

2017 Los Angeles County Crop and Livestock Report

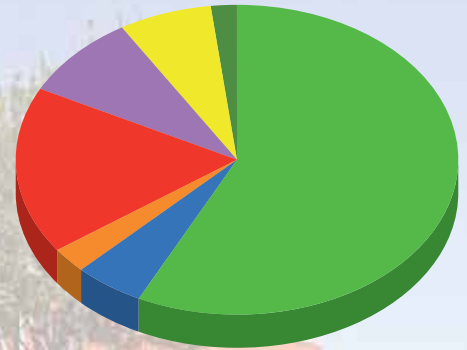


Piecing Together
Agriculture and Kids!!!



2017 SUMMARY CHART

57.3%	NURSERY PRODUCTS
5.1%	FLOWERS & FOLIAGE
2.7%	FRUIT & NUT CROPS
17.5%	VEGETABLE CROPS
8.7%	FIELD CROPS
6.8%	LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION
1.9%	APIARY
<.1%	FOREST PRODUCTS



SUMMARY

Commodity	2015	2016	2017
Nursery Products	\$85,378,000	\$92,800,000	\$84,210,000
Flowers & Foliage	\$7,021,000	\$6,344,000	\$7,500,000
Fruit & Nut Crops	\$5,755,000	\$4,900,000	\$3,920,000
Vegetable Crops	\$71,015,000	\$55,982,000	\$25,672,000
Field Crops	\$13,812,000	\$11,600,000	\$12,820,000
Livestock Production	\$7,977,000	\$9,000,000	\$10,000,000
Apiary	\$1,555,000	\$2,342,000	\$2,790,000
Forest Products	\$5,030	\$3,880	\$4,970
TOTAL	\$192,518,030	\$182,972,880	\$146,916,970

MILLION DOLLAR COMMODITIES

01	Woody Ornamentals	\$57,000,000	06	Vegetables Plants	\$5,000,000
02	Root Vegetables	\$23,970,000	07	Indoor Plants, Foliage	\$4,000,000
03	Bedding Plants	\$15,300,000	08	Indoor Plants, Flowering	\$3,000,000
04	Alfalfa Hay	\$10,500,000	09	Honey	\$2,600,000
05	Dairy & Livestock	\$10,000,000	10	Orchard Fruits	\$2,400,000

Special thanks go to all who assisted in creating this edition of the report: Ken Pellman and Cindy Werner, for researching, writing, editing, and obtaining photos; Elvira Lugo, for generating the complete statistical report; and Christine Belden, for overseeing the process. We also thank staff of the Environmental Protection Bureau and that of the Pest Exclusion and Produce Quality Bureau, including Entomologist Dr. Gevork Arakelian and Plant Pathologist Dr. Jerold Turney, for gathering and compiling information for this report. The cover photo of the Mobile Dairy graciously donated by the Dairy Council of California. A special thanks to Victoria Gerginis, LACFB, for creating the AG DAY LA puzzle book, piece by piece!



Kurt E. Floren
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

**Department of
Agricultural Commissioner/
Weights and Measures**

12300 Lower Azusa Road
Arcadia, CA 91006-5872
<http://acwm.lacounty.gov>



Richard K. Iizuka
Chief Deputy

**Karen Ross, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture**

and

**The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles**

Sheila Kuehl, Chair – Third District

Hilda L. Solis – First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas – Second District

Janice Hahn – Fourth District

Kathryn Barger – Fifth District

2017 CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORT

The total gross value of agricultural crops and commodities produced in Los Angeles County in 2017 was \$146,916,970. Agricultural products experienced a 24.7% overall decrease in sales. Nursery plant production continues as the leading commodity at \$84,210,000, a decrease of 9% from last year. Vegetable production declined dramatically, due primarily to the loss of leased land to development by one commercial grower, whose presence and agricultural activity in the San Fernando Valley will be missed.

