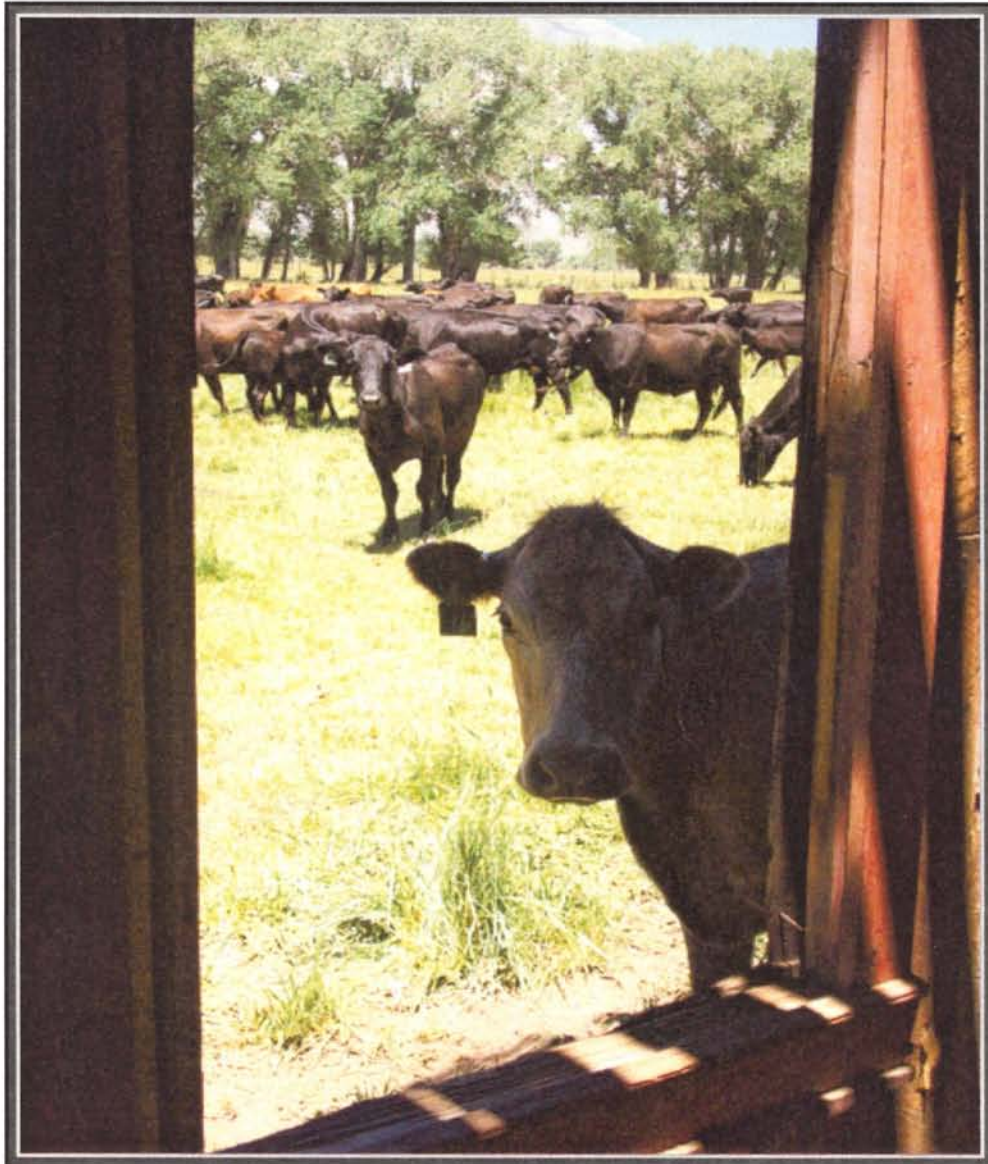


Counties of Inyo and Mono Agriculture Department



Evans Ranch ~ Round Valley

Photo: John Schrader

2007 Annual Crop and Livestock Report



Counties of Inyo & Mono



George L. Milovich
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July 9, 2008

