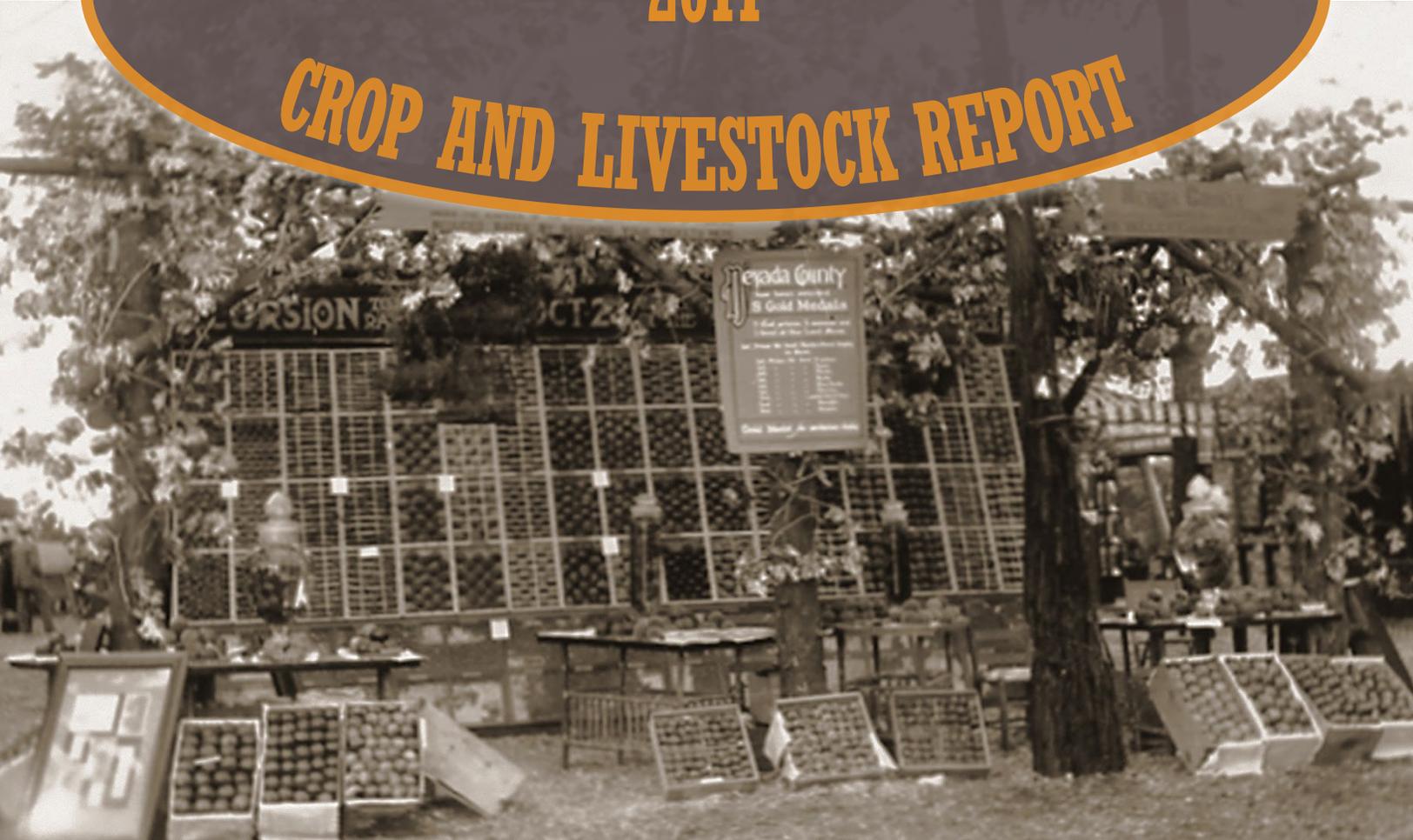


# NEVADA COUNTY

## 2017

# CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORT



# NEVADA COUNTY

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEIGHTS & MEASURES

### County Executive Officer

Rick Haffey

### Director of Community Development Agency

Sean Powers

### Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights & Measures

Chris de Nijs

### Agricultural Biologists/Weights & Measures Inspectors

Preston Neufeld    Homero "Tony" Romero    Luci Wilson

### Agricultural Technicians

Dean Tison    Chemane Borello    Renee Zavas

### Office Support

Jennifer Acree

## MISSION STATEMENT

Nevada County's Department of Agriculture is dedicated to sustaining a healthy agricultural industry, while protecting the environment, the agricultural workforce and the community.

The mission of the Nevada County Department of Weights & Measures is to provide fair compensation and equity in the marketplace and to ensure that the interest of the buyer and seller are protected through education, inspection and enforcement.

*Nevada County was established in April 1851. The county was named after the mining town of Nevada City, a name derived from the term "Sierra Nevada". The word nevada is Spanish for "snowy" or "snowy-covered".<sup>4</sup>*

Population<sup>1</sup> 98,2828

Density 101/sq mi

Total Area<sup>1</sup> 974 sq mi (623,360 ac)

Land Area<sup>1</sup> 958 sq mi (613,120 ac)

Highest Elevation 9,152 ft

Lowest Elevation 280 ft

Farmlands<sup>2</sup> 8,078 ac

Grazing Land<sup>2</sup> 133,508 ac

Urban and Built-up Land<sup>2</sup> 17,609 ac

Total Cropland<sup>3</sup> 3,349 ac

Number of farms<sup>3</sup> 354

<sup>1</sup>Source: California Department of Finance, E-1: City/County Population Estimates as of January 1, 2017

<sup>2</sup>Source: California Department of Conservation 2014 Land Use Conversion

<sup>3</sup>Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service 2012 Census of Agriculture

<sup>4</sup>Source: "Nevada County History", US Gen Web Project in California, retrieved August 27, 2016



