



EL DORADO COUNTY CROP REPORT 2000

*Harvest
Fair*

A TASTE OF EL DORADO COUNTY



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

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Sealer of Weights and Measures

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In accordance with Section 2279 of the California Agricultural Code, I hereby submit the 2000 El Dorado County Crop Report.

The 2000 gross agricultural value equaled \$52,395,500, representing an increase of 2% over the 1999 figures. The value of wine grapes produced in El Dorado County continued to increase (up 5%) even with production losses due to a frost in May. The amount of acreage planted in wine grapes also increased by 16% over 1999. Other crop value increases included: a rebound in the apple production after extensive hail damage in 1999; Christmas tree values posted a 33% increase due to high demand for "Choose and Cut" trees and excellent December weather; cattle prices continued to increase, with a 34% increase in value. It should be noted that while California wine grape prices dropped an average of 3.5% per ton, El Dorado County wine grape prices increased by 3% per ton. This significant statistic is attributed to the recognition of the excellent grape quality, which continues to yield award-winning wines from the El Dorado Appellation.

It is estimated that the impact of agriculture on El Dorado County's economy totaled approximately \$320 million in 2000. Of that, the wine industry has an estimated \$87 million effect on the economy and Apple Hill has a \$58 million impact.

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.

This report was compiled by Wendy West, 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

Bill Snodgrass
Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

El Dorado County

2000 Crop Report

Departmental Staff

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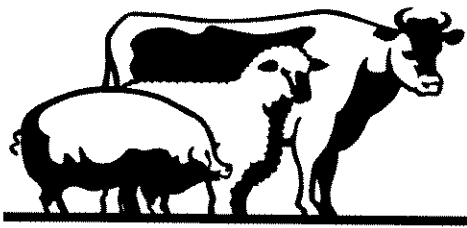




Fruit and Nut Crops

Crop	Year	Acreage	Per Acre	Total Production	Unit	Value per Unit	Total Value	
Pears-Bartlett								
Fresh	2000			513	Tons	\$ 560	\$ 287,300	
	1999			766	Tons	\$ 640	\$ 490,200	
Cannery	2000			914	Tons	\$ 196	\$ 179,100	
	1999			1,137	Tons	\$ 220	\$ 250,100	
Juice	2000			803	Tons	\$ 10	\$ 8,000	
	1999			568	Tons	\$ 15	\$ 8,500	
Total	2000	385	5.80	2,230	Tons	\$ 213	\$ 474,700	
Bartlett	1999	405	6.10	2,471	Tons	\$ 303	\$ 748,800	
Bosc/Asian								
	2000	66	4.00	264	Tons	\$ 467	\$ 123,300	
	1999	66	3.11	205	Tons	\$ 418	\$ 85,700	
Total	2000	451	5.53	2,494	Tons	\$ 240	\$ 598,000	
Pears	1999	471	5.68	2,676	Tons	\$ 312	\$ 834,500	
Apples								
Fresh	2000			5,580	Tons	\$ 750	\$ 4,185,000	
	1999			3,147	Tons	\$ 740	\$ 2,328,800	
Cannery/Apple	2000			2,790	Tons	\$ 80	\$ 223,200	
Hill Products	1999			2,633	Tons	\$ 80	\$ 210,600	
Cider	2000			930	Tons	\$ 45	\$ 41,900	
	1999			642	Tons	\$ 50	\$ 32,100	
Total	2000	838	11.10	9,300	Tons	\$ 479	\$ 4,450,100	
Apples	1999	845	7.60	6,422	Tons	\$ 400	\$ 2,571,500	
Cherries	2000	116	1.80	209	Tons	\$ 3,800	\$ 794,200	
	1999	126	1.50	189	Tons	\$ 3,800	\$ 718,200	
Peaches	2000	110	3.50	385	Tons	\$ 1,540	\$ 592,900	
	1999	110	0.50	55	Tons	\$ 1,600	\$ 88,000	
Plums	2000	58	2.00	116	Tons	\$ 800	\$ 92,800	
	1999	60	1.82	109	Tons	\$ 800	\$ 87,200	
Wine	Bearing	2000	1165	2.92	3,400	Tons	\$ 1,194	\$ 4,059,600
Grapes	Vines	1999	981	3.41	3,345	Tons	\$ 1,160	\$ 3,880,200
	Non-Bearing	2000	400	Total Acreage = 1565 ac.				
	Bearing	1999	368	Total Acreage = 1349 ac.				
Walnuts	2000	216	0.40	86	Tons	\$ 1,200	\$ 103,200	
	1999	216	0.61	132	Tons	\$ 1,000	\$ 132,000	
Total Fruit	2000	2954		15,990	Tons	\$	\$ 10,690,800	
Nut Crops	1999	2809		12,928	Tons	\$	\$ 8,311,600	
Minor and Misc.	2000					\$	\$ 289,700	
Crops*	1999					\$	\$ 339,700	

