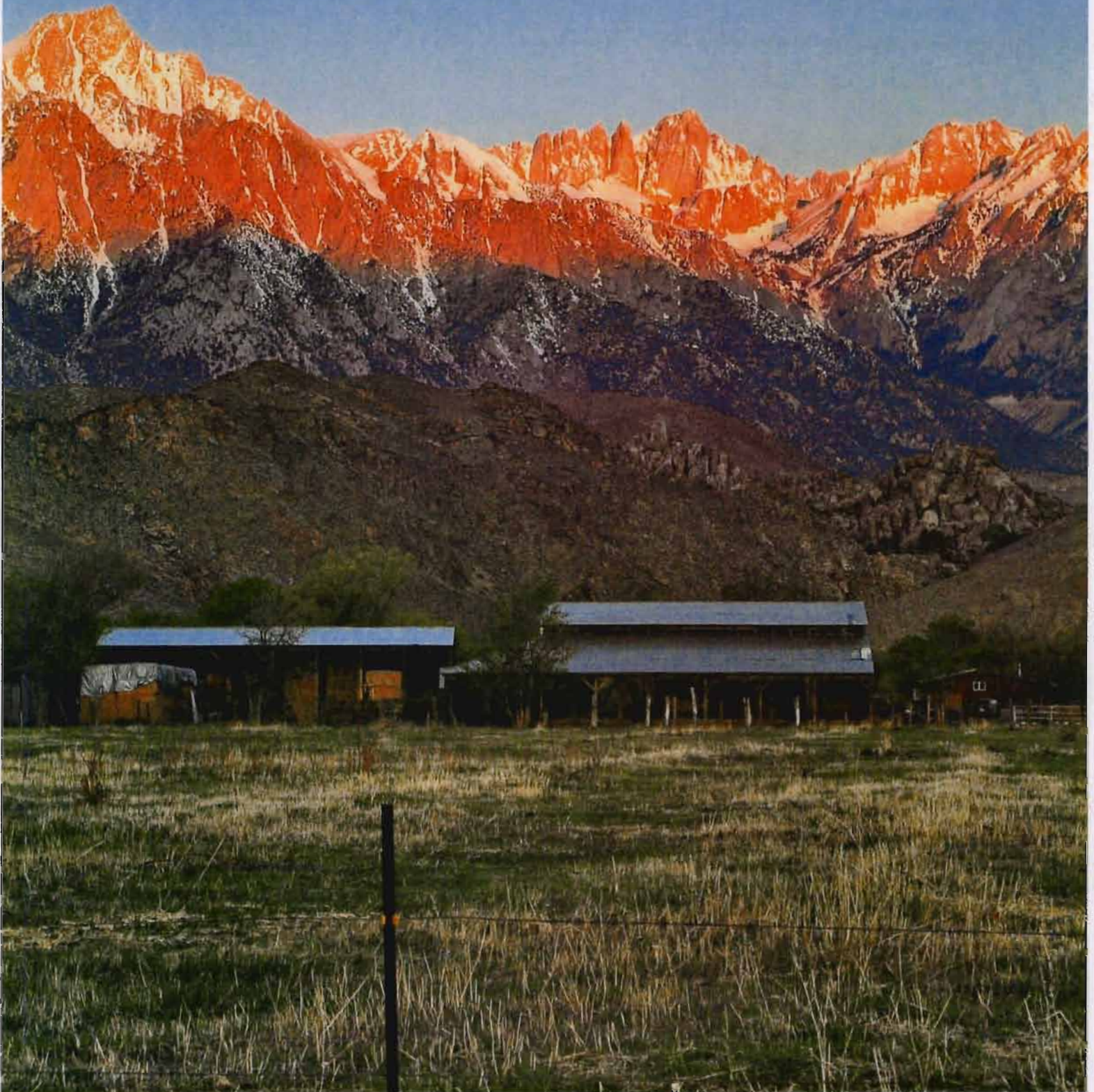


Counties of Inyo and Mono Agricultural Commissioner's Office

2009 Crop and Livestock Report



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Agriculture and Weights and Measures Departments