**COUNTY OF NEVADA**  
**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures  
950 Maidu Avenue, Suite 170, Nevada City, CA 95959-8617  
(530) 470-2690 FAX (530) 470-2939 <http://mynevadacounty.com>

Chris de Nijs – Agricultural Commissioner

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**Karen Ross**, Secretary

California Department of Food and Agriculture,

and

**The Honorable Board of Supervisors, County of Nevada**

Ed Scofield, Chair, Supervisor District 2

Richard Anderson, Vice-Chair, Supervisor District 5

Heidi Hall, Supervisor District 1

Dan Miller, Supervisor District 3

Hank Weston, Supervisor District 4

I am proud to present the 2017 County Of Nevada Annual Crop and Livestock Report. This report is prepared pursuant to Section 2279 of the California Food and Agriculture Code. This report represents estimated acreage, yield, and gross value of agricultural commodities grown in Nevada County. This report does not attempt to measure farm profitability, nor does it try to quantify the economic contributions of Nevada County Agriculture in the economy.

In 2017, the gross value of agricultural commodities in Nevada County was \$23,862,400, this represents an overall increase of 12%. Our timber industry led the way with a 142% increase in production over its 2016 value. Vegetable crops continue to increase, as well as our nursery industry. Unfortunately, for the third straight year, our livestock industry, which is the county's highest valued commodity, experienced another decline. This is largely contributed to a decrease in price.

This year we highlight the Nevada County Farm Bureau's Centennial Celebration. Formed in 1917, the Nevada County Farm Bureau was instrumental in bringing farm education to the county as well as being a gathering place for the farming and ranching community. Today, with 400 local members, Nevada County Farm Bureau continues to advocate for the farming and ranching community. Celebrations culminate with a celebratory 100th annual dinner this November.

2017 also saw an abundance of rainfall and marked the official end of the drought. Though water concerns are always on our mind, our attention quickly turned to the catastrophic fires throughout the State, and experienced right here in Nevada County with the 'Wind Complex fire.' The last page of this report is a helpful guide for our commercial livestock operators in creating an emergency preparedness plan.

I would like to thank the many producers, industry representatives, businesses, and other public agencies who cooperated in supplying the data necessary to produce this report. Without their assistance, this crop report would not be possible. I would also like to thank the members of my staff for their contributions, with special recognition going to Agricultural Biologist Luci Wilson, for compiling the information. Thank you!

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris de Nijs

Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights and Measures

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Thank you to the Nevada County Historic Society for the use of the historic photos on the front and back covers and pages 10 and 11. All other photos are the work of Luci Wilson, unless otherwise noted.



# GROSS PRODUCTION VALUE SUMMARY

Commodity	Year	Value
Vegetable Crops	2017	\$1,964,200
	2016	\$1,771,000
Nursery and Flower Products	2017	\$531,400
	2016	\$502,200
Timber Products	2017	\$4,356,300
	2016	\$1,800,800
Fruit and Nut Crops	2017	\$2,143,500
	2016	\$2,120,100
Livestock and Poultry	2017	\$10,706,700
	2016	\$10,973,700*
Apiary, Eggs and Wool Products	2017	\$460,400
	2016	\$500,100
Pasture & Rangeland	2017	\$3,700,000
	2016	\$3,700,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	2017	<b>\$23,862,400</b>
	2016	<b>\$21,367,900*</b>

The amounts in this report represent estimated gross values, regardless of utilization. No attempt is made to reflect net income to the producer or cost of production. Values represent rounded estimates based on data collected from producers, experts and literature.

\*The 2016 value was adjusted to include the Speciality Livestock category that was added to the crop report this year.



# VEGETABLE, FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Crop	Year	Harvested Acres	Value
Vegetables	2017	87	\$1,964,200
	2016	87	\$1,771,000

Vegetables include bean, beet, broccoli, cabbage, carrot, cauliflower, celery, corn, cucumber, eggplant, garlic, herbs, kale, kohlrabi, leafy greens, lettuce, melon, onion, pea, pepper, potato, parsnip, pumpkin, radish, squash, tomato, tomatillo and turnip.

## FRUITS AND NUTS

Crop	Year	Harvested Acres	Value
Other Fruit and Nuts	2017	39	\$186,100
	2016	40	\$193,300

Fruits and nuts Include apple, apricot, blackberry, blueberry, boysenberry, cherry, chestnut, fig, nectarine, olive, peach, pear, persimmon, plum, pluot, pomegranate, prune, raspberry, and strawberry. Wine grapes are calculated separately.

## WINEGRAPE CROPS

Crop	Year	Harvested Acres	Tons Per Acre	Total Tonnage	Value
Red Winegrapes	2017	320	3.60	1182	1,519,300
	2016	320	3.09	987	\$1,414,000
White Winegrapes	2017	96	3.52	338	\$438,100
	2016	97	4.11	399	\$512,800
Total Winegrapes	2017				\$1,957,400
	2016				\$1,926,800

Red wine grape varieties include barbera, basturdo, bracciano, cabernet franc, cabernet sauvignon, cagnane, carmine, cinsaut, corvina, dolcetto, grenache, legrein, malbec, merlot, montepulciano, mouvedre, petite sirah, petite verdot, primitivo, refosco, sangiovese, syrah, tempranillo, teroldergo, tinta cao, tinta negra mole, tounet, touriga nazionale and zinfandel. White wine grape varieties include chardonnay, chenin blanc, falenghina, fiano, flora, forastera, marsanne, melon, muscat orange, peverella, pinot gris, rkatsiteli, rousanne, sauvignon blanc, semillon, tocai friulano, vespaiola, and viognier.



NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE EXACTLY DUE TO ROUNDING

# NURSERY, TIMBER AND FIELD CROPS

## NURSERY PRODUCTS

Crop	Year	Production Acres	Number of Trees	Value
Nursery	2017	5		\$255,000
	2016	4		\$260,800
Cut Flowers	2017	8		\$170,300
	2016	6		\$159,100
Christmas Trees	2017	42	2200	\$106,100
	2016	42	1765	\$82,300
Total Nursery	2017	55		\$531,400
	2016	52		\$502,200



## TIMBER

Crop	Year	Amount	Unit	Price Per Unit	Value
Timber	2017	23,158	MBF	\$188.11	\$4,356,300
	2016	9,437	MBF	\$190.82	\$1,800,800

## PASTURE AND RANGELAND

Commodity	Year	Amount	Unit	Price Per Unit	Value
Pasture	2017	10,000	Acre	\$180	\$1,800,000
	2016	10,000	Acre	\$180	\$1,800,000
Rangeland	2017	95,000	Acre	\$20	\$1,900,000
	2016	95,000	Acre	\$20	\$1,900,000
Total Pasture and Rangeland	2017				\$3,700,000
	2016				\$3,700,000

NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE EXACTLY DUE TO ROUNDING

# LIVESTOCK, POULTRY AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

## LIVESTOCK, POULTRY AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

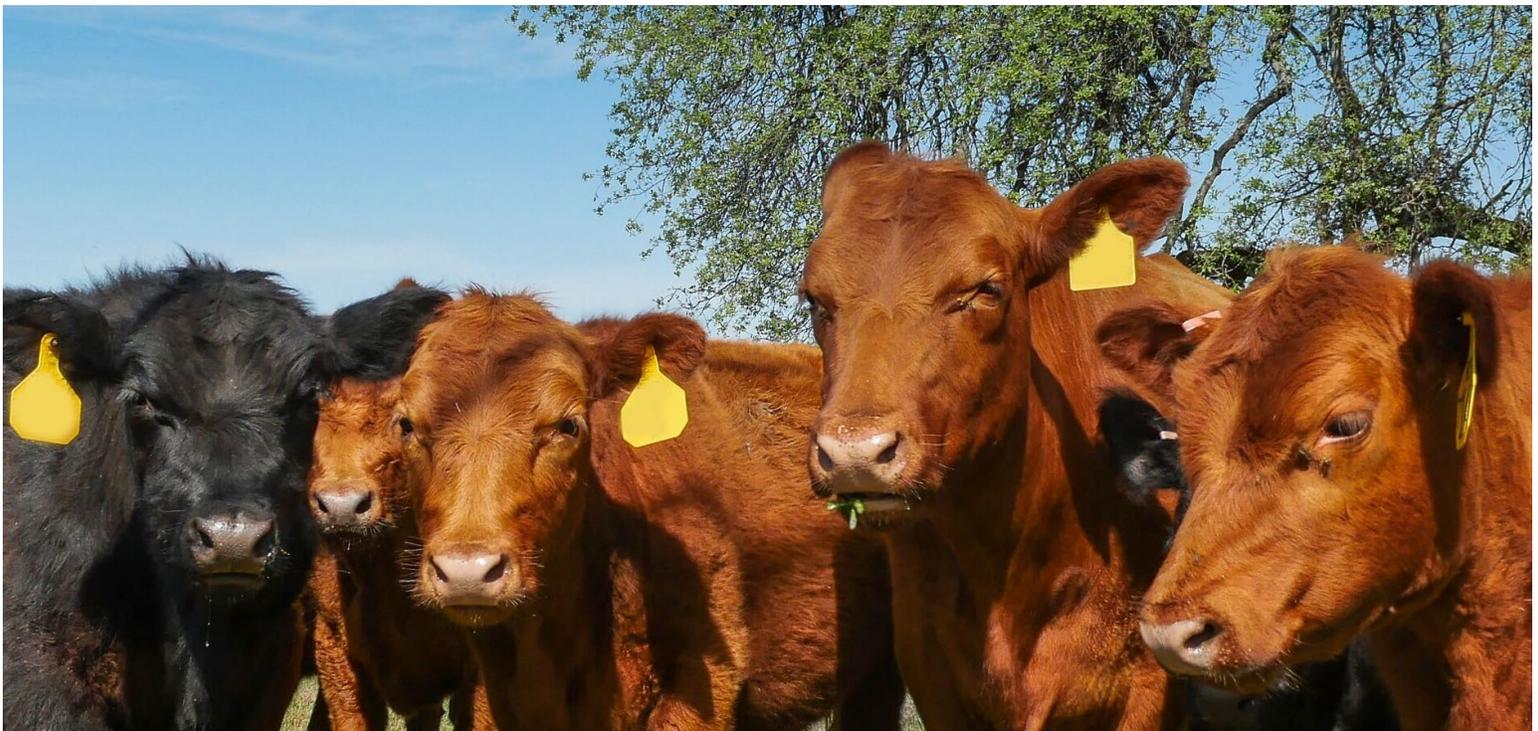
Commodity	Year	Head <sup>1</sup>	Live Weight	Unit <sup>2</sup>	Per Unit Price	Value
Steers & Heifers	2017	4,100	45,100	cwt	\$116.00	\$5,231,600
	2016	4,100	46,125	cwt	\$130.00	\$5,996,300
Cows & Calf	2017	2,900	32,130	cwt	\$139.00	\$4,466,100
	2016	2,900	31,610	cwt	\$130.00	\$4,109,300
Sheep & Lambs	2017	1,110			\$160.00	\$176,000
	2016	1,110			\$150.00	\$165,000
Miscellaneous (Hogs, goats, chickens)	2017					\$291,200
	2016					\$213,100
Specialty Livestock <sup>3</sup>	2017	215	119,100	lbs		\$541,800
	2016	236	-	lbs		\$490,000
Total Livestock	2017					\$10,706,700
	2016					\$10,973,700 <sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Number of head as of January 1, 2017

