



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

2014

AGRICULTURAL

CROP REPORT

**SAN MATEO COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
&  
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

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**COASTSIDE RAIN STATIONS**

Year	Half Moon Bay	Pescadero
	inches	inches
2013/2014	9.44	11.25
2012/2013	18.78	20.11
2011/2012	16.16	18.32
2010/2011	27.75	29.38
2009/2010	25.34	30.28
2008/2009	20.74	25.69
2007/2008	20.65	21.86
2006/2007	18.29	15.13
2005/2006	35.58	30.30
2004/2005	37.83	32.61
2003/2004	23.15	19.29



**Drought** – For San Mateo County, ranchers and field crop farmers have been hit hardest by the drought. Ranching is sometimes referred to as “resource agriculture” as cattlemen depend on the range grasses that grow naturally to feed their livestock. The drought has substantially reduced that forage and as a result, substantially reduced the number of steers grazing our coastal hills. Until predictable seasonal rains return, this reduced level of production will continue as the new “normal” for ranchers and farmers in San Mateo County. For local vegetable growers, a substantial storm system in December provided some relief by spilling Coastside irrigation ponds; however, most growers supplement those ponds with water from adjacent creeks to ensure crops make it through the growing season. Since those December storms there has been little rain. Everyday growers check water levels in depleted creeks and wonder whether flows will hold up long enough to coax the crops to harvest or whether they will be forced to abandon their planted investment.

# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE / WEIGHTS AND MEASURES



**Karen Ross, Secretary**

California Department of Food & Agriculture  
and

**San Mateo County Board of Supervisors**

Dave Pine, District 1

Carole Groom, District 2, President

Don Horsley, District 3

Warren Slocum, District 4, Vice President

Adrienne J. Tissier, District 5

As per Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agriculture Code, I am honored to present the 2014 Agricultural Crop Report for San Mateo County. It is important to note that the values represented in this report do not reflect profits, but rather the gross value of agricultural commodities produced within the county.

Although agricultural producers are struggling with the drought and water availability, the reported overall agricultural production value for San Mateo County in 2014 increased 6.3% to \$152,153,000. This higher overall increase was a result of the Indoor Grown Floral and Nursery Crops commodity group, which had the unique distinction of having specific individual commodities with both the greatest increase in value and the greatest loss. This past year, the reported value for Indoor Potted Plants rose from \$82,538,000 to \$94,495,000, an improvement of 14.5%. Conversely, Indoor Cut Flowers reported a significant reduction in greenhouse square footage and a gross value loss of 40% to a total of \$4,105,000, a loss of \$2,744,000 from the previous year.

Forest Products posted a significant increase in overall value (38.4%); however, for the remaining commodity groups and specific individual commodities, changes were relatively minor. The overall value in the Fruit and Nut commodity group increased a modest 3.8% based on a higher unit values for wine grapes, while minor declines were reported in: Outdoor Grown Floral and Nursery Crops (-1.3%), Vegetable Crops (-2.5%), Livestock Products and Apiary (-5.4%), Field Crops (-6.6%) and Livestock (-8.2%).

The lower overall value for Livestock was expected as ranchers have struggled with the drought. In response, they have been forced to reduce stocking densities which means fewer head are sold at market. In 2014, there was a 22% decline in the number of cattle and calves sold compared to the previous year, and a 45% decline since the 2010/11 rainy season, which was the last year of normal precipitation.

Thanks to the agricultural producers who contributed information and data making this report possible, and thanks to staff, especially Kelly Mayer, who assembled that data into a representative record.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fred Crowder  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights and Measures



## FLORAL AND NURSERY CROPS INDOOR GROWN

Crop	Year	Square Feet	Total Value
<b>Potted Plants<sup>1</sup></b>			
Flowering & Foliage	2014	7,220,000	\$94,495,000
	2013	7,584,000	82,538,000
<b>Cut Flowers<sup>2</sup></b>			
	2014	1,123,000	\$4,105,000
	2013	1,440,000	6,849,000
<b>Bedding Plants, Cuttings and Liners<sup>3</sup></b>			
	2014	122,000	\$479,000
	2013	127,000	561,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			
	2014	8,465,000	\$99,079,000
	2013	9,151,000	89,948,000