*Minor and Miscellaneous includes: Truck Gardens, Berries, Nectarines, Oranges, Chestnuts, Avocados, Pumpkins, Tomatoes and Persimmons



Livestock

Crop	Year	Number of Head	Total Live Weight	Unit	Value per Unit	Total Value
Cattle and Calves	2000	4300	36,600	cwt.**	\$ 71.50	\$ 2,616,900
	1999	4235	30,477	cwt.	\$ 64.07	\$ 1,952,400
Sheep and Lambs	2000	530	619	cwt.	\$ 62.61	\$ 38,800
	1999	555	771	cwt.	\$ 64.73	\$ 49,900
Hogs/Pigs	2000	860	1,892	cwt.	\$ 44.10	\$ 83,400
	1999	945	2,079	cwt.	\$ 35.10	\$ 73,000
Misc.*	2000					\$ 1,260,000
	1999					\$ 1,150,000
Total Livestock	2000					\$ 3,999,100
	1999					\$ 3,225,300

*Misc. Includes: Turkeys, Ducks, Geese, Chickens, Hatching Eggs, Llamas, Goats, Emu, Ostrich and Wool

**cwt. = hundredweight = 100 pounds

Apiary Products


	Year		Total Value
Apiary Products	2000	2,800 Colonies	\$ 238,000
	1999	2,950 Colonies	\$ 265,500

Includes: Honey, Bees Wax, Pollen and Pollination

Hay and Pasture

Crop	Year	Acres	Units	Value	Total Value
Hay, Tame	2000	350	610 Tons	\$ 97.00	\$ 59,200
	1999	380	560 Tons	\$ 110.00	\$ 61,600
Irrigated Pasture	2000	1,100	Acres	\$ 125.00	\$ 137,500
	1999	1,350	Acres	\$ 125.00	\$ 168,700
Rangeland (Dryland)	2000	245,000	Acres	\$ 12.00	\$ 2,940,000
	1999	245,000	Acres	\$ 10.00	\$ 2,450,000
Total Hay And Pasture	2000				\$ 3,136,700
	1999				\$ 2,680,300

Nursery Products

Crop	Year	Acreage	Production	Unit	Unit	Value	
Nursery	2000	32			\$	2,043,000	
Stock	1999	30			\$	1,792,000	
Trees, Shrubs,	2000	15				\$	836,000
Greenhouse	1999	17				\$	854,700
Total	2000	47				\$	2,879,000
Nursery	1999	47				\$	2,646,700

Christmas Trees

	Year	Production	Unit	Unit	Value
Wholesale	2000	12,600	Each	\$ 15.00	\$ 189,000
	1999	11,100	Each	\$ 13.00	\$ 144,300
Choose and Cut	2000	78,400	Each	\$ 35.00	\$ 2,744,000
	1999	68,800	Each	\$ 30.00	\$ 2,064,000
Total	2000	91,000	Each		\$ 2,933,000
Christmas Trees	1999	79,900	Each		\$ 2,208,300