<sup>2</sup>cwt = hundred weight, 100 lbs

<sup>3</sup>Junior Livestock Auction

<sup>4</sup>Revised to include specialty livestock



NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE EXACTLY DUE TO ROUNDING

# APIARY, EGGS AND WOOL PRODUCTS

## LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Commodity	Year	Amount	Unit	Price Per Unit	Value
Apiary	2017	2326	hives		\$218,200
	2016	2352	hives		\$267,800
Honey	2017	28,320	pounds	\$4.58	\$129,700
	2016	22,066	pounds	\$4.58	\$101,000
Wool Products*	2017	1300	pounds	5.50	\$7,500
	2016	1200	pounds	\$10.00	\$12,000
Eggs	2017	20,224	dozen	\$5.19	\$105,000
	2016	22,215	dozen	\$5.37	\$119,300
Total Apiary, Eggs and Wool Products	2017				\$460,400
	2016				\$500,100

\*Wool products includes fine and industry grade wool.



NUMBERS MAY NOT COMPUTE EXACTLY DUE TO ROUNDING

# NEVADA COUNTY FARM BUREAU'S CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

**Farm Bureaus in America can trace their beginning to** the Cooperative Extension Service. Created by Congress in 1914, the Extension Service operated through the nation's land grant colleges. The Farm Bureau was designed to organize farmers and ranchers to promote agriculture with new crops and the cooperative study of farm conditions. During their early years, Farm Bureaus helped to provide an educational forum through their Farm Centers, which were satellite community units of the County Farm Bureau and maintained for the County Farm Advisors. Before extension staff, also called farm advisors, could bring educational programs to a county, it was required that a farm organization within the county be established. Thus, the creation of the County Farm Bureau.

**The Nevada County Farm Bureau had its beginnings in** Penn Valley, when on the first day of the New Year, 1917, a group of farmers and their families met to discuss the needs of the community. Mrs. M.B. Church presented the idea of a "farm center" working with the Extension Service. The idea gained interest and just a few days later, on January 10, 1917, the Penn Valley Farm Center was formed. Louis Johnson was elected president, M.B Church vice-president, and Doris Church secretary-treasurer.

**Quickly a total of thirteen farm centers were organized,** including Penn Valley, Chicago Park, Peardale, Gold Flat, Rough and Ready, Clear Creek, Forest Springs, Indian Flat, Lime Kiln, Grass Valley, Pleasant Valley, Birchville, and North San Juan. In April 1917, officers and supporting farmers approached the county supervisors, requesting appropriations to fund a county farm advisor. The first advisor, Herman I Graser, began working in May of that same year. Farm Advisors utilized the Farm Bureau's Farm Centers as platforms to teach and assist farmers and ranchers with advice on how to grow and produce crops.

**It became clear to early organizers that in addition to** improving farming conditions and methods, there should be pursuit of a broader agenda as well. From a circular written in 1917, it was proposed that the county Farm Bureau should act as "a sort of rural chamber of commerce and... the guardian of rural affairs. It can take a lead in agitation for good roads, for better schools, and for cheaper methods of buying and selling."

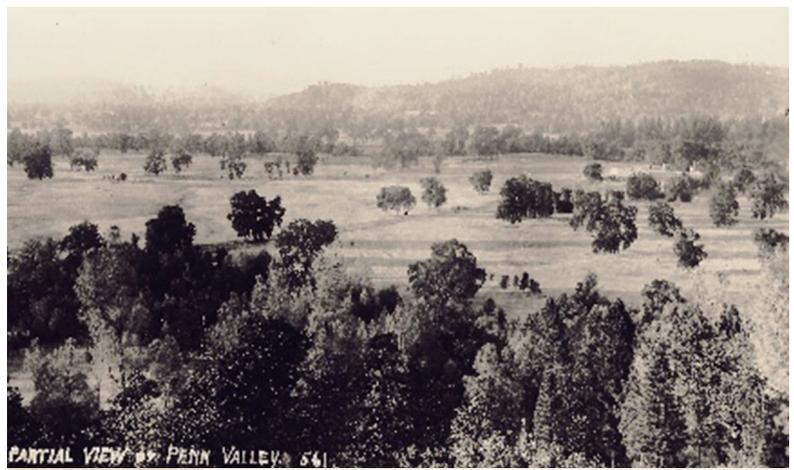
**Because the university could not participate in those** extra services, organizers chose to separate the Farm Bureau



from the extension service. In Nevada County, the combined centers organized the Nevada County Farm Bureau, and became charter members of the California Farm Bureau when it formed on October 23, 1919, preceding the formation of the American Farm Bureau Federation by just three weeks.

**Locally, farm centers formed the basis of farm** community life. In addition to grassroots development of farm irrigation delivery systems, the centers were locations for meetings, dances, potlucks and other social activities. Programs included early 4-H programs, and varied demonstrations, tests, trials and production methods. Farm Bureau membership declined during the Depression, with many centers consolidating. The postwar years of the late 1940s brought a boom in membership. Programs like low-cost workers' compensation insurance and Young Farmers and Ranchers were developed during this time. By the 1960s the final farm centers had disbanded and the organization we recognize today as the Nevada County Farm Bureau was formed.

**Today, 400 members strong, the Nevada County Farm** Bureau continues to be involved throughout the community and provide educational opportunities in the form of its annual Farm Tour, where interested community members can get a behind the scenes look at farming and ranching in Nevada County and co-hosting the Annual Farm Day, a one day, Ag in the Classroom experience for nearly 700 3rd graders in Nevada County. The Farm Bureau also continues to hold social gatherings such as their Annual Summer Picnic, Farm to Fork Dinners, and Annual Members Dinner. Just as it was done 100 years ago, today the Nevada County Farm Bureau continues to serve the needs of the farming and ranching community.