**Eastern Sierra Weed Management Area,
a joint powers program**

Owens Valley Mosquito Abatement Program

Staff:

Agricultural Commissioner / Director of Weights and Measures
George L. Milovich

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Mosquito Control Technician III
Robert Miller

Field Technician II – Mosquito Abatement
Bruce Mack

Mosquito Technician II
Casey Freeman

Mosquito Assistant
David Miller
Walter Davison

This and previous year's crop reports can also be viewed online at:

<http://www.inyomonoagriculture.com/page5.html>



Counties of Inyo & Mono



George L. Milovich
Agricultural Commissioner
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April 20, 2010

TO: A.G. Kawamura, Secretary California Department of Food and Agriculture
And The Honorable Board of Supervisors:

County of Inyo

Linda Arcularius
Beverly Brown
Susan Cash
Richard Cervantes
Marty Fortney

County of Mono

Tom Farnetti
D. "Hap" Hazard
Byng Hunt
Vikki Magee-Bauer
Robert Peters

It is my pleasure to present the 2009 Agricultural Crop and Livestock Report. This report is a compilation of crop production and estimated values of commodities grown in Inyo and Mono Counties.

The combined Counties' agricultural production for 2009 totaled \$51,824,655; which represents a decrease of 17.2% from 2008.

The reduction in dairy prices and economic downturns have lead to drastic alfalfa price decreases, as many dairies did not pay for premium hay. Beef production remained steady for 2009, keeping up with the demand for quality beef. Modification in seed production resulted in a reduction in acres of garlic planted in 2009.

Agriculture continues as one of the integral parts of Inyo and Mono Counties' economy. Values represented here are gross agricultural values only and are submitted in accordance with Section 2279 of the California Food and Agriculture Code.

Agriculture is still the most important industry to the state of California. Civilizations dating back to ancient Greece have crumbled following the demise of their agricultural production.

My appreciation goes out to the growers, ranchers and agencies that provided data and to Nathan, Robin and Jennifer for their help and vigilance in putting this report together.

Sincerely,

George L. Milovich
Agricultural Commissioner

The Evolution of Agriculture and Weights and Measures

The California Agricultural Commissioners trace their origins back 130 years; their goal is protection of the State's crops from the ravages of pests both domestic and imported. Then, as now, one of the principle weapons employed was a legal device called a "quarantine", which derives from the French word "quarante", meaning "forty". The quarantine came about as a detention device, its first use being in the year 1340 when passengers on ships bound for Venice, Italy, were detained on board ship for 40 days. This was considered a long enough period to determine whether or not those passengers carried with them the Black Plague, which was killing many people in Europe in the mid-14th century.

California's first statewide program, which was the start of the present Department of Food and Agriculture, began with "An Act For the Promotion of Viticultural Industries of the State" on April 5, 1880. It provides for the appointment of a Board of State Viticultural Commissioners whose duties included the study of the grape root rot disease, *Phylloxera*. The Act specified that the University of California was responsible for instruction and experiments - a concept still existing today - giving the University the authority for research and the Department the regulatory functions. The Act provided for seven viticultural districts.

Until the year 1911, the duties of the State Board of Horticulture, the State Commissioner of Horticulture, county boards of horticulture commissioners and the county horticulture commissioners were limited to just a few obligations. They had to do with preventing the introduction into the state of the pests from outside its boundaries, prevention of spread of insect pests and plant diseases through the media of nursery stock, fruit boxes, and other containers, and the inspection of nurseries. The years that followed would find the duties not only intensified in the same areas, but expanded into many other aspects of agriculture.

In the beginning the regulatory concern was to protect the California farmer from the depredations of exotic pests. After 1911, these duties were to be expanded to include concerns of the market place (standardization), and such cultural aids as assistance to the farmer in weed control and control of rodents and other damaging creatures. Later, they would enlarge to assure the farmer honest weights and measures, and protection from unscrupulous middlemen. Finally, the regulations would blossom into the full relationship of the farmer and the consumer.