However, not all Los Angeles County agricultural production is in decline. Livestock production increased by 11%. Interest in beekeeping and honey production is steadily increasing, up 35% from last year. Honey, a component in a variety of products and sold in its raw form, saw a wide range of price-per-pound values reported, averaging eight dollars this year. Certified farmers' markets continue to be a showcase for locally grown or raised commodities, including honey.

I offer my appreciation to each of the producers and individuals who provided the data and information critical to preparing this report. My thanks are extended to the skills and commitment exhibited by the people of this Department who perform at an extraordinary job in serving and protecting the agricultural community and in compiling these essential statistics.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt E. Floren
Agricultural Commissioner/
Director of Weights and Measures

*Protecting Consumers and the Environment Since 1881
To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service*

This annual publication presents statistical information on acreage, yield, and gross value of agricultural products produced in Los Angeles County. This is published in accordance with Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. The production values in this report represent gross values and do not reflect the cost of production, net income, or loss to producers.

FLOWERS & FOLIAGE

Item	Year	Green House Sq Ft	Field Acres	Total Value	
Indoor Plants, Flowering	2017	575,000	11.9	\$3,000,000	▲
	2016	470,700	6.0	\$1,300,000	
Indoor Plants, Foliage	2017	237,000	7.7	\$4,000,000	▼
	2016	301,100	7.0	\$4,444,000	
Miscellaneous*	2017	28,000	65.3	\$500,000	▼
	2016	14,000	69.1	\$600,000	
* Includes cacti, chrysanthemums, lilacs, orchids, succulents and other miscellaneous flowers.					
TOTAL	2017	840,000	84.8	\$7,500,000	▲
	2016	785,800	82.1	\$6,344,000	



DID YOU KNOW?

THE OLDEST LIVING PLANT ON EARTH CAN BE FOUND IN THE MOJAVE DESERT.

NURSERY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Green House Sq Ft	Field Acres	Total Value	
Woody Ornamentals	2017	2,623,000	978.0	\$57,000,000	▼
	2016	2,849,000	904.7	\$61,400,000	
Bedding Plants	2017	5,665,000	77.6	\$15,300,000	▼
	2016	1,626,000	87.3	\$17,000,000	
Vegetable Plants	2017	64,000	11.6	\$5,000,000	▲
	2016	92,200	6.9	\$3,830,000	
Ground Covers	2017	103,000	12.3	\$910,000	▲
	2016	80,400	24.1	\$570,000	
Miscellaneous*	2017	500,000	168.3	\$6,000,000	▼
	2016	93,000	127.2	\$10,000,000	
* Includes perennials, turf and other miscellaneous nursery plants.					
TOTAL	2017	8,955,000	1,248	\$84,210,000	▼
	2016	4,740,600	1,150	\$92,800,000	

VEGETABLE CROPS

Item	Year	Acreage	Production per Acre	Production Total	Unit	Value per Unit	Total Value	
Corn	2017	56.0	15.5	869.5	Ton	\$131	\$114,000	▼
	2016	61.1	4.4	270.1	Ton	\$547	\$158,000	
Tomatoes	2017	11.1	7.1	79.3	Ton	\$1,517	\$121,000	▲
	2016	15.4	5.6	86.9	Ton	\$1,311	\$100,000	
Root Vegetables	2017	4,446.5	Includes beets, carrots, dry onions, potatoes, and other root vegetables.				\$23,970,000	▼
	2016	7,510.3					\$45,100,000	
Vine Crops	2017	70.0	Includes beans, cantaloupes, cucumbers, green beans, melons, pumpkins, squash, and watermelons.				\$900,000	▲
	2016	48.1					\$400,000	
Table Greens	2017	17.6	Includes lettuces, oriental specialties, spinach, and vegetables unspecified.				\$530,000	▲
	2016	15.4					\$200,000	
Herbs & Spices	2017	0.4	Includes chives, cilantro, fennel, mint, parsley, thyme, and other herbs and spices.				\$9,000	▼
	2016	4.2					\$24,000	
Miscellaneous	2017	100.3	Includes bell peppers, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, chili peppers, eggplant, and other miscellaneous vegetables.				\$28,000	▼
	2016	401.6					\$10,000,000	
TOTAL*	2017	4,701.9	*Totals do not add due to rounding				\$25,672,000	▼
	2016	8,056.1					\$55,982,000	



DID YOU KNOW?

