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AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT

1940

MARIN COUNTY

1940

Marin County Agricultural Industry

Artichoke growing was started on the Point Reyes peninsula about 12 years ago in a small way by leasees, without irrigation. This industry grew until now there were 875 acres in production in 1939, producing 81,000 crates, with an average income of 174,000 dollars.

These artichokes are of high quality and the shipping season begins usually from the middle of February and lasts until June 1, when it generally tapers off to cutting the crop from only the new plants.

The only drawback in the non-irrigated crop is that we have to wait until late fall for rain to start the plants, where usually irrigation begins in August and September and hastens the new crop—sometimes mid-January and reaches a high priced market. Our market has been lucky in that it comes in just after the peak of earlier crops has been marketed, while demand is still good. Our climate is especially adapted to this crop and it could and should be expanded as we have plenty of surplus acres along our coast in Marin County that could be used for artichoke production.

The pea growing industry, within the last eight years, has come into being. The acreage has fluctuated from 2,000 to 800 acres; 800 being the last recorded acreage—producing 52,000 crates with an income of 72,800 dollars.

Both of these crops are marketed in San Francisco, Bay Cities and Los Angeles. In some cases, artichokes are shipped east in car-load lots. Peas have generally been a source of good income to the growers and the expansion of this industry should be watched and only attempted when the economic conditions warrant, or when other localities where peas are grown change to other crops.

These two commodities are governed by State law covering standard packing and shipping regulations, and the enforcement is under the jurisdiction of the County Agricultural Commissioner and his inspectors.

COUNTY OF MARIN
AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT
San Rafael, California

1940 CROP REPORT

The following report on acreage and values of agricultural commodities was prepared in accordance with Section 65.5 of the California Agricultural Code and constitutes only commercial crops and livestock sale incomes.

Acreage and values are calculated on figures furnished by producers and distributors, and are believed to be accurate in so far as our abilities extend to gather all information. All figures so furnished are held in strict confidence and can only be revealed in the total tabulations.

Milk production figures are taken from statistics of the State Department of Agriculture, the income therefrom was furnished to the Agricultural Commissioner by the distributors and manufacturers and is a very comprehensive report on that industry.

All income is reported as net income, with the exception of livestock and truck crops, these represent f. o. b. prices at terminal or destination points.

Thos. W. Peryam,
Agricultural Commissioner

ACREAGE PRODUCTION AND VALUE OF
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS
MARIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, 1940

Compiled by
Thos. W. Peryam, Agricultural Commissioner

<u>FRUIT & NUT CROP</u>	<u>ACRES</u>	<u>YIELD</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
Pears *	184	612 tons	\$ 7,500
Prunes	103	75 " dry (25% off grade not sold)	3,750
Grapes	305	610 tons (25% of crop lost by early rain)	8,015
Miscellaneous Fruits- Apples, Apricots, Cherries, Peaches	279	73 tons	1,850
Walnuts	72	36,000 lbs.	5,310
Almonds	8½	1,500 lbs.	450
TOTAL ORCHARD	951½		26,875

* Only 50% of crop marketed

<u>PRODUCE CROPS</u>	<u>ACRES</u>	<u>YIELD</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
Artichokes	640	42,500 boxes	66,776
Peas	555	26,950 bus.	31,262
Tomatoes and miscellaneous truck crops	15	40 tons	2,000
TOTAL PRODUCE CROPS	1,210		100,038

FIELD CROPS

Vetch Seed	658	228 tons	25,080
Rye Grass (Seed)	15	1,500 lbs.	1,350
Wheat	443	110 tons	3,366
Oats	281	85 "	1,683
Barley	350	23 "	432
Grain Hay	2,464	4,401 "	30,807
TOTAL FIELD CROPS	4,211		62,718

Hay produced and consumed
on farms 28,756 valued at \$134,197

<u>BEEES AND HONEY</u>	<u>YIELD</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
100 Colonies	4,000 lbs.	\$ 800

ANIMAL INDUSTRY

Beef cattle (Cows and Steers)	5,268 head sold	351,796
Calves	108 " "	1,072
Hogs	4,840 " "	58,322
Lambs	3,648 " "	22,544
f.o.b. San Francisco	<u>13,864</u>	<u>433,734</u>
Wool	81,872 lbs.	28,645
Poultry (cases of eggs)	33,868 cases	183,073

DAIRY INDUSTRY

Production of milk fat	6,948,520 lbs.	3,361,271
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The figures on amount of production furnished by the California Department of Agriculture.

The income to producers was tabulated from information furnished by distributors and manufacturers to the Agricultural Commissioner.

PLANT INDUSTRY

Nurseries, Greenhouses, Stores	156,850
U. S. Agricultural Conservation, (Berkeley Office) Range and Parity Payments	<u>8,592</u>
TOTAL VALUATION	<u>\$4,362,598</u>

<u>OUR PLANT INDUSTRY</u>	<u>Nurseries & Greenhouses</u>	<u>Retail Florists.</u>
Alto	3	
Fairfax	1	
Inverness	1	
Kentfield	1	
Larkspur	1	
Mill Valley	3	1
Novato	1	
Ross	2	1
San Anselmo	4	2
San Rafael	5	5
Sausalito		1
	<u>22</u>	<u>10</u>

LAND SURVEY OF MARIN COUNTY

Total Acreage	County		342,000
Cities & Subdivisions			22,000
Total Acreage	Farms		320,000
"	"	Crop Lands	50,000
"	"	Pasturage	183,000
"	"	Tide & Overflow	13,400
"	"	Brush & Wood	54,000
"	"	Non Agricultural	87,000
"	"	Other	20,000
"	"	Tax Exempt	17,000
Assessed Value	Crop Land & Pasture	(Real Estate)	\$ 7,611,300
"	"	(Improvements)	1,440,500
"	Non Agricultural	(Real Estate)	1,719,800
"	"	(Improvements)	950,500
"	"	Total Agricultural Area	\$11,722,600

Data from County Assessor's Office and
compiled by Agricultural Commissioner