



EL DORADO COUNTY CROP REPORT



El Dorado Winery Association



1997





Bill Snodgrass
Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights and Measures

311 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667
Telephone: (530) 621-5520
FAX: (530) 626-4756
E-Mail: eldcag@innercite.comm

Ann M. Veneman, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors:

John Upton, Chairman, District 5

Sam Bradley, District 1
Ray Nutting, District 2

Mark Nielsen, District 3
Walt Shultz, District 4

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In accordance with Section 2279 of the California Agricultural Code, I hereby submit the 1997 El Dorado County Crop Report.

The 1997 gross agricultural value equaled \$50,242,900 representing an increase of \$3,002,300, or 6.3% over 1996 figures. The 1997 value of agriculture products, excluding timber, were at a record-breaking high of \$23,155,100, far exceeding the previous record high set in 1989 by nearly one million dollars. Increases were achieved across the board with almost every commodity showing gains in production and dollar value over the previous year. Highlights of crops showing increases over 1996 were:

Pears, Fresh Packed	107%	Increase
Cherries	61%	Increase
Livestock, Cattle & Calves	43%	Increase
Wine Grapes	20%	Increase
Fruits & Nuts, All	9%	Increase
Timber	5%	Increase

Ideal growing conditions, caused by above average temperatures beginning in March and a dry spring, resulted in above average yields and excellent fruit quality. The unique weather conditions were major contributors in El Dorado County's increased crop value. In addition, the warm spring provided Apple Hill Growers with the earliest apple harvest in the history of El Dorado County.

The monetary value records in this report are F.O.B. (Freight on Board) and do not reflect net returns or profits realized by growers. Neither do they reflect the total economic impact of agricultural byproducts produced (such as wines, apple pies, cider, etc.), tourism, nor the standard economic multiplying factor. It is estimated that total impact of agriculture on El Dorado County's economy equals approximately \$308 million.

This report was compiled by Dave Bolster, Senior Agricultural Biologist/Standards Inspector. I wish to express my appreciation to the many individuals and organizations that contributed information to make this report possible.

Bill Snodgrass

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Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

EL DORADO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

PERSONNEL

Bill Snodgrass	Agricultural Commissioner Sealer of Weights and Measures
Steven Burton	Assistant Agricultural Commissioner Assistant Sealer of Weights & Measures
David Bolster	Senior Agricultural Biologist Senior Standards Inspector
Greta Shutler	Senior Agricultural Biologist Senior Standards Inspector
Charlene Carveth	Agricultural Biologist Standards Inspector
Mark Copple	Agricultural Biologist Standards Inspector
Gary Abreo	Animal Damage Control Specialist
Sharon Parker	Executive Secretary
Karin Lose	Secretary
Aren Manda	Administrative Analyst
Kim Wilson	Fiscal Technician
Ann Whitaker	Office Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
“A Taste of El Dorado”, Website Information	i
Letter to California Secretary of Agriculture	ii
Department of Agriculture Personnel Listing	iii
Table of Contents	iv
 EL DORADO COUNTY’S CERTIFIED FARMERS’ MARKETS	 1
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS	
Pears	3
Apples	3
Cherries	4
Peaches	4
Plums	4
Wine Grapes	4
Walnuts	4
 APIARY PRODUCTS	
Honey Bees, Wax, Pollen, Pollenation	4
 MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTION	 4
 LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY	
Cattle	5
Calves	5
Sheep	5
Lambs	5
Hogs/Pigs	5
Miscellaneous (Poultry & Livestock)	5
 HAY AND PASTURE	
Hay, Tame	5
Irrigated Pasture	5
Pasture & Range (Dryland)	5
 NURSERY PRODUCTS	
Nursery Stock	6
Trees/Shrubs	6
Greenhouse Production	6
Christmas Trees, Wholesale	6
Christmas Trees, Choose & Cut	6
 TIMBER HARVESTED AND BYPRODUCTS	
Private & Public Forests	6
Wood Sales & Permits	6
 LEADING WINE GRAPE VARIETIES	 7
 TOTALS FOR ALL CATEGORIES	 8
 EL DORADO COUNTY SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE	 9
Pest Activities	9
Biological Control	9
Organic Farming	9
 DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT	 10

