissioner



San Benito County Board of Supervisors

Margie Barrios	District 1
Anthony Botelho, Chair	District 2
Robert Rivas	District 3
Jerry Muenzer, Vice Chair	District 4
Jaime De La Cruz	District 5

Ray Espinosa, Interim County Administrative Officer



San Benito County Agricultural Commissioner's Office

Front Row:

Christy Clayton, Agricultural Biologist/Inspector III
Donna Carbonaro, Agricultural Biologist/Inspector III

Back Row:

Billie Jimenez, Secretary II
Lorie Tilley, Agricultural Technician
Michael Silverman, Agricultural Biologist/Inspector III
Ronald Ross, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures
Ken Griffin, Agricultural Biologist/Inspector I
Gordon McClelland, Deputy Commissioner/Deputy Sealer of Weights & Measures
Tony Wilson, Agricultural Technician
Rosemary Bridwell, Agricultural Technician

Not Pictured:

Ron Terry, Agricultural Biologist/Inspector III (Retired July 2013)
Sergio Garcia, Agricultural Technician

Commodity Summary



Field Crops	2012	\$ 20,612,000
	2011	\$ 26,962,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	2012	\$ 41,190,000
	2011	\$ 35,613,000
Vegetable and Row Crops	2012	\$ 207,831,000
	2011	\$ 171,120,000
Cattle	2012	\$ 15,636,000
	2011	\$ 16,639,000
Other Livestock/ Livestock & Poultry Products	2012	\$ 12,486,000
	2011	\$ 13,031,000
TOTALS	2012	\$ 297,755,000
	2011	\$ 263,365,000

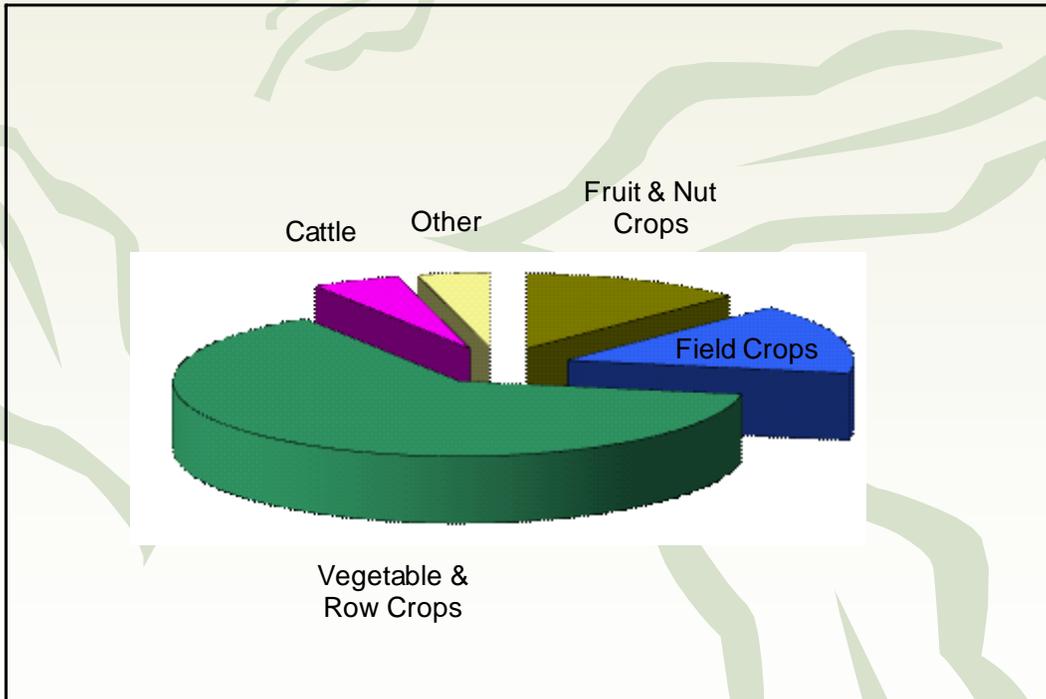
Current & Past Years Totals

2012	\$ 297,755,000	
2011	\$ 263,365,000	
2010	\$ 255,456,000	Revised
2009	\$ 242,917,000	
2008	\$ 262,032,000	
2007	\$ 293,090,000	
2006	\$ 270,940,000	
2005	\$ 268,846,000	
2004	\$ 266,007,000	
2003	\$ 238,767,000	
2002	\$ 214,841,000	