1 Includes Ferns, Hydrangeas, Ivy, Lilies, Orchids, Succulents, etc.

2 Includes Alstroemeria, Lilies, Roses, Tulips, etc.

3 Includes Grasses, Ivy, Vegetables, etc.



## FLORAL AND NURSERY CROPS OUTDOOR GROWN

Crop	Year	Acres	Total Value
<b>Ornamentals</b>			
Nursery Stock <sup>1</sup>	2014	110	\$14,447,000
	2013	119	14,724,000
Christmas Trees (cut)	2014	158	314,000
	2013	148	361,000
<b>Subtotal</b>			
	2014	268	\$14,761,000
	2013	267	15,085,000
<b>Cut Flowers<sup>2</sup></b>			
	2014	300	\$5,398,000
	2013	312	5,348,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			
	2014	568	\$20,159,000
	2013	579	20,433,000

1 Includes herbaceous perennials, shrubs and trees.

2 Includes Dahlias, Hydrangeas, Lilies, Sunflowers, Yarrow, etc.



## VEGETABLE CROPS

Crop	Year	Acres	PRODUCTION		Unit	VALUE	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Artichokes	2014	64	3.93	252	Ton	\$1,139	\$287,000
	2013	59	3.01	178	Ton	1,204	214,000
Beans, Fava	2014	265	3.29	872	Ton	2,062	1,798,000
	2013	284	5.20	1,477	Ton	1,397	2,063,000
Beans, Snap	2014	80	2.77	222	Ton	1,378	306,000
	2013	102	2.90	296	Ton	1,409	417,000
Brussels Sprouts <sup>1</sup>	2014	736	10.17	7,485	Ton	1,596	11,946,000
	2013	768	10.39	7,980	Ton	1,571	12,537,000
Leeks	2014	134	13.36	1,790	Ton	1,103	1,974,000
	2013	133	11.67	1,552	Ton	1,146	1,779,000
Peas	2014	168	1.64	276	Ton	2,010	555,000
	2013	202	1.68	339	Ton	1,847	626,000
Pumpkins	2014	175	5.00	875	Ton	584	511,000
	2013	171	8.61	1,472	Ton	546	804,000
Miscellaneous Vegetables Field and Indoor Grown <sup>2</sup>	2014	365					4,730,000
	2013	310					4,229,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	2014	1,987					\$22,107,000
	2013	2,029					22,669,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Processed

<sup>2</sup> Includes Beets, Herbs, Kale, Lettuce, Mushrooms, Peppers, Squash, Tomatoes, etc.



## FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

Crop	Year	Acres	Total Value
Wine Grapes	2014	154	\$1,031,000
	2013	153	1,073,000
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>	2014	105	1,763,000
	2013	102	1,619,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	2014	259	\$2,794,000
	2013	255	2,692,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Berries, Melons, Pears, etc.



## LIVESTOCK

Commodity	Year	Number Head Sold	Total Value
Cattle and Calves	2014	1,562	\$1,691,000
	2013	2,012	1,814,000
Other <sup>1</sup>	2014	6,532	514,000
	2013	7,780	588,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	2014	8,094	\$2,205,000
	2013	9,792	2,402,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Goats, Poultry, Sheep, Swine, etc.



## LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS AND APIARY

Commodity	Year	Production	Unit	Per Unit	<u>VALUE</u>	Total
Honey	2014	40,000	lbs	\$8.28		\$331,000
	2013	53,000	lbs	8.93		473,000
Beeswax	2014	1,007	lbs	5.99		6,000
	2013	1,535	lbs	7.53		12,000
Other <sup>1</sup>	2014					1,321,000
	2013					1,267,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	2014					\$1,658,000
	2013					1,752,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Eggs, Cheese, Wool, etc.