TOMATOES AND LETTUCE ARE TOPS ON THE CONSUMER CHART.

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

Item	Year	Acreage	Production Per Acre	Production Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total Value	
Grapes	2017	141.9	0.96	137.6	Ton	\$3,052	\$420,000	▼
	2016	196.5	3.26	641.3	Ton	\$109	\$700,000	
Strawberries	2017	29.0	5.2	149.7	Ton	\$2,003	\$300,000	▲
	2016	19.5	10.6	205.0	Ton	\$1,491	\$300,000	
Orchard Fruits	2017	154.3	Includes apples, apricots, cherries, grapefruit, lemons, mandarins, nectarines, oranges, peaches, pears, persimmons, plums, and pomegranates.				\$2,400,000	▼
	2016	207.5					\$3,000,000	
Miscellaneous	2017	385.3	Includes avocados, figs, guavas, olives, pistachios, and other miscellaneous fruit and nut crops.				\$800,000	▼
	2016	138.5					\$900,000	
TOTAL	2017	710.5					\$3,920,000	▼
	2016	562.0					\$4,900,000	

FIELD CROPS

Item	Year	Acreage	Production per Acre	Production Total	Unit	Value per Unit	Total Value	
Alfalfa Hay	2017	6,011	30.5	58,000	Ton	\$221	\$10,500,000	▲
	2016	5,911	30.8	45,000	Ton	\$190	\$9,000,000	
Grain Hay	2017	2,200	2.6	6,000	Ton	\$192	\$1,030,000	▲
	2016	1,676	2.6	44,000	Ton	\$176	\$800,000	
Rangeland	2017	4,595					\$90,000	▼
	2016	4,595					\$200,000	
Miscellaneous*	2017	2,131	Includes irrigated pasture, hay other, silage, sudan hay, and wheat.				\$1,200,000	▼
	2016	3,747					\$1,600,000	
TOTAL**	2017	14,937	* Acreage excludes stubble.				\$12,820,000	▲
	2016	15,929	**Excluding rangeland and stubble.				\$11,600,000	

DAIRY & LIVESTOCK

Item	Year		Total Value	
Dairy & Livestock	2017	Includes beef cattle, chickens, dairy cattle, goats, goat milk, hogs, milk, etc.	\$10,000,000	▲
	2016		\$9,000,000	



DID YOU KNOW?

A DAIRY COW CAN PRODUCE 7-13 GALLONS OF MILK A DAY DEPENDING ON BREED

FOREST PRODUCTS

Item	Year		Total Value	
Firewood*	2017	* Figures obtained from USDA Forest Service, Angeles National Forest	\$4,970	▲
	2016		\$3,880	

APIARY

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Value per Unit	Total Value	
Honey	2017	325,002	Lb.	\$8.00	\$2,600,000	▲
	2016	275,059	Lb.	\$7.00	\$1,925,000	
Beeswax	2017	9,705	Lb.	\$7.75	\$75,200	▲
	2016	12,941	Lb.	\$8.00	\$54,200	
Miscellaneous	2017	Includes pollination fees, etc.			\$115,000	▼
	2016				\$363,000	
TOTAL*	2017	* Totals do not add due to rounding			\$2,790,000	▲
	2016				\$2,342,000	



DID YOU KNOW?

BEES ARE CRUCIAL IN AGRICULTURE, AFFECTING ONE OUT OF EVERY THREE BITES OF FOOD WE EAT!

Sustainable Agriculture and Schools Connect!

Responding to market demands and their own desires to explore growing methods that may demonstrate increased sustainability, organic farming is on a long-term upward trajectory as more farms give it a try and more acreage is set aside for organic production.

