

Spring 6-16-2016

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**SAN LUIS  
OBISPO  
COUNTY**

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# **AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS 1979**

**EARL R. KALAR, Commissioner**



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

## Department of Agriculture/Measurement Standards

P.O. BOX 637 • SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA 93406 • (805) 549-5910 549-5911  
COUNTY AIRPORT • EDNA ROAD

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

Hans Heilmann, Chairman  
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Howard Mankins  
District Four

Steve MacElvaine  
District Two

Jeff Jorgensen  
District Five

Kurt P. Kupper  
District Three

AND: Richard Rominger, Director  
California Department of Food and Agriculture

Agricultural production for 1979 in San Luis Obispo County is estimated at \$144 million dollars. Higher prices in some commodities including Animal Industry and increased producing acreage of high valued crops such as wine grapes and avocados had the greatest impact on this new record farm income. Although vegetable crop acreage figures were stable, low prices resulted in a substantial decline in harvested lettuce production per acre.

These figures are growers receipts and do not take into consideration inflationary grower costs. Whether profitable to the farmer or not, agriculture stimulates more new wealth than any other industry.

I personally want to thank members of my staff and the agricultural community for their cooperation and contributions to this report.

Respectfully submitted,

*Earl R. Kalar*

Earl R. Kalar  
Agricultural Commissioner

ERK/zd

THEME: Rich soils, coastal climate and industrious growers contribute to the farming of numerous speciality crops including the sugar pea lending to the diversity and uniqueness of San Luis Obispo County's agriculture.

Photographs by Richard D. Greek, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner

VEGETABLE CROPS: Acreage, Production, Value 1978-1979

CROP	Year	Harvested Acreage	PRODUCTION		Unit	Per Unit	VALUE	
			Per Acre	Total			Total	Total
Beans, (Snap) ---	1979	204	92	18,768	30#	\$ 5.00	\$ 93,800	
	1978	219	95	20,805	30#	6.10	127,000	
Broccoli -----	1979	5,304	210	1,113,840	23#	5.10	5,681,000	
	1978	5,481	200	1,096,200	23#	5.50	6,029,000	
Cabbage -----	1979	539	390	210,210	45#	2.55	536,000	
	1978	632	400	252,800	45#	3.70	935,000	
Carrots -----	1979	2,236	310	693,160	Cwt	7.25	5,025,000	
	1978	389	300	116,700	Cwt	6.95	811,000	
Cauliflower -----	1979	882	375	330,750	25#	5.05	1,670,000	
	1978	962	380	365,560	25#	5.10	1,864,000	
Celery -----	1979	1,332	875	1,165,500	60#	4.60	5,361,000	
	1978	1,547	800	1,238,000	60#	7.95	9,842,000	
Lettuce -----	1979	9,775	484	4,731,100	48#	3.35	15,849,000	
	1978	10,508	760	7,986,000	48#	3.85	30,750,000	
Peas ----- (Edible Pod)	1979	1,045	62	64,790	45#	39.00	2,527,000	
	1978	1,228	60	73,680	45#	40.50	2,984,000	
Peppers -----	1979	682	190	129,580	30#	4.10	531,000	
	1978	605	200	121,000	30#	5.25	635,000	
Potatoes -----	1979	264	350	92,400	Cwt	4.00	370,000	
	1979	372	350	130,200	Cwt	3.90	508,000	
Romaine -----	1979	680	825	561,000	Ctn	2.65	1,487,000	
	1978	648	860	557,280	Ctn	2.95	1,645,000	
Miscellaneous ---	1979	1,618					6,255,000	
	1978	1,400					4,534,000	
TOTAL	1979	24,561					\$45,385,800	
VEGETABLE CROP	1978	23,991					\$60,664,000	

### SEED AND NURSERY STOCK 1978-1979

CROP	Year	Harvested Acreage	VALUE	
			Total	Total
Cut Flowers ----	1979			\$1,949,000
	1978			1,397,000
Nursery -----	1979			4,348,000
	1978			3,740,000
Seed, Field ---- Crop, Flower	1979	706		709,000
	1978	116		58,000
TOTAL	1979	706		\$7,006,000
SEED AND NURSERY STOCK	1978	116		\$5,195,000

FIELD CROPS: Acreage, Production, Value 1978-1979

CROP	Year	Harvested Acreage	PRODUCTION		Unit	VALUE	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Alfalfa Hay -----	1979	9,762	7.3	71,263	Ton	\$ 88.25	\$6,289,000
	1978	8,875	6.0	53,250	Ton	65.00	3,461,000
Barley -----	1979	80,000	33.0	2,640,000	Bu	2.60	6,864,000
	1978*	87,000	31.2	2,714,400	Bu	2.82	7,655,000
Garbanzo -----	1979	3,834	8.0	30,672	Cwt	35.00	1,074,000
	1978	3,485	12.0	41,820	Cwt	50.00	2,091,000
Grain Hay -----	1979	7,100	2.0	14,200	Ton	67.00	951,000
	1978	7,538	2.0	15,076	Ton	55.00	829,000
Irrigated Pasture -----	1979	6,000			Acre	100.00	600,000
	1978	5,700			Acre	100.00	570,000
Oats -----	1979**	2,000	45.0	90,000	Bu	2.20	198,000
	1978	3,046	20.0	60,920	Cwt	12.00	731,000
Safflower -----	1979	4,933	0.27	1,332	Ton	252.50	336,000
	1978	3,228	0.26	839	Ton	310.00	260,000
Sugar Beets -----	1979	870	25.5	22,185	Ton	24.50	544,000
	1978	570	18.4	10,488	Ton	22.73	238,000
Wheat -----	1979**	43,000	24.1	1,036,300	Bu	4.10	4,249,000
	1978	43,000	12.0	516,000	Cwt	5.20	2,683,000
Miscellaneous ---	1979	2,415					2,150,000
	1978	1,487					2,128,000
TOTAL FIELD CROPS	1979	159,914					23,255,000
	1978*	163,929					20,646,000

