

**1988 TULARE COUNTY  
ANNUAL CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORT SUMMARY**

**GENERAL:**

The gross income for the 1988 crop year was a record \$1,791,230,200 - a gain of approximately 7% over the previous year.

**FIELD CROPS: \$257,792,000 - Down 4%**

Again this year, cotton had the largest impact in the field crop category with a loss of just under \$27,000,000 when compared to 1987. A long cool spring coupled with late rain caused delays in planting or replanting of early fields, all of which combined to lower yields. Prices were down as well.

**Dry Beans** showed a marked improvement over last year in both price and yield which combined to produce a 47% increase.

With the exception of **barley and wheat** (up 46 & 17% respectively) most other field crop values were fairly close to 1987.

**SEED CROPS: \$5,840,000 - Up 109%**

Changes were due mainly to miscellaneous acreage and new crop variety increases. More seed was raised in Tulare County because of very dry conditions in the midwestern United States.

**VEGETABLE CROPS: \$21,675,000 - Up 29%**

Favorable spring and early summer weather enhanced vegetable crop quality and prolonged the season of production.

**INDUSTRIAL CROPS (TIMBER SALES): \$3,154,000 - Relatively unchanged.**

**FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: \$981,502,000 - Up 11%**

Once again, as in 1987, fruit and nut crops were bright spots with citrus, tree fruit, and grapes setting the pace for the year.

**CITRUS CROPS: \$381,547,000 - Down 1%**

Although down slightly from 1987, citrus remained the number one commodity in the county. Oranges suffered the first significant winter freeze in ten years, which reduced yields slightly from '87, with prices up fractionally.

**AVOCADOS: \$8,117,000 - Up 102%**

The avocado crop yield for 1988 was down by over one ton to the acre. This decline was due primarily to the Christmas '87 freeze. The yield reduction was more than offset by higher prices.

**GRAPES: \$228,273,000 - Up 16%**

Grapes rebounded from 1987 with the best year since 1981. Although prices were generally weaker for some table varieties, higher prices for other uses and better overall yields combined to give grapes a needed boost.

**NECTARINES: \$64,040,000 - Up marginally (5%) from last year.**

Improved prices and a slight increase in bearing acres neutralized a decrease in total production.

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**OLIVES: Canning Value Up 75% to \$25,126,000**

Lower production, approximately half of last year, was offset by larger sizes and better price, with a much lower percentage going to limited.

**PLUMS: Up 67% to \$139,570,000**

An increase in bearing acres, yield and price all combined to set a new high for plums. Values increased by more than \$56,000,000.

**NUTS**

**Pistachio** yields were more than double that of 1987. Prices reflected this increase by dropping almost \$.60/lb. Almonds were very near last year's value while walnuts were down, due primarily to a decrease in price and a reduction in bearing acreage.

**NURSERY PRODUCTS: \$18,366,000 - Up 5%**

**APIARY PRODUCTS: \$4,564,200 - Up 74%**

A cool spring prolonged citrus bloom enabling honey production to rebound to almost double the 1987 figure. Prices, however, were unchanged.

**LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: \$199,709,000 - UP just over 13%**

Cattle and calf production decreased by 14,000 head. However this decline was offset by stronger prices, resulting in an increase of \$22,932,000 (16%). Higher turkey production (up 3,031,000 pounds) and a slight increase in price combined to produce an increase of more than 15% to \$19,184,000.

**LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS: \$298,628,000 - Up by a marginal 2%**

**NOTE:**

The values contained in this report reflect only gross figures at the time of harvest and in no way represent actual farm profit. The figures are strictly gross values intended for informational use by industry and governmental agencies.

4-7x IS DISTR. TO VARIOUS OWNERS.