Commodity Summary



Field Crops	\$20,612,000	7%
Fruit and Nut Crops	\$41,190,000	14%
Vegetable and Row Crops	\$207,831,000	70%
Cattle	\$15,636,000	5%
Other Livestock	\$12,486,000	4%
Total	\$297,755,000	100%





Field Crops

		<u>Production</u>			<u>Value</u>	
		Acres	Per Acre	TOTAL	\$ Per Unit	\$ TOTAL
*Misc. Field Crops	2012	300				\$ 193,000
	2011	350				\$ 183,000
Grain Hay	2012	13850	1.50	20,775 tons	95	\$ 1,973,000
	2010	14000	1.75	24,500 tons	95	\$ 2,328,000
*Nursery Stock	2012	276				\$ 9,602,000
	2011	295				\$ 16,902,000
Pasture/Rangeland	2012	508,000		acres	12.50	\$ 6,350,000
	2011	508,000		acres	12.50	\$ 6,350,000
Permanent Pasture	2012	500		acres	210	\$ 105,000
	2011	500		acres	180	\$ 90,000
*Seed Crops	2012	480		acres	4,976	\$ 2,389,000
	2011	516		acres	2,149	\$ 1,109,000
TOTALS 2012						\$ 20,612,000
2011						\$ 26,962,000

*See page 12 for specific list



Vegetable and Row Crops

		<u>Production</u>			<u>Value</u>	
		Acres	Per Acre	TOTAL	\$ Per Unit	\$ TOTAL
Broccoli	2012	1021	7.21	7,362 tons	1210	\$ 8,910,500
	2011	689	8.09	5,574 tons	952	\$ 5,306,000
Cabbage	2012	153	22.8	3,489 tons	330	\$ 1,154,000
	2011	302	23.15	6,991 tons	399	\$ 2,789,000
Celery	2012	500	35.51	17,755 tons	441	\$ 7,842,000
	2011	412	37.31	15,372 tons	369	\$ 5,672,000
Lettuce, Iceberg	2012	523	19.74	10,322 tons	375	\$ 3,870,500
	2011	815	21.19	17,270 tons	367	\$ 6,338,000
Lettuce, Leaf (mixed)	2012	295	10.48	3,092 tons	659	\$ 2,040,500
	2011	671	10.86	7,287 tons	555	\$ 4,044,000
Lettuce, Romaine	2012	3,254	13.21	42,986 tons	628	\$ 26,995,000
	2011	2,052	12.95	26,573 tons	442	\$ 11,745,000
* Lettuce, Salad Mix	2012	4,781	3.25	15,539 tons	1,900	\$ 29,524,000
	2011	4,757	2.98	14,176 tons	1,576	\$ 22,341,000
** Misc.Veg. & Row Crops	2012	6,325				\$ 55,532,500
	2011	6,345				\$ 50,387,000
Onions, All	2012	907	17.39	15,773 tons	480	\$ 7,567,000
	2011	1,394	16.85	23,489 tons	298	\$ 7,000,000

Vegetable and Row Crops (cont.)



		<u>Production</u>			<u>Value</u>	
		Acres	Per Acre	TOTAL	\$ Per Unit	\$ TOTAL
Peppers, Bell	2012	2,118	23.85	50,514 tons	496	\$ 25,073,500
	2011	1,903	23.13	44,016 tons	507	\$ 22,316,000
Spinach	2012	3,499	3.43	12,000 tons	1,793	\$ 21,516,000
	2011	3,080	3.25	10,010 tons	1,712	\$ 17,137,000
Tomatoes, Canning	2012	1,730	61.00	105,530 tons	73	\$ 7,709,000
	2011	2,834	47.63	134,983 tons	68	\$ 9,179,000
Tomatoes, Market	2012	670	13.06	8,750 tons	1,154	\$ 10,097,000
	2011	582	12.59	7,327 tons	937	\$ 6,866,000
TOTALS	2012					\$ 207,831,000
	2011					\$ 171,120,000

* 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 and Green Mustard, Tat-Soi, Frisee, Red and Green Chard, Radicchio and Herbs.

