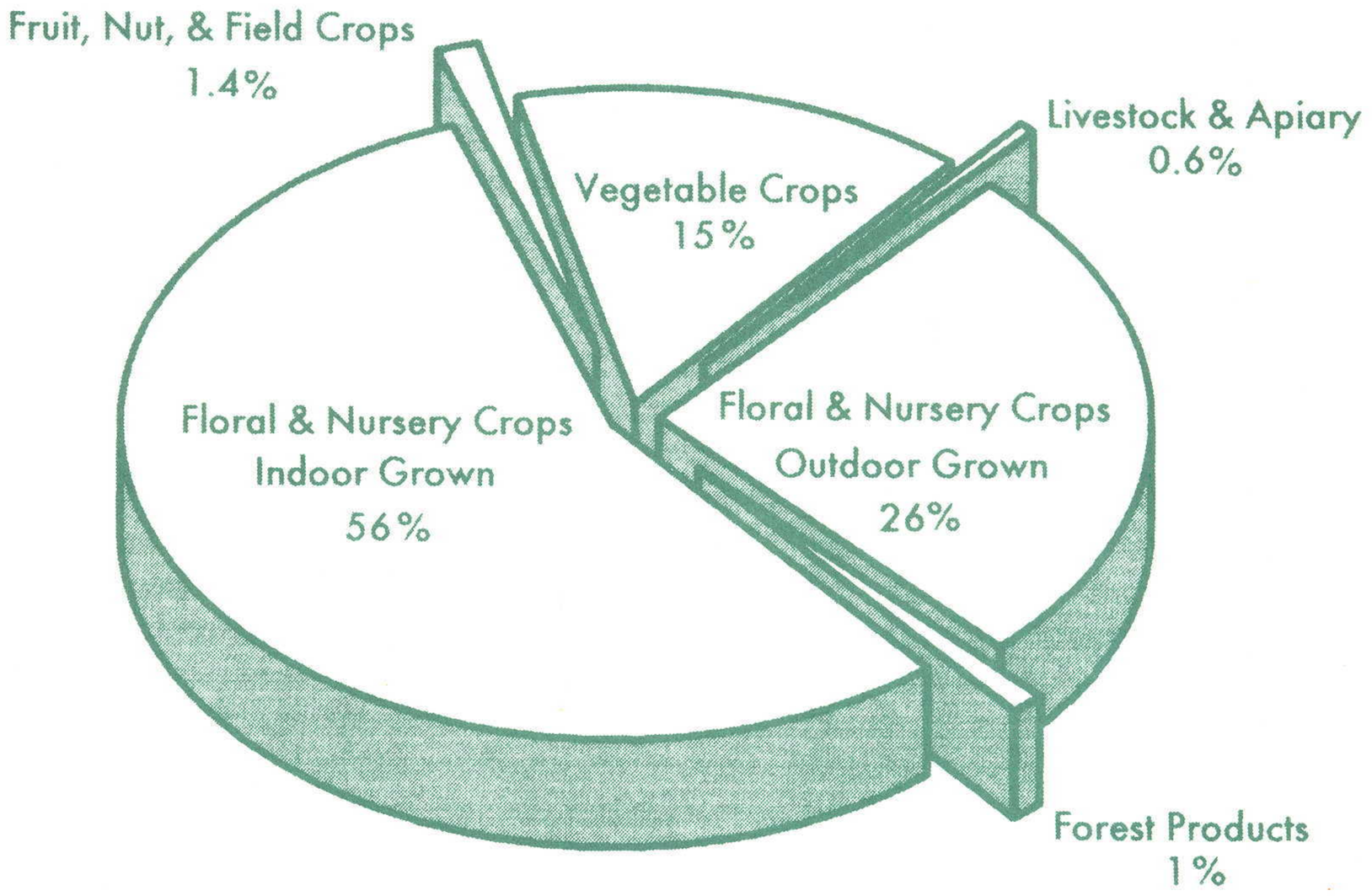
SAN MATEO COUNTY

1995 AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT

COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - SEPTEMBER 1936

SAN MATEO COUNTY 1995 CROP SUMMARY

TOTAL PRODUCTION VALUE $196,456,000



On The Cover:

The 1936 staff photograph on the cover of the crop report includes San Mateo County's first Agricultural Commissioner, Max J. Leonard, *(third from the left)*. Max Leonard served as Commissioner until 1960, and published the County's first agricultural crop report in 1940.

