

Triple Threat



Africanized Honey Bee



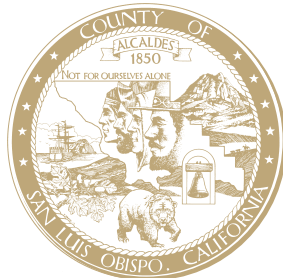
Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter



Red Imported Fire Ant

2000

Annual



Report

San Luis Obispo County Department of Agriculture

San Luis Obispo County Department of Agriculture Weights and Measures

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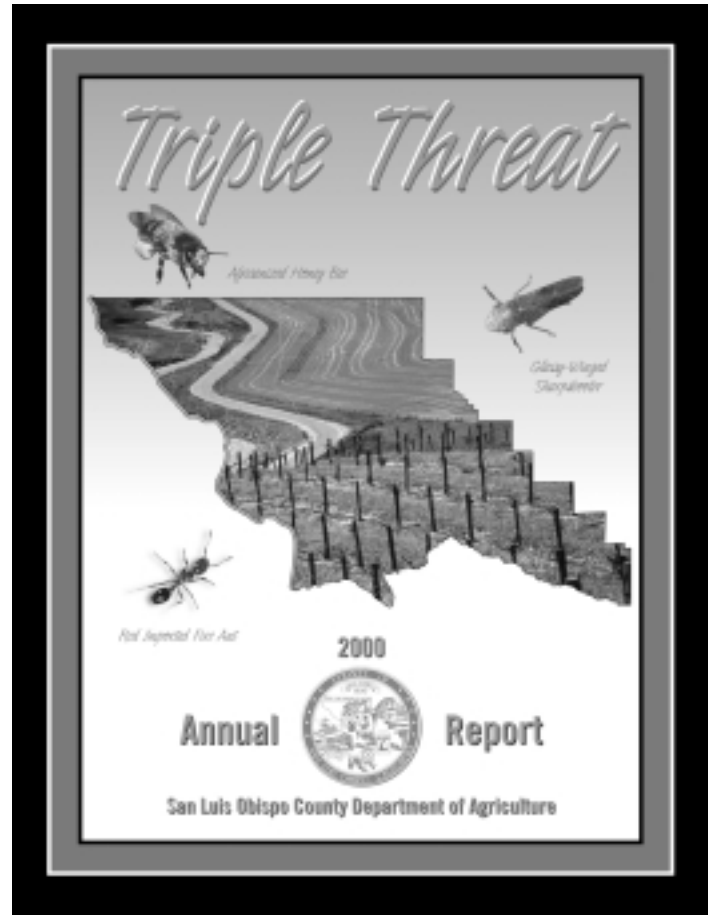


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Cover photo:

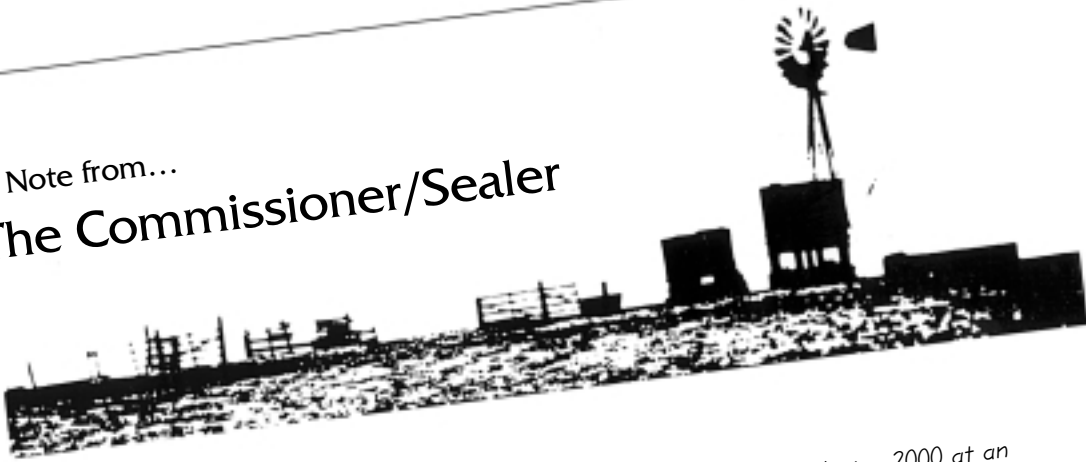
Vineyards and Farmland by **Patricia Fiedler**

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A Note from...

The Commissioner/Sealer



Agricultural economic value at the Farm Gate set an all time high during 2000 at an estimated \$484,208,000. The key contributors to the record year were wine grape production increases and long overdue improved prices for the vegetable industry.

Our theme, "Triple Threat," focuses on three new pests that are at our County's doorstep. Information and children's reactions to the pests are included in this report. Speaking of making the best of a bad situation, my favorite children's comment is "Tell my mama to squirt the hose on me and then go to bed and not go to school the next day." We may have a future agriculturist in the making ready to take on multiple challenges to feed, clothe, and bring pleasure through plants and flowers to our lives.

Staff are diligently working at keeping these and other pests out of the county. Should you care? Each new pest challenges our agricultural, urban, and natural ecosystems. Increased food production costs, increased pesticide use in all ecosystems, loss of export markets, and delays in developing organic and sustainable systems impacts everyone. Further, Fire Ant and Africanized Honey Bee have serious human health implications.

With our global economy and increased foreign travel, the system of excluding, detecting, eradicating, and adapting to new pests will continue to be tested. Strategies and programs for the 21st Century are under development. Our best hope though, is for an informed public to not bring unwanted pests home and to notify our office of the unusual.

Thanks to staff and the agricultural community for making this report possible. We are here to serve with a cooperative spirit.