TO: A.G. Kawamura, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture

and the Honorable

Inyo County Board of Supervisors

Mono County Board of Supervisors

Linda Arcularius
Jim Bilyeu
Beverly Brown
Susan Cash
Richard Cervantes

Tom Farnetti
D. "Hap" Hazard
Byng Hunt
Vikki Magee-Bauer
Bill Reid

It is my pleasure to present the 2007 Agricultural Crop and Livestock Report. This report is a compilation of crop production and estimated values of commodities grown in Inyo and Mono Counties.

The combined Counties' agricultural production for 2007 totaled \$56,903,900.00, which represents an approximate 17% increase from 2006.

One of our driest years in recent history led to reductions in both livestock numbers and some row crops. Alfalfa, due to factors such as high corn prices led to an increase in value. Our high desert protein rich alfalfa hay continues to be in demand.

Agriculture continues as one of the integral parts of Inyo and Mono Counties' economy. Values represented here are gross agricultural values only and are submitted in accordance with Section 2279 of the California Food and Agriculture Code.

My appreciation goes out to the growers and agencies that provided data and to Robin and Jennifer for their help and vigilance in putting this report together.

Sincerely,

George L. Milovich
Agricultural Commissioner

/jfs

**Inyo and Mono Counties
Agricultural Commissioner's Office:**

Agriculture and Weights and Measures Departments

Eastern Sierra Weed Management Area, a joint powers program

Owens Valley Mosquito Abatement Program

Mission Statement

The Inyo and Mono Counties' Agricultural Commissioner's Office is entrusted with the mission of protecting the agriculture industry of the Counties and its environment, ensuring the health and safety of the Counties' citizens, and fostering confidence and equity in the market place through education and the fair and uniform enforcement of laws, regulations, and ordinances enacted by the people of the State of California and the Counties of Inyo and Mono.

Staff

George L. Milovich - Agricultural Commissioner / Director of Weights and Measures

John Schrader - Deputy Agricultural Commissioner / Deputy Director of Weights and Measures

Robin Conklin - Executive Secretary

Jennifer Sarten - Account Technician I

Nathan Reade - Program Coordinator / Eastern Sierra Weed Management Area

Carlos Paz - Field Technician II

Scott Gadea - Field Assistant

Joshua Tyerman - Field Assistant

Jerrold Oser - Manager / Owens Valley Mosquito Abatement Program

Robert Miller - Mosquito Control Technician III

Bruce Mack - Field Technician I

Casey Freeman - Field Technician I

David Miller - Mosquito Helper

Michael Harrison - Mosquito Helper

The Evolution of Agriculture and Weights and Measures

The California Department of Food and Agriculture traces its origins to the needs of 100 years ago to protect the State's crops from the ravages of pests both domestic and imported. Then, as now, one of the principle weapons employed was a legal device called a "quarantine", which derives from the French word "quarante", meaning "forty". The quarantine came about as a detention device, its first use being in the year 1340 when passengers on ships bound for Venice, Italy, were detained on board ship for 40 days. This was considered a long enough period to determine whether or not those passengers carried with them the Black Plague, which was killing many people in Europe in the mid-14th century.

California's first statewide program, which was the start of the present Department of Food and Agriculture, began with "An Act For the Promotion of Viticultural Industries of the State" on April 5, 1880. It provides for the appointment of a Board of State Viticultural Commissioners whose duties included the study of the grape root rot disease, *Phylloxera*. The Act specified that the University of California was responsible for instruction and experiments - a concept still existing today - giving the University the authority for research and the Department the regulatory functions. The Act provided for seven viticultural districts.

Until the year 1911, the duties of the State Board of Horticulture, the State Commissioner of Horticulture, county boards of horticulture commissioners and the county horticulture commissioners were limited to just a few obligations. They had to do with preventing the introduction into the state of the pests from outside its boundaries, prevention of spread of insect pests and plant diseases through the media of nursery stock, fruit boxes, and other containers, and the inspection of nurseries. The years that followed would find the duties not only intensified in the same areas, but expanded into many other aspects of agriculture.

