

# San Benito County

2003  
Annual  
Crop Report

April 30, 2004

A.J. Kawamura, Secretary  
California Department of Food and Agriculture,  
The Honorable Board of Supervisors of San Benito County, and  
Terrance May, County Administrative Officer

It is my pleasure to submit the 2003 Crop Report for San Benito County. This report is produced in accordance with Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, which indicates agricultural and livestock production values.

It is also my pleasure to dedicate this year's edition to our retiring Agricultural Commissioner/ Sealer, Mark A. Tognazzini. He diligently served our county for more than 40 years and we wish him all the best in the years to come.

Agriculture continues to be the county's major producing industry with a 2003 gross value of \$238,767,000. This is an increase of more than 11% from the 2002 total.

Leaf Lettuce took the lead as the county's number one crop with an increase of over \$10 million dollars from 2002. That was the most significant change in any one commodity, due primarily to an increase in acreage and production of romaine lettuce. Nursery Stock was close behind Leaf Lettuce, up slightly from the previous year with nearly \$30 million dollars.

San Benito County's 2003 agricultural income of nearly \$239 million dollars again shows an important contribution to the county's economic base and the quality of life of it's residents.

Please bear in mind that these figures are for gross income only, and not net profit to the grower. In some cases, crops are actually produced at a loss.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many growers and handlers of agricultural products, and personnel of other governmental agencies for their assistance in obtaining these figures. Without their help, this report would not have been possible. I would also like to acknowledge my staff, and in particular Sally Boden who compiled this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul J. Matulich  
San Benito County  
Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

# *San Benito County*

## *Board of Supervisors*

Richard Scagliotti	District 1
Ruth Kesler	District 2
Pat Loe	District 3
Reb Monaco	District 4
Robert Cruz, Chairperson	District 5

## *Administrative Officer*

Terrance May

## *Department of Agriculture | Sealer of Weights & Measures*

Paul J. Matulich	Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures
Gordon McClelland	Senior Agricultural Biologist/Inspector
Ronald Ross	Senior Agricultural Biologist/Inspector
Sally Boden	Agricultural Biologist/Inspector III
Christy Rachuy	Agricultural Biologist/Inspector I
Jean Gillaspie	Secretary
Ischelle Gonzales	Typist Clerk
Linda Roma	Detection Trapper
Lorie Tilley	Detection Trapper
Michelle Hansen	Produce Inspector
Tony Wilson	Agricultural Aide

## Commodity Summary

Field Crops	2003	\$ 41,344,000
	2002	\$ 36,395,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	2003	\$ 28,637,000
	2002	\$ 26,735,000
Vegetable and Row Crops	2003	\$ 148,597,000
	2002	\$ 128,882,000
Cattle	2003	\$ 11,441,000
	2002	\$ 9,732,000
Other Livestock/ Livestock & Poultry Products	2003	\$ 8,748,000
	2002	\$ 13,097,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>\$ 238,767,000</b>
	<b>2002</b>	<b>\$ 214,841,000</b>

### Current & Past Years Totals

2003	\$ 238,767,000
2002	\$ 214,841,000
2001	\$ 201,580,000
2000	\$ 208,899,000
1999	\$ 179,848,000
1998	\$ 160,647,000
1997	\$ 164,792,000
1996	\$ 159,899,000
1995	\$ 160,474,000
1994	\$ 148,290,000
1993	\$ 144,420,000
1992	\$ 132,714,000
1991	\$ 135,652,000

## Field Crops

		<u>Production</u>			<u>Value</u>	
		Acres	Per Acre	TOTAL	\$ Per Unit	\$ TOTAL
Alfalfa	2003	445	6.75	3,004 tons	100	\$300,000
	2002	445	5.04	2,243 tons	113	\$253,000
Barley	2003	1,380	1.44	1,987 tons	105	\$209,000
	2002	900	0.96	864 tons	90	\$78,000
*Misc.Field Crops	2003	630				\$412,000
	2002	419				\$303,000
Grain Hay	2003	15,270	2.38	36,343 tons	86	\$3,125,000
	2002	15,880	1.50	23,820 tons	74	\$1,763,000
*Nursery Stock	2003	662				\$ 29,792,000
	2002	674				\$ 28,966,000
Pasture/Rangeland	2003	510,000		acres	8	\$4,080,000
	2002	510,000		acres	8	\$4,080,000
Permanent Pasture	2003	1,000		acres	300	\$300,000
	2002	1,000		acres	300	\$300,000
*Seed Crops	2003	608		acres	4,834	\$2,939,000
	2002	267		acres	1,906	\$509,000
Wheat	2003	1,000	1.56	1,560 tons	120	\$187,000
	2002	1,000	1.50	1,500 tons	95	\$143,000
<b>TOTALS 2003</b>						<b>\$41,344,000</b>
<b>2002</b>						<b>\$36,395,000</b>