Ric Sealer

Learn More About Our



Madison - 8 yrs.

The ant stings by first firmly grasping the victim's skin with its jaws and then stinging the skin by injecting venom from its stinger, which is located at the end of the ant's abdomen.



Isaiah - 7 yrs.

Amos - 5 yrs.



It is important for both adults and children to understand the Red Imported Fire Ants' behavior and learn how the ants impact our world, so people can avoid being injured by Red Imported Fire Ant stings.



When Red Imported Fire Ant colonies are disturbed by ground vibrations from footsteps, flooding from watering, or exposure to sunlight, the worker ants will "boil out" of the mound, swarm over a victim, and sting repeatedly.

When disturbed, African bees attack in large numbers and pursue a great distance for a long period of time.



Typically, Red Imported Fire Ants build nests just about anywhere they can find moisture, such as lawns, gardens, woodpiles, fields, golf courses, and parks.

"if a bug bites or stings you tell an adult"



Suzanne - 7 yrs.

Hadassah



"even your pets are in danger of ant and bee stings"



"tell your friends not to play with ants"



Noah - 8 yrs.

**BEE SMART!
DON'T BUG BEES**

Stick the AHB Hotline number where you can find it.

Call for your FREE sticker, today!

(805) 781-5910

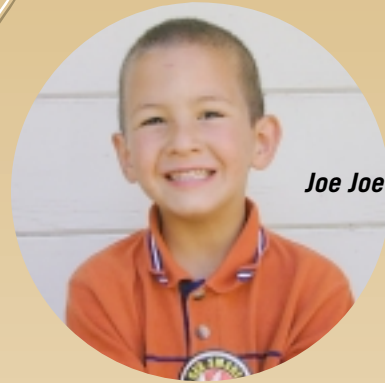


Triple Threat Pests

Boaz - 8 yrs.



Joe Joe - 6 yrs.



**"cover your face,
run inside,
and tell an adult"**

"bee smart- don't bug bees"



Moriah - 7 yrs.



Nick - 6 yrs.

**"the Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter
won't hurt people, but it hurts plants"**

When a bee stings, it loses its stinger, sometimes easily found in the victim's flesh and clothing. The venom sacks may still be attached to the stinger. Wasps, however, leave no stinger.

The combination of a plant disease with no cure and a half-inch-long leafhopper called a Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter has wrought millions of dollars of damage in just a few years.

The Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter can fly up to one-quarter of a mile, and it frequently appears in high numbers. The insect is able to survive winter temperatures dipping as low as 20 degrees Fahrenheit.



These bees have been known to seriously sting or kill pets, livestock, and humans, and this behavior has earned them the nickname "killer bees."



Tom - 4 yrs.



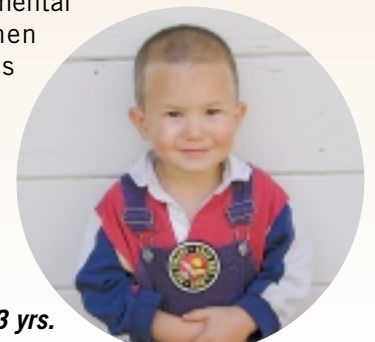
The Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter feeds on a wide variety of ornamental and crop plants. When feeding, it excretes copious amounts of watery excrement in a steady stream of small droplets. In urban areas, this "leafhopper rain" can be a messy nuisance.



Kate - 7 yrs.



Grace - 10 yrs.



Joshua - 3 yrs.

What We Have Accomplished

Triple Threat

Calendar Year 2000 Summary

Pest Exclusion



Keeping These Pests Out of San Luis Obispo County

- Staff inspected over 1,000 truck loads of plants shipped to San Luis Obispo county from areas in southern California infested with Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter (GWSS).
- 26 loads of plants were found to be infested with GWSS and were returned to origin, destroyed or treated and released.
- Nurseryman and landscapers were educated and trained to look for GWSS and Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA) on plants they received from southern California.
- All shipments of host plants from the infested portions of the state were required to be inspected and/or treated prior to shipment to San Luis Obispo County to keep serious pests out.



Pest Detection

Looking for Serious Pests in San Luis Obispo County

- 156 nurseries were inspected and/or surveyed for the presence of GWSS and RIFA.
- Staff placed 3,650 bait stations and collected 877 ant samples looking for RIFA.
- 180 newly landscaped areas were inspected for detrimental pests which may have been introduced in San Luis Obispo County.
- Insect traps were placed in residential neighborhoods at a rate of 5 per square mile surveying for detrimental pests.
- 4000 acres of grapes and 550 acres of citrus were surveyed for GWSS.
- The landscaping on US 101 was surveyed for presence of detrimental pests.



Public Outreach

Keeping the Public Informed

- 26 presentations were given to grammar school kids about Africanized Honey Bee (AHB) safety.
- 28 public meetings were conducted for GWSS providing outreach to the general public and the regulated industry.
- Staff educated fire and other emergency response personnel about responding to serious stinging incidents associated with AHB and RIFA.
- Staff responded to 10 complaints about problem bee situations.



Departmental Goals for 2001

The following goals are in addition to existing programs conducted by the department.