In the beginning the regulatory concern was to protect the California farmer from the depredations of exotic pests. After 1911, these duties were to be expanded to include concerns of the market place (standardization), and such cultural aids as assistance to the farmer in weed control and control of rodents and other damaging creatures. Later, they would enlarge to assure the farmer honest weights and measures, and protection from unscrupulous middlemen. Finally, the regulations would blossom into the full relationship of the farmer and the consumer.

Today, the California Department of Food and Agriculture and County Agricultural Commissioners are as busy helping the consumer as they are the farmer. They keep exotic pests away from the farmer's fields by fighting them in city gardens, where they nearly always are found first in the State. By so doing, they are affording city people as much protection as farmers, for these pests generally can wreak as much havoc in the city as in the country. They provide for, and oversee, standardization practices, thus insuring the farmers good markets for their products and insuring quality for consumers. They promote marketing of goods in a variety of ways, also assuring quality and quantity to consumers. They look after the health of livestock and plants, and the same benefits accrue to the consumer. They insist on measurement standards that also have dual blessings; and they assure the consumer and the farmer protection against the careless use of pesticides, thus affording protection to both people and the environment.

2005 was the 125th anniversary of the California Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer Association.

INYO and MONO COUNTIES AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

The mission of the Inyo and Mono Counties Agricultural Commissioner's Office is to promote and protect the agricultural industry of the Counties, its environment, and to ensure the health and safety of all of its citizens. The department is also responsible for fostering confidence and equity in the marketplace.

The following are the main program areas:

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

We protect the health and safety of all Inyo/Mono residents, its agricultural industries and its environment with a series of comprehensive regulatory programs designed to prevent the introduction of exotic pests and to ensure the safe use of pesticides. The five programs utilized to achieve these goals include:

* Pest Exclusion * Pest Detection * Pest Eradication * Pest Management * Pesticide Enforcement *

CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PRODUCT QUALITY

Product quality programs are designed to ensure the production and sales of quality eggs, honey, fruits, vegetables, and nursery and seed products. The six programs include:

* Fruit and Vegetable Quality Control * Organic Food Production *
* Egg Quality Control * Certified Farmers' Markets * Nursery Inspection * Seed Inspection *

SPECIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

Other special, mandated services acted upon by our department include:

* Apiary Inspection * Crop Statistics * Sustainable Agriculture *

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Equity and fairness is the name of the game. Gasoline, firewood, a loaf of bread, or fruits and vegetables... Any item purchased is sold by weight, measure, or count. We protect the public from purchasing goods that are short weight or measure, and we protect businesses from giving their products and profits away when they use devices that could be inaccurate. We also verify that prices are correctly scanned at the counter, petroleum products meet quality standards, and weighmasters provide their customers accurate weighing devices. The eight programs in this category include:

* Weight Verification * Measurement Verification * Petroleum * Transaction Verification *
* Electronic Meters * Compressed Gas Meters * Weighmaster * Device Repairmen Regulation *

EASTERN SIERRA WEED MANAGEMENT AREA

This division consists of federal, state, county, and local agencies and entities of which the Agricultural Commissioner is the administrator. The Eastern Sierra Weed Management Area is solely dedicated to range management of the Eastern Sierras and the detection, eradication, and management of noxious, non-native weed species.

OWENS VALLEY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM

The overall purpose of this program is to provide the public with a consistent level of mosquito control that directly reduces the threat of disease transmission and the spread of large nuisance populations of mosquitoes.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND EDUCATION OUTREACH

The Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures is responsible for the administration of these programs. Staff also participates in a wide range of special projects intended to benefit Inyo/Mono citizens such as legislative process, public information, education outreach efforts, joint multi-agencies cooperation and inter-county agencies activities.