Schools, youth clubs, and parents seeking to pass along their hobby to young children often prefer foregoing the use of synthetic pesticides in their gardens, and pest activity can be incorporated into science education. As these children grow into adulthood, they will likely be open to, and interested in, commercial production under the organic designation, so we should not be surprised if the overall trend of increases in this category continue. Increasing production of organic crops provides consumers with more options.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORTING ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS

Year	Farms	Acres
2017	44	935
2016	41	906

PEST EXCLUSION ACTIVITIES

Pest Exclusion Violations	# of Violations Issued	Pest Exclusion Violations	# of Violations Issued
Markings / Proof of Ownership	793	Hydrilla Aquatic Plants	3
Infested/ Presume Infested	289	Imported Fire Ant	2
Federal Code Violations	275	Cedar Apple Rust	1
Caribbean Fruit Fly	59	Chestnut Bark/ Oak Wilt Diseases	1
Nursery Stock Certificates or Inspection	46	European Corn Borer	1
Sweet Potato Weevil	43	Seed Labeling	1
Asian Citrus Psyllid	42	Walnut and Pecan Pests	1
Burrowing and Reniform Nematodes	31	Ozonium Root Rot	1
Citrus Pests	28	Lethal Yellowing of Palm	1
Japanese Beetle	27	Colorado Potato Beetle	1
Plum Curculio/Blueberry Maggot	25	Cherry Fruit Fly	1
Failure to Hold	17	Cotton Pests	1
Gypsy Moth	10	Transport of Fruit Fly Host from Infested Area	1
Citrus Canker	6	Violation of Terms of Compliance Agreement	1
Huanglongbing Disease	3	Witchweed	1
Total Shipments Rejected	1,164	Total Quarantine Code Violations	1,712



DID YOU KNOW?
ALL LIVING THINGS NEED WATER TO SURVIVE.

PLANT PATHOLOGY LABORATORY

Plants	Common Name	Material	Source*/Rating	# of Interceptions
<i>Fatona vilosa</i>	Mullberry Weed	Weed	Nurs/B	4
<i>Senegalia pennata</i>	Climbing Wattle	Weed	Nurs/Q	1
<i>Cyperus rotundus</i>	Purple Nutsedge	Weed	Nurs/B	1
<i>Solanum torvum</i>	Turkey Berry	Weed	Quar/Q	2
<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>	Yellow Nutsedge	Weed	Nurs/B	3
<i>Euphorbia hypericifolia</i>	Chicken Weed	Weed	Nurs/Q	3
<i>Galinsoga quadriradiata</i>	Shaggy Soldiers	Weed	Nurs/Q	1
<i>Asclepias pyhsocarpa</i>	Balloon Plant	Weed	Nurs/Q	2
Fungi				
<i>Colletotrichum asianum</i>	Anthraxnose	Mango	Quar/B	1
Nematodes				
<i>Pratylenchus coffeae</i>	Coffee Lesion Nematode	Ficus	Quar/B	1
*Source: Nurs: Nursery Pub: Public Quar: Quarantine			TOTAL	19

PEST DETECTION ACTIVITIES

Pest	Number of Traps	Specimens Trapped
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	4,700	44
Oriental Fruit Fly	4,700	20
Melon Fly	4,700	1
Mexican Fruit Fly	4,700	0
Japanese Beetle- Residential	2,700	2
Japanese Beetle- Greenbelts	535	0
Gypsy Moth- Residential	2,700	0
Caribbean Fruit Fly (Jackson Trap)	0	1
Guava Fruit Fly (McPhail Trap)	0	1
Peach Fruit Fly (Jackson Trap)	0	3
Goldspotted Oak Borer	50	0
Total	24,785	72



DID YOU KNOW?
COTTON IS MADE BY PLANTS; SILK IS MADE BY INSECTS.