## FIELD CROPS

Commodity	Year	Acres	PRODUCTION		Unit	VALUE	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Beans, Dry Edible <sup>1</sup>	2014	54	0.75	41	Ton	\$4,944	\$203,000
	2013	56	0.93	52	Ton	5,139	267,000
Grain <sup>2</sup>	2014	117	0.50	59	Ton	261	15,000
	2013	201	0.67	135	Ton	255	34,000
Hay							
Oat & Rye	2014	376	2.24	842	Ton	199	168,000
	2013	281	1.92	540	Ton	196	106,000
Volunteer	2014	124	2.32	288	Ton	49	14,000
	2013	142	2.44	346	Ton	65	22,000
Pasture							
Irrigated	2014	137				142	19,000
	2013	149				140	21,000
Other	2014	21,889				14	306,000
	2013	21,719				15	326,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	2014	22,697					\$725,000
	2013	22,548					776,000

1 Includes Cranberry, Fava, etc.

2 Includes Barley, Oats, Rye and Wheat



## FOREST PRODUCTS

Year	Board Feet	Total Value
2014	6,724,000	\$3,426,000
2013	5,627,000	2,475,000

## RECAPITULATION

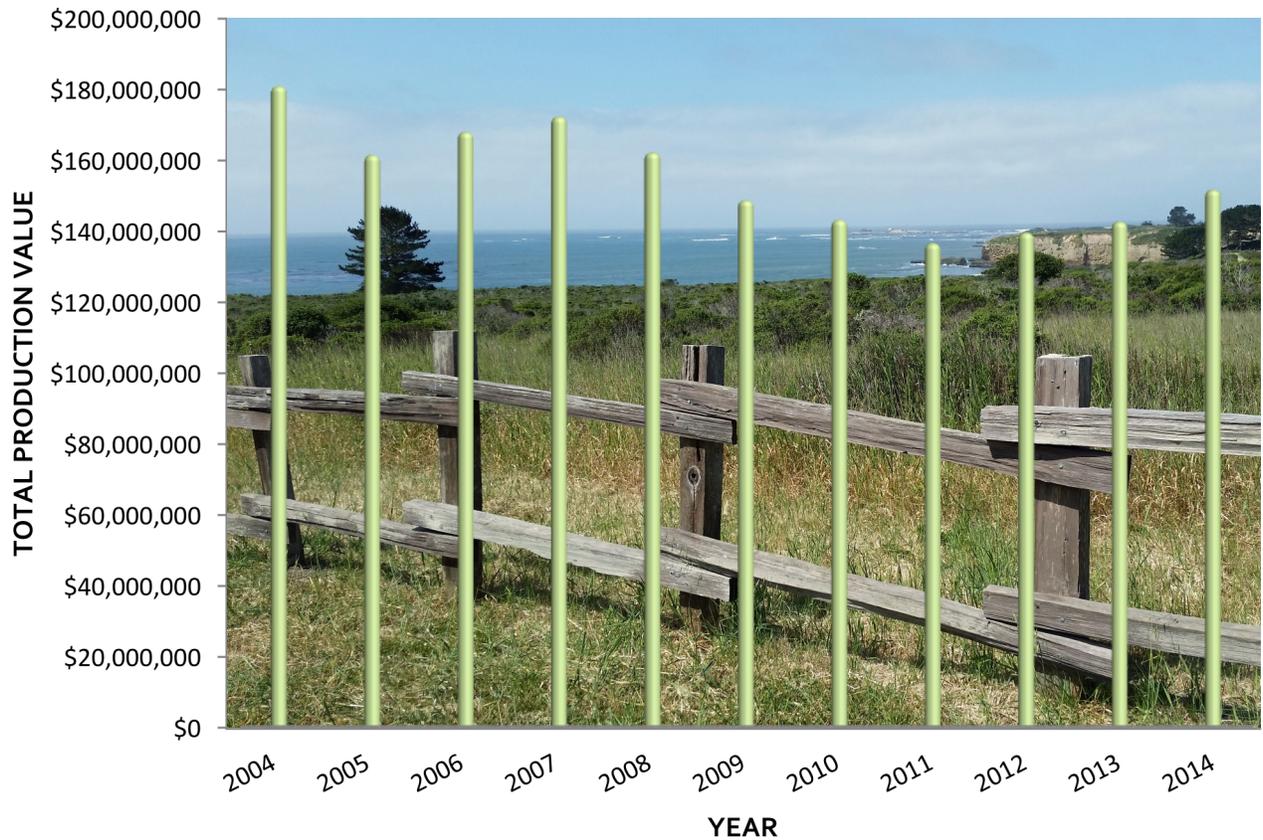
	2014	2013	Net Difference	Percentage
Floral and Nursery Crops	\$119,238,000	\$110,381,000	\$8,857,000	8.0%
Vegetables	22,107,000	22,669,000	-562,000	-2.5%
Fruit and Nut Crops	2,794,000	2,692,000	102,000	3.8%
Forest Products	3,426,000	2,475,000	951,000	38.4%
Livestock	2,205,000	2,402,000	-197,000	-8.2%
Livestock Products and Apiary	1,658,000	1,752,000	-94,000	-5.4%
Field Crops	725,000	776,000	-51,000	-6.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$152,153,000</b>	<b>\$143,147,000</b>	<b>\$9,006,000</b>	<b>6.3%</b>



## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS

	2014	2013
Flowering & Foliage Potted Plants (Indoor Grown)	\$94,495,000	\$82,538,000
Ornamental Nursery Stock	14,447,000	14,724,000
Brussels Sprouts	11,946,000	12,537,000
Cut Flowers (Outdoor Grown)	5,398,000	5,348,000
Cut Flowers (Indoor Grown)	4,105,000	6,849,000
Forest Products	3,426,000	2,475,000
Leeks	1,974,000	1,779,000
Fava Beans	1,798,000	2,063,000
Cattle and Calves	1,691,000	1,814,000
Wine Grapes	1,031,000	1,073,000

## AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION VALUE OVER THE DECADE



## 50 YEARS AGO...

### Top Ten Agricultural Commodities in 1964

1	Carnations (Indoor Grown)	2,024,000 Square Feet	\$2,335,000
2	Brussels Sprouts	1,530 Acres	1,675,000
3	Flowering Potted Plants (Indoor Grown)	858,000 Square Feet	1,715,000
4	Miscellaneous Vegetables	13 Acres	1,553,000
5	Ornamental Nursery Stock (Indoor Grown)	477,000 Square Feet	987,000
6	Milk (Market)	147,000 Hundredweight	635,000
7	Chrysanthemums (Outdoor Grown)	52 Acres	567,000
8	Chrysanthemums (Indoor Grown)	457,000 Square Feet	533,000
9	Roses (Indoor Grown)	410,000 Square Feet	511,000
10	Strawflowers (Indoor Grown)	115 Acres	483,000

In 1964, the total value of San Mateo County agricultural production was \$18,204,000, or about 12% of 2014's total value.

# SAN MATEO COUNTY SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORT

Prevention, detection, control and eradication create the foundation of San Mateo County's Sustainable Agricultural programs. Along with agricultural practices that include Integrated Pest Management and Organic Farming, the producers and our department work towards preserving nature's balance, while promoting agricultural vitality.

## PEST EXCLUSION

The Pest Exclusion program protects our economy through preventing destructive and costly insects and diseases from integrating into the agricultural community. The high activity level of intrastate, interstate and international agricultural imports and exports passing through San Mateo County prioritizes the need for inspection and interception of pests at the forefront. Per quarantine laws and regulations, harmful pests, invalid certification, and the lack of accountability/identification markings may be reason for rejecting shipments.

Type of Shipment	Inspections	Rejections	Pests Intercepted
Parcel Carriers	17,915	98	39
Truck	1,008	5	2
Air	3,389	66	140
Sea Containers	6	0	0
Household Goods (Gypsy Moth)	78	0	0
Nursery Stock (GWSS)	2,260	2	2
Other	8	0	0