Agricultural production for the County in 1940 totaled $7,724,811. Max Leonard's crop report documents over 16,000 acres in vegetable production for that year. Field grown cut flowers totaled 970 acres with asters, chrysanthemums, gladiolus and violets listed as leading crops. Included in the livestock section of the report are 13,575 dairy cows, 58,000 hogs, 170,000 ducks and 48,000 rabbits.

A number of significant changes have occurred in the Department since 1936. Agricultural Biologists no longer wear uniforms and our responsibilities now include consumer protection programs in Weights and Measures. Sixty years later, the Department continues to provide important services and valuable assistance to the agricultural industry of San Mateo County.

SAN MATEO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE/WEIGHTS & MEASURES
728 Heller Street • P.O. Box 999 • Redwood City, California 94064-0999
(415) 363-4700 • FAX 367-0130

SAN MATEO COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE/WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Ann M. Veneman, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture

and

San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
Mary Griffin, 1st District
Tom Huening, 2nd District
Ted Lempert, 3rd District
Ruben Barrales, 4th District
Michael D. Nevin, 5th District

I am pleased to submit the 1995 Agricultural Crop Report for San Mateo County in compliance with Section 2279 of the California Food and Agriculture Code. Also included is the Sustainable Agriculture Report in accordance with Section 2272 of the Code.

The production values in this report represent gross values and do not reflect the cost of production. The total gross value of San Mateo County agricultural production for 1995 was $196,456,000. This represents an 8% decrease from the total production value for 1994 which is largely due to adverse weather conditions in January, March, and December, and a reduction in harvested timber.

Powerful winds and heavy rainfall from severe winter storms caused substantial damage to crops and agricultural structures in San Mateo County beginning in January 1995. Subsequent storms in March compounded the damage, and water-saturated soils delayed spring planting for many crops. Particularly hard hit were field flowers and vegetable crops including artichokes, peas and pumpkins. Our Department assisted coastside growers and the U.S.D.A. Farm Services Agency in documenting individual and regional losses for the federal disaster assistance program.

One bright spot in all the bad weather was the Indoor Floral and Nursery Crop category. Although some operations sustained structural wind damage from the winter storms, the overall production value of greenhouse grown cut flowers and potted plants increased by $7.8 million.

I wish to express my appreciation to all individuals, growers and agencies who contributed information for the preparation of this crop report. Special thanks goes to Ronald Pummer on my staff who helped compile the report.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail M. Raabe

Gail M. Raabe
Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights and Measures

