

1997 Census of Agriculture County Profile

United States Department of Agriculture
California Agricultural Statistics Service



CONTRA COSTA CALIFORNIA

Land in farms

Decreased 9 percent from 163,036 acres in 1992 to 147,859 acres in 1997.

Average size of farms

Increased 4 percent from 242 acres in 1992 to 252 acres in 1997.

Full time farms

Decreased 14 percent from 336 farms in 1992 to 289 farms in 1997.

Market value of agricultural products sold

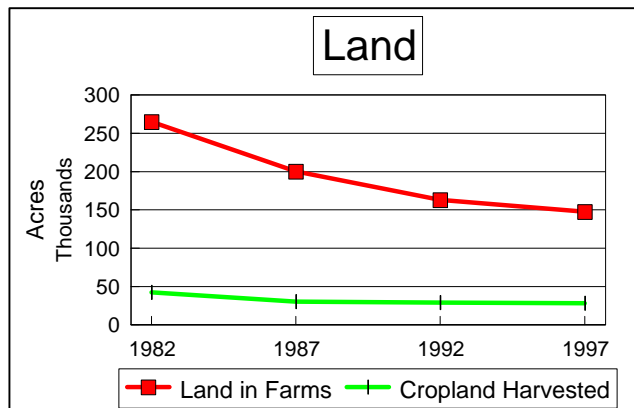
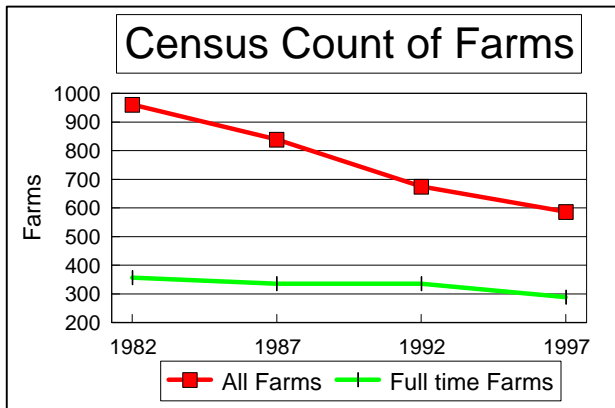
Increased 24 percent to \$67,068,000 in 1997.

Crop sales accounted for 78 percent of the market value.

Livestock sales accounted for 22 percent of the market value.

Market value of agricultural products sold, average per farm

Increased 43 percent from \$80,001 in 1992 to \$114,256 in 1997.



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Ranked Items Within State and U.S., 1997

Item	Quantity	State		U.S.	
		Rank	Universe*	Rank	Universe*
MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)					
Total value of agricultural products sold	67,068	37	58	869	3,076
Value of crops including nursery	52,383	35	58	514	3,070
Value of livestock and poultry	14,685	29	57	1,528	3,069
TOP FIVE ALL COMMODITIES - VALUE OF SALES (\$1,000)					
Vegetables, sweet corn, and melons	18,251	26	56	62	2,739
Fruits, nuts, berries	17,727	32	55	92	2,547
Nursery and greenhouse crops	11,713	27	58	177	2,790
Dairy products	(D)	21	47	482	2,563
Cattle and calves	6,258	35	57	1,276	3,063
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK SOLD (number)					
Cattle and calves sold	14,517	34	57	1,273	3,063
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold	(D)	22	43	864	1,882
Rabbits and their pelts sold	(D)	17	44	294	1,593
Ducks, geese, and other poultry sold	(D)	36	51	1,061	2,200
Horses and ponies sold	199	20	57	356	3,015
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - LIVESTOCK INVENTORY (number)					
Cattle and calves inventory	27,351	31	57	1,225	3,064
Horse and pony inventory	2,523	16	57	133	3,066
Broiler inventory	(D)	19	50	728	2,620
Colony of bees inventory	459	42	52	627	2,588
Layers 20 weeks and older inventory	323	43	56	2,004	3,002
TOP FIVE COMMODITIES - CROP AREA					
Hay crops-acres	8,113	33	57	1,898	3,061
Land used for vegetables-acres	7,773	21	56	89	2,741
Land in orchards-acres	6,594	31	56	97	2,693
Corn for grain-acres	2,420	15	31	1,581	2,691
Wheat-acres	1,323	25	42	1,578	2,612

Some counties do not have five commodities in a group.

Other County Summary Highlights

Item	1997	1992	Percent Change
Farms by value of sales:			
Less than \$10,000	348	459	-24
\$10,000 or more	239	216	11
Total farm production expenses\$1,000..	49,858	45,223	10
Average per farmdollars..	84,936	66,998	27
Net cash return from agricultural sales			
for the farm unit\$1,000..	17,669	7,521	135
Average per farmdollars..	30,100	11,143	170
Farms by type of organization:			
Individual or family	472	565	-16
Partnership or corporation	104	102	2
Other	11	8	38
OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS			
Operators by principal occupation:			
Farming	289	336	-14
Other	298	339	-12
Operators by sex:			
Male	463	551	-16
Female	124	124	
Operators by race:			
White	564	644	-12
Black and other races	23	31	-26
Average age of operator	56.3	55.0	2

(D) Cannot be disclosed. See "Census of Agriculture Volume 1 Geographic Area Series" for complete footnotes.

* Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with item.