El Dorado County's Certified Farmers' Markets

Looking for premium quality, tree ripened, fresh picked fruits and vegetables? Then visit your local local certified Farmers' markets (CEM), one of over 350 in the state of California. Growers take their show on the road and sell their produce at Certified Farmers' Markets all the way from South Lake Tahoe to El Dorado Hills. Established in 1977 by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) in cooperation with members of California's agriculture industry and the County Agricultural Commissioners, the Certified Farmers' Market (CFM) Program enables consumers to purchase farm fresh produce directly from the grower. Each year, growers who wish to sell their produce at a CFM must obtain a Certified Producer Certificate from their local County Agricultural Commissioner. The certification process includes an annual inspection by the Agricultural Commissioner's staff to verify that commodities listed on the producer's certificate are, in fact, being produced by that grower. This certification process is essential to maintaining consumer confidence in the CFM system.



When consumers buy produce at a growers farm or at a CFM, all parties involved in the transaction benefit. The consumer benefits by having access to fresher produce that is picked at the proper stage of maturity at a more reasonable price than that available through other traditional marketing channels. The consumer also has a rare opportunity to interact with the grower who produces the commodities offered for sale. The grower in turn has an opportunity to impart information to the consumer regarding cultural practices and issues in agriculture. The grower also benefits by having the opportunity to sell a diversity of commodities on a relatively small scale without having to use a produce broker or dealer.

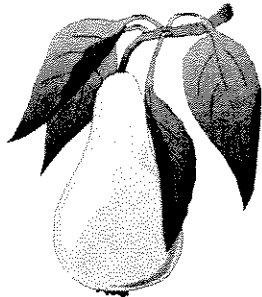

Another beneficiary of the CFM system is the community in which the CFM takes place. The surrounding communities enjoy the economic advantages of a CFM, but equally important are the intangible contributions. The CFM serves as a meeting place for residents and soon becomes a fundamental element in the fabric of the community.



In El Dorado County, residents can buy fruits, vegetables, flowers and organic products from thriving farmers' markets in South Lake Tahoe and Placerville. The South Lake Tahoe CFM will begin its sixth season in June of this year. The market has proved to be immensely popular with fresh produce starved residents of South Lake Tahoe and Northern Nevada. Since Lake Tahoe is an international tourist destination, visitors from all over the world have enjoyed the fruits of El Dorado County growers' labor. The market has also been popular with producers, attracting growers from as far away as Fresno and Ventura. The Placerville market, established in 199---, is El Dorado County's oldest CFM. The market is located in historic downtown Placerville and features primarily local growers. Both markets are managed by the El Dorado County Farm Trails Association. The South Lake Tahoe CFM operates on Tuesdays (June 2nd through October 20th_) from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.; the Placerville CFM is open on Saturdays (May 2nd through October 10th) from 8:00 a.m. until noon.

To find out more about El Dorado County growers and taste their produce and wines, visit our Internet website at www.tastedorado.com. The website has grower maps, harvest times, a calendar of events, phone numbers, and e-mail and grower website information.