Today, the California Department of Food and Agriculture and County Agricultural Commissioners are as busy helping the consumer as they are the farmer. They keep exotic pests away from the farmer's fields by fighting them in city gardens, where they nearly always are found first in the State. By so doing, they are affording city people as much protection as farmers, for these pests generally can wreak as much havoc in the city as in the country. They provide for, and oversee, standardization practices, thus insuring the farmers good markets for their products and insuring quality for consumers. They promote marketing of goods in a variety of ways, also assuring quality and quantity to consumers. They look after the health of livestock and plants, and the same benefits accrue to the consumer. They insist on measurement standards that also have dual blessings; and they assure the consumer and the farmer protection against the careless use of pesticides, thus affording protection to both people and the environment.

2010 is the 129th anniversary of the California Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer Association.

The Agriculture and Weights & Measures Department would like to recognize the 25 years of service to the Department from retiring Administrative Secretary Robin Conklin. Many Agricultural Commissioners that have contacted our office through the years have commented on Robin's depth of knowledge of regulations and issues, which was on par with Senior Biologists. Robin was instrumental in the publication of the crop and livestock report for many years, and has been a great asset to all of the various functions of the Department.



**INYO and MONO COUNTIES
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE**

The mission of the Inyo and Mono Counties Agricultural Commissioner's Office is to promote and protect the agricultural industry of the Counties, protect the environment, and to ensure the health and safety of all of its citizens. The department is also responsible for fostering confidence and equity in the marketplace.

The following are the main program areas:

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

We protect the health and safety of all Inyo/Mono residents, its agricultural industries and its environment with a series of comprehensive regulatory programs designed to prevent the introduction of exotic pests and to ensure the safe use of pesticides. The five programs utilized to achieve these goals include:

* Pest Exclusion * Pest Detection * Pest Eradication * Pest Management * Pesticide Enforcement *

CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PRODUCT QUALITY

Product quality programs are designed to ensure the production and sales of quality eggs, honey, fruits, vegetables, and nursery and seed products. The six programs include:

* Fruit and Vegetable Quality Control * Organic Food Production *
* Egg Quality Control * Certified Farmers' Markets * Nursery Inspection * Seed Inspection *

SPECIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

Other special, mandated services acted upon by our department include:

* Apiary Inspection * Crop Statistics * Sustainable Agriculture *

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Equity and fairness is the name of the game. Gasoline, firewood, a loaf of bread, or fruits and vegetables... Any item purchased is sold by weight, measure, or count. We protect the public from purchasing goods that are short weight or measure, and we protect businesses from giving their products and profits away when they use devices that could be inaccurate. We also verify that prices are correctly scanned at the counter, petroleum products meet quality standards, and weighmasters provide their customers accurate weighing devices. The eight programs in this category include:

* Weight Verification * Measurement Verification * Petroleum * Transaction Verification *
* Electronic Meters * Compressed Gas Meters * Weighmaster * Device Repairmen Regulation *

EASTERN SIERRA WEED MANAGEMENT AREA

This division consists of federal, state, county, and local agencies and entities of which the Agricultural Commissioner is the administrator. The Eastern Sierra Weed Management Area is dedicated to range management of the Eastern Sierras and the detection, eradication, and management of noxious, non-native weed species.

OWENS VALLEY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM

The overall purpose of this program is to provide the public with a consistent level of mosquito control that directly reduces the threat of disease transmission and the spread of large nuisance populations of mosquitoes.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND EDUCATION OUTREACH

The Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures is responsible for the administration of these programs. Staff also participates in a wide range of special projects intended to benefit Inyo/Mono citizens such as legislative process, public information, education outreach efforts, joint multi-agencies cooperation and inter-county agencies activities.