Nevada County Farm Bureau  
P.O. Box 27  
Grass Valley, CA 95945

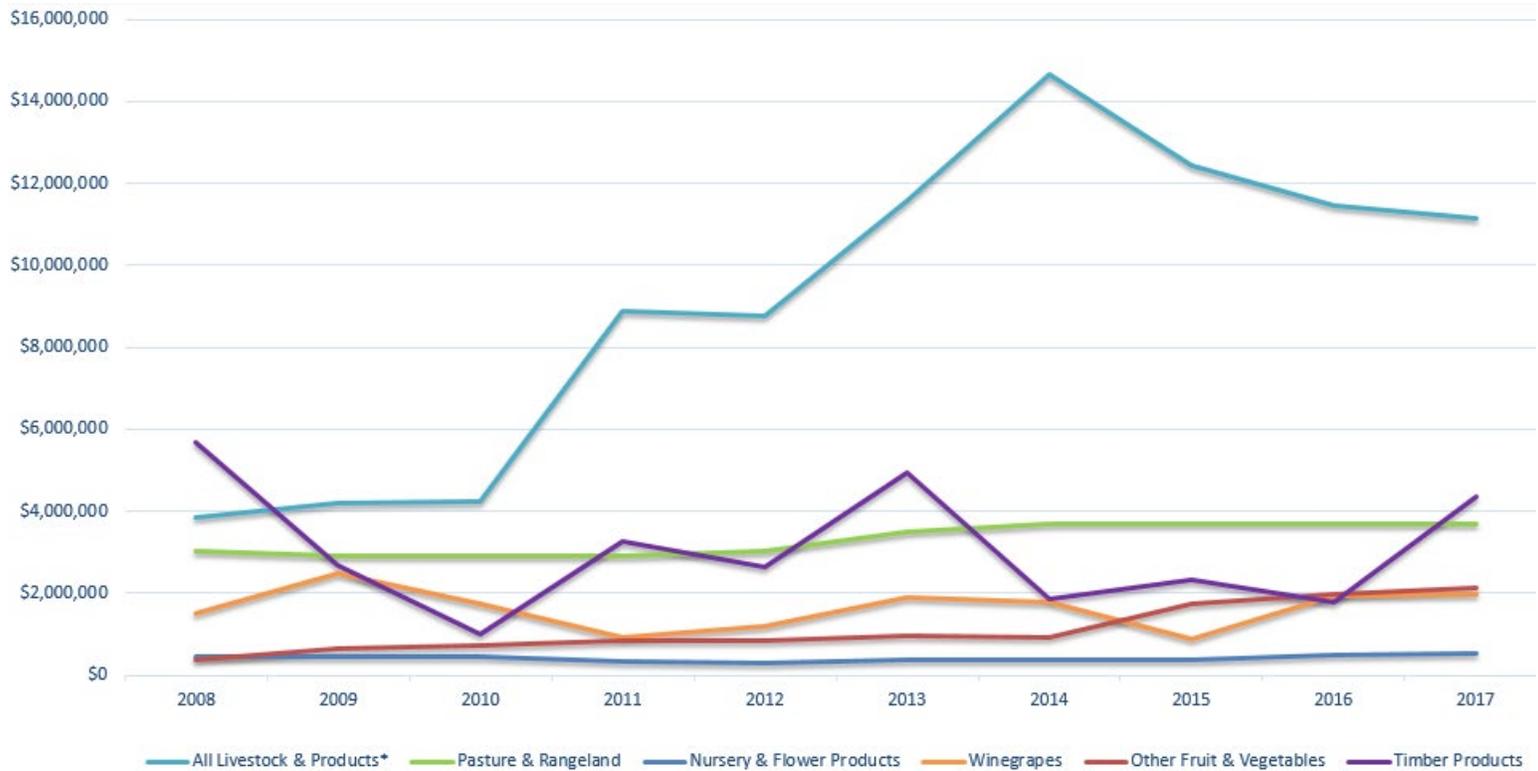
(530) 346-8146

[www.nevadacountyfarmbureau.com](http://www.nevadacountyfarmbureau.com)

President: Brad Fowler  
Secretary / Manager : Debora Totoonchie

Farm Bureau meetings are the first Wednesday of most months, at 6pm in the Ponderosa Hall at the Nevada County Fairgrounds.