INYO COUNTY – GENERAL INFORMATION

County Seat	Independence
County Population (2000 census)	17,945
Land Area (square miles)	10,142
Persons per Square Mile	1.77
Highest Elevation (Mount Whitney)	14,492 Feet
Lowest Elevation (Bad Water, Death Valley National Park)	282 feet below sea level
Land in Federal Ownership	92.0%
Land in State Ownership	2.4%
Land in City of Los Angeles Ownership	3.9%
Land in Private Ownership	1.7%

Incorporated Cities/Towns:

Bishop

Average Climate:

Bishop

Summer High -- 98°

Winter Low -- 22°

Death Valley

Summer High -- 115°

Winter Low -- 37°

Unincorporated Areas:

Big Pine
Cartago
Independence
Lone Pine
Olancha
Pearsonville
Shoshone
Tecopa



MONO COUNTY – GENERAL INFORMATION

County Seat	Bridgeport
County Population (2000 census)	12,853
Land Area (square miles)	3,044
Persons per Square Mile	4.22
Highest Elevation (White Mountain)	14,242 Feet
Land in Federal Ownership	84.73%
Land in State Ownership	3.57%
Land In City of Los Angeles Ownership	3.24%
Land in Private Ownership	7.83%

Incorporated Cities/Towns:

Mammoth Lakes

Average Climate:

Bridgeport

Summer High -- 81°

Winter Low -- 8°

Chalfant Valley

Summer High -- 98°

Winter Low -- 22°

Unincorporated Areas:

Benton
Bridgeport
Chalfant Valley
Coleville
Hammil Valley
June Lake
Lee Vining
Tom's Place
Walker



"Weights and measures may be ranked among the necessaries of life to every individual of human society. They enter into the economical arrangements and daily concerns of every family. They are necessary to every occupation of human industry; to the distribution and security of every species of property; to every transaction of trade and commerce; to the labors of the husbandman; to the ingenuity of the artificer; to the studies of the philosopher; to the researches of the antiquarian; to the navigation of the mariner, and the marches of the soldier; to all the exchanges of peace, and all the operations of war. The knowledge of them, as in established use, is among the first elements of education, and is often learned by those who learn nothing else, not even to read and write. This knowledge is riveted in the memory by the habitual application of it to the employments of men throughout life."

-John Quincy Adams



COUNTY OF INYO

LIVESTOCK

ITEM	YEAR	HEAD	LIVEWEIGHT	UNIT	PRICE PER UNIT	TOTAL
CATTLE & CALVES						
Calves/Steers	2007	5,300	30,500	Cwt.	\$114.00	\$3,477,000
	2006	5,600	30,800	Cwt.	\$112.00	\$3,449,600
Heifers	2007	4,500	23,625	Cwt.	\$110.00	\$2,598,750
	2006	4,760	24,990	Cwt.	\$108.00	\$2,698,920
Cows	2007	2,250	24,750	Cwt.	\$74.00	\$1,831,500
	2006	2,300	25,300	Cwt.	\$72.00	\$1,821,600
Bulls	2007	215	2,900	Cwt.	\$70.00	\$203,000
	2006	200	3,000	Cwt.	\$70.00	\$210,000
Stockers (gain)	2007	4,500	~	~	~	\$1,800,000
	2006	4,000	~	~	~	\$1,260,000
SHEEP & LAMBS						
	2007	5,000	4,500	Cwt.	\$78.00	\$351,000
	2006	5,000	4,500	Cwt.	\$70.00	\$315,000

TOTAL LIVESTOCK	2007	\$10,261,250
	2006	\$9,755,120

County of Inyo (Continued)