Inyo County General Information

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| County Seat | Independence |
| County Population (2000 census) | 17,945 |
| Land Area (square miles) | 10,142 |
| Persons per Square Mile | 1.77 |
| Highest Elevation (Mount Whitney) | 14,492 feet |
| Lowest Elevation (Badwater, Death Valley National Park) | 282 feet below sea level |
| Land in Federal Ownership | 92.0% |
| Land in State Ownership | 2.4% |
| Land in City of Los Angeles Ownership | 3.9% |
| Land in Private Ownership | 1.7% |

Incorporated Cities/Towns:
Bishop

Unincorporated Areas:

Big Pine
Cartago
Independence
Lone Pine
Olancho
Pearsonville
Shoshone
Tecopa

Average Climate:

Bishop:

Summer High—98°
Winter Low—22°

Death Valley:

Summer High—115°
Winter Low—37°



Mono County General Information

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| County Seat | Bridgeport |
| County Population (2000 census) | 12,853 |
| Land Area (square miles) | 3,044 |
| Persons per Square Mile | 4.22 |
| Highest Elevation (White Mountain) | 14,242 feet |
| Land in Federal Ownership | 84.7% |
| Land in State Ownership | 3.6% |
| Land in City of Los Angeles Ownership | 3.2% |
| Land in Private Ownership | 7.8% |

Incorporated Cities/Towns:

Mammoth Lakes

Unincorporated Areas:

Benton
 Bridgeport
 Chalfant Valley
 Coleville
 Hammil Valley
 June Lake
 Lee Vining
 Tom's Place
 Walker



Average Climate:

Bridgeport:

Summer High—81°
 Winter Low—8°

Chalfant Valley:

Summer High—98°
 Winter Low—22°

"Weights and measures may be ranked among the necessities of life to every individual of human society. They enter into the economical arrangements and daily concerns of every family. They are necessary to every occupation of human industry; to the distribution and security of every species of property; to every transaction of trade and commerce; to the labors of the husbandman; to the ingenuity of the artificer; to the studies of the philosopher; to the researches of the antiquarian; to the navigation of the mariner, and the marches of the soldier; to all the exchanges of peace, and all the operations of war. The knowledge of them, as in established use, is among the first elements of education, and is often learned by those who learn nothing else, not even to read and write. This knowledge is riveted in the memory by the habitual application of it to the employments of men throughout life."

-John Quincy Adams



Livestock

INYO COUNTY

LIVESTOCK

| ITEM | YEAR | HEAD | LIVEWEIGHT | UNIT | PRICE PER UNIT | TOTAL |
|-----------------|------|-------|------------|------|----------------|-------------|
| Calves/Steers | 2009 | 5,650 | 33,960 | Cwt. | \$100.00 | \$3,396,000 |
| | 2008 | 5,500 | 33,000 | Cwt. | \$108.00 | \$3,564,000 |
| Heifers | 2009 | 5,050 | 29,040 | Cwt. | \$98.00 | \$2,845,920 |
| | 2008 | 4,900 | 28,175 | Cwt. | \$104.00 | \$2,930,200 |
| Cows | 2009 | 2,470 | 27,170 | Cwt. | \$60.00 | \$1,630,200 |
| | 2008 | 2,400 | 26,400 | Cwt. | \$78.00 | \$2,059,200 |
| Bulls | 2009 | 220 | 2,970 | Cwt. | \$55.00 | \$163,350 |
| | 2008 | 210 | 2,835 | Cwt. | \$68.00 | \$192,780 |
| Stockers (gain) | 2009 | 4,540 | ~ | ~ | ~ | \$1,461,880 |
| | 2008 | 4,400 | ~ | ~ | ~ | \$1,540,000 |
| Sheep and Lambs | 2009 | 5,000 | 5,000 | Cwt. | \$100.00 | \$500,000 |
| | 2008 | 5,000 | 4,500 | Cwt. | \$91.00 | \$409,500 |

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| TOTAL LIVESTOCK | 2009 | \$ 9,997,350 |
| | 2008 | \$10,508,480 |