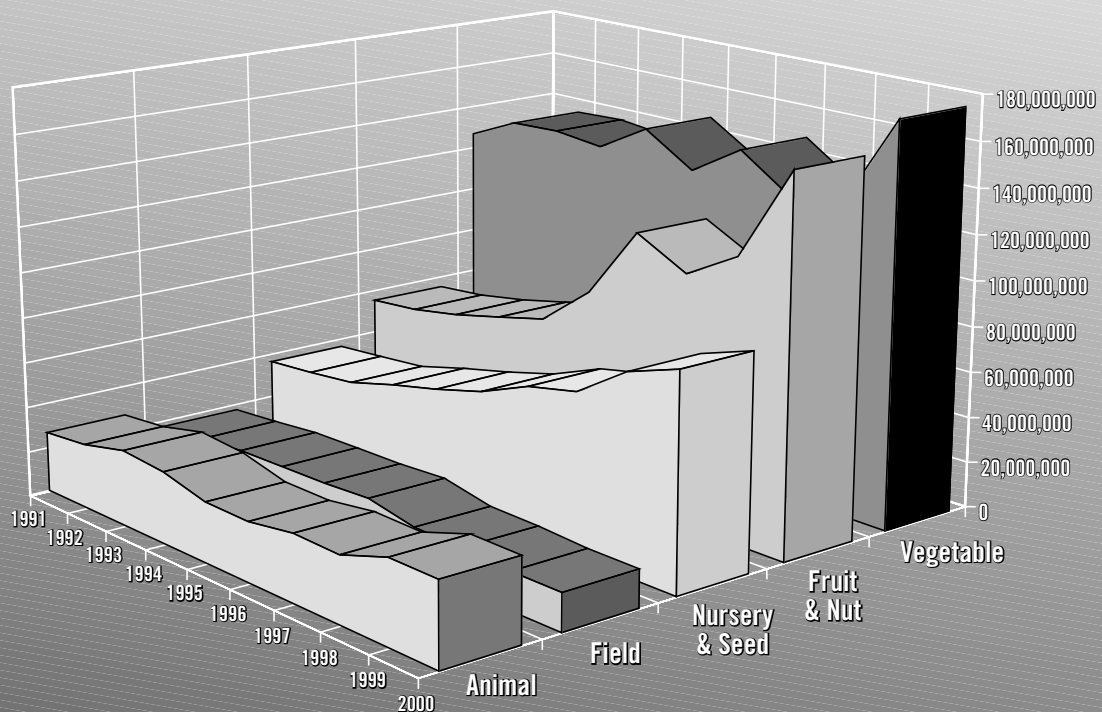
- Adopt a revised Action Plan for Pierce's Disease and Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter
- Assist public schools in implementation of the California Healthy Schools Act
- Participate in the Paso Robles ground water basin supply study
- Implement internet service for pesticide permitting and use information
- Conduct weed control projects through the County's Weed Pest Management District
- Develop a local Action Plan for livestock diseases such as Foot and Mouth Disease
- Complete the collaborative effort to evaluate the effectiveness of the pesticide farm worker protection program
- Survey San Luis Obispo County for Sudden Oak Mortality Disease
- Implement policies of the Agriculture and Open Space Element addressing subdivision of agricultural land



Comparison of Valuation of Major Groups During the Past Ten Years

YEAR	ANIMAL	FIELD	NURSERY & SEED	FRUIT & NUT	VEGETABLE	TOTAL
1991	26,440,000	16,989,000	36,070,000	54,746,000	126,352,000	260,597,000
1992	28,419,000	18,575,000	37,749,000	56,619,000	136,324,000	277,686,000
1993	33,102,000	20,666,000	39,783,000	60,353,000	137,316,000	291,220,000
1994	31,431,000	21,020,000	45,517,000	65,476,000	134,784,000	298,228,000
1995	26,188,000	21,340,000	50,534,000	70,975,000	147,771,000	316,808,000
1996	26,013,000	22,445,000	56,399,000	89,171,000	134,047,000	328,179,000
1997	29,223,000	18,056,000	65,486,000	120,912,000	148,129,000	381,806,000
1998	28,665,000	17,614,000	70,296,000	109,351,000	132,895,000	358,821,000
1999	36,031,000	16,296,000	85,353,000**	122,450,000	135,393,000	395,523,000
2000	35,881,000	16,180,000	93,171,000	166,779,000	175,643,000	487,654,000

**Revised

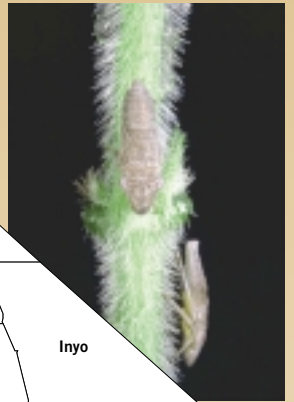
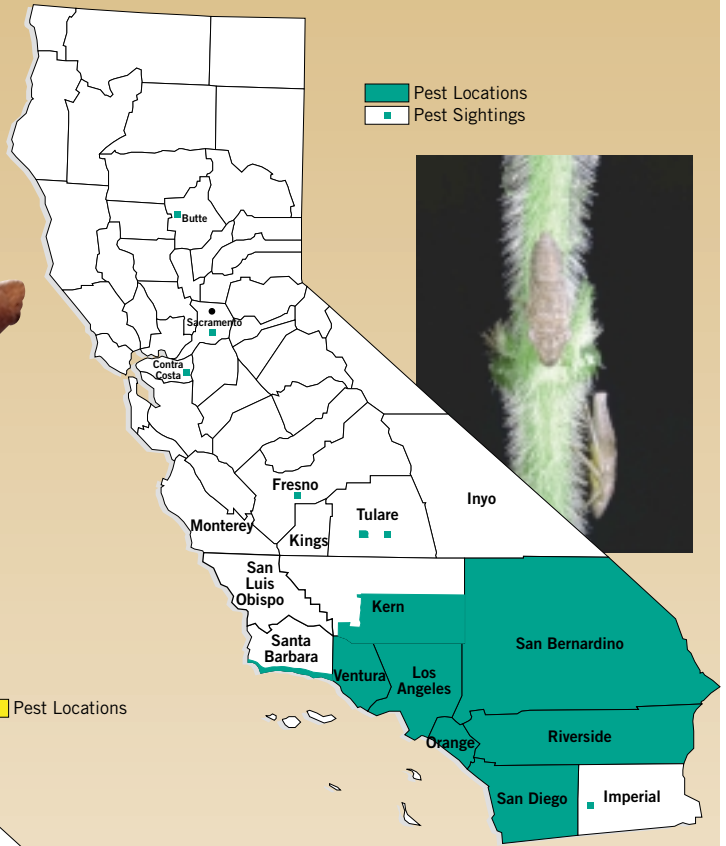


Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter

- Native to the southeast United States, this insect was first observed in California in 1990 and is now found throughout southern California.
- The potential spread of diseases by the Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter is of concern to agricultural producers throughout California.
- The Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter spreads into new areas of California by hitchhiking on plant material moved from infested areas.



