

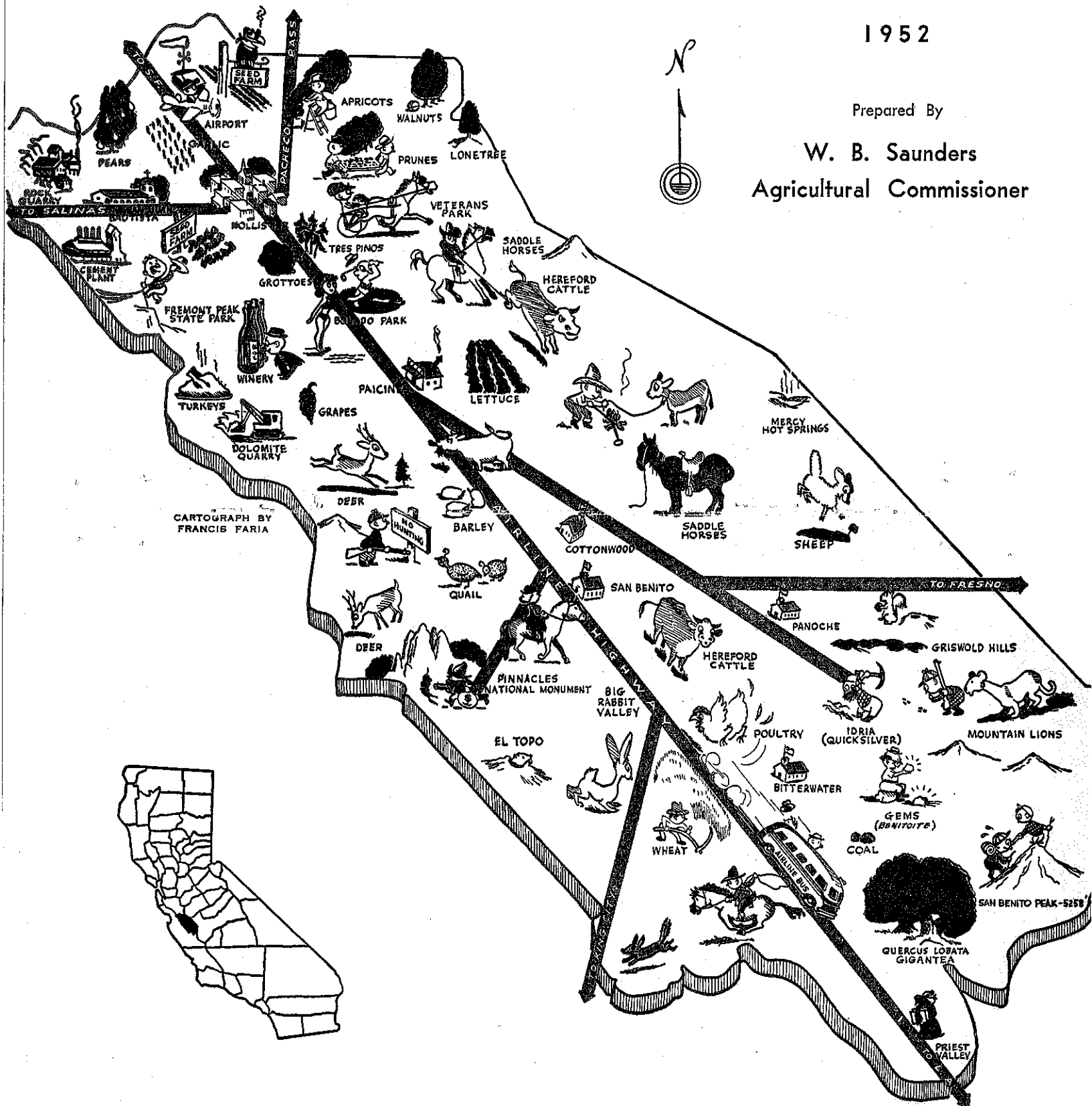
Official Copy - Not to be used

San Benito County Crop Report

1952

Prepared By

W. B. Saunders
Agricultural Commissioner



1952 Report on Crops

The office wishes to thank the producers, packers and buyers for furnishing the figures contained in this report.

However it is a preliminary one. Some changes may be made when complete returns are available. This is the story as we have found it.

1947	\$19,389,454.00
1948	18,160,623.00
1949	14,572,238.00
1950	15,880,884.00
1951	17,230,490.00
1952	19,005,389.00

The gross income for 1952 by crops follows. Remember these are gross figures and only represent sales, and not net profit. In fact, some crops were produced at a very small profit or none at all.