# AGRICULTURAL INCOME 10 YEAR COMPARISON



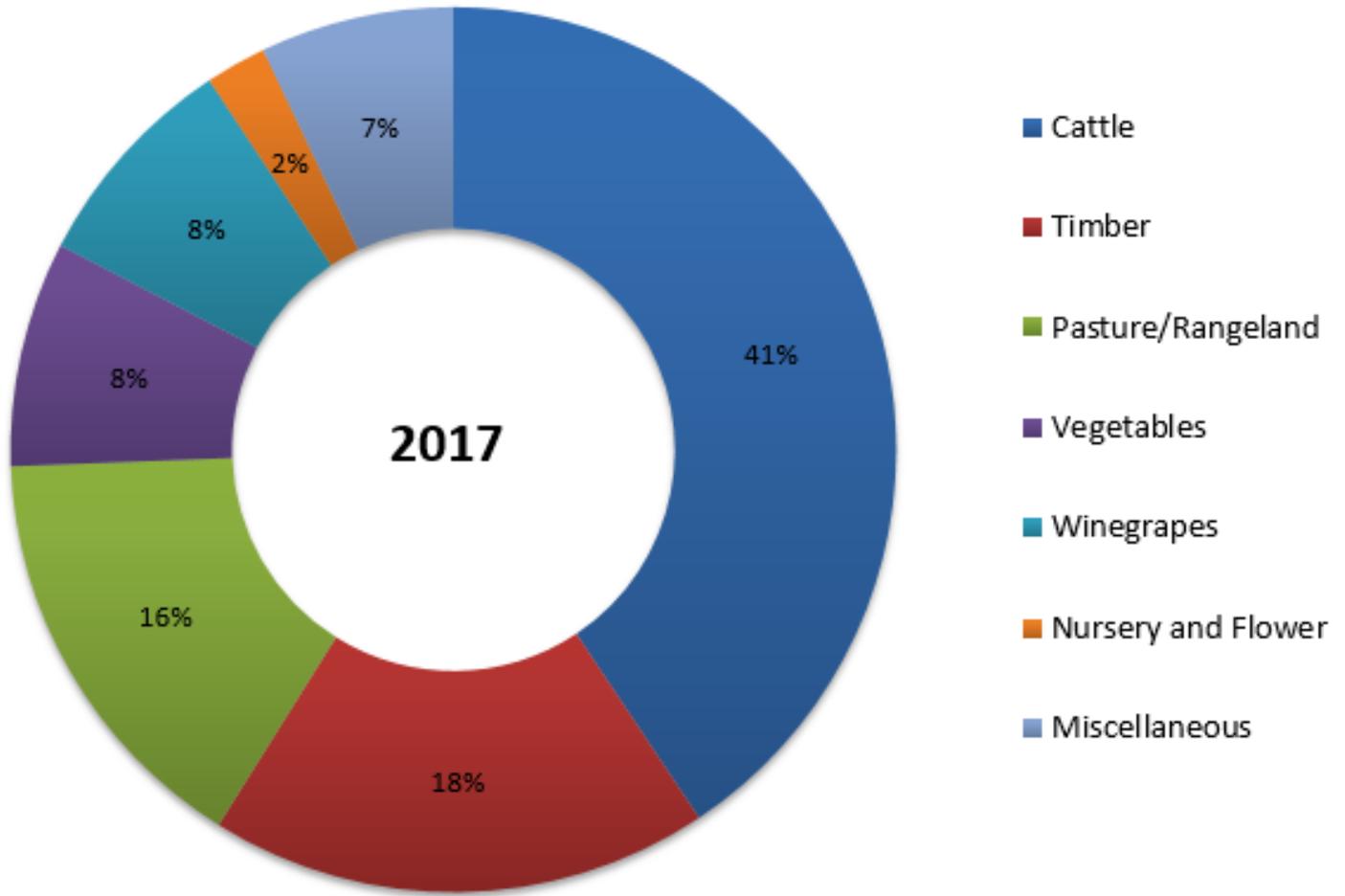
Year	All Livestock & Products <sup>1</sup>	Pasture & Rangeland	Nursery & Flower	Winegrapes	Other Fruit & Vegetables	Timber Products	Total Value
2008	\$3,867,400	\$3,020,000	\$465,500	\$1,522,900	\$377,400	\$5,679,100	<b>\$14,932,300</b>
2009	\$4,189,300	\$2,925,000	\$471,000	\$2,477,500	\$656,000	\$2,689,000	<b>\$13,407,800</b>
2010	\$4,252,600	\$2,925,000	\$452,000	\$1,727,000	\$743,200	\$1,014,200	<b>\$11,114,000</b>
2011	\$8,870,000	\$2,925,000	\$327,000	\$905,200	\$829,900	\$3,249,000	<b>\$17,106,100</b>
2012	\$8,778,300	\$3,020,000	\$294,800	\$1,196,200	\$851,000	\$2,647,700	<b>\$16,788,000</b>
2013	\$11,573,200	\$3,510,000	\$383,900	\$1,886,900	\$966,400	\$4,924,900	<b>\$23,245,300</b>
2014	\$14,649,300	\$3,700,000	\$378,500	\$1,771,400	\$911,300	\$1,843,100	<b>\$23,253,100</b>
2015	\$12,417,100	\$3,700,000	\$392,500	\$888,900	\$1,725,700	\$2,344,600	<b>\$21,468,800</b>
2016	\$11,473,800 <sup>2</sup>	\$3,700,000	\$502,200	\$1,926,800	\$1,964,300	\$1,800,800	<b>\$21,367,900</b>
2017	\$11,167,100	\$3,700,000	\$531,400	\$1,957,400	\$2,150,300	\$4,356,200	<b>\$23,862,500</b>

<sup>1</sup>Includes all livestock, poultry, apiary, wool and egg products.

<sup>2</sup>The 2016 value was adjusted to include the Speciality Livestock category.



# TOP SIX VALUE CROPS



## Then and Now

### Fruit Damage in Nevada County - Excerpt from 1967 Crop and Livestock Report:

“Adverse weather conditions extending into late spring caused severe damage to fruit and nut trees and reduced the amount of harvest.”

Top 6 1967	Value
Broilers & Fryers	\$701,000
Cattle	\$510,600
Pasture & Rangeland	\$505,000
Eggs	\$68,700
Milk	\$55,200
Apples	\$38,800
<b>Total Top 6 Value</b>	<b>\$3,895,600</b>

Top 6 2017	Value
Cattle	\$9,697,700
Timber	\$4,356,300
Pasture/Rangeland	\$3,700,000
Vegetables	\$1,964,200
Winegrapes	\$1,957,400
Nursery and Flower	\$531,400
<b>Total Top 6 Value</b>	<b>\$22,207,000</b>

# PEST EXCLUSION AND DETECTION REPORT

## Exclusion

All incoming plants and other host material originating from known areas of pest or disease infestations are inspected to help protect Nevada County. The introduction of Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) or European Grapevine Moth (EGVM) are potential threats to the production of winegrapes in our area.

Out-of-state shipments may contain pests or diseases of economic importance, such as the Gypsy Moth (GM) and Sudden Oak Death (SOD). The state agriculture border stations notify us of incoming shipments. When a shipment arrives, it is inspected for pests, general cleanliness, and compliance with all applicable federal, state and county regulations. County biologists also inspect agricultural packages at the UPS and FedEx sorting facilities in Grass Valley each morning.