■ Pest Locations
■ Pest Sightings



Africanized Honey Bee

- Africanized honey bees – noted for their aggressive stinging behavior – are descendants of escaped African bees imported into Brazil in 1956.
- Their defensive behavior along with reports from South America of deaths due to bee stings have earned them the name of “killer bees.”



■ Pest Locations



■ Pest Locations
■ Pest Sightings

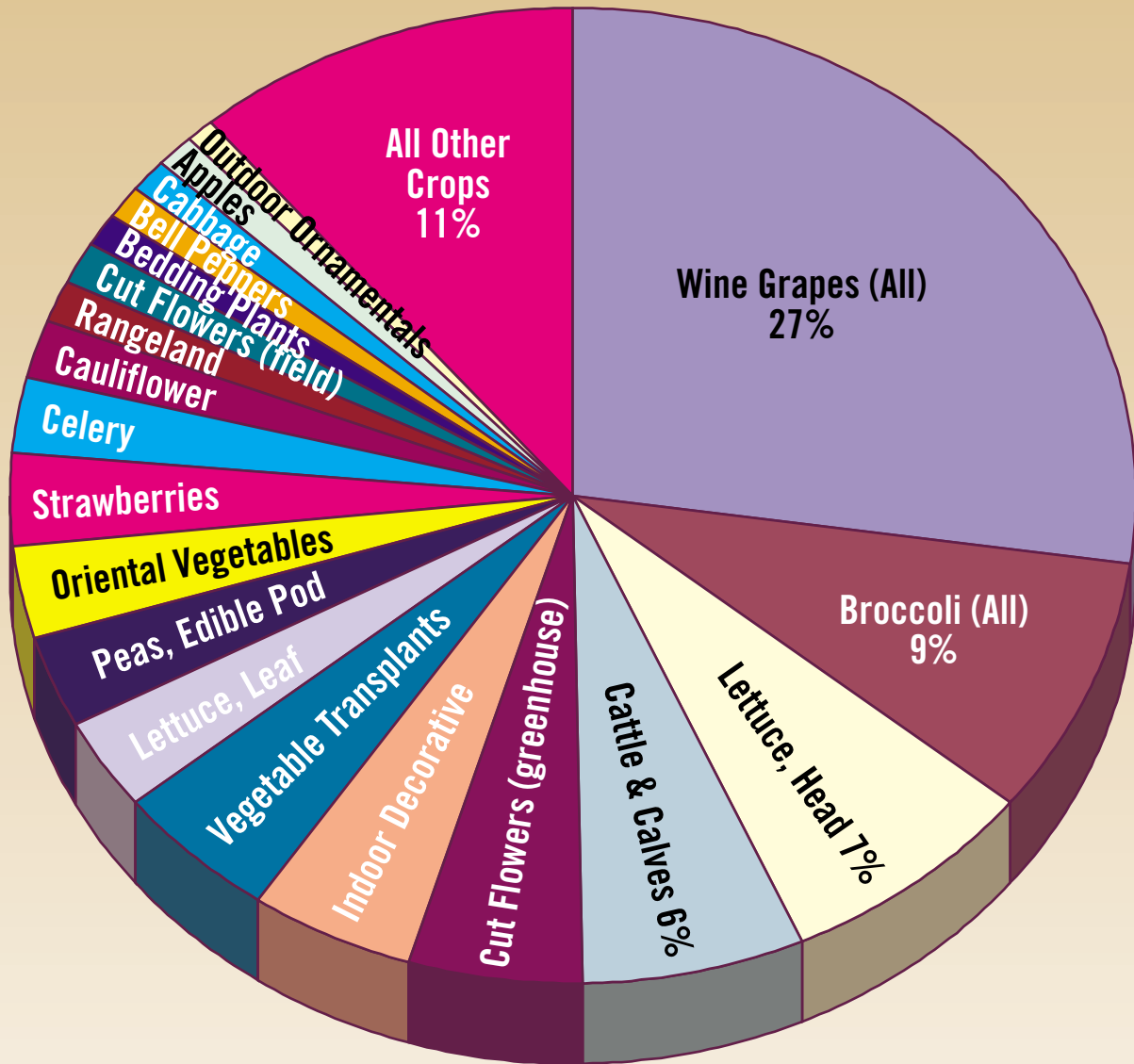


Red Imported Fire Ant

- They are one of the few pests that are dangerous in urban settings, on agricultural lands, and in natural habitats.
- They are not native to the United States, but since their introduction to this country in the 1930s, they have had a substantial impact on people, animals, and agriculture.
- Unlike other ants native to California, Red Imported Fire Ants build mounds, also called nests, with more than one central opening into the colony.