PEST ERADICATION ACTIVITIES

Pest	Method	Scope of Program
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	1 Quarantine/Sterile Release/Male Attractant Technique	3 treatment areas
Oriental Fruit Fly	1 Quarantine/Male Attractant Technique	11 treatment area
Melon Fruit Fly	Male Attractant Technique	1 treatment area
Japanese Beetle Fly	Delimitation Trapping	1 delimitation area
Caribbean Fruit Fly	Male Attractant Technique	1 treatment areas
Guava Fruit Fly	Male Attractant Technique	1 treatment area
Peach Fruit Fly	Male Attractant Technique	2 treatment area

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL ACTIVITIES

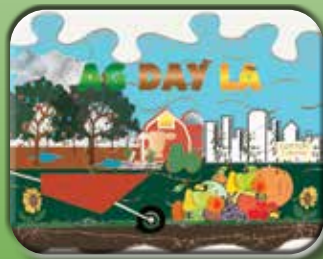
Pest	Method	Scope of Program
Mediterranean Fruit Fly Countywide	Sterile Release	5.3 Billion released
Mediterranean Fruit Fly (Arleta)	Sterile Release	807 Million released
Mediterranean Fruit Fly (Sun Valley)	Sterile Release	553 Million released

PEST EXCLUSION ACTIVITIES – ENTOMOLOGY LABORATORY

PEST INTERCEPTED Latin Name	PEST INTERCEPTED Common Name	MATERIAL	SOURCE*	# of INTERCEPTIONS
<i>Aceria annonae</i>	Eriophyid mite	Soursop	Nurs	1
<i>Adoretus sinicus</i>	Chinese rose beetle	Sweet potato	Quar	1
<i>Aleurodicus dispersus</i>	Spiraling whitefly	Betel	Quar	1
<i>Anastrepha ludens</i>	Mexican fruit fly	Mango	Quar	1
<i>Anastrepha obliqua</i>	West Indian fruit fly	Mango	Quar	1
<i>Anthonomus sp.</i>	Weevil	Taro	Quar	1
<i>Aonidiella aurantii</i>	California red scale	Nursery plants/Citrus	Nurs/Quar	2
<i>Arhopalus rusticus</i>	Longhorned beetle	Pine firewood	Quar	1
<i>Aspidiella hartii</i>	Armored scale	Turmeric	Quar	4
<i>Aspidiotus destructor</i>	Coconut scale	Palm	Quar	1
<i>Aulacaspis tubercularis</i>	Armored scale	Mango/Nursery plants	Nurs/Quar	2
<i>Blosyrus acellus</i>	Weevil	Sweet potato	Quar	2
<i>Bocana manifestalis</i>	Moth	Ginger	Quar	1
<i>Bradybaena similaris</i>	Snail	Cut foliage	Quar	1
<i>Ceroplastes rubens</i>	Red wax scale	Pinanga coronata	Quar	1
<i>Ceroplastes rusci</i>	Fig wax scale	Coconut/Lychee	Quar	2
<i>Ceroplastes stellifer</i>	Stellate scale	Orchid	Quar	1
<i>Coccus sp.</i>	Soft scale	Ginger	Quar	1
<i>Cylas formicarius</i>	Sweet potato weevil	Sweet potato	Quar	70
<i>Darapsa myron</i>	Virginia creeper sphinx	Smilax	Quar	1
<i>Diploptera punctata</i>	Pacific beetle cockroach	Sweet potato	Quar	1
<i>Dismicoccus boninsis</i>	Sugarcane mealybug	Sugarcane	Nurs	1
<i>Dismicoccus grassii</i>	Mealybug	Logan/Sugar apple	Quar	5
<i>Dismicoccus neobrevipes</i>	Mealybug	Pineapple/Sugar apple	Quar	2
<i>Empoasca sp.</i>	Leafhopper	Taro/Wax apple	Quar	3
<i>Empoasca stevensi</i>	Leafhopper	Plumeria	Pub	2
<i>Euphyllura olivina</i>	Olive psyllid	Olive	Nurs	1
<i>Euscepes postfasciatus</i>	Weevil	Sweet potato	Quar	4
<i>Gyponana germari</i>	Leafhopper	Cut foliage	Quar	1
<i>Geotomus pygmaeus</i>	Burrowing bug	Sweet potato	Quar	1
<i>Gynaikothrips uzeli</i>	Weeping ficus thrips	Ficus	Nurs	1
<i>Helicoverpa armigera</i>	Noctuid moth	Lily	Quar	1
<i>Homalodisca vitripennis (adults)</i>	Glassy-winged sharpshooter	Nursery plants	Nurs	9,468
<i>Homalodisca vitripennis (eggs)</i>	Glassy-winged sharpshooter	Nursery plants	Nurs	3
<i>Horidiplosis ficifolii</i>	Eye spot midge	Ficus	Nurs	4
<i>Hypoponera sp.</i>	Ant	Ginger	Quar	1
<i>Incisitermes sp.</i>	Termite	Dracaena	Quar	1
<i>Kallitaxila granulata</i>	Planthopper	Cut foliage	Quar	6
<i>Lepidosaphes beckii</i>	Purple scale	Citrus	Quar	2
<i>Macrohormotoma gladiata</i>	Curtain fig psyllid	Ficus	Nurs	5
<i>Nipaecoccus floridensis</i>	Coconut mealybug	Palm	Nurs	21
<i>Nysius sp.</i>	Lygaeid bug	Cut foliage	Quar	1
<i>Ochetellus glaber</i>	Ant	Cut foliage	Quar	4
<i>Omphisa anastomosalis</i>	Crambid moth	Sweet potato	Quar	3
<i>Ophiomyia kwansonis</i>	Leafminer	Daylily	Nurs	1