Field Crops

FIELD CROPS

| ITEM | YEAR | HARVESTED ACREAGE | YIELD PER ACRE | TOTAL YIELD | UNIT | PRICE PER UNIT | TOTAL |
|------------------------------------|------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Alfalfa Hay | 2009 | 3,200 | 6.50 | 20,800 | Ton | \$125.00 | \$2,600,000 |
| | 2008 | 3,000 | 6.00 | 18,000 | Ton | \$215.00 | \$3,870,000 |
| Miscellaneous Hay | 2009 | 1,700 | 4.00 | 6,800 | Ton | \$120.00 | \$816,000 |
| | 2008 | 1,800 | 3.75 | 6,750 | Ton | \$210.00 | \$1,417,500 |
| Irrigated Pasture | 2009 | 17,000 | ~ | ~ | Acre | \$27.50 | \$467,500 |
| | 2008 | 17,000 | ~ | ~ | Acre | \$26.00 | \$442,000 |
| Dry Grazing | 2009 | 208,000 | ~ | ~ | Acre | \$4.25 | \$884,000 |
| | 2008 | 208,000 | ~ | ~ | Acre | \$4.00 | \$832,000 |
| TOTAL FIELD CROP PRODUCTION | | | | 2009 | | | \$4,767,500 |
| | | | | 2008 | | | \$6,561,500 |



Misc. Crop Production / Apiary

INYO COUNTY

MISCELLANEOUS CROP PRODUCTION

| ITEM | YEAR | HARVESTED ACREAGE | TOTAL YIELD | TOTAL |
|--|------|-------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Turf | 2009 | 250 | ~ | \$2,285,000 |
| | 2008 | 375 | ~ | \$3,200,000 |
| Dates (Misc. Fruits) | 2009 | 30 | 35,000 | \$140,000 |
| | 2008 | 30 | 35,000 | \$140,000 |
| TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS CROP PRODUCTION | | | 2009 | \$2,425,000 |
| | | | 2008 | \$3,340,000 |

APIARY PRODUCTION

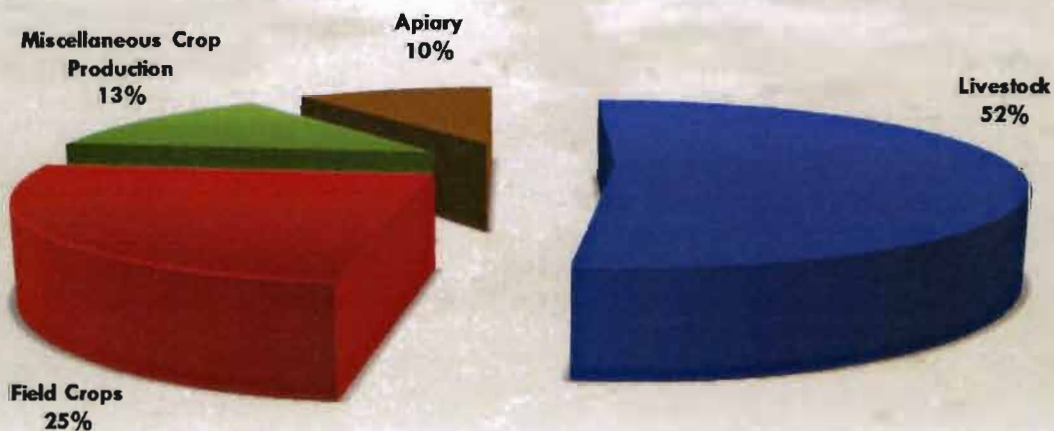
| ITEM | YEAR | PRODUCTION | UNIT | PRICE PER UNIT | TOTAL |
|--------------------------------|------|------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Honey | 2009 | 775,000 | Lbs. | \$2.50 | \$1,937,500 |
| | 2008 | 700,000 | Lbs. | \$1.50 | \$1,050,000 |
| TOTAL APIARY PRODUCTION | | | 2009 | \$1,937,500 | |
| | | | 2008 | \$1,050,000 | |

Inyo County Summary

INYO COUNTY TOTALS

| | 2008 | 2009 |
|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| LIVESTOCK | \$10,508,480 | \$9,997,350 |
| FIELD CROPS | \$6,561,500 | \$4,767,500 |
| MISCELLANEOUS CROP PRODUCTION | \$3,340,000 | \$2,425,000 |
| APIARY | \$1,050,000 | \$1,937,500 |
| TOTALS | 2009 | \$19,127,350 |
| | 2008 | \$21,459,980 |