## EXOTIC PESTS INTERCEPTED

Pest	Rating*	Number of Interceptions	Pest	Rating*	Number of Interceptions
<b><i>Aonidiella orientalis</i></b> Oriental scale	A	1	<b>Beetles</b> ( <i>Phyllophaga sp.</i> )	Q	1
<b><i>Bactrocera dorsalis</i></b> Oriental fruit fly	A	2	<b>Carnivorous bladderwort</b> ( <i>Utricularia sp.</i> )	Q	1
<b><i>Ceroplastes rubens</i></b> red wax scale	A	1	<b>Leaf &amp; Plant hoppers</b> (various species)	Q	3
<b><i>Cylas formicarius</i></b> sweet potato weevil	A	1	<b>Mealybugs</b> (various species)	Q	19
<b><i>Pinnaspis buxi</i></b> boxwood scale	A	6	<b>Mites</b> (various species)	Q	7
<b><i>Pinnaspis sp.</i></b> armored scale	A	1	<b>Moths &amp; Butterflies</b> (various species)	Q	57
<b><i>Pinnaspis strachani</i></b> lesser snow scale	A	8	<b>Scales</b> (various species)	Q	36
<b><i>Pseudaulacaspis cockerelli</i></b> Oriental scale	A	3	<b>Snails &amp; Slugs</b> (various species)	Q	2
<b><i>Pseudaulacaspis pentagona</i></b> white peach scale	A	58	<b>Thrips</b> (various species)	Q	2
<b>Ants</b> (various species)	Q	9	<b>True Bugs</b> (various species)	Q	5
<b>Aphids</b> (various species)	Q	4	<b>Whiteflies</b> (various species)	Q	3
			<b>Other</b> (various species)	Q	6

\* "A" or "Q" pests were found during pest detection and state exterior/interior inspections. These ratings require quarantined products to be destroyed, reconditioned, treated, or shipped out of state. Armored scales of the family Diaspididae found on commercial fruit shipments were not subject to regulatory action per CCR Title 3, Section 3152.

Trade agreements require states and countries to be safeguarded from the introduction of pests through inspection and certification of agricultural commodity movement. In 2014, 1,999 Federal Phytosanitary Certificates were issued to 30 countries, and 1,509 State Phytosanitary Certificates were issued to 18 states to transport agricultural goods.

# SAN MATEO COUNTY SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORT

## PEST DETECTION

Pest detection staff placed and mapped 4,439 insect traps throughout the county and serviced them 49,746 times in 2014. The targeted insects listed below may be potentially devastating to agricultural production. During monitoring of the traps, there were 2 Oriental fruit fly detections; one found in Millbrae and the other in San Carlos. Delimitation trapping in San Carlos resulted in no further findings, and expanded trapping will continue in Millbrae until mid-year 2015 based on life cycle phases.

Asian Citrus Psyllid	Japanese Beetle
European Corn Borer	Khapra Beetle
European Grape Vine Moth	Mediterranean Fruit Fly
European Pine Shoot Moth	Melon Fly
Glassy-winged Sharpshooter	Mexican Fruit Fly
Gypsy Moth	Oriental Fruit Fly

## PEST ERADICATION

The San Mateo County Weed Management Area (WMA) program was created in 2000 as a collaboration between landholders and various public and private entities focused on preventing and controlling invasive weeds. Due to the lack of funding, the 2014 activity level did not change from 2013 for the following projects:

Weed Species	Fertile Capeweed <i>Arctotheca calendula</i>	Skeletonweed <i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	Purple Loosestrife <i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
Characteristics	Perennial rosettes w/ daisy-like yellow flowers, A-Rated*	Perennial or biennial, basal rosettes w/ wiry stems and small yellow flowers, A-Rated*	Perennial clumps up to 3 meters tall w/ spikes of purple flowers, B-Rated**
Reproduction	Seeds and vegetative stolons	Seeds and vegetative roots	Seeds, up to 2 million per plant, viable up to 3 years
Distribution	Open or disturbed sites; Only one site in San Mateo County, 1 ac. in Pescadero rangeland	Disturbed land; San Carlos, near Caltrain tracks (Atherton to Burlingame) and Edgewood Road/Hwy 280	Wetlands; 17 plants found at Reflection Lake in La Honda
Monitoring & Control	Flagged, mapped and treated with herbicides	Mapped, hand-pulled, herbicide treatment and 2 biocontrol agents released: gall mite, <i>Eriophyes chondrillae</i> , and rust fungus, <i>Puccinia chondrillina</i>	Mapped, treated with herbicides when lake levels were below overflow level, and hand-pulled

\*A - Rated pests are highly invasive, considered detrimental to agriculture and the environment, and regulated for eradication.