PEST EXCLUSION ACTIVITIES – ENTOMOLOGY LABORATORY

PEST INTERCEPTED Latin Name	PEST INTERCEPTED Common Name	MATERIAL	SOURCE*	# of INTERCEPTIONS
<i>Palmicultor browni</i>	Mealybug	Palm	Nurs	1
<i>Parmarion martinsi</i>	Semi slug	Sweet potato/Dracaena	Quar	7
<i>Pheidole megacephala</i>	Bigheaded ant	Cut foliage	Quar	16
<i>Phenacoccus peruvianus</i>	Mealybug	Nursery plant	Nurs	12
<i>Phenacoccus sp.</i>	Mealybug	Peppers	Quar	1
<i>Phosphila turbulenta</i>	Noctuid moth	Smilax	Quar	2
<i>Pinnaspis buxi</i>	Boxwood scale	Cut foliage	Quar	3
<i>Pinnaspis strachani</i>	Lesser snow scale	Cut foliage/Orchids/Nursery plants	Nurs/Quar	9
<i>Planococcus minor</i>	Pacific Mealybug	Cut flowers	Quar	2
<i>Planococcus ficus</i>	Mealybug	Ficus	Quar	1
<i>Poliaspis media</i>	Cycad poliaspis scale	Cyad	Nurs	3
<i>Prosapia bicincta</i>	Spittlebug	Cut flowers	Quar	1
<i>Protopulvinaria pyriformis</i>	Pyriform scale	Bay leaves/Nursery plants	Nurs	5
<i>Pseudaulacaspis pentagona</i>	White peach scale	Plumeria	Quar	1
<i>Pseudococcus jackbeardsleyi</i>	Mealybug	Ginger	Quar	1
<i>Pseudococcus odermatti</i>	Mealybug	Aglaonema/Sugar apple	Quar	3
<i>Pyrausta sp.</i>	Pyralid moth	Sweet potato	Quar	1
<i>Pulvinaria psidii</i>	Green shield scale	Nursery plants	Nurs/Quar	5
<i>Rhabdoscelus obscurus</i>	Weevil	Ginger	Quar	1
<i>Rhytidoporus indentatus</i>	Burrowing bug	Sweet potato	Quar	2
<i>Scirtothrips dorsalis</i>	Chilli thrips	Pouteria	Quar	1
<i>Scolytus sp.</i>	Bark beetle	Palm	Quar	1
<i>Selenaspidus articulatus</i>	Rufous scale	Cut flowers	Quar	1
<i>Singhiella simplex</i>	Ficus whitefly	Ficus	Nurs	5
<i>Solenopsis invicta</i>	Red imported fire ant	Nursery plants	Nurs	21
<i>Subulina octona</i>	Snail	Nursery plants	Nurs	1
<i>Sybra alternans</i>	Long horned beetle	Basil	Quar	1
<i>Tarophagus colocasiae</i>	Taro planthopper	Taro	Quar	3
<i>Technomyrmex difficilis</i>	White footed ant	Cut foliage	Quar	5
<i>Thysanofiorinia nephelii</i>	Longan scale	Longan/Lychee	Nurs/Quar	3
<i>Trigonidium sp.</i>	Cricket	Sweet Potato	Quar	2
<i>Trioza brevigenea</i>	Ficus leaf-rolling psyllid	Ficus	Nurs/Quar	2
<i>Wasmannia auropunctata</i>	Little fire ant	Turmeric/Coconut	Quar	2
Slugs in families <i>Philomycidae</i> & <i>Veronicellidae</i>				3
Various immature stages of insects (orders <i>Coleoptera</i> , <i>Lepidoptera</i> , <i>Hemiptera</i> , <i>Orthoptera</i> , <i>Diptera</i> , <i>Hymenoptera</i> and <i>Thysanoptera</i>)				164
Source*: Nurs: Nursery Quar: Quarantine Pub: Public			TOTAL	9,931