Truck Crops

CROPS	ACRES	GROSS VALUE
Sugar Beets	2,289	\$ 573,055.00
Garlic	616	693,000.00
Lettuce	800	160,000.00
Beans	1,500	456,660.00
Peas	140	69,300.00
Seed Crops	1,500	525,000.00
Tomatoes	1,070	802,500.00
Broccoli	775	232,500.00
Cotton	550	164,000.00
Onions	350	183,500.00
Spinach	1,200	160,000.00
Potatoes	1,935	1,320,637.00
Strawberries	167	389,125.00
Misc. Crops		140,000.00
TOTAL		\$5,878,277.00

Miscellaneous Crops are cauliflower, bunched green onions, bell peppers, cucumbers, squash, cabbage, sweet corn, bush berries and honey.

Fruit and Nut Crops

CROPS	ACRES	GROSS VALUE
Apricots	4,280	\$1,969,400.00
Apples	248	148,800.00
Almonds	28	5,000.00
Cherries	40	65,258.00
Grapes	1,472	61,824.00
Peaches	45	18,000.00
Pears	569	282,240.00
Prunes	3,561	1,163,720.00
Walnuts	1,850	851,000.00
TOTAL		\$4,565,242.00

Field Crops

CROPS	ACRES	GROSS VALUE
Barley	35,000	\$2,541,000.00
Wheat	5,500	272,160.00
Hay	16,000	560,000.00
TOTAL		\$3,373,160.00

Livestock and Poultry

CROP	GROSS VALUE
Beef and Calves	\$2,563,650.00
Sheep	147,000.00
Hogs	109,120.00
Butterfat	262,995.00
Broilers	377,000.00
Hens for Meat	20,520.00
Eggs	333,625.00
Turkeys	1,374,800.00
TOTAL	\$5,188,710.00

Summary

CROP	GROSS VALUE
Truck Crops	\$5,878,277.00
Fruit & Nut Crops	4,565,242.00
Field Crops	3,373,160.00
Livestock and Poultry	5,188,710.00
TOTAL	\$19,005,389.00

GENERAL CONDITIONS

To date, March 14, the rainfall is below normal and is likely to end the season that way.

There seems to be no reason for any great change in the supply of farm help.

Most people expect a leveling off of prices in the supplies farmers have to buy and there are good indications that total taxes now taking about one third of all incomes have reached their peak.

The 1952 Agricultural Crop returns were high lighted by the following:

1. A good yield and good prices from a large acreage of grain.
2. Satisfactory prices from an increased potato acreage.
3. Higher prune prices, higher dried apricot prices.
4. Good tomato per acre tonnage.
5. Good feed conditions on the cattle range.
6. Some increase in irrigation water supplies.
7. Higher garlic prices.
8. An excellent harvest season.
9. Better farm help situation.

On the minus side of the picture we find:

1. Lower prices and yields of canning apricots.
2. Lower acreage of sugar beets.
3. Lower cherry prices.
4. Sharp drop in cattle values.
5. Unsatisfactory pear prices.
6. A very poor grape market.
7. Low prices for turkeys.
8. Poor hog prices.
9. Lower lamb and wool prices.

If conditions follow the present indications the following is likely to happen this next year.

1953 PROSPECTS FOR FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

1. **Apricots** — higher yields, perhaps some increase in prices for canning and fresh apricots, lower prices for dried.
2. **Almonds, Peaches, and Cherries** — Almonds no change in price or crop, Peaches the same story, Cherry crop smaller with better prices.
3. **Grapes** — prices somewhat higher, less tonnage from county vineyards because of vines being pulled because of low prices.
4. **Pears** — somewhat better crop and prices.
5. **Walnuts** — probable higher prices due to better quality.
6. **Prunes** — larger production, somewhat lower prices.

1953 PROSPECTS FOR FIELD CROPS

1. **Barley** — lower acreage and prices.
2. **Wheat** — lower acreage and prices.
3. **Hay** — same as last year.

1953 PROSPECTS FOR LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

1. **Beef** — total production will be down, prices close to present quotations.
2. **Sheep and Wool** — production and returns about at present levels.
3. **Hogs** — production will be down, prices better than at present.
4. **Butterfat** — production up. Little change in prices likely.
5. **Turkey** — production down in the county, prices will be determined by number of turkey produced in midwest.
6. **Broiler Production** — no price change.
7. **Eggs, and Poultry Meat** — production likely to go up slightly, prices are likely to climb some.

1953 PROSPECTS FOR ROW CROPS

1. **Sugar Beets** — acreage will go down.
2. **Garlic** — lower prices, lower acreage.
3. **Lettuce** — who knows.
4. **Beans** — some increase in green limas for freezing.
5. **Peas** — about the same.
6. **Seed Crops** — some increase in acreage.
7. **Tomatoes** — some increase in acreage.
8. **Broccoli** — no increase in acreage.
9. **Cotton** — acreage likely to be cut in half.
10. **Onions** — no change, slight increase in dryer prices.
11. **Spinach** — no change.
12. **Potatoes** — increased acreage, lower prices probable.
13. **Strawberries** — no increase in acreage, but higher production from present acreage, some increase in prices likely.