\*Revised

\*\*Note Change in Units

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: Acreage, Production, Value 1978-1979

CROP	Year	Harvested Acreage	PRODUCTION		Unit	VALUE	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Almonds -----	1979	6,394	0.038	563	Ton	3,000.00	\$1,689,000
	1978	4,730	0.037	175	Ton	1,620.00	284,000
Apples -----	1979	451	4.0	1,804	Ton	200.00	361,000
	1978	324	4.0	1,296	Ton	159.00	206,000
Avocados -----	1979	733	3.09	2,265	Ton	691.00	1,565,000
	1978	408	1.2	490	Ton	950.00	466,000
Grapes -----	1979	3,857	4.6	17,742	Ton	600.00	10,645,000
	1978	3,405	2.61	8,887	Ton	521.00	4,630,000
Lemons -----	1979	875	279.0	244,125	Box	15.00	3,662,000
	1978	864	715.0	618,000	Box	2.28	1,409,000
Walnuts -----	1979	1,100	0.82	902	Ton	985.00	888,000
	1978	1,136	0.89	1,011	Ton	1,286.00	1,300,000
Strawberries ----	1979	138	35,000.0	4,830,000	Lbs	0.36	1,739,000
	1978	141	29,800.0	4,202,000	Lbs	0.35	1,471,000

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS: Production and Value 1978-1979

PRODUCT	Year	PRODUCTION		Unit	Per Unit	VALUE
		Total	Total			Total
Market Milk -----	1979	335,000		Cwt	\$11.46	\$3,839,000
	1978	312,000		Cwt	10.147	3,166,000
Manufacturing Milk -----	1979	1,800		Cwt	10.60	19,100
	1978	2,200		Cwt	7.68	17,000
Wool -----	1979	24,486		Lbs	0.70	17,100
	1978	34,995		Lbs	0.66	23,000
Honey -----	1979	56,500		Lbs	0.475	26,800
	1978	79,500		Lbs	0.448	36,000
Miscellaneous -----	1979					1,125,000
	1978					1,700,000
TOTAL LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS	1979					\$5,027,000
	1978					\$4,942,000

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: Production and Value 1978-1979

TYPE	Year	Number of Head	Production	Unit	Per Unit	VALUE
						Total
Cattle and Calves ----	1979	97,947	524,531	Cwt	\$ 64.94	\$34,063,000
	1978	104,000	429,575	Cwt	47.23	20,290,000
Hogs -----	1979	8,750	17,500	Cwt	49.00	858,000
	1978	8,500	17,000	Cwt	48.50	824,000
Horses -----	1979	275		Each	1,200.00	330,000
	1978	290		Each	1,100.00	319,000
Poultry (Meat) -----	1979	308,824	5,734,300	Lbs	0.43	2,466,000
	1978	356,800	5,503,000	Lbs	0.424	2,333,000
Sheep and Lambs -----	1979	6,200	5,704	Cwt	70.00	399,000
	1978	4,800	4,416	Cwt	62.00	274,000
Miscellaneous -----	1979					3,812,000
	1978					2,418,000
TOTAL LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY	1979					\$41,928,000
	1978					\$26,458,000

TOTAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION ACREAGE: 1979 - 198,789  
 1978 - 199,104\*  
 1977 - 179,589\*

COMPARISON OF VALUATIONS OF MAJOR GROUPS DURING THE PAST TEN YEARS:

	ANIMAL INDUSTRY	FIELD CROPS	FRUIT & NUT CROPS	VEGETABLE CROPS	SEED & NURSERY STOCK	TOTAL VALUATIONS
1970	24,659,100	10,327,750	2,974,900	18,368,300	586,900	56,916,950
1971	24,802,200	11,033,130	2,080,100	21,111,000	443,600	59,470,030
1972	26,645,400	10,668,840	2,029,600	22,276,300	435,700	62,055,840
1973	33,200,700	15,881,000	3,853,600	27,983,800	753,600	81,672,700
1974	25,839,900	23,377,300	4,952,600	28,256,700	1,941,000	84,367,500
1975	27,830,300	24,830,300	3,906,400	31,214,100	3,052,000	90,833,100
1976	26,167,500	19,585,500	6,445,840	34,999,600	6,185,000	93,381,440
1977	28,405,800	12,457,200	7,284,000	41,400,600	3,151,000	92,698,600
1978*	31,400,000	20,646,000	10,255,000	60,664,000	5,195,000	128,160,000
1979	46,955,000	23,255,000	21,728,000	45,385,800	7,006,000	144,329,800

\*Revised

Compiled by the Agricultural Commissioner's Staff:

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