In 2017, approximately 4,350 packages and shipments were inspected for live exotic pests, and resulted in 7 live pest finds.

## Detection

Nevada County's insect trapping program monitors for populations of pests that cause potentially devastating crop, forest and ornamental plant damage. Traps are placed throughout the county in host plants and high-risk areas, and are inspected by county staff every two weeks during the trapping season. Suspect insects are sent to the California Department of Food and Agriculture Lab for evaluation.

PEST	# OF TRAPS
Gypsy Moth (GM)	195
Japanese Beetle (JB)	22
European Grapevine Moth (EGVM)	65
Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM)	16
European Pine Shoot Moth (EPSM)	20
Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS)	88
Exotic Fruit Flies*	34
Brown Marmorated Stinkbug (BMSB)	2

\*Exotic fruit flies include Mediterranean fruit fly, melon fruit fly and oriental fruit fly.



Photo courtesy of Center for Invasive Species Research

## UP CLOSE: BROWN MARMORATED STINKBUG (BMSB)

COMMON NAME: Brown marmorated stinkbug

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Halyomorpha halys*

The Brown Marmorated Stinkbug (BMSB), a native of Eastern Asia, entered Pennsylvania around 1996. Since that time it has continued to invade new areas of the United States and now has been found in 40 states, including California. Recently, populations of BMSB have been discovered in Nevada County.

BMSB feeds on a wide variety of fruits, vegetables and ornamental plants. Home gardeners and commercial growers alike are impacted as large numbers of this pest infect crops. With its piercing mouthparts, fruit and vegetables become scarred and unmarketable. In late fall when other agricultural pests are ceasing to become problems this one continues to wreak havoc. Homeowners and other residents are the next to be victimized. In a process known as aggregation, adult BMSB gather together in large numbers and search for shelter in houses and other structures where it overwinters.

While BMSB is a major nuisance in the Mid-Atlantic States, only time will tell how well it will thrive in California's varied environments. California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has given BMSB a pest rating of 'B' which means essentially no action will be taken to eradicate BMSB when it is found. There is ongoing research on how to control this pest in agricultural and residential settings.



BMSB life stages photo by W. Hershberger of National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

# INVASIVE PLANT REPORT

The Nevada County Agriculture Commissioners Office is tasked with protecting the agriculture and natural resources of the county. This includes management and eradication of noxious invasive plants. The species we target in Nevada County include, but are not limited to mostly A- and B-rated weeds.

When sites are located on private property, we work with the landowner to gain access and permission to treat. Methods used to eradicate these unwanted plants include hand pulling, shoveling, and herbicides. If herbicide treatment is required, we use a selective product that only acts on the target plants. When utilizing herbicides we spot spray, leaving non-target plants unaffected, thereby mitigating herbicide drift and damage to sensitive sites. Proper weed eradication and management takes many years, and repeat visits to each site are necessary.

### Star Thistle Leading Edge Project

Managed by University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE), the project is designed for “controlling Yellow Starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*) and stopping the spread at the eastern leading edge in the Sierra Nevada foothills thereby protecting 12.9 million acres of forested lands, including wildlife habitat, timber production, habitat for endangered and threatened plant and animal species, and the unique recreational assets of the Sierra Nevadas.”

What’s wrong with yellow starthistle? Yellow starthistle infests between 10 and 15 million acres in California! It depletes the ground of soil moisture (it loves hot, dry areas) preventing other plants from growing. It forms dense stands that are difficult to walk through. It’s poisonous to horses, causing fatal “chewing disease.” Its seeds can remain viable in the soil for longer than three years.



*Starthistle along a trail in Nevada County, Chemane Borello*

Weed Species	Treatment Method	Sites
Canada Thistle	Mechanical/Chemical	5
Dalmation Toadflax	Mechanical/Chemical	8
Diffuse Knapweed	Mechanical/Chemical	3
Lens-podded Hoary Cress	Mechanical/Chemical	8
Musk Thistle	Mechanical/Chemical	57
Oblong Spurge	Mechanical/Chemical	11
Perennial Pepperweed	Chemical	42
Red Sesbania	Mechanical	2
Rush Skeletonweed	Mechanical/Chemical	7
Russian Knapweed	Mechanical/Chemical	5
Scotch Broom	Mechanical/Chemical	7
Scotch Thistle	Mechanical/Chemical	3
Spotted Knapweed	Mechanical/Chemical	57
Tree of Heaven	Chemical	1
Yellow Starthistle	Mechanical/Chemical	4

# DIRECT MARKETING REPORT

Local farmers' markets allow producers to sell their certified commodities directly to the public. There were 28 certified producers that were issued certificates in Nevada County in 2018. The following 14 Farmers Markets have been certified by the Agricultural Commissioner to market local and regional produce in Nevada County. These producers offer a wide variety of commodities, including fresh produce, herbs, mushrooms, flowers, honey, nursery stock, eggs, meat and poultry.

## TUESDAY

Truckee (May 15-October 16)	
10500 Brockway Rd . . . . .	8am-1pm
Grass Valley (May 1-November 30)	
Raley's Pine Creek Center, Freeman Lane . . . . .	9am-1pm
Auburn (July 17-September 25)	
Combie Plaza, 10556 Combie Road . . . . .	3pm-6pm
North San Juan (July-October 30)	
North San Juan Community Center, Hwy 49 . . . . .	4pm-7pm

## WEDNESDAY

Nevada City (August)	
Pioneer Park . . . . .	4:30pm-8:30pm

## THURSDAY

Penn Valley (May 3-November 1)	
Western Gateway Park . . . . .	9am-1pm
Auburn (June 19-September 27)	
Combie Plaza, 10556 Combie Road . . . . .	3pm-6pm
Grass Valley (June 29-August 3)	
Mill Street . . . . .	6pm-9pm
Grass Valley (August 16-October 25)	
Richardson Street . . . . .	4pm-8pm

## SATURDAY

Nevada City (June 3-November 18)	
Union Street . . . . .	8:30am-1pm
Grass Valley (April 15-November 18)	
North Star House, Old Auburn Road . . . . .	8am-12:30pm
Auburn (June-September)	
Linnet Lane/Sierra Knolls Winery, Hwy 49 . . . . .	10am-3pm

## SUNDAY

Truckee (June 10-September 30)	
12047 Donner Pass Road . . . . .	10am-2pm
Auburn (June-September)	
Linnet Lane/Sierra Knolls Winery, Hwy 49 . . . . .	10am-3pm

## Organic

Organic farming practices focus on maintaining ecological health and balance through promoting biodiversity and soil health while minimizing pollutants. Organic farming practices exclude the use of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers as well as genetically modified organisms.