\*See page 10 for specific list

## Vegetable and Row Crops

		<u>Production</u>			<u>Value</u>		
		Acres	Per Acre	TOTAL	\$ Per Unit	\$	TOTAL
Beets (table)	2003	178	2.64	470 tons	1,029	\$	484,000
	2002	153	6.98	1,068 tons	1,109	\$	705,000
Broccoli	2003	820	7.00	5,740 tons	644	\$	3,697,000
	2002	877	7.12	6,244 tons	443	\$	2,766,000
Cabbage	2003	665	21.51	14,304 tons	272	\$	3,891,000
	2002	914	18.30	16,726 tons	144	\$	2,409,000
Cauliflower	2003	192	8.77	1,684 tons	697	\$	1,174,000
	2002	244	8.08	1,972 tons	555	\$	1,094,000
Celery	2003	464	37.44	17,372 tons	280	\$	4,864,000
	2002	541	33.83	18,302 tons	244	\$	4,466,000
Leaf Lettuce (mixed)	2003	4,679	10.70	50,065 tons	600	\$	30,039,000
	2002	4,051	9.67	39,173 tons	501	\$	19,626,000
Baby Lettuce (salad)	2003	3,588	2.66	9,544 tons	2,687	\$	25,645,000
	2002	4,319	2.40	10,366 tons	2,365	\$	24,516,000
Head Lettuce (packed)	2003	1,494	23.23	34,706 tons	361	\$	12,529,000
	2002	2,606	20.78	54,153 tons	229	\$	12,401,000
Head Lettuce (bulk)	2003	999	16.20	16,184 tons	139	\$	2,250,000
	2002	968	16.04	15,527 tons	97	\$	1,506,000
*Misc. Veg. & Row Crops	2003	2,749				\$	15,613,000
	2002	3,103				\$	17,701,000
Onions (dry bulb)	2003	1,653	23.92	39,540 tons	297	\$	11,743,000
	2002	1,503	24.08	36,192 tons	270	\$	9,772,000

## Vegetable and Row Crops (cont.)

		<i>Production</i>			<i>Value</i>	
		Acres	Per Acre	TOTAL	\$ Per Unit	\$ TOTAL
Peppers (bell)	2003	1,785	21.72	38,770 tons	468	\$ 18,144,000
	2002	1,799	22.18	39,902 tons	384	\$ 15,322,000
Pumpkins	2003	101	9.91	1,001 tons	324	\$ 324,000
	2002	92	8.88	817 tons	375	\$ 306,000
Radicchio	2003	304	4.72	1,435 tons	1,550	\$ 2,224,000
	2002	408	3.23	1,318 tons	1,952	\$ 2,573,000
Spinach	2003	1,678	3.16	5,302 tons	1,960	\$ 10,392,000
	2002	1,203	2.63	3,164 tons	2,024	\$ 6,404,000
Squash (summer)	2003	52	5.53	288 tons	663	\$ 191,000
	2002	54	5.81	314 tons	1,003	\$ 315,000
Squash (winter)	2003	121	5.07	613 tons	785	\$ 481,000
	2002	55	7.20	396 tons	664	\$ 263,000
Sweet Corn	2003	475	8.67	4,118 tons	431	\$ 1,775,000
	2002	652	7.07	4,610 tons	347	\$ 1,600,000
Tomatoes (canning)	2003	1,330	48.13	64,013 tons	49	\$ 3,137,000
	2002	1,174	56.75	66,625 tons	52	\$ 3,465,000
Tomatoes (market)	2003	(See Misc. Crops)				
	2002	299	9.53	2,849	587	\$ 1,672,000
<b>TOTALS 2003</b>					<b>\$ 148,597,000</b>	
<b>2002</b>					<b>\$ 128,882,000</b>	

\*See page 10 for specific list

## *Fruit and Nut Crops*

		<u><i>Production</i></u>			<u><i>Value</i></u>	
		Acres	Per Acre	TOTAL	\$ Per Unit	\$ TOTAL
Apples	2003	490	17.4	8,526 tons	212	\$1,808,000
	2002	490	16.22	7,948 tons	230	\$1,828,000
Apricots	2003	1,262	1.04	1,312 tons	259	\$340,000
	2002	1,345	3.48	4,681 tons	338	\$1,582,000
Cherries	2003	605	1.74	1,053 tons	1,240	\$1,306,000
	2002	615	3.59	2,208 tons	1,740	\$3,842,000
Grapes (wine)	2003	3,163	4.57	14,455 tons	1,510	\$21,827,000
	2002	3,079	3.20	9,853 tons	1,585	\$15,617,000
*Misc.Fruits & Nuts	2003	145				\$1,692,000
	2002	169				\$1,881,000
Walnuts	2003	1,915	0.672	1,287 tons	1,293	\$1,664,000
	2002	1,915	0.850	1,628 tons	1,219	\$1,985,000