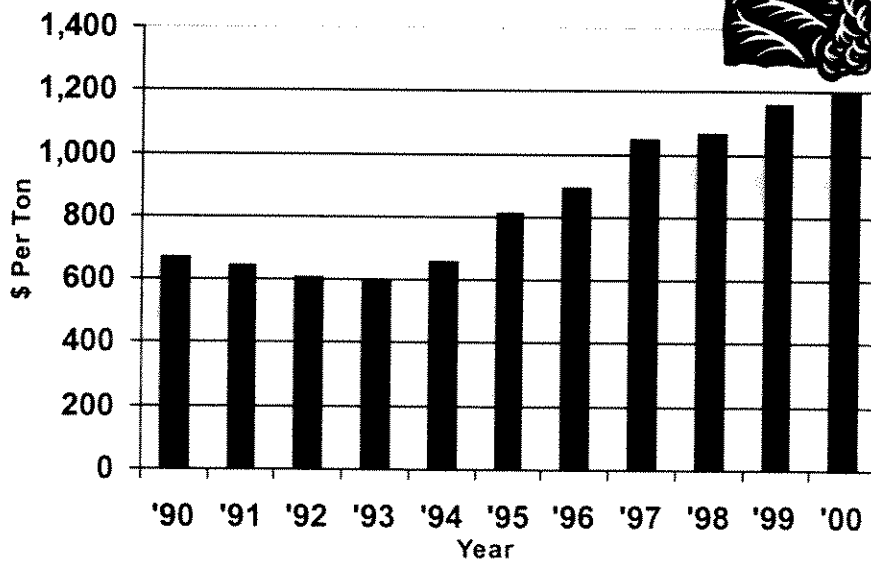
Timber Harvested and By-Products

	Year	Production	Unit	Value
Private and Public Forest	2000	107,500	Million Board Feet	\$ 28,207,600
	1999	126,000	Million Board Feet	\$ 31,761,000
Wood Sales and Permits	2000			\$ 21,600
	1999			\$ 24,200
Total	2000			\$ 28,229,200
Timber	1999			\$ 31,785,200

Total Values - All Categories

<u>Crop</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Value</u>
Fruit And Nut	2000	\$ 10,690,800
	1999	\$ 8,311,600
Minor and Misc. Crops	2000	\$ 289,700
	1999	\$ 339,700
Apiary Products	2000	\$ 238,000
	1999	\$ 265,500
Livestock	2000	\$ 3,999,100
	1999	\$ 3,225,300
Hay and Pasture	2000	\$ 3,136,700
	1999	\$ 2,680,300
Nursery Products	2000	\$ 2,879,000
	1999	\$ 2,646,700
Christmas Trees	2000	\$ 2,933,000
	1999	\$ 2,208,300
Timber	2000	\$ 28,229,200
	1999	\$ 31,785,200
Grand Total	2000	\$ 52,395,500
	1999	\$ 51,462,600

Increase in El Dorado County Wine Grape Price 1990-2000



El Dorado County Agriculture Programs

The El Dorado County Department of Agriculture conducts programs to safeguard public health and the environment and to promote and protect the county's agriculture industry. The following is a summary of the departmental activities.



PEST PREVENTION

The **Pest Exclusion Program** prevents the introduction of detrimental pests that are not of common occurrence in California. Over 3100 inspections were made during 2000 by department staff at parcel shipping locations (United Parcel Service and U.S. Postal Service), retail nurseries and of nursery stock upon arrival for planting at local farms.

The **Pest Detection Program** consisted of over 800 insect traps in 2000, which were placed throughout the county and monitored weekly to detect pests that may have entered the county despite pest exclusion efforts. Each year, traps are placed in both rural and urban areas to detect Gypsy Moths, Japanese Beetles, Mediterranean Fruit Flies, Melon Flies, Apple Maggots and Oriental Fruit Flies.