INYO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL VALUES - 2009



Livestock

MONO COUNTY

LIVESTOCK

| ITEM | YEAR | HEAD | LIVEWEIGHT | UNIT | PRICE PER UNIT | TOTAL |
|-----------------|------|--------|------------|------|----------------|-------------|
| Calves/Steers | 2009 | 7,520 | 45,120 | Cwt. | \$100.00 | \$4,512,000 |
| | 2008 | 7,300 | 43,800 | Cwt. | \$108.00 | \$4,730,400 |
| Heifers | 2009 | 6,540 | 34,335 | Cwt. | \$98.00 | \$3,364,830 |
| | 2008 | 6,350 | 33,338 | Cwt. | \$104.00 | \$3,467,152 |
| Cows | 2009 | 2,880 | 31,680 | Cwt. | \$60.00 | \$1,900,800 |
| | 2008 | 2,800 | 30,800 | Cwt. | \$78.00 | \$2,059,200 |
| Bulls | 2009 | 210 | 2,835 | Cwt. | \$55.00 | \$155,925 |
| | 2008 | 200 | 2,700 | Cwt. | \$68.00 | \$183,600 |
| Stockers (gain) | 2009 | 20,600 | ~ | ~ | ~ | \$7,600,000 |
| | 2008 | 20,000 | ~ | ~ | ~ | \$8,000,000 |
| Sheep and Lambs | 2009 | 16,500 | 20,625 | Cwt. | \$100.00 | \$2,062,500 |
| | 2008 | 16,500 | 20,625 | Cwt. | \$91.00 | \$1,867,875 |

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| TOTAL LIVESTOCK | 2009 | \$19,596,055 |
| | 2008 | \$21,098,267 |

Field Crops

FIELD CROPS

| ITEM | YEAR | HARVESTED ACREAGE | YIELD PER ACRE | TOTAL YIELD | UNIT | PRICE PER UNIT | TOTAL |
|----------------------|------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|------|-------------------|--------------|
| Alfalfa Hay | 2009 | 11,000 | 6.25 | 68,750 | Ton | \$125.00 | \$8,593,750 |
| | 2008 | 10,500 | 6.00 | 63,000 | Ton | \$215.00 | \$13,545,000 |
| Miscellaneous Hay | 2009 | 5,000 | 4.00 | 20,000 | Ton | \$120.00 | \$2,400,000 |
| | 2008 | 5,500 | 3.75 | 20,625 | Ton | \$210.00 | \$4,331,250 |
| Irrigated Pasture | 2009 | 55,000 | ~ | ~ | Acre | \$28.00 | \$1,540,000 |
| | 2008 | 55,000 | ~ | ~ | Acre | \$26.00 | \$1,430,000 |
| Dry Grazing | 2009 | 80,000 | ~ | ~ | Acre | \$6.50 | \$520,000 |
| | 2008 | 80,000 | ~ | ~ | Acre | \$5.50 | \$440,000 |

TOTAL FIELD CROP PRODUCTION

2009

\$13,053,750

2008

\$19,746,250

Row Crop Production / Timber

MONO COUNTY

ROW CROP PRODUCTION

| ITEM | YEAR | ACREAGE | TOTAL YIELD | TOTAL |
|----------------------------------|------|---------|-------------|------------------|
| Garlic | 2009 | 8 | ~ | \$32,000 |
| | 2008 | 65 | ~ | \$280,000 |
| TOTAL ROW CROP PRODUCTION | | | 2009 | \$32,000 |
| | | | 2008 | \$280,000 |

TIMBER PRODUCTION

| ITEM | YEAR | TOTAL | |
|--------------------------------|------|-------------|-----------------|
| Timber/Firewood | 2009 | \$15,500 | |
| | 2008 | \$24,000 | |
| TOTAL TIMBER PRODUCTION | | 2009 | \$15,500 |
| | | 2008 | \$24,000 |



Mono County Summary

MONO COUNTY TOTALS

| | 2008 | 2009 |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| LIVESTOCK | \$21,098,267 | \$19,596,055 |
| FIELD CROPS | \$19,746,250 | \$13,053,750 |
| ROW CROP PRODUCTION | \$280,000 | \$32,000 |
| TIMBER | \$24,000 | \$15,500 |
| TOTALS | 2009 | \$32,697,305 |
| | 2008 | \$41,148,517 |