The County Agricultural Commissioner's Office performs inspections on behalf of California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) for first-time registrants and producers that make less than \$5000 in annual sales, and conducts spot checks at farmers markets.

In 2017, 42 organic producers were registered with growing sites in Nevada County.



# WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The Nevada County Agricultural Commissioner is also the Sealer of Weights and Measures, which plays a vital role in the economic activity of the county. The department serves the community by safeguarding and measuring accuracy and assuring confidence and integrity in the marketplace. The benefit our office provides ensures fair competition for industry and accurate value comparison for consumers.

As a neutral third party between buyers and sellers we:

- Test weighing and measuring devices for accuracy
- Examine and evaluate the work of service repairmen
- Verify the quantity of bulk and packaged commodities
- Check consumer packages for proper labeling
- Inspect price scanner systems for accuracy
- Review weighmaster certificates and licensing requirements
- Regulate the advertising, labeling and quality standards of petroleum products

## Our New Truck!

After several years of planning, the counties of Nevada, Yuba and Sutter jointly purchased a new weight truck rolling standard which replaced the previous truck that was more than 30 years old. When fully loaded, the truck itself has a certified weight of 48,000 pounds, which allows it to verify vehicle scales, such as those used by gravel companies and CHP. The weight truck is equipped with 500- and 1000-lb certified standard weights, which when used with the crane, allow for the testing of dormant scales, such as those used by recyclers and metal scrap centers, or for bulk goods such as wine grapes and tomatoes.



*New 48,000-lb weight truck, Chris de Nijs.*

Measuring Devices	# of Devices
CNG	2
Domestic Water Submeters	1,046
Electric Submeters	1,396
Fabric, Cordage & Wire Meters	14
LPG Dispensers	67
Retail Motor Fuel Meters	831
Taxi Meters	10
Vapor Submeters	1,815
Vehicle Meters	18
Wholesale Meters	2
<b>Total Measuring Devices</b>	<b>5,201</b>

Weighing Devices	# of Devices
Computing Scales	238
Counter Scales	54
Dormant/Port Plat >=2,000 lbs	19
Hanging Scales	18
Hopper & Tank Scales	4
Livestock & Animal >=2,000 lbs	3
Misc. Weighing Devices	13
Prescription & Jewelers Scales	5
Vehicle Scales	10
<b>Total Weighing Devices</b>	<b>364</b>

# WILDLAND FIRE SAFETY FOR LIVESTOCK

*Adapted from [www.readyforwildfire.org](http://www.readyforwildfire.org), and Dan Macon, Livestock and Natural Resource Advisor, Placer-Nevada-Sutter-Yuba Counties*

Fire season has grown longer each year for over a decade. In the last year there wasn't a month without a wildfire in California. In our rural county, wildfire poses not just a risk to our homes, but our property and livestock as well. With some advance planning you can increase their chances of surviving a wildland fire.

**Reduce your fire risk.** Clear defensible space around your barns, pastures and property just as you do your home. PRC 4291 requires clearance around all structures on your property.

**Escape routes. Have a Plan.** Know where and how you would evacuate your animals. Contact your local fairgrounds, equestrian centers, friends etc. about their policies and ability to take livestock temporarily in an emergency. Get to know your neighbors and exchange contact information. Have several evacuation routes in mind. If you don't have your own equipment or are unable to handle your entire herd on your own, make arrangements before disaster strikes. Some operations might be too large to evacuate. If that is the case your best option may be to have your animals shelter in place.

**Leaving animals.** If you must leave your animals for any reason, leave them in a preselected cleared area, large enough to accommodate your animals. Make sure there are no overhead power lines or poles. Leave enough hay and water for several days, it may be that long before you are allowed back in. Do not rely on automatic watering systems as power may be lost. Be sure to take down temporary fences or other hazards that may injure animals as the fire moves through your property.

The next page may be used to create a preparation plan.

Do not wait until the last minute to start evacuating!

## For more information

Dan Macon, Livestock and Natural Resources, UCCE - Placer/Nevada/Sutter/Yuba 530-889-7385, [dmacon@ucanr.edu](mailto:dmacon@ucanr.edu)



*Photos for this article courtesy of Dan Macon*



**RANCH FIRE PREPARATION PLAN**

Ranch Name and Contact Information: _____ _____ _____		_____ _____ _____				
This plan was created on: [DATE]						
Livestock (species, class, #, stage of production)	Location (include on/off dates)	Safe Zones / Shelter in Place Options	Evacuation Routes # of Loads	Critical Considerations (stock water, guard animals, etc.)	Emergency Contact(s)	
_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	
_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	
_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	

Other Local Rancher/Livestock Hauler Contacts: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Other Emergency Contacts: Animal Control Dispatch \_\_\_\_\_  
 California Highway Patrol \_\_\_\_\_  
 CalFire/Other Fire \_\_\_\_\_  
 County Sheriff \_\_\_\_\_

The plan on this page, as well as additional information, is available at: <http://ucanr.edu/sites/Livestock/files/288889.pdf>



# NEVADA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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