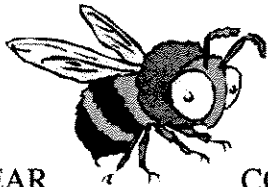
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

CROP	YEAR	ACRES	PRODUCTION				VALUE	
		<i>NON- BEARING</i>	<i>PER BEARING</i>	<i>PER ACRE</i>	TOTAL	UNITS	<i>PER UNIT</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
PEARS								
BARTLETT								
FRESH	1997				653	TONS	645.00	421,200
	1996				316	TONS	643.00	203,200
CANNERY	1997				857	TONS	239.00	204,800
	1996				1,352	TONS	231.00	312,300
JUICE	1997				445	TONS	80.00	35,600
	1996				513	TONS	80.00	41,000
								
TOTAL	1997	431	3	4.53	1,955	TONS	338.48	661,600
BARTLETTS	1996	443	7	4.92	2,181	TONS	255.15	556,500
BOSC/ ASIAN/ OTHERS								
FRESH	1997	61	3	.90	55	TONS	630.00	34,700
	1996	60	5	1.20	72	TONS	605.00	43,600
JUICE	1997				75	TONS	80.00	6,000
	1996				85	TONS	80.00	6,800
TOTAL	1997	492	6	4.24	2,085	TONS	336.81	702,300
PEARS	1996	503	12	4.64	2,338	TONS	259.58	606,900
APPLES								
FRESH	1997				8,182	TONS	740.00	6,054,700
	1996				7,762	TONS	740.00	5,743,900
CANNERY / APPLE HILL PRODUCTS	1997				3,644	TONS	100.00	364,400
	1996				3,234	TONS	160.00	517,400
CIDER	1997				2,117	TONS	70.00	148,200
	1996				1,940	TONS	137.00	265,800
								
TOTAL	1997	850	25	16.35	13,913	TONS	470.42	6,567,300
APPLES	1996	840	45	15.40	12,936	TONS	504.56	6,527,100



FRUIT AND NUT CROPS CONTINUED

CROP	YEAR	ACRES		PRODUCTION			VALUE	
		BEARING	NON-BEARING	PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNITS	PER UNIT	TOTAL
CHERRIES	1997	129	8	1.4	180	TONS	3,500.00	630,000
	1996	122	15	.80	98	TONS	4,000.00	392,000
PEACHES	1997	102	12	2.45	249	TONS	1,534.00	382,000
	1996	100	15	2.40	240	TONS	1,350.00	324,000
PLUMS	1997	61	3	2.30	146	TONS	700.00	102,200
	1996	60	5	2.33	140	TONS	470.00	65,800
WINE GRAPES	1997	876	220	4.13	3,638	TONS	1044	3,798,100
	1996	937	210	3.77	3,532	TONS	889	3,139,900
WALNUTS/ ENGLISH	1997	215	15	.51	110	TONS	1,500.00	165,000
	1996	220	5	.55	122	TONS	1,560.00	190,300
TOTAL FRUIT AND NUT CROPS	1997	2,725	289		20,299	TONS		12,346,900
	1996	2,782	307		19,406	TONS		11,246,000



APIARY PRODUCTS

	YEAR	COLONIES	TOTAL VALUE
TOTAL	1997	3,200	330,000
APIARY PRODUCTS*	1996	3,300	335,000

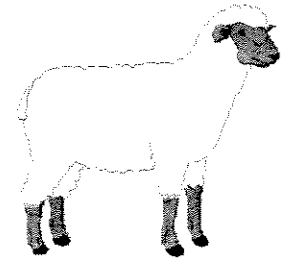
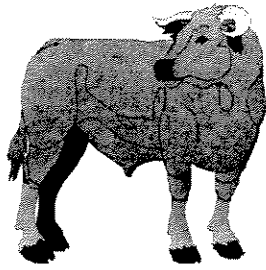
*INCLUDES: HONEY, BEES WAX, POLLEN, AND POLLINATION



MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTION

TOTAL	1997	218	ACRES	334,100
MISC.**	1996	217	ACRES	318,200
PRODUCTION				

**MISCELLANEOUS INCLUDES: TRUCK GARDENS, BERRIES, NECTARINES, ORANGES, CHESTNUTS, AVOCADOS, PUMPKINS, TOMATOES, AND PERSIMMONS.



LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION				VALUE	
		NUMBER OF HEAD	TOTAL LIVE WEIGHT	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL	
CATTLE	1997	1,178	12,357	cwt.	63.10	779,726	
	1996	1,071	11,245	cwt.	42.40	476,800	
CALVES	1997	3,065	15,325	cwt.	68.10	1,043,632	
	1996	3,032	15,161	cwt.	52.50	796,000	
SHEEP	1997	105	169	cwt.	33.80	5,700	
	1996	113	182	cwt.	26.70	4,900	
LAMBS	1997	505	606	cwt.	91.60	55,500	
	1996	494	593	cwt.	89.40	53,000	
HOGS/PIGS	1997	1,054	1,949	cwt.	54.70	106,700	
	1996	1,184	2,331	cwt.	52.00	115,800	
MISC.-POULTRY & LIVESTOCK*	1997					1,090,000	
	1996					1,040,000	

* INCLUDES TURKEYS, DUCKS, GEESE, CHICKENS, HATCHING EGGS, LLAMAS, GOATS, AND WOOL

TOTAL LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY	1997	3,081,258
	1996	2,486,500

HAY AND PASTURE

CROP	YEAR	ACRES	UNIT	VALUE
HAY, TAME	1997	390	585 TON	64,350
	1996	400	600 TON	57,000
IRRIGATED PASTURE	1997	1,400	ACRE	175,000
	1996	1,400	ACRE	175,000
PASTURE & RANGE (DRYLAND)	1997	245,000	ACRE	2,450,000
	1996	245,000	ACRE	2,450,000
TOTAL HAY AND PASTURE	1997			2,689,400
	1996			2,682,000



NURSERY PRODUCTS

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION			VALUE	
		AREA SALES	BY PRODUCER	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
NURSERY STOCK	1997	29	6,662	M	259.60	1,729,500
	1996	33	5,922	M	326.00	1,930,600
TREES, SHRUBS, GREENHOUSE PRODUCTION	1997	17				1,037,000
	1996	17				849,800
TOTAL NURSERY	1997	46	6,662			2,766,500
	1996	50	5,922			2,780,400

