



Tehama County 2015 Annual Crop Report



Mt. Lassen eruption photographs courtesy of the National Park Service

1915 – 2015: Centennial Year of the Eruption of Mt. Lassen

By Loren Gehrung, Agricultural Biologist/Weights & Measures Specialist III

One of the things we love about Tehama County is our dramatic skyline. High mountains surround and define us from South Yolla Bolly Mountain to our west at 8,098 feet to Mt. Shasta towering over the north at 14,179 feet. But the subject of this year's Crop Report cover is Mt. Lassen, which rises to 10,457 feet. It lies just outside the northeast corner of Tehama County. One hundred years ago the Great Eruption of Mt. Lassen startled the nation, much as Mount St. Helens would today.

Mt. Lassen first came to life on May 22, 1914, just before the opening of World War I. It erupted with a blast of steam and ash that opened a crater on the summit of Mt. Lassen. Similar eruptions continued throughout 1914, enlarging the crater until it was 1,000 feet long. It was the first time an active volcano had erupted in the lower 48 states. It was recorded in photographs and even some video footage, which can be viewed on You Tube.

After about 180 steam eruptions, Mt. Lassen produced the "Great Eruption", the culmination of volcanic activity at the peak. On May 14, 1915, lava rose up, filled the crater and spilled over the side, producing glowing boulders that were seen that night from as far away as Manton. Five nights later, on May 19th, a fresh blast shattered the lava dome causing an avalanche and mudflow towards Hat Creek and Lost Creek north of the peak. This was the beginning of the Great Eruption of May 19 and May 22. Ranches were destroyed along Hat Creek, but the families were able to escape with their lives. That same night an upwelling of lava oozed over the western rim of the crater forming a glowing tongue of red fire. Observers said they could see it break up into red-hot boulders tumbling down the mountain. Today, this lava flow is still visible, even from the valley, as a tongue of black rock at the summit, which is the youngest rock in California.

During the afternoon of May 22nd, the mountain exploded into the huge column of ash, gas and rock that rose to 30,000 feet. A pyroclastic cloud blew out the northeast side of the mountain, creating the Devastated Area still evident today. Ash from the eruption fell as far as 280 miles to the east. Gentler steam eruptions continued periodically until 1917, and trailed off for several more years. About 298 eruptions in all were recorded between 1914 and 1921. The craters at the summit vented steam into the 1950's, but that is seldom seen today. Although Mt. Lassen has returned to its slumbers, the ongoing presence of hot springs and bubbling mudpots warns of the magma far below.



COUNTY OF TEHAMA

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August 4, 2016

Karen Ross, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture, and
Tehama County Board of Supervisors:

It is my pleasure to present the 2015 Tehama County Crop Report, which is prepared pursuant to the provisions of Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. This annual report provides a statistical description of Tehama County's agricultural production. All figures in the report represent gross returns only and do not reflect net income of producers.

The total gross value of Tehama County agricultural production in 2015 was \$321,005,400, which represents a 15.6% (\$59,334,900) decrease from 2014 historic values.

Walnuts continue as the leading crop, however, their total value was the primary contributor to the overall crop value decrease. While walnut production remained relatively stable, the total value declined 51.6% (\$87,379,400) due to severe price decreases. Almonds remain the number two commodity dipping 4.5% in total value due to slight production drop. Prune values increased 115.8% (\$21,136,300) due to production and price increases.

Other noteworthy changes in 2015 include increases of nursery products (92.05%), field crops (37.8%) and apiary products & services (126.7%). Commodities experiencing value decreases include table olives (35.7%), milk (39.4%) and seed crops (88.6%).

My sincere appreciation is extended to the growers, processors, government agencies, and others that provided information used in preparing this report, as this publication would not be possible without their combined efforts.