FLORAL AND NURSERY CROPS INDOOR GROWN

Item	Year	Square Feet	Production	Unit	VALUE Per Unit	VALUE Total
Cut Flowers						
Alstroemeria	1995	539,200	619,100	Bunch	$ 1.70	$ 1,052,000
	1994	516,000	584,000	Bunch	1.75	1,022,000
Carnations	1995	427,000	7,259,000	Bloom	.16	1,161,000
	1994	582,000	11,060,000	Bloom	.20	2,212,000
Roses	1995	540,000	10,900,000	Bloom	.25	2,725,000
	1994	660,000	13,980,000	Bloom	.25	3,495,000
Snapdragons	1995	2,220,000	3,555,000	Bunch	2.80	9,954,000
	1994	2,118,000	2,648,000	Bunch	3.00	7,944,000
Miscellaneous[1]	1995	637,400				2,640,000
Cut Flowers	1994	871,000				3,920,000
Potted Plants						
Flowering						
Chrysanthemums	1995	467,100	1,064,000	Pot	3.20	3,405,000
	1994	1,050,000	1,838,000	Pot	3.50	6,433,000
Lilies[2]	1995	654,200	981,300	Pot	5.00	4,907,000
	1994	630,000	945,000	Pot	4.00	3,780,000
Orchids	1995	472,000	493,000	Pot	13.50	6,656,000
	1994	389,000	468,000	Pot	14.75	6,903,000
Poinsettias	1995	559,000	1,054,000	Pot	4.20	4,427,000
	1994	761,000	1,220,000	Pot	4.75	5,795,000
Miscellaneous[3]	1995	6,198,000				46,711,000
	1994	4,595,000				41,355,000
Foliage[4]	1995	2,020,700				24,740,000
	1994	1,240,000				17,530,000
Subtotal	1995	14,734,600				$108,378,000
	1994	13,412,000				100,389,000
Propagated						
Bedding Plants	1995	496,000				1,651,000
(Ivy, Impatiens, Marigolds, etc.)	1994	364,000				1,508,000
Cuttings and Liners	1995	191,200				401,000
(Ferns, Hydrangea, Ivy, etc.)	1994	393,000				675,000
TOTAL	1995	15,421,800				$110,430,000
	1994	14,169,000				102,572,000

Total Glass and Plastic Areas . . . . . 6,070,000 Square Feet

1 Includes Chrysanthemum, Freesia, Gardenia, Lilies, Orchids, etc.
2 Includes Calla Lilies, Easter Lilies, Hybrid Lilies, Oriental Lilies, etc.
3 Includes Azaleas, Cyclamen, Gardenias, Gerberas, Hydrangea, Primula, Roses, Tulips, etc.
4 Includes Dieffenbachia, Ficus, Ivy, Philodendron, Pothos, etc.

FLORAL AND NURSERY CROPS OUTDOOR GROWN

Item	Year	Acres	Production	Unit	VALUE Per Unit	VALUE Total
Daisies	1995	225	2,137,000	Bunch	$ .75	$ 1,603,000
	1994	300	2,700,000	Bunch	.60	1,620,000
Gypsophila	1995	37	165,000	Bunch	2.00	330,000
	1994	60	300,000	Bunch	2.00	600,000
Heather	1995	77	163,600	Bunch	2.30	376,000
	1994	90	180,000	Bunch	2.30	414,000
Iris	1995	74	1,260,000	Bunch	2.40	3,024,000
	1994	95	1,140,000	Bunch	2.70	3,078,000
Larkspur	1995	29	139,000	Bunch	2.59	360,000
	1994	40	240,000	Bunch	2.50	600,000
Stock	1995	84	416,500	Bunch	2.00	833,000
	1994	75	375,000	Bunch	2.00	750,000
Strawflowers[5]	1995	94	481,000	Bunch	1.50	722,000
	1994	110	880,000	Bunch	1.70	1,496,000
Miscellaneous[6]	1995	270				2,219,000
Flower/Foliage	1994	300				3,270,000
Subtotal	1995	890				$ 9,467,000
	1994	1,070				11,828,000
Ornamentals						
Herbaceous[7]	1995	19				3,987,000
Perennials	1994	21				5,835,000
Christmas Trees	1995	252				330,000*
	1994	392				2,646,000
Nursery Stock[8]	1995	243				37,397,000
	1994	218				42,520,000
TOTAL	1995	1,404				$51,181,000
	1994	1,701				62,829,000