The **Pest Eradication Program** efforts include chemical and hand-pulling treatments of Dalmation Toadflax, Diffuse Knapweed, Tall Whitetop, Canada Thistle and Diffuse and Spotted Knapweeds in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the Nevada Cooperative Extension.

PEST MANAGEMENT

The **El Dorado County Noxious Weed Management Group**, formed in 1998, has continued educational efforts in the control of Yellow Starthistle, Tall Whitetop, Scotch Broom and Knapweeds. Grant funds were secured for cooperative projects including: treating over 800 acres of rangeland to control Yellow starthistle allowing for increased forage and grazing capacity; educational workshops conducted to encourage landowners to utilize Integrated Pest Management weed control techniques; funding cost-share programs to eradicate Yellow starthistle in the Ice House/Cleveland Burn area; providing a site advisor to recommend weed control measures to landowners; and publishing a weed identification brochure to assist the public in surveying and documenting noxious/invasive weed infestations.

The **Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) Pest Management Program** was initiated in 1999 to prevent the introduction of this insect to El Dorado County. The GWSS is known to spread Pierce's Disease, which can devastate vineyard plantings. The pest monitoring program includes inspections of all nursery stock shipped into the county from known infested areas. In addition, over 400 insect traps are deployed in nurseries, vineyards and in urban and rural locations throughout the county.

The **Biological Control Program** consists of releases of insects that act as natural predators against noxious pests present in the county. Biocontrol projects include use of the following insects: leaf beetle, *Chrysolina quadrigemina*, to control Klamath Weed; seed weevil (*Eustenopus villosus*) and

the Peacock Fly (*Chaetorellia australis*) to reduce the spread of Yellow Starthistle. In addition, a parasitic wasp (*Encarsia partneopea*) is being utilized in the control of Ash Whiteflies. The El Dorado County Department of Agriculture monitors and relocates the insects in cooperation with CDFA.

The **Vertebrate Pest Management Program** staff assists growers and homeowners in the control of deprecating vertebrate pests such as gophers, ground squirrels, mice, rats and other rodents.

The **Wildlife Management Program** provides management of wildlife within the county that are deprecating livestock and property and presenting a hazard to public health and safety. Efforts are made to reduce, terminate and prevent damage to livestock, crops and other property caused by wild animals.

PESTICIDE MONITORING

The Agriculture Department conducts the **Pesticide Monitoring Program** in cooperation with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation. Pesticide use is monitored to protect public health, the environment and to insure worker safety. Department staff enforces state regulations, issues use permits, compiles use data and investigates complaints. Education concerning the safe use of pesticides is also an integral part of the program.

COMMODITY EVALUATION AND MARKETING PROGRAMS

The **Certified Farmer's Market Program** allows farmers to market directly to consumers at area Certified Farmer's Markets. The **Organic Program** includes registration by growers in order to market farm products as organically grown. In 2000, seventeen growers were registered as organic, representing 116 acres under production. Both the organic and certified producers programs include annual grower inspections by department staff to validate the registrations.

The **Standardization Program** protects consumers and the fresh fruit, nut and vegetable industry from distribution of substandard products. Standardization laws establish minimum specifications for maturity, quality, and size of commodities (i.e., apples, pears) plus standard container pack and labeling. **Quality Control** inspections are also conducted on nursery stock, eggs and seeds.

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

The Department of Agriculture conducts a variety of programs to protect and promote agriculture including **land use planning**, which is administered by the El Dorado County Agricultural Commission. The department also provides **technical resources** to a variety of committees and boards, including verification for the El Dorado Irrigation District Small Farms Irrigation Rate Program. Agricultural statistics and land use information is also compiled for the **Annual Crop Report**. The department is actively involved in promoting agri-tourism and the annual **Harvest Fair** held the third week of September each year.