** See page 12 for specific list



Fruit and Nut Crops

		<u>Production</u>			<u>Value</u>	
		Acres	Per Acre	TOTAL	\$ Per Unit	\$ TOTAL
Apples	2012	314	19.30	6,060 tons	278	\$ 1,687,000
	2011	316	18.90	5,972 tons	293	\$ 1,750,000
Apricots	2012	592	2.82	1,669 tons	595	\$ 993,000
	2011	592	2.79	1,652 tons	567	\$ 937,000
Cherries	2012	558	2.0	1116 tons	2,384	\$ 2,660,500
	2011	558	1.12	625 tons	2,750	\$ 1,719,000
Grapes (wine)	2012	3,651	4.76	17,360 tons	1,100	\$ 19,097,000
	2011	3,651	3.76	13,728 tons	1,024	\$ 14,057,000
*Misc.Fruits & Nuts	2012	395				\$ 13,690,000
	2011	395				\$ 15,424,000
Olives	2012	110	.99	94 tons	1,425	\$ 134,000
	2011	110	.93	102 tons	1,385	\$ 141,000
Walnuts	2012	1,582	0.891	1,410 tons	2,077	\$ 2,928,500
	2011	1,735	0.502	871 tons	1,820	\$ 1,585,000
TOTALS 2012					\$ 41,190,000	
2011					\$ 35,613,000	

*See page 12 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	2012	46,150			
	2011	35,900			
Calves	2012	10,940	64,576 cwt.	137.00	\$ 8,847,000
	2011	8,802	58,436 cwt.	134.00	\$ 7,834,000
Pasture and Stockers	2012	31,864	84,439 cwt.	** 37.00	\$ 3,125,000
	2011	24,000	64,800 cwt.	105.00	\$ 6,804,000
Cows	2012	3,100	38,750 cwt.	88.00	\$ 3,410,000
	2011	1,950	24,375 cwt.	72.00	\$ 1,755,000
Bulls	2012	170	3,060 cwt.	83.00	\$ 254,000
	2011	170	2,890 cwt.	85.00	\$ 246,000
TOTALS 2012					\$ 15,636,000
2011					\$ 16,639,000

Other Livestock/Livestock & Poultry Products

		<u>Production</u>	<u>Value</u>
			<u>\$ Total</u>
*Misc.Livestock &			
Poultry Products			
TOTALS 2012			\$ 12,486,000
2011			\$ 13,031,000

<u>Cattle Herd Inventory</u>	<u>Year round</u>	<u>8-10 Months</u>	<u>4-6 Months</u>	<u>TOTAL HEAD</u>
2012	21,000	11,000	32,000	64,000

* See Page 12 for Specific List

** Unit price changed in 2012 to be consistent with statewide reporting procedures.

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	Borage
Beans	Beets, table	Bok Choy	Carrots
Broccollette	Brussels Sprouts	Cantaloupe	Chicory
Cauliflower	Celery Root	Chard	Collards
Corn	Chinese Greens	Cilantro	Dandelion Greens
Eggplant	Corn, sweet	Cucumbers	Fennel
Frisee	Endive	Escarole	Gourds
Herbs	Garbanzo Beans	Garlic	Mushrooms
Mustard	Kale	Kohlrabi	Parsnips
Peas	Melons	Mixed Vegetables	Pumpkins
Radicchio	Okra	Parsley	Rutabagas
Radishes	Potatoes	Rapini	Tomatillos
Snow Peas & shoots	Squash	Turnips	Watermelons

Field Crops

Garbanzo Beans Alfalfa Honey & Pollination Oats Wheat

Fruit & Nut Crops

Almonds	Avocados	Blackberries	Blueberries
Figs	Kiwi	Lemons	Misc Fruit
Peaches	Pears	Persimmons	Plums
Raspberries	Strawberries		

Seed Crops

Flowers Vegetable Crops Vine Crops Field Crops

Nursery Stock

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

Livestock & Poultry Products

Chickens Turkeys Eggs Goats Hogs Lambs Milk Wool

Sustainable Agricultural Report



Biological Control

PEST
Yellow Starthistle
Centaurea solstitialis

AGENT
Hairy Weevil
Eustenopus villosus

SCOPE OF PROGRAM
Generally Distributed

Seed Head Weevil
Bagasternus orientalis

Widely Distributed

Pest Eradication

PEST
Scotch Thistle
Onopordum Acanthium

MECHANISM
Mechanical/Chemical

SCOPE OF PROGRAM
2 sites

Artichoke Thistle
Cynara Cardunculus

Chemical

4 sites

Pest Detection

At the peak season, our office deploys up to 950 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 are monitoring for are:

Asian citrus psyllid
European Pine Shoot Moth
Japanese Beetle
Mediterranean Fruit Fly
Mexican Fruit Fly

European Corn Borer
Glassy-winged Sharpshooter
Khapra Beetle
Melon Fruit Fly

European Grapevine Moth
Gypsy Moth
Light Brown Apple Moth
Oriental Fruit Fly

Organic Farm Statistics

The county has approximately 67 organic growers, growing 75 different vegetable, vine, and orchard crops on approximately 8,250 acres.