[5] Includes Fresh and Dried.
[6] Includes Calla Lily, Delphinium, Eucalyptus, Pittosporum, Statice, Yarrow, etc.
[7] Includes Cinerarias, Fuchsias, Impatiens, Primrose, etc.
[8] Includes Heather, Mini Christmas trees, other trees and shrubs.
* 1995 total based on revised method of reporting.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Crop	Year	Acres	PRODUCTION Per Acre	PRODUCTION Total	Unit	VALUE Per Unit	VALUE Total
Artichokes[9]	1995	740	1.20	888	Ton	$ 870.00	$ 773,000
	1994	650	5.20	3,380	Ton	850.00	2,873,000
Beans, Snap	1995	262	3.33	872	Ton	652.00	569,000
	1994	240	4.50	1,080	Ton	900.00	972,000
Brussels Sprouts[9]	1995	876	6.62	5,799	Ton	476.00	2,760,000
	1994	790	7.50	5,925	Ton	480.00	2,844,000
Mushrooms	1995	17					18,179,000
	*	*					*
Peas	1995	544	1.69	919	Ton	770.00	708,000
	1994	500	1.90	950	Ton	980.00	931,000
Pumpkins	1995	277	7.40	2,050	Ton	176.70	362,000
	1994	310	12.00	3,720	Ton	200.00	744,000
Miscellaneous Vegetables[10]	1995	533					6,486,000
Field and Indoor Grown	1994	424					31,498,000
TOTAL	1995	3,249					$29,837,000
	1994	2,914					39,862,000

[9] Includes Processed.
[10] Includes Bean Sprouts, Cabbage, Corn, Leaf Lettuce, Leeks, Potatoes, Spinach, Swiss Chard, etc.
* Previously included in Miscellaneous Vegetables.

FIELD CROPS

Crop	Year	Acres	PRODUCTION Per Acre	PRODUCTION Total	Unit	VALUE Per Unit	VALUE Total
Beans, Dry Edible[11]	1995	200	1.00	200	Ton	$ 676.00	$ 135,000
	1994	190	1.50	285	Ton	600.00	171,000
Grain							
Barley	1995	300	1.12	336	Ton	142.00	48,000
	1994	300	1.20	360	Ton	105.00	38,000
Oats	1995	800	1.15	920	Ton	200.00	184,000
	1994	1,000	1.20	1,200	Ton	115.00	138,000
Hay							
Oats	1995	1,500	2.50	3,750	Ton	125.00	469,000
	1994	2,400	2.50	6,000	Ton	90.00	540,000
Volunteer	1995	300	1.80	540	Ton	82.00	44,000
	1994	300	1.80	540	Ton	72.00	39,000
Pasture							
Irrigated	1995	300				140.00	42,000
	1994	300				140.00	42,000
Other	1995	30,000				9.00	270,000
	1994	30,000				9.00	270,000
TOTAL	1995	33,400					$ 1,192,000
	1994	34,490					1,238,000

[11] Includes Cranberry, Fava, etc.

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

Item	Year	Acres	Total Value
Bushberries	1995	27	$ 131,000
	1994	28	195,000
Strawberries	1995	28	350,000
	1994	14	280,000
Wine Grapes	1995	56	280,000
	1994	54	411,000
Miscellaneous[12]	1995	24	268,000
	1994	95	328,000
TOTAL	1995	135	$1,029,000
	1994	191	1,214,000

[12] Includes Apples, Kiwi, Pears, Walnuts, etc.

LIVESTOCK

Item	Year	PRODUCTION Number Head	PRODUCTION Total Liveweight	Unit	VALUE Per Unit	VALUE Total
Cattle and Calves	1995	2,200	15,400	CWT	$62.00	$ 955,000
	1994	2,200	15,400	CWT	70.00	1,078,000
Sheep and Lambs	1995	200	200	CWT	80.00	16,000
	1994	200	200	CWT	60.00	12,000
Hogs and Pigs	1995	200	500	CWT	48.00	24,000
	1994	200	500	CWT	48.00	24,000
TOTAL	1995					$ 995,000
	1994					1,114,000

JANUARY 1 INVENTORY OF LIVESTOCK— 1995-1996

Item	January 1, 1995	January 1, 1996*
Cattle and Calves	5,000	5,000
Sheep and Lambs	200	200
Hogs and Pigs	200	200

*Estimate only. Statewide livestock data unavailable from California Department of Food and Agriculture.