FIELD CROPS

ITEM	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	YIELD PER ACRE	TOTAL YIELD	UNIT	PRICE PER UNIT	TOTAL
Alfalfa Hay	2007	3,100	6.00	18,600	Ton	\$165.00	\$3,069,000
	2006	3,000	6.00	18,000	Ton	\$132.00	\$2,376,000
Miscellaneous Hay	2007	2,000	4.00	8,000	Ton	\$165.00	\$1,320,000
	2006	1,650	4.00	6,600	Ton	\$128.00	\$844,800
Irrigated Pasture	2007	17,000	~	~	Acre	\$27.00	\$459,000
	2006	17,000	~	~	Acre	\$26.00	\$442,000
Dry Grazing	2007	208,000	~	~	Acre	\$3.85	\$800,800
	2006	208,000	~	~	Acre	\$3.50	\$728,000
TOTAL FIELD CROPS					2007	\$5,648,800	
					2006	\$4,390,800	

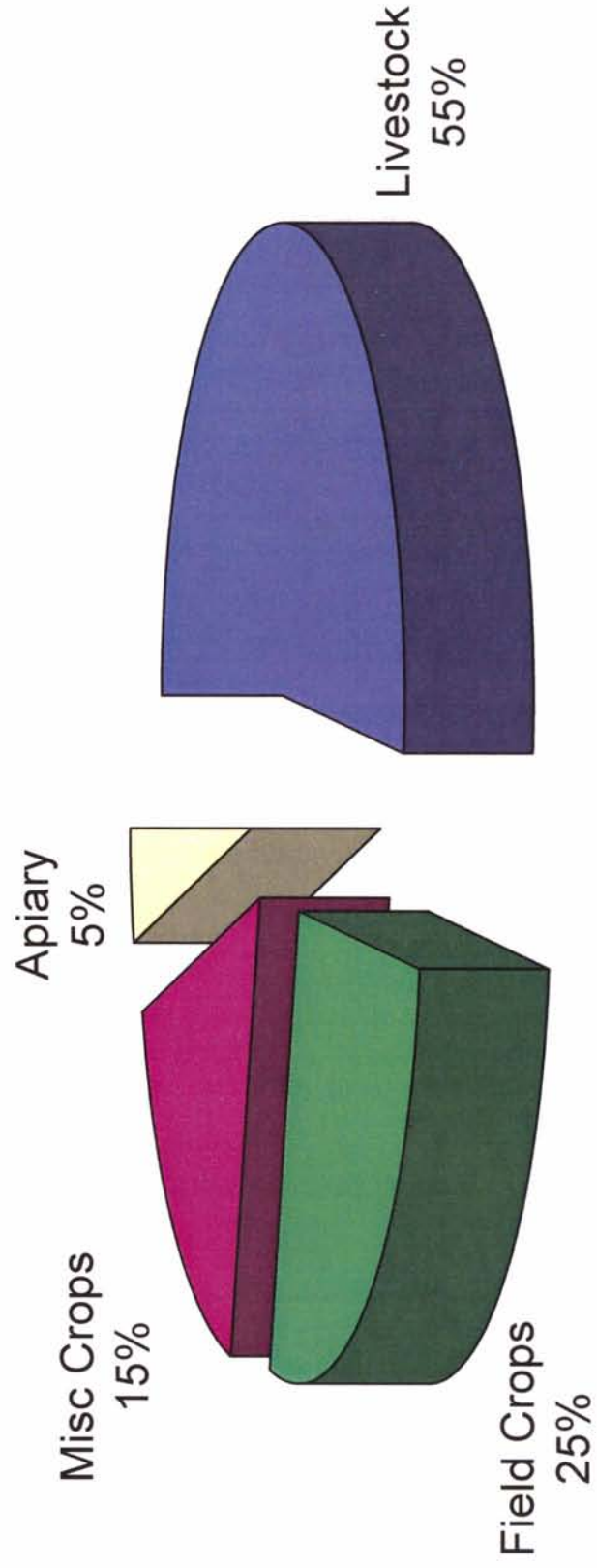
MISCELLANEOUS CROP PRODUCTION

ITEM	YEAR	ACREAGE	TOTAL YIELD	TOTAL
Turf	2007	375	~	\$3,200,000
	2006	375	~	\$3,000,000
Dates (Misc. Fruits)	2007	30	30,000	\$127,000
	2006	30	25,000	\$100,000
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS CROP PRODUCTION				2007
				2006
				\$3,327,000
				\$3,100,000