Top Twenty Value Crops



1. Wine Grapes (All).....	\$131,287,000	11. Strawberries	\$14,204,000
2. Broccoli (All)	\$42,534,000	12. Celery.....	\$12,518,000
3. Lettuce Head.....	\$35,687,000	13. Cauliflower	\$9,755,000
4. Cattle & Calves	\$31,200,000	14. Rangeland	\$6,783,000
5. Cut Flowers (Greenhouse)	\$23,865,000	15. Cut Flowers (Field)	\$6,213,000
6. Indoor Decorative.....	\$22,831,000	16. Bedding, Sod & Ground Cover	\$6,055,000
7. Vegetable Transplants	\$22,650,000	17. Bell Peppers	\$5,186,000
8. Lettuce, Leaf	\$15,745,000	18. Cabbage	\$5,132,000
9. Peas, Edible Pod	\$14,892,000	19. Apples.....	\$5,085,000
10. Oriental Vegetables	\$14,666,000	20. Outdoor Ornamentals	\$4,532,000



Animal Industry

Although the value per head for cattle and calves continued an upward trend, the animal industry category was down slightly from 1999 due to a reduction in the number of head sold.

Commodity	Year	No. of Head	Production	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total
Cattle and Calves	2000	60,000	390,000	Cwt	80.00	\$31,200,000
	1999	65,000	416,000	Cwt	77.00	\$32,032,000
Hogs*	1999	1,020	1,990	Cwt	53.50	106,000
Milk	2000		38,011	Cwt	12.58	478,000
	1999		44,204	Cwt	16.02	708,000
Sheep and Lambs	2000	8,150	10,595	Cwt	78.50	832,000
	1999	8,050	10,285	Cwt	76.15	783,000
Miscellaneous*	2000					3,371,000
	1999					2,402,000
TOTAL	2000					\$35,881,000
Animal Industry	1999					\$36,031,000

* Aquaculture, Bees wax, Eggs, Game Birds, Goats, Hogs, Honey, Pollen, Pollination, Poultry, Wool

Commercial Fishing

A rich variety of fishery resources come through our two ports each year providing a vital food source as well as making a crucial contribution to the local economy.



Fishery	Date	Morro Bay/Port San Luis		All California Ports	
		1,000s Pounds	Value \$1,000	1,000s Pounds	Value \$1,000
Albacore	1999	319	198	12,293	10,145
	1998	144	120	5,310	3,372
Bluefin Tuna	1999	12	31	365	1,056
Bigeye Tuna	1999	6	19	212	630
Cabezon	1999	129	517	303	1,146
	1998	169	605	373	1,232
California Halibut	1999	77	188	1,352	3,369
	1998	117	263	1,194	2,833
Dover Sole	1999	985	329	8,417	3,096
	1998	1,326	476	7,875	2,661
Dungeness Crab	1998	19	60	10,687	19,925
Kelp Greenling	1999	3	17	32	123
Lingcod	1999	28	38	312	278
	1998	28	26	331	273
Mako Shark	1998	9	10	147	167
Ocean Shrimp	1999	278	196	4,242	2,010
	1998	365	251	1,836	982
Petrale sole	1999	38	40	1,250	1,188
	1998	60	63	1,042	995
Rex Sole	1999	342	338	27	9,261
	1998	100	41	638	242
Rockcrab	1999	93	117	793	1,006
	1998	217	246	1,260	1,469

Fishery	Date	Morro Bay/Port San Luis		All California Ports	
		1,000s Pounds	Value \$1,000	1,000s Pounds	Value \$1,000
Rockfish	1999	495	789	6,384	4,702
	1998	1,846	1,281	15,203	7,962
Sablefish	1999	189	129	4,342	4,023
	1998	255	203	3,140	3,325
Salmon	1999	27	72	3,851	7,369
	1998	244	369	1,847	3,052
Spot Prawn	1999	126	882	613	4,254
	1998	207	1,398	819	5,572
Surfperch	1999	9	16	49	68
	1998	43	74	74	112
Swordfish	1999	204	604	3,053	8,208
	1998	121	277	2,042	5,611
Thorny/Heads	1999	380	284	3,294	3,010
	1998	660	441	4,232	3,274
Thresher Shark	1999	15	18	328	463
	1998	34	42	414	544
White Seabass	1999	17	38	247	423
	1998	27	58	154	296
Miscellaneous*	1999	222	98	420,490	86,760
	1998	171	86	225,281	43,168
TOTAL	1999	3,994	4,958	472,249	152,588
Commercial Fishery	1998	6,162	6,390	283,899	107,067

Fruit and Nut Crops

2000 was another record year for fruit and nut crops due to a 57% increase in the value of wine grapes. Citrus crops, especially oranges were depressed in value. The severe freeze of 1998, pest problems and wind loss continued to plague avocado growers, with very low production in 2000.