**TOTALS 2003**  
**2002**

**\$28,637,000**  
**\$26,735,000**

\*See page 10 for specific list



## Cattle

		<u>Production</u>		<u>Value</u>	
		<u># of Head</u>	<u>Total Cwt</u>	<u>\$ per Cwt</u>	<u>\$ Total</u>
All Cattle	2003	39,464			
	2002	37,898			
Calves	2003	11,038	52,099 cwt.	87.00	\$4,533,000
	2002	9,433	43,958 cwt.	82.00	\$3,605,000
Pasture and Stockers	2003	27,000	77,760 cwt.	80.00	\$6,221,000
	2002	26,000	72,540 cwt.	70.00	\$5,078,000
Cows	2003	1,226	13,486 cwt.	41.00	\$553,000
	2002	2,295	25,245 cwt.	36.00	\$909,000
Bulls	2003	200	2,800 cwt.	48.00	\$134,000
	2002	170	2,380 cwt.	59.00	\$140,000
<b>TOTALS 2003</b>					<b>\$11,441,000</b>
<b>2002</b>					<b>\$9,732,000</b>

## Other Livestock / Livestock & Poultry Products

		<u>Production</u>		<u>Value</u>	
		<u># of Head</u>	<u>Total Cwt</u>	<u>\$ per Cwt</u>	<u>\$ Total</u>
*Misc. Livestock & Poultry Products	2003				\$8,748,000
	2002				\$13,097,000
<b>TOTALS 2003</b>					<b>\$8,748,000</b>
<b>2002</b>					<b>\$13,097,000</b>

\*See Page 10 for specific list

# 2003 Miscellaneous Crops and Products

\*Commodities in these categories are combined with other similar products because the number of producers of each commodity were less than three, or one producer is responsible for 60 percent or more of the product. This is to avoid disclosure of the business affairs of the firms involved.

## Vegetable & Row Crops

Amaranth	Artichokes	Arugula	Asparagus
Beans (green,string & fava)	Bok Choy	Burdock	Cantaloupe
Carrots	Celery Root	Chard	Chinese Cabbage
Chinese Greens	Cilantro	Collards	Corn, Ornamental
Cucumber	Eggplant	Fennel	Flowers, edible
Frisee	Garlic	Garlic greens	Gourds
Herbs	Kabocha	Kale	Kohlrabi
Leafy Greens	Leeks	Melons	Micromix
Mushrooms	Mustard	Oriental Kale	Parsley
Parsnips	Peas	Peas, snap	Peppercress
Peppers, chili	Potatoes	Rabes	Radishes
Rapini	Root Vegetables	Shallots	Tomatoes (fresh market)
Watermelons			

## Field Crops

Corn Silage	Honey & Pollination	Safflower	Sugar Beets
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## Fruit & Nut Crops

Lemons	Olives	Peaches	Plums	Raspberries	Strawberries
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## Seed Crops

Flowers	Vegetable Crops	Vine Crops	Field Crops
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## Nursery Stock

Cut Flowers (dry & fresh)	Mushroom Spawn	Nursery Plants & Trees
Raspberry Transplants	Turf	Vegetable Transplants
		Christmas Trees

## Livestock & Poultry Products

Eggs (turkey)	Hogs	Lambs	Milk (market)	Turkeys	Wool
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# Sustainable Agricultural Report

## **Biological Control**

<b><u>PEST</u></b>	<b><u>AGENT</u></b>	<b><u>SCOPE OF PROGRAM</u></b>
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Seed Head Weevil <u>Bangasternus orientalis</u> & Hairy Weevil <u>Eustenopus Villosus</u>	6 previous releases/ colonies now established  14 previous releases/ ongoing collection & relocation

### Eradication

<b><u>PEST</u></b>	<b><u>MECHANISM</u></b>	<b><u>SCOPE OF PROGRAM</u></b>
Scotch Thistle <u>Onopordum Acanthium</u>	Mechanical/Chemical	2 sites
Artichoke Thistle <u>Cynara Cardunculus</u>	Chemical	3 sites

### Pest Detection

There are up to 815 pest detection traps placed throughout the county.

### Organic Farm Statistics

The county has approximately 30 organic growers, growing 50 different crops on 4,000 acres.