APIARY

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	PRICE PER UNIT	TOTAL
Honey	2007	550,000	Lbs.	\$1.35	\$742,500
	2006	650,000	Lbs.	\$1.20	\$780,000
TOTAL APIARY				2006	\$742,500
				2005	\$780,000

COUNTY OF INYO
2007 AGRICULTURAL VALUES





INYO COUNTY TOTALS

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Livestock	\$9,755,120	\$10,261,250
Field Crops	\$4,390,800	\$5,648,800
Miscellaneous Crop Production	\$3,100,000	\$3,327,000
Apriary	\$780,000	\$742,500
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS	\$18,025,920	\$19,979,550



County of Mono (Continued)

FIELD CROPS

ITEM	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	YIELD PER ACRE	TOTAL YIELD	UNIT	PRICE PER UNIT	TOTAL
Alfalfa Hay	2007	11,000	6.25	68,750	Ton	\$165.00	\$11,343,750
	2006	10,000	6.00	60,000	Ton	\$132.00	\$7,920,000
Miscellaneous Hay	2007	5,000	4.00	20,000	Ton	\$165.00	\$3,300,000
	2006	3,500	4.00	14,000	Ton	\$128.00	\$1,792,000
Irrigated Pasture	2007	55,000	~	~	Acre	\$27.00	\$1,485,000
	2006	57,000	~	~	Acre	\$26.00	\$1,482,000
Dry Grazing	2007	80,000	~	~	Acre	\$5.50	\$440,000
	2006	80,000	~	~	Acre	\$5.00	\$400,000
TOTAL FIELD CROPS					2006	\$16,568,750	
					2005	\$11,594,000	

ROW CROP PRODUCTION

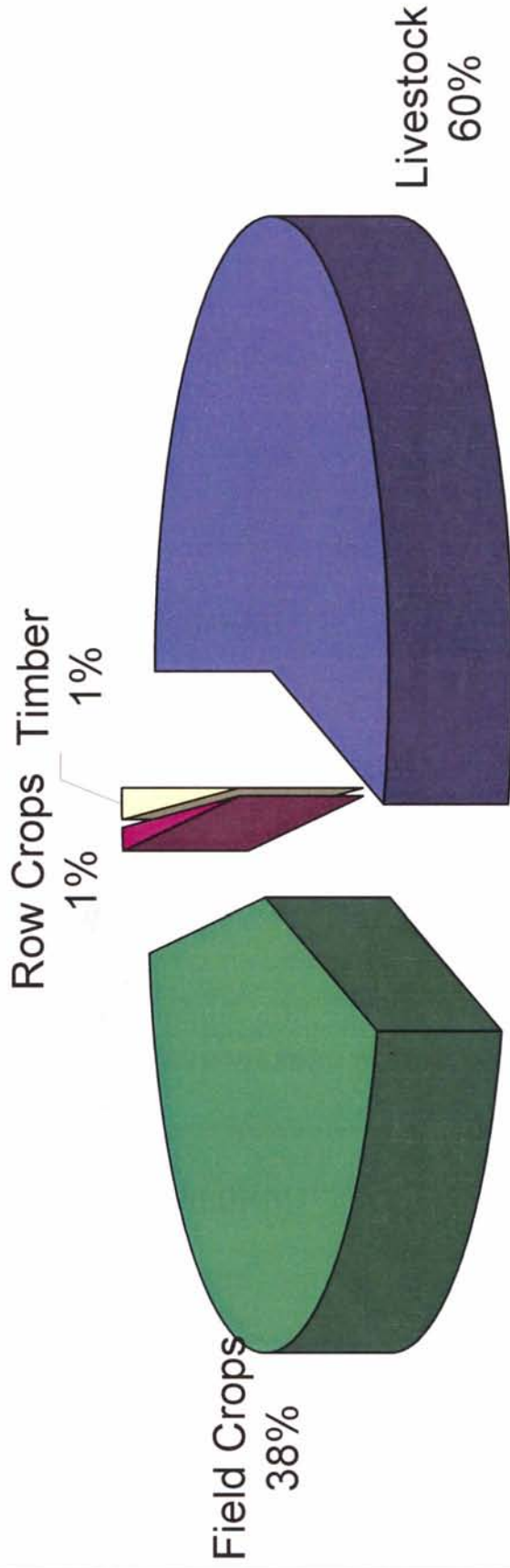
ITEM	YEAR	ACREAGE	TOTAL YIELD	TOTAL
Garlic	2007	63	~	\$90,000
	2006	150	~	\$220,000
TOTAL ROW CROP PRODUCTION				2007
				2006
				\$90,000
				\$220,000