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Crop	Year	Acreage		Production		Unit	Per Unit	Total
		Planted	Bearing	Per Acre	Total			
Apples	2000	2445	2,080	7.490	15,456	Ton	\$329.00	\$5,085,000
	1999	2585	2,200	7.025	15,455	Ton	\$292.00	\$4,513,000
Avocados (Hass)	2000	1562	1,140	0.450	513	Ton	2,940.00	1,508,000
	1999	1432	1,050	1.620	1,701	Ton	3,220.00	5,477,000
Avocados (Other)	2000	57	57	1.750	100	Ton	220.00	22,000
	1999	58	58	1.550	90	Ton	820.00	74,000
Grapes, Wine (All)	2000	26,800	18,801		101,430			134,733,000
	1999	24,660	16,272		64,932			83,601,000
Chardonnay	2000		4,051	6.120	24,792	Ton	1,540.00	38,180,000
	1999		3,653	3.840	14,028	Ton	1,555.00	21,813,000
Sauvignon Blanc	2000		870	7.070	6,151	Ton	930.00	5,720,000
	1999		770	4.620	3,557	Ton	928.00	3,301,000
White Wine (Other)	2000		547	6.000	3,282	Ton	982.00	3,223,000
	1999		600	3.380	2,028	Ton	822.00	1,667,000
Cabernet Sauvignon	2000		5,895	5.470	32,246	Ton	1,324.00	42,693,000
	1999		5,071	4.080	20,690	Ton	1,293.00	26,752,000
Merlot	2000		2716	4.920	13,363	Ton	1,307.00	17,465,000
	1999		2325	4.420	10,277	Ton	1,348.00	13,853,000
Pinot Noir	2000		545	3.660	1,995	Ton	2,305.00	4,598,000
	1999		515	1.760	906	Ton	2,195.00	1,990,000
Syrah	2000		1172	4.140	4,852	Ton	1,440.00	6,987,000
	1999		729	3.430	2,500	Ton	1,416.00	3,541,000
Zinfandel	2000		1,877	5.160	9,685	Ton	995.00	9,637,000
	1999		1,820	4.770	8,681	Ton	945.00	8,204,000
Red Wine (Other)	2000		1,128	4.490	5,065	Ton	1,230.00	6,230,000
	1999		789	2.870	2,264	Ton	1,095.00	2,480,000
Lemons	2000	1290	1,180	14.130	16,673	Ton	224.00	3,735,000
	1999	1275	1,090	15.200	16,568	Ton	362.00	5,998,000
Pistachios	2000	214	186	0.600	112	Ton	1,900.00	212,000
	1999	171	147	0.620	91	Ton	2,520.00	230,000
Strawberries	2000	668	668	29.180	19,492	Ton	728.70	14,204,000
	1999	540	540	31.620	17,075	Ton	800.41	13,667,000
Valencia Oranges	2000	335	333	12.350	4,113	Ton	45.00	185,000
	1999	342	338	27.400	9,261	Ton	308.00	2,852,000
English Walnuts	2000	2580	2,320	0.400	928	Ton	1,180.00	1,095,000
	1999	2740	2,480	0.430	1,066	Ton	880.00	938,000
Miscellaneous*	2000	2490	2,285					6,000,000
	1999	2465	2,260					5,100,000
TOTAL Fruit & Nut Crops	2000	38,441	29,050					\$166,779,000
	1999		26,435					\$122,450,000

* Almonds, Apricot, Asian Pear, Black Walnut, Bushberry, Cherry, Feijoa, Grapefruit, Horned Melons, Kiwi, Lime, Navel Orange, Nectarine, Olive, Peach, Pear, Persimmon, Pomegranate, Quince, Table Grape, Pepino, Tangelo



Photo courtesy of Carol Walker

Vegetable Crops

The vegetable industry posted a record year due primarily to improved prices for essentially all commodities. The overall value was up nearly 30% more than 1999 with broccoli, lettuce, both head and leaf, as well as celery, leading the way.

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Beans (Green)	2000	980	440.0	431,200	30#	\$4.28	\$1,846,000
	1999	948	458.0	434,184	30#	\$4.32	\$1,876,000
Bell Peppers	2000	877	827.0	725,279	30#	7.15	5,186,000
	1999	1,118	1,018.0	1,138,124	30#	6.78	7,716,000
Broccoli (All)	2000	10,417	642.0	6,687,714	23#	6.36	42,534,000
Broccoli (Fresh)	1999	9,792	584.0	5,718,528	23#	4.65	26,591,000
Broccoli (Freezer)	1999	525	6.0	3,171	Ton	370.00	1,173,000
Cabbage	2000	1,081	860.0	929,660	45#	5.52	5,132,000
	1999	1,067	669.0	713,823	45#	5.17	3,690,000
Cauliflower	2000	2,423	637.0	1,543,451	25#	6.32	9,755,000
	1999	2,401	654.0	1,570,254	25#	5.26	8,260,000
Celery	2000	1,190	1,156.0	1,375,640	60#	9.10	12,518,000
	1999	1,248	1,122.0	1,400,256	60#	5.83	8,163,000
Lettuce, Head	2000	6,903	693.0	4,783,779	50#	7.46	35,687,000
	1999	7,355	686.0	5,045,530	50#	5.47	27,599,000
Lettuce, Leaf	2000	3,135	860.0	2,696,100	25#	5.84	15,745,000
	1999	2,233	811.0	1,810,963	25#	5.60	10,141,000
Oriental	2000	1,639	794.0	1,301,366	80#	11.27	14,666,000
Vegetables	1999	1,077	758.0	816,366	80#	8.49	6,931,000
Peas	2000	2,825	539.0	1,522,675	10#	9.78	14,892,000
Edible Pod	1999	3,385	477.0	1,614,645	10#	8.68	14,015,000
Spinach	2000	565	748.0	422,620	20#	5.38	2,274,000
	1999	428	960.0	410,880	20#	5.14	2,112,000
Squash	2000	468	746.0	349,128	30#	4.27	1,491,000
	1999	480	778.0	373,440	30#	5.05	1,886,000
Tomato**	2000	64	1,358.0	86,912	20#	17.46	1,517,000
	1999	71	1,475.0	104,725	20#	15.54	1,627,000
Miscellaneous*	2000	2,840					12,400,000
	1999	3,730					13,613,000
TOTAL Vegetable Crops	2000	35,407					175,643,000
	1999	35,858					135,393,000

* Anise, Artichokes, Baby Vegetables, Brussel Sprouts, Carrots, Cilantro, Chili Peppers, Cucumber, Endive, Escarole, Frisse, Garlic, Herbs, Kale, Korean Melon, Korean Radish, Leek, Mushrooms, Onions, Parsley, Parsnips, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Radishes, Rhubarb, Spring Mix, Sweet Corn, Tomatillos, Watermelon

** Includes Greenhouse grown tomatoes

Nursery Stock

The nursery industry increased overall in value by approximately 5%. Greenhouse cut flowers, indoor decorative and bedding plants, sod and ground covers were the main gainers. Vegetable transplants were off in both production and value, compared to 1999.