DID YOU KNOW?
 IN 2007, VICTORIA GERGINIS, LACFB, CREATED
 THE AG DAY LA BOOK FROM SCRATCH!



WE ALL SUPPORT AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Multiple agencies and organizations share interests in promoting, protecting and enabling California agriculture, and we routinely depend upon one another. The California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating youth throughout California about the importance of agriculture in their daily lives. The Foundation's mission is to increase awareness and understanding of agriculture among California's educators and students, partnering with like-minded organizations in that important endeavor.

The Dairy Council of California's Mobile Dairy Classroom teaches how milk and dairy foods are produced and how they contribute to healthy eating. Schools help promote science education and agricultural careers, and teachers depend on the agricultural industry to provide educational curriculum for their classes. We all depend on the support of families to insist on agricultural education for their children, demonstrating their recognition of agriculture as fundamental to life and critical to the condition of our ecosystem.

In 2004, the Los Angeles County Department of Agricultural Commissioner (ACWM), the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau, the Los Angeles Chapter of California Women for Agriculture, and the 48th District Agricultural Association (DAA) created the AG DAY LA Foundation. The Farm Bureau developed an AG DAY LA curriculum booklet, assembling the myriad pieces of agriculture. Each section focuses on one of six aspects - water, plants, bees/insects, fiber/cotton, food, and dairy - to demonstrate how agriculture completes the many pieces that form the puzzle of our everyday lives. From the food we eat to the clothes we wear, agriculture affects us ALL. The event traveled to numerous school districts, ultimately settling at the Fairplex in Pomona, where it continues today under the direction of the 48th DAA.

In 2016, ACWM and the L.A. County Farm Bureau expanded the agriculture education program to students of the Antelope Valley, where agriculture abounds. The event, supported by local farmers and other ag-based agencies, fills the Antelope Valley Fairground with activities, equipment, and animals. Volunteers demonstrate how the "pieces of the puzzle" make up the world of agriculture to nearly 1,000 young students, who may one day join the force that produces the food, feed, fiber, and fuel which we use every day.

For over 20 years, ACWM has participated in the national "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day." The children get to see ever more "pieces of the puzzle" that make up the Agricultural and Weights and Measures world in which their parents work each day to keep agriculture ALIVE & GROWING in Los Angeles. After all, education begins with the family. Our kids, among other activities, learn about many of our programs, including Pest Detection trapping, Pest Exclusion, Integrated Pest Management, and the Entomology and Plant Pathology Laboratories.