Mono County Agricultural Values - 2009



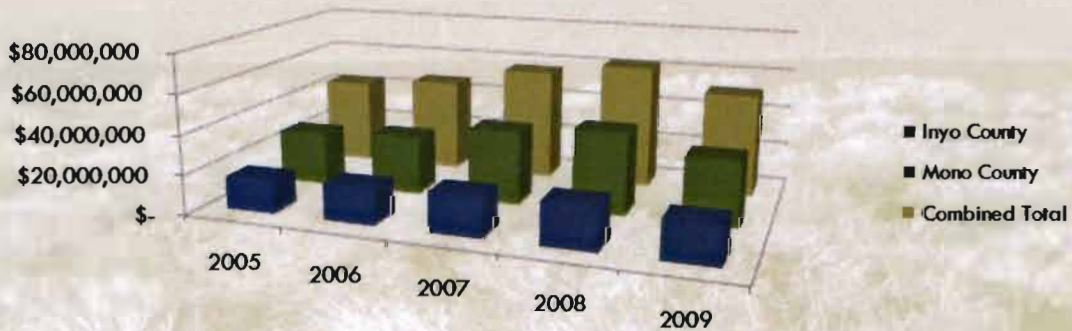
Comparison Summary

INYO AND MONO COUNTIES

COMPARISON SUMMARY

2005-2009

| | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| INYO COUNTY TOTALS | \$16,614,350 | \$18,025,920 | \$19,979,550 | \$21,459,980 | \$19,127,350 |
| MONO COUNTY TOTALS | \$26,973,450 | \$29,336,050 | \$36,924,350 | \$41,148,517 | \$32,697,305 |
| COMBINED TOTALS | \$43,587,800 | \$47,361,970 | \$56,903,900 | \$62,608,497 | \$51,824,655 |



Sustainable Agriculture

INVASIVE PLANT TARGETS

| <u>PEST</u> | <u>AGENT/MECHANISM</u> | <u>NUMBER OF SITES</u> | <u>GROSS ACRES</u> |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Puncturevine | Biological Control | 25 sites | ~ |
| Dalmatian Toadflax | Mechanical | 1 site | 220 |
| Yellow Starthistle | Mechanical | 1 site | 13 |
| Russian Knapweed | Herbicide | 9 sites | 3,302 |
| Hoary Cress | Herbicide | 2 sites | 3 |
| Canada Thistle | Herbicide | 20 sites | 3,289 |
| Spotted Knapweed | Herbicide | 2 sites | 3 |
| Halogeton | Mechanical | 12 sites | 4,392 |
| Scotch Thistle | Herbicide | 5 sites | 1,247 |
| Camelthorn | Herbicide | 1 site | 94 |
| Saltcedar | Biological Control | 3 sites | ~ |
| Saltcedar | Herbicide | 100 sites | ~ |
| Perennial Pepperweed | Herbicide | 96 sites | 27,456 |

PEST EXCLUSION

Exotic and/or target pests in incoming plant material via UPS, FedEx, and US Mail:

13,652 Shipments Inspected

Organic and Outreach Programs

INYO AND MONO COUNTIES

ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS:

There were 3 organic farms registered in 2009.

EASTERN SIERRA CERTIFIED FARMERS MARKET:

20 Growers participated in the 2009 Farmers Markets. Commodities sold included: apples, peaches, pears, grapes, berries, plums, cherries, apricots, nectarines, pumpkins, cabbage, lettuce, squash, onions, eggplant, tomatoes, beets, peppers, carrots, spinach, corn, cucumbers, tomatillos, beans, cantaloupe, watermelons, zucchini, peas, Swiss chard, radishes, kale, broccoli, potatoes, rhubarb, shallots, figs, pecans, turnips, rutabaga, celery, cut flowers and herbs.