CHRISTMAS TREES

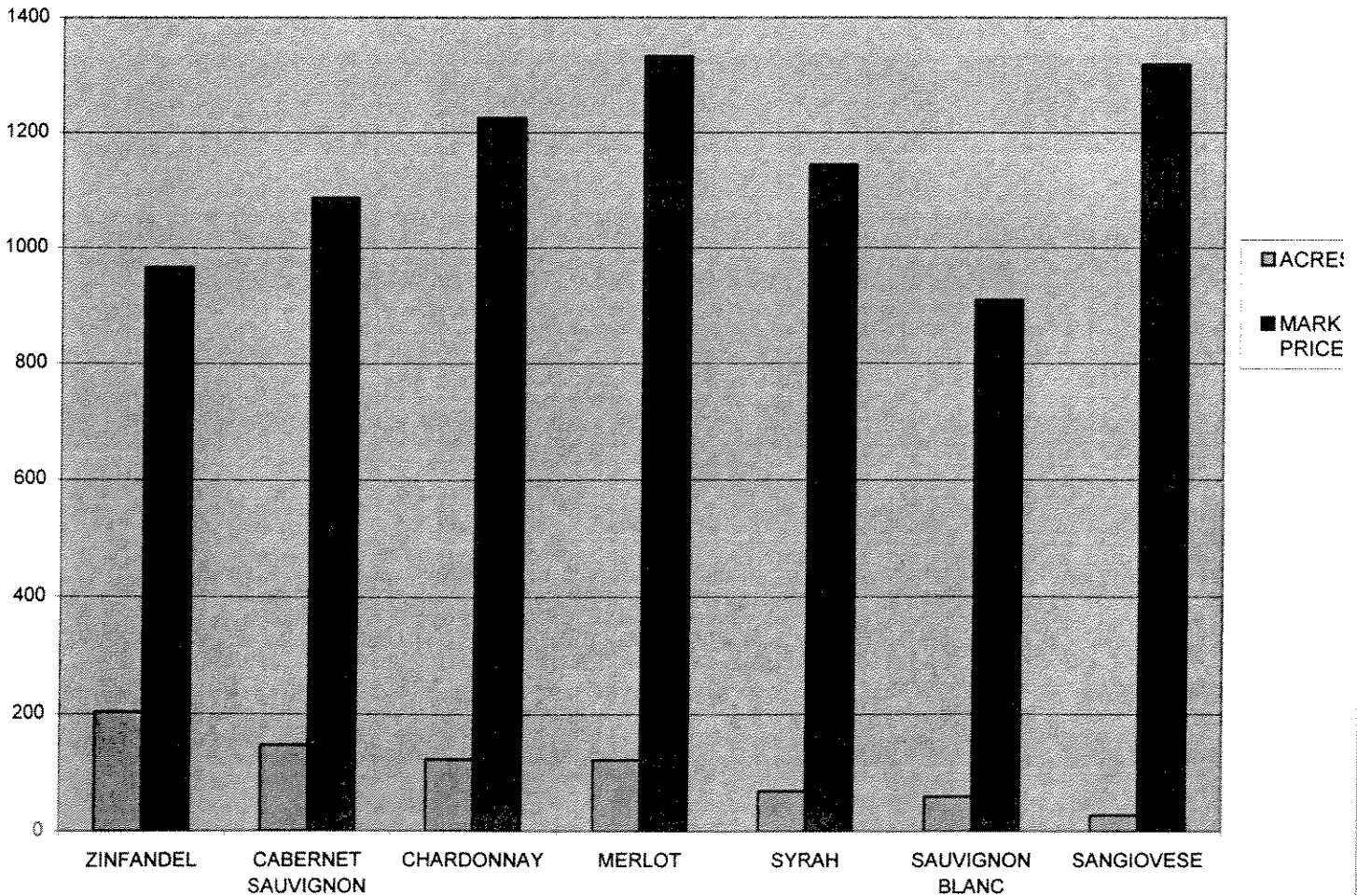
WHOLESALE	1997		12,100	EA.	11.00	133,100
	1996		12,000	EA.	11.00	132,000
CHOOSE AND CUT	1997		55,100	EA.	26.75	1,473,900
	1996		54,620	EA.	25.44	1,389,500
TOTAL CHRISTMAS TREES	1997		67,200	EA.		1,607,000
	1996		66,620	EA.		1,521,500

TIMBER HARVESTED AND BY-PRODUCTS

	YEAR		PRODUCTION BOARD FEET	UNIT	TOTAL VALUE
PRIVATE AND PUBLIC FORESTS	1997		91,892	MILLION	27,049,500
	1996		73,140	MILLION	25,676,000
WOOD SALES AND PERMITS	1997				38,300
	1996				197,000
TOTAL TIMBER HARVESTED	1997				27,087,800
	1996				25,873,000

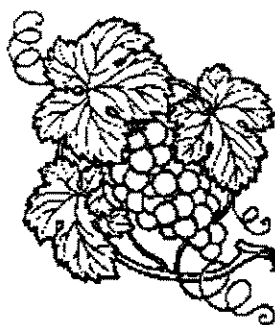
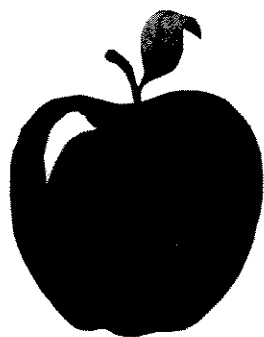
El Dorado County's Leading Wine Grape Varieties