TIMBER

ITEM	YEAR	TOTAL
Timber/Firewood	2007	\$38,000
	2006	\$25,000
TOTAL TIMBER		2007
		2006
		\$38,000
		\$25,000

COUNTY OF MONO

2007 AGRICULTURAL VALUES



County of Mono (Continued)



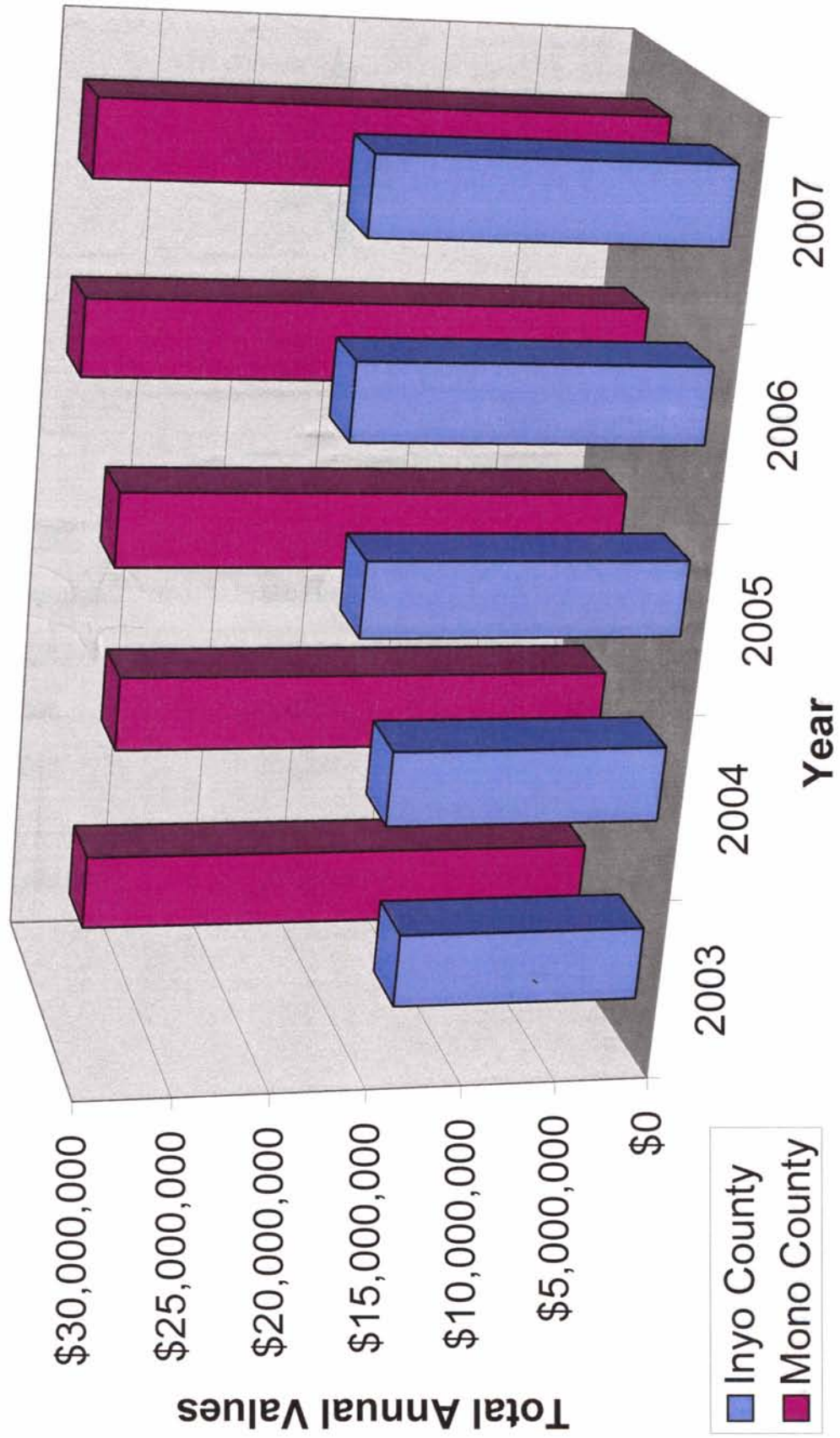
MONO COUNTY TOTALS

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Livestock	\$17,497,050	\$20,227,600
Field Crops	\$11,594,000	\$16,568,750
Miscellaneous Crop Production	\$220,000	\$90,000
Apriary	\$25,000	\$38,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS	\$29,336,050	\$36,924,350



COMPARISON SUMMARY

Inyo/Mono Agricultural Values 2003-2007





COMPARISON SUMMARY

2003 --- 2007

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
INYO COUNTY TOTALS	\$13,043,625	\$14,341,188	\$16,614,350	\$18,025,920	\$19,979,550
MONO COUNTY TOTALS	\$27,412,250	\$26,308,780	\$26,973,450	\$29,336,050	\$36,924,350
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COMBINED TOTALS	\$40,455,875	\$40,649,968	\$43,587,800	\$47,361,970	\$56,903,900



ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORTING

PEST ERADICATION

PEST	AGENT/MECHANISM	SCOPE OF PROGRAM
Puncture Vines	Biological control (Stem and Seed Weevils)	25 sites
Dalmation Toadflax	Mechanical	2 sites
Yellow Star Thistle	Mechanical	2 sites
Russian Knapweed	Herbicide	8 sites
Hoary Cress	Herbicide	2 sites
Canada Thistle	Herbicide	20 sites
Spotted Knapweed	Herbicide	2 sites
Halogeton	Mechanical	5 sites
Scotch Thistle	Herbicide	5 sites
Camelthorn	Herbicide	1 site