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Crop	Year	Field Production (acres)	Greenhouse Production (sq ft)	Value
Bedding Plants, Sod, and Ground Cover	2000	58	113,000	\$6,055,000
	1999	52	140,400	\$4,292,000
Christmas Trees, Cut	2000	19		242,000
	1999	20		238,000
Cut Flowers (Field)	2000	318		6,213,000
	1999**	272		6,524,000
Cut Flowers (Greenhouse)	2000		3,616,124	23,865,000
	1999**		2,018,000	22,374,000
Fruit-Nut Trees & Vines	2000	29	106,000	1,920,000
	1999	54	125,600	1,698,000
Indoor Decoratives	2000		1,960,045	22,831,000
	1999		1,891,140	18,943,000
Outdoor Ornamentals	2000	58	109,136	4,532,000
	1999	53	83,510	4,037,000
Vegetable Transplants	2000	21	1,218,719	22,650,000
	1999**	65	1,366,830	26,049,000
Miscellaneous*	2000	11	27,500	480,000
	1999	17	55,010	729,000
TOTAL Nursery Stock	2000	514	7,150,524	\$88,788,000
	1999**	533	5,680,490	\$84,884,000

* Bulbs, Cacti, Herbs, Propagative plants, Scion wood, Specialty plants, Succulents

** Revised

Seed Crops

A substantial increase in vegetable seed crop acreage made for nearly a tenfold increase in seed crop value.



Photo courtesy of Jackie Horg

Crop	Year	Planted Acreage	Harvested Acreage	Value
Grain Crops*	2000	1026	1026	\$133,000
	1999	900	900	76,000
	1999	150	130	23,000
Flower	2000	140	108	380,000
	1999	143	133	265,000
Vegetable	2000	1008	1008	3,870,000
	1999	128	125	105,000
TOTAL Seed Crop	2000	2,174	2,142	\$4,383,000
	1999	1,321	1,288	\$469,000

* Barley, Oats, Wheat

Field Crops

Most field crop commodities improved slightly from the depressed values reported in 1999. The acreage committed to field crops continued to decline leading to a slight reduction in overall value compared to 1999.



Crop	Year	Acreage		Production		Unit	Value	
		Planted	Harvested	Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Alfalfa Hay	2000	3,240	3,240	7.36	23,846	Ton	\$110.00	\$2,623,000
	1999	3,165	3,165	6.90	21,839	Ton	\$108.00	\$2,359,000
Barley	2000	21,200	19,500	0.96	18,720	Ton	102.00	1,909,000
	1999	28,600	25,000	0.90	22,500	Ton	88.00	1,980,000
Garbanzo Beans	2000	675	475	11.50	5,463	Cwt	26.85	147,000
	1999	800	690	8.50	5,865	Cwt	27.10	159,000
Grain Hay	2000	17,000	16,000	2.25	36,000	Ton	94.00	3,384,000
	1999	19,000	18,000	2.42	43,560	Ton	79.00	3,441,000
Grain Stubble (Grazed)	2000		42,200			Acre	4.70	198,000
	1999		51,000			Acre	5.50	281,000
Irrigated Pasture	2000		4,300			Acre	190.00	817,000
	1999		4,400			Acre	180.00	792,000
Rangeland, Grazed	2000		1,020,000			Acre	6.65	6,783,000
	1999		1,025,000			Acre	6.70	6,868,000
Safflower	2000	1,500	1,200	0.36	432	Ton	200.00	86,000
	1999	2,100	1,800	0.35	630	Ton	265.00	167,000
Wheat	2000	2,500	1,500	0.85	1,275	Ton	100.00	128,000
	1999	1,300	1,000	1.40	1,400	Ton	85.00	119,000
Miscellaneous	2000		700					105,000
	1999		1,000					130,000
TOTAL	2000		1,109,115					\$16,180,000
Field Crops	1999		1,131,055					\$16,296,000

* Oats, Straw, Sudangrass

++Winter forage



Photo courtesy of Linda Brownson

Triple Threat Facts...

Red Imported Fire Ant

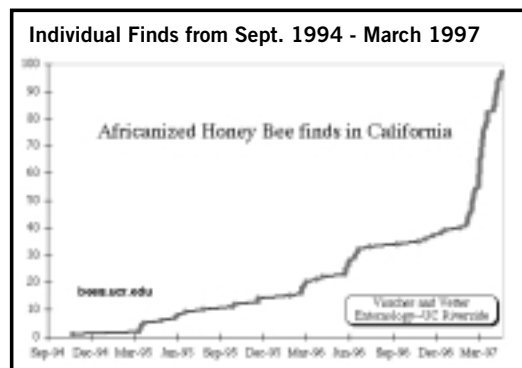
- Red Imported Fire Ants are tiny (1/16 to 1/4-inch in length) but aggressive reddish-brown ants with a fierce sting.
- Known for its aggressive behavior, this ant can interfere with outdoor activities and harm native wildlife.
- Their scientific name is *Solenopsis invicta*, named "invincible" by scientists for the ant's aggressive behavior and the painful stings it inflicts.
- Mounds of soft, crumbly soil that contain their colonies typically look like those of a busy gopher, with soil piled up to 18 inches high.
- The RIFA can be a nuisance, and can threaten those who may knowingly or unknowingly disturb their colony.
- Colonies frequently migrate from one site to another. The queen needs only about six workers to start a new colony. They can develop a new mound, several hundred feet away from their previous location, almost overnight.
- Fire Ant allergic patients should wear closed-toe shoes, socks, and gloves when gardening, and take other precautions to avoid stings.
- Red Imported Fire Ants frequently infest electrical equipment, chewing on insulation and causing short circuits.