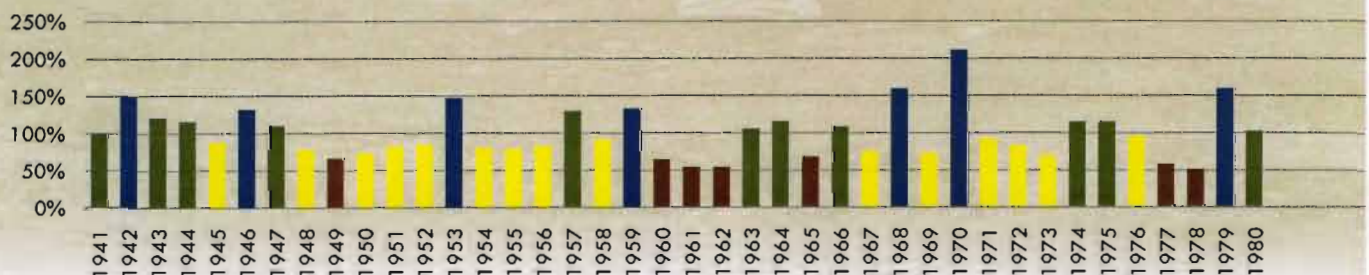
OUTREACH PROGRAM

During 2009, the Inyo/Mono Counties' Agriculture Department sponsored:

- 3 pesticide safety seminars with 110 professional card holders and private applicators attending, to meet California state continuing education requirements;
- A final review of a full feasibility study for natural beef marketing, with over 100 attendees;
- 4 educational workshops for local groups.

The Department's inspection surveillance area, which encompasses over 10,000 square miles, provided outreach from northern Mono County, including several California and Nevada field crop growers located in the Antelope Valley area, to the southern tip of Inyo County, including a large commercial turf grass farm in the Sandy Valley, near Las Vegas, Nevada. The Inyo/Mono Agricultural Commissioner's office is tasked with the surveillance of 50% of the California/Nevada border for pests that could endanger the agricultural industry of California.

EASTERN SIERRA PRECIPITATION CHART



Weights and Measures

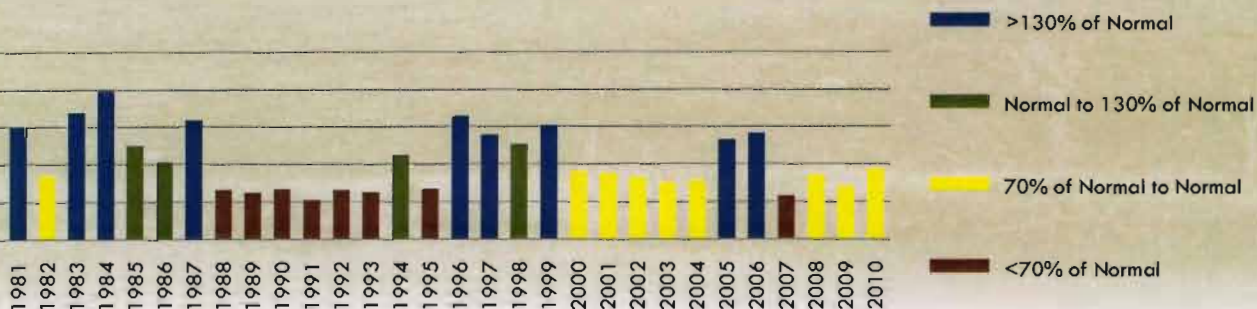
INYO AND MONO COUNTIES

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ENFORCEMENT

Over 1,200 devices were inspected in 2009 to ensure accuracy within California state tolerances. These devices included:

- 1,017 retail fuel meters;
- 128 small retail scales;
- 50 livestock scales;
- 23 vehicle scales;
- 10 hopper scales;
- 8000 vapor and electric meters (10 year cycle).

Of the 1,200+ devices inspected, 13 Notice of Violations were issued. All consumer complaints received by the Inyo/Mono Counties' Weights and Measures Department resulted in further inspections throughout the year. The Weights and Measures Department also conducted several scanner audits to ensure accuracy of price scanners in stores, and labeling audits to ensure the accuracy of labeled contents of pre-packaged goods. Regular inspections protect consumers from misrepresentation and maintain fair competition between sellers.





Counties of Inyo and Mono
Department of Agriculture and Weights & Measures
207 W South Street
Bishop, CA 93514