\*\*B - Rated pests may be detrimental to agriculture and eradication and is subject to the discretion of the local Agricultural Commissioner.

# SAN MATEO COUNTY SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORT

## INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

Agricultural producers use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for balancing insect pest and disease control with optimum environmental health. IPM focuses on maintaining sanitary conditions, encouraging beneficial insect populations, replenishing nutrients in the soil, and monitoring and controlling pests that may harm agricultural commodities. The following IPM practices were used last year by San Mateo County agricultural producers:

Botanical Extracts	Insecticidal Soaps	Predatory Mites
Companion Planting	Lacewings	Refined Oils
Cover Crops	Ladybird Beetles	Sticky Traps
Crop Rotation	Mulching	Soil Steam Sterilization
Diatomaceous Earth	Owl Boxes	Temperature/Humidity Control
Field Sanitation	Parasitic Wasps	Torching Weeds
Hedgerows	Parasitic Nematodes	Weed Covers
Insect Growth Regulators	Pheromone Traps	Vertebrate Traps

## ORGANIC FARMING

Year	Organic Farms	Production Acreage
2014	19	622
2013	16	373
2012	18	410

The number of registered organic agricultural producers in San Mateo County increased in 2014. They grew a large variety of flowers, fruits and vegetables, as well as raised livestock over a greater production area. An estimated gross production value of \$5,022,000 was a 30.1% increase over 2013.



## CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKETS

The ideology of Farm-to-Table can be realized by visiting your local Certified Farmers' Markets and procuring fresh agricultural products from the farmers that produced them. Not only does this help support your community by keeping the small farmer in business, it gives the consumer a first hand opportunity to buy delicious, locally grown commodities. Our department ensures that what you buy from a Certified Farmers' Market is produced by that seller through inspections and certification. A current list of Certified Farmers' Markets in San Mateo County may be found at:

[www.smcgov.org/agwm](http://www.smcgov.org/agwm)



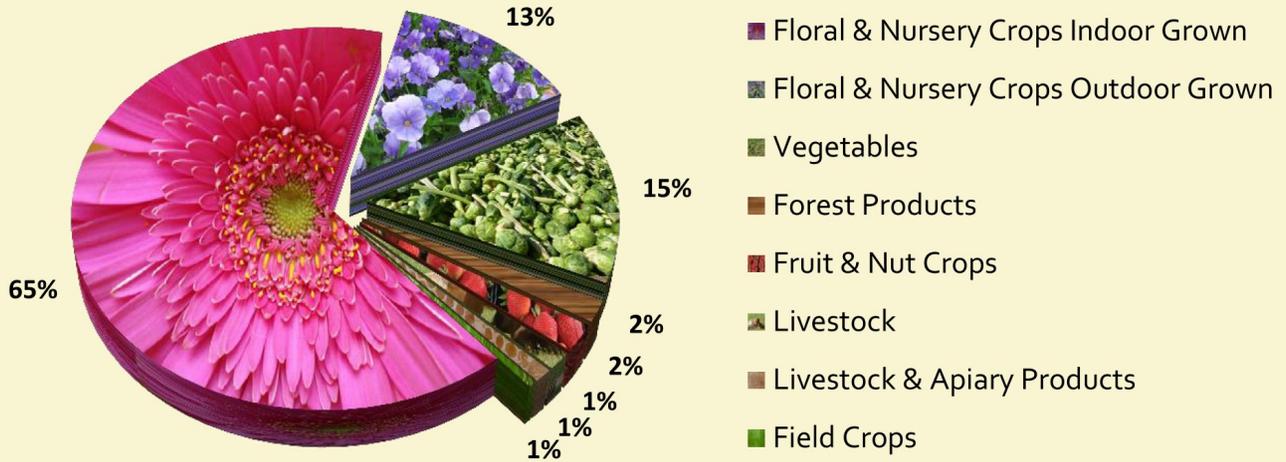
<u>Species</u>	<u>Year*</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Year*</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Value</u>
Crab, Dungeness	2013	2,400,347	\$7,460,044	Rockfish, all	2013	79,642	77,145
	2012	2,345,450	7,522,553		2012	99,718	106,074
Squid, market	2013	15,238,707	4,953,848	Crab, rock unspecified	2013	24,149	69,369
	2012	17,725,231	5,321,521		2012	7,956	17,854
Salmon, Chinook	2013	510,654	3,591,319	Sanddab	2013	106,456	53,815
	2012	283,740	1,693,041		2012	55,327	27,773
Prawn, spot	2013	26,964	357,646	Lingcod	2013	4,422	17,698
	2012	36,492	452,993		2012	6,369	20,645
Halibut, California	2013	45,644	242,566	Miscellaneous	2013	16,902	8,697
	2012	47,291	226,211		2012	20,100	16,313
Tuna, Albacore	2013	37,278	98,361	Flounder, all	2013	5,646	5,920
	2012	54,853	127,512		2012	6,808	5,730
Sole, all	2013	99,046	95,481	Seabass, white	2013	394	2,137
	2012	66,668	67,014		2012	1,253	7,010
Sablefish	2013	61,642	95,183	Grand Total	2013	18,657,893	\$17,129,229
	2012	95,500	144,554		2012	20,852,756	\$15,756,798