LIVESTOCK AND APIARY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Production	Unit	VALUE Per Unit	VALUE Total
Wool	1995	4,000	LB.	$1.25	$ 5,000
	1994	4,000	LB.	.65	2,600
Honey	1995	40,000	LB.	2.00	80,000
	1994	36,000	LB.	.85	30,600
Beeswax	1995	500	LB.	6.00	3,000
	1994	600	LB.	1.50	900
TOTAL	1995				$88,000
	1994				34,100

FOREST PRODUCTS

TOTAL	1995	3,416,000 Board Feet	$1,704,000
	1994	8,700,000 Board Feet	5,310,000

Department of Agriculture

COASTSIDE RAIN STATIONS

	Half Moon Bay	Pescadero
1984/1985	27.39 inches	24.12 inches
1985/1986	33.76 inches	34.52 inches
1986/1987	19.58 inches	21.26 inches
1987/1988	14.34 inches	13.21 inches
1988/1989	13.79 inches	8.41 inches
1989/1990	11.87 inches	9.35 inches
1990/1991	13.43 inches	21.10 inches
1991/1992	25.31 inches	28.98 inches
1992/1993	33.17 inches	29.87 inches
1993/1994	17.93 inches	15.45 inches
1994/1995	37.48 inches	31.00 inches

RECAPITULATION

PRODUCTION VALUES

	1995	1994
FLOWER AND NURSERY CROPS	$161,611,000	$165,401,000
VEGETABLE CROPS	29,837,000	39,862,000
FOREST PRODUCTS	1,704,000	5,310,000
FIELD CROPS	1,192,000	1,238,000
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS	1,029,000	1,214,000
LIVESTOCK	995,000	1,114,000
LIVESTOCK AND APIARY PRODUCTS	88,000	34,000
TOTAL	$196,456,000	$214,173,000

MILLION DOLLAR CROPS

	1995	1994
Ornamental Nursery Stock	$37,397,000	$42,520,000
Potted Foliage Plants	24,740,000	17,530,000
Mushrooms	18,179,000	*
Snapdragons	9,954,000	7,944,000
Orchids (potted)	6,656,000	6,903,000
Lilies (potted)	4,907,000	3,780,000
Poinsettia (potted)	4,427,000	5,795,000
Herbaceous Perennials	3,987,000	5,835,000
Chrysanthemum (potted)	3,405,000	6,433,000
Iris	3,024,000	3,078,000
Brussels Sprouts	2,760,000	2,844,000
Roses	2,725,000	3,495,000
Forest Products	1,704,000	5,310,000
Bedding Plants	1,651,000	1,508,000
Daisies	1,603,000	1,620,000
Carnations	1,161,000	2,212,000
Alstroemeria	1,052,000	1,022,000

* Previously included in Miscellaneous Vegetables.

SAN MATEO COUNTY
1995 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORT

Sustainable Agriculture is the implementation of agricultural programs and practices designed to promote the economic viability of agriculture, while minimizing the impact of agricultural practices on natural resources and the environment. This report includes information on San Mateo County's programs for the eradication, control or detection of pests, as well as the enforcement of quarantines to exclude such pests. Also included is information on biological control activities, integrated pest management, and organic farming activities employed by the agricultural industry.

— COUNTY PROGRAMS —

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

Pest	Agent/Mechanism	Scope of Program
Yellow Star Thistle	Bangasternus orientalis, weevil Eustenopus villosus, weevil	Monitored established populations of these two bio-control agents at 5 release sites. Added three new release sites for each of the weevils.
	Urophora sirunaseva, gall fly	New bio-control agent released at 5 sites.
Ash Whitefly	The release and natural disbursement of Encarsia partenopea and Clitostethus arcuatus since 1991 has been highly successful in keeping the Ash Whitefly under control. These bio-control agents have now become established and no further releases are planned.	

PEST ERADICATION

Skeletonweed, Chondrilla juncea, was treated at two locations.
This is an "A" rated pest.*

PEST DETECTION

Insect Trapping for Exotic Pests

3,658 insect traps were deployed for exotic pests, with 63,653 trap servicings during the year. This included traps for the following economically significant insects: Mediterranean Fruit Fly, Mexican Fruit Fly, Oriental Fruit Fly, Melon Fly, Gypsy Moth, Japanese Beetle, Khapra Beetle, European Pine Shoot Moth and European Corn Borer.