VARIETY	TOTAL ACRES	TONS PRODUCED	MARKET PRICE
ZINFANDEL	203	754	\$966
CABERNET SAUVIGNON	147	593	\$1087
CHARDONNAY	123	520	\$1225
MERLOT	122	345	\$1332
SYRAH	69	137	\$1144
SAUVIGNON BLANC	59	317	\$909
SANGIOVESE	28	54	\$1318




TOTAL FOR ALL CATEGORIES

CROP	YEAR	TOTAL VALUE
FRUITS AND NUTS	1997	12,346,900
	1996	11,246,000
APIARY PRODUCTS	1997	330,000
	1996	335,000
MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTION	1997	334,100
	1996	318,200
LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY	1997	3,081,200
	1996	2,486,500
TIMBER HARVESTED AND BY-PRODUCTS	1997	27,087,800
	1996	25,873,000
NURSERY PRODUCTS	1997	2,766,500
	1996	2,780,400
CHRISTMAS TREES	1997	1,607,000
	1996	1,521,500
HAY AND PASTURE	1997	2,689,400
	1996	2,682,000
GRAND TOTAL	1997	50,242,900
	1996	47,240,600



EL DORADO COUNTY SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

PEST ACTIVITIES

<u>PESTS</u>	<u>AGENT/MECHANISM</u>	<u>SCOPE OF PROGRAM</u>
PEST EXCLUSION	937 Shipments Inspected	6 Rejections
Rated Pests	UPS-Trucks-Nurseries	
PEST DETECTION	909 Traps Placed Throughout	Interception of Pests
	Gypsy Moth Japanese Beetle	Melon Fruitfly Oriental Fruitfly Medfly Apple Maggot
PEST ERADICATION	Controlled by Chemicals	Various Sites
Dalmation Toadflax White Top	Perennial Peppergrass Spotted Knapweed	Scotch Thistle Canada Thistle

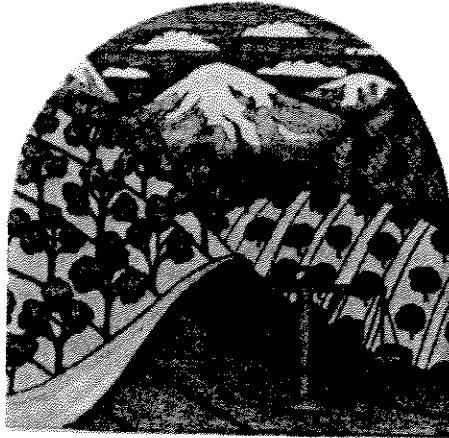
BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

<u>PEST</u>	<u>AGENT/MECHANISM</u>	<u>SCOPE OF PROGRAM</u>
Ash Whitefly Siphoninus Phillyreae	Parasitic Wasp Encarsia Partenopea	County Wide
Yellow Starthistle Centaurea Solstitialis	Gall Fly Urophora Sirunaseva	County Wide
Yellow Starthistle Centaurea Solstitialis	Seed-Head Weevil Bangasternus Orientalas	County Wide
Yellow Starthistle Centaurea Solstitialis	Seed Weevil Eustenopus Villosus	11
Klamath Weed Hypericum Perforatum	Leaf Beetle Chrysolina Quadrigemina	County Wide
Puncture Vine Tribulus Terrestris	Stem Weevil Microlainus Lypriformis	County Wide
Puncture Vine Tribulus Terrestris	Seed Weevil Microlainus Larenyii	County Wide

ORGANIC FARMING

<u>NUMBER REGISTERED</u>	<u>CROPS</u>	<u>ESTIMATED ACRES</u>
10	Various	22

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES



MISSION STATEMENT

The Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures is responsible for enforcing laws and regulations from the California Food and Agriculture Code, Business and Professions Code, Health and Safety Code, Penal Code and Civil Code.

The Department's mission is to:

- Promote and protect the Agricultural Industry;
- Provide for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare;
- Provide consumer protection in the market place;
- Provide a level playing field for commerce.