## COMMERCIAL FISH CATCH

Source: California Department of Fish and Game Poundage Value of Landings  
Princeton-Half Moon Bay. Informational only, value not included in Annual Report  
\*Values shown are from previous year

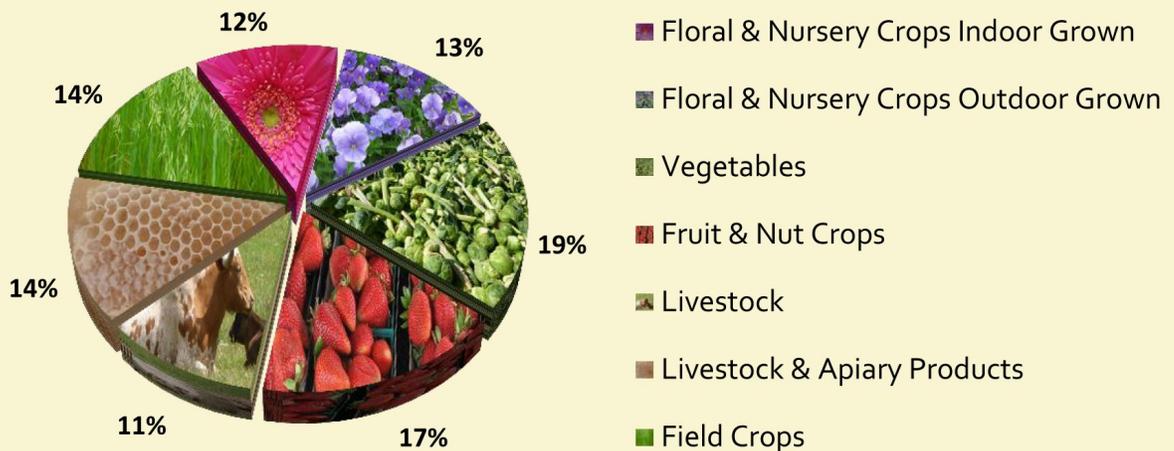
# SAN MATEO COUNTY AGRICULTURE

## 2014 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION TOTAL VALUES



When considered together, the 2014 Agricultural Production Total Values graphic (above) shows indoor and outdoor ornamental floral and nursery crops total 78% of the overall value of San Mateo's agricultural industry. However, the number of Producers Per Commodity Group graphic (below) shows a more balanced distribution in the number of growers producing ornamental and edible crops and a greater diversification in San Mateo's agricultural industry than might be expected when only considering commodity dollar values.

## PRODUCERS PER COMMODITY GROUP





**COUNTY** OF  
**SAN MATEO**

# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE/WEIGHTS & MEASURES

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