One mature male Oriental Fruit Fly was found. Fifty additional traps were set in one square mile around the find. No additional Oriental Fruit Flies were detected.

PEST EXCLUSION

Inspection of incoming shipments of plant products and other high risk articles to prevent the introduction of pests and diseases harmful to California's agricultural industry.

Type of Shipment	Number Inspected	Number Rejected
Parcel Carriers	10,851	80
Truck	185,530	27
Air	14,382	95
Sea Containers	737	0
Household Goods	365	0

Exotic Pests Intercepted

Pest	Rating	Pest	Rating
Aleurodicus dispersus, spiralling whitefly	Q	Pheidole megacephala, bigheaded ant	Q
Anomala orientalis, a scarab beetle	Q	Pinnaspis uniloba, a scale	Q
Anastrepha suspensa, Caribbean fruit fly	A	Planococcus minor, Pacific mealybug	Q
Aspidiotus destructor, coconut scale	A	Pseudaulacaspis cockerelli, magnolia white scale	A
Ceroplastes sp., red wax scale	A	Pulvinaria psidii, green shield scale	A
Coccus viridis, green scale	Q	Radopholus similis, burrowing nematode	A
Cydia splendana, chestnut moth	A	Solenopsis invicta, red imported fire ant	A
Diaphania hyalinata, melonworm	A	Sybra alternans, a longhorn beetle	Q
Ostrinia nubilalis, European corn borer	A	Tapinoma melancoephalum, blackheaded ant	Q
Parlatoria ziziphi, black citrus scale	Q	Technomyrmex albipes, an ant	Q

*Pest rating designation of "A" or "Q" requires that quarantined plant products be destroyed, treated under departmental supervision, or shipped out of state.

— AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY —

ALTERNATIVE PEST CONTROL METHODS

Pest	Agent/Mechanism	Crop
Algae	Duckweed	Irrigation ponds
Aphid	Lacewing	Greenhouse Ornamentals
	Ladybird beetle	Apples, Vegetables
	Orius sp., parasitic wasp	Vegetables
Caterpillars	Bacillus thuringiensis, bacteria	Greenhouse Ornamentals, Vegetables
Fungus Gnat	Steinernema feltiae, predatory nematode	Greenhouse Ornamentals
	Bacillus thuringiensis, bacteria	Greenhouse Ornamentals, Field grown Ornamentals
Mites	Thytoselius persimilis, predatory mite	Strawberries
Thrips	Orius sp., parasitic wasp	Greenhouse Ornamentals, Vegetables
Weeds	Weed mats/ground cover cloth	Outdoor Ornamentals, Strawberries, Vegetables, Grapes
Whitefly	Encarsia sp., parasitic wasp	Greenhouse Ornamentals, Greenhouse Vegetables

Other control measures include the use of insect traps to detect pests and decrease insect populations. The traps are also used for monitoring the number of adult insects to more accurately determine the timing of treatments in integrated pest management (IPM) programs. Insect traps are used widely in the agricultural industry for the control of whitefly, aphid, thrips and fungus gnats.

Crop rotation, mechanical removal of weeds, the use of mulches, increased spacing of plants in greenhouses and allowing fields to lie fallow are also methods utilized to control pests and diseases. Growers are increasingly using less toxic, or non-toxic materials such as insect growth regulators, insecticidal soaps, botanicals and refined oils in the production of ornamentals and vegetables. Additionally, research is currently being performed on the use of repressive fungi to control soil borne fungal diseases.

ORGANIC FARMING

Number of Farms	Estimated Acres	Crops
11	131	Apples, artichokes, beans, beets, berries, carrots, chard, corn, cucumbers, eggplant, garlic, herbs, flowers, kale, leeks, lettuce, mushrooms, onion, peas, peppers, potatoes, pumpkins, spinach, sprouts, squash and tomatoes.

SAN MATEO COUNTY
Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures
728 Heller Street
P.O. Box 999
Redwood City, California 94064-0999