Saltcedar	Biological control (Tamarisk Leaf Eating Beetle)	3 sites
Saltcedar	Mechanical/Herbicide	100 sites
Perennial Pepperweed	Mechanical/Herbicide	91 sites

PEST EXCLUSION

IMPORTED PLANT MATERIAL

Exotic and/or target pests	Incoming plant material via UPS, air, truck, mail	1,256 shipments inspected
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ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS

4 organic farms registered in 2007

EASTERN SIERRA CERTIFIED FARMERS MARKET

4 growers participated in the 2007 Farmers Markets.
Commodities sold including melons, tree fruit, row crops, herbs and honey.

OUTREACH PROGRAM

During 2007, the Inyo Mono Counties' Agriculture Department sponsored:

- Three pesticide safety seminars, with over 150 professional card holders attending, to meet state continuing education requirements;
- Two all day seminars were provided for local ranchers and growers, first line responders, and Homeland Security California Post Certified card holders on:
 - Understanding the Dangers of Agroterrorism; and,
 - Principles of Preparedness for Agroterrorism – Food System Disasters.

The Department's inspection surveillance area, which encompasses over 10,000 square miles, reached out to Northern Mono County, involving several California and Nevada field crop growers located in the Antelope Valley area to the southern tip of Inyo County, involving a large, commercial turf grass farm in Sandy Valley, near Las Vegas, Nevada.

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