Africanized Honey Bee

- Although the Africanized Honey Bee is slightly smaller than its European counterpart the two belong to the same species, and only a highly skilled expert using sophisticated techniques can tell them apart.
- The Africanized bees have an easily-triggered defensive instinct.
- Individually the sting of an Africanized bee is no more venomous than that of a domestic honey bee.
- Although many people are highly allergic to bee venom, most people can absorb several stings with only an itchy, and uncomfortable swelling.

Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter

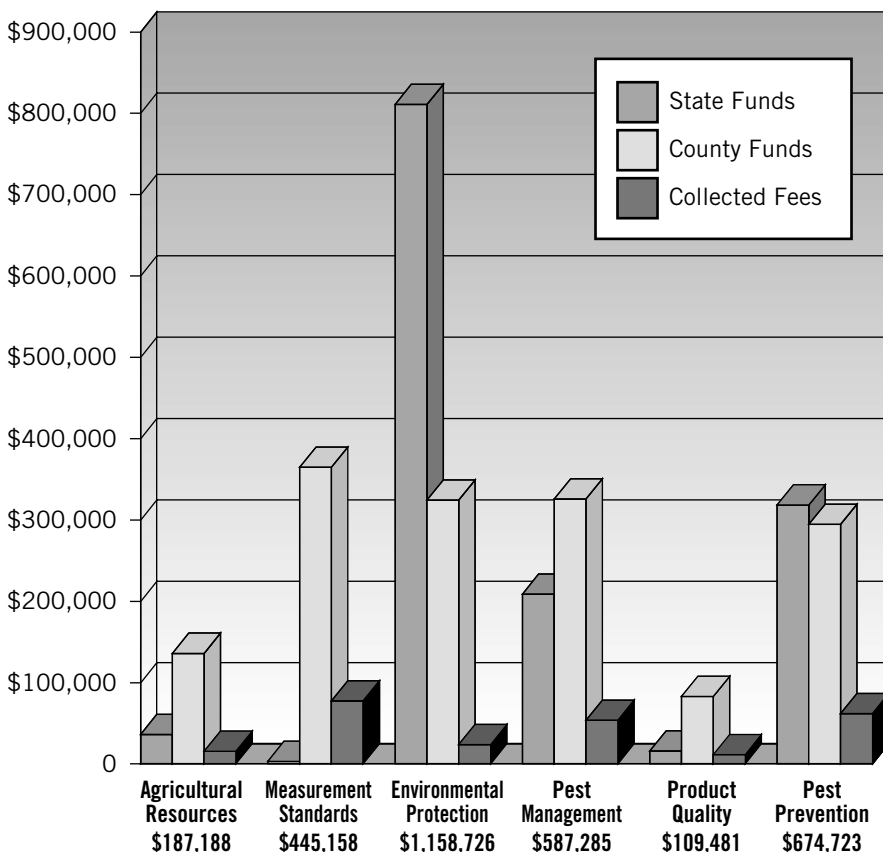
- It is a particular threat to California vineyards due to its ability to spread *Xylella fastidiosa*, the bacterium that causes Pierce's disease.
- Pierce's disease kills grapevines and there are no effective treatments for it.
- Pierce's disease has existed for more than 100 years in the state, but until recently there was no carrier as effective in transmitting the bacteria more than a few feet and spreading the bacteria so rapidly.
- The bacterium blocks the xylem, the water- and nutrient-conducting vessels of plants.



Financial Report

FISCAL YEAR 1999-2000

REVENUE	3,162,561	
General Funds	1,208,630	35%
State Funds	1,392,181	44%
Collected Fees	242,844	8%
Overhead	318,906	10%
EXPENDITURES	3,162,561	
Salaries & Benefits	2,309,565	73%
Services & Supplies	467,876	5%
Overhead	318,906	10%
Equipment	66,214	2%

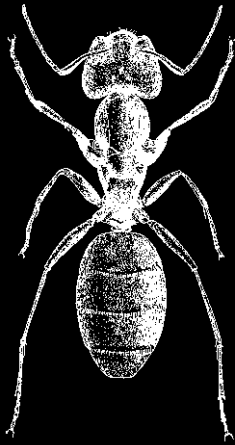


Funding Sources \$3,162,561

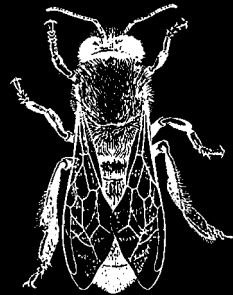
Agricultural Resources	\$187,188	
State Funds	35,994	19%
County Funds	135,828	73%
Collected Fees	15,366	8%
Measurement Standards	\$445,158	
State Funds	3,049	1%
County Funds	364,625	82%
Collected Fees	77,484	17%
Environmental Protection	\$1,158,726	
State Funds	810,670	70%
County Funds	324,216	28%
Collected Fees	23,840	2%
Pest Management	\$587,285	
State Funds	208,523	36%
County Funds	325,508	55%
Collected Fees	53,254	9%
Product Quality	\$109,481	
State Funds	15,654	14%
County Funds	82,768	76%
Collected Fees	11,059	10%
Pest Prevention	\$674,723	
State Funds	318,292	47%
County Funds	294,592	44%
Collected Fees	61,839	9%



Symptoms of a Red Imported Fire Ant sting include burning and itching, which usually subsides within 60 minutes. Within the next four hours, a small blister forms at the site of each sting. A white pustule forms in a day or two.



The venom of the Red Imported Fire Ant is unique because of the high concentration of toxins it contains.



Africanized bees are dangerous because they attack in much larger numbers, and the victim receives a great deal more venom than from domestic bees.



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