I wish to thank my staff that assisted in compiling this report with special recognition to Heather Kelly for the report's overall coordination and production.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rick Gurrola

Rick Gurrola
Agricultural Commissioner

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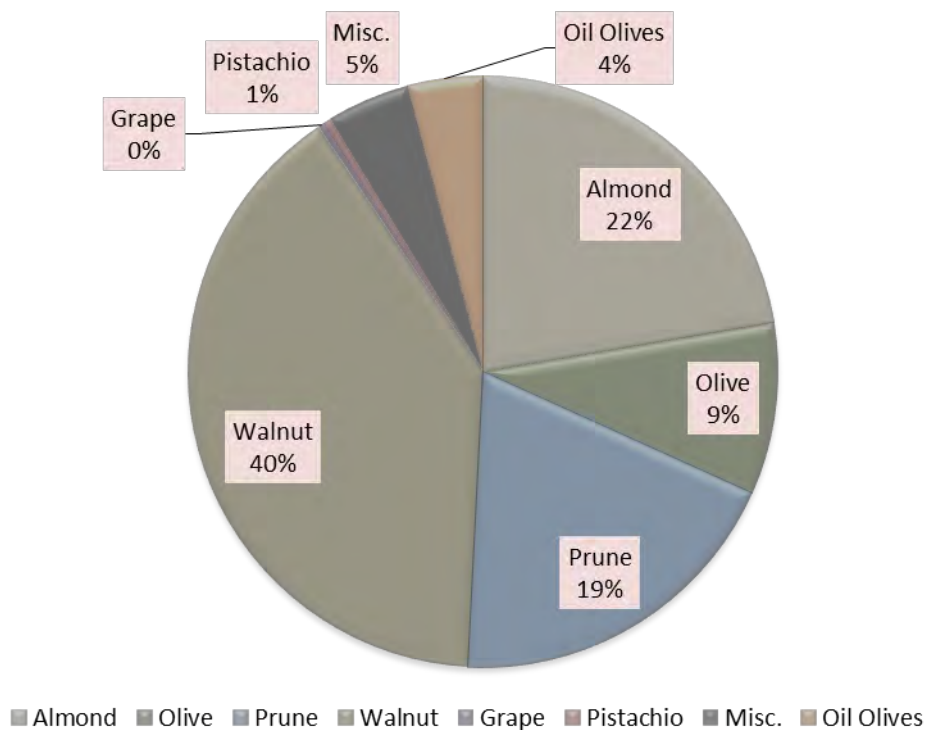
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Exemption of Mt Lassen from Red Bluff, Cal.

Fruit & Nut Crops

Crop	Year	Bearing Acres	Production/ Acre (tons)	Total Tons	Value/ Ton	Total Value
Almond (Meats)	2015	10,870	0.71	7,718	\$5,969	\$46,065,000
	2014	10,749	0.78	8,384	5,751	48,216,400
Olives, Table	2015	5,311	3.91	20,766	932	19,362,400
	2014	5,977	5.10	30,483	988	30,117,200
Olives, Oil	2015	3,278	5.62	18,422	463	8,529,400
	2014	3,853	2.94	11,328	556	6,298,400
Pistachio	2015	172	0.95	163	5,316	866,400
	2014	226	0.64	145	5,691	825,200
Prunes	2015	6,020	2.86	17,217	2,288	39,386,600
	2014	6,343	1.11	7,041	2,592	18,250,300
Walnuts	2015	23,738	2.02	47,951	1,710	81,996,200
	2014	24,560	2.10	51,576	3,284	169,375,600
Grapes	2015	162	4.70	762	927	706,400
	2014	121	6.40	774	793	613,800
Misc.*	2015					9,346,600
	2014					6,353,800
Total	2015					\$206,259,000
	2014					\$280,050,700

* Misc.: Almond Hulls, Apples, Apricots, Blueberries, Cherries, Figs, Lemons, Mandarins, Nectarines, Oranges, Peaches, Pecans, Pears, Persimmons, Plums, Pomegranates, Strawberries, Walnuts (Black), & Walnut Shells



Field Crops

Crop	Year	Harvested Acres	Production/Acre (tons)	Total Tons	Value/Ton	Total Value
Wheat	2015	4,381	2.74	12,004	\$185	\$2,217,600
	2014	2,610	2.29	5,977	232	1,386,700
Corn	2015	262	4.81	1,260	159	200,700
	2014	882	5.60	4,939	144	711,200
Alfalfa, Hay	2015	2,378	6.30	14,981	195	2,925,200
	2014	1,184	6.60	7,814	239	1,867,500
Grain Hay (Oats)	2015	4,746	1.94	9,207	137	1,264,400
	2014	3,489	1.1	3,838	212	813,700
Hay, Other	2015	2,560	4.33	11,085	135	1,496,500
	2014	2,158	2.34	5,050	220	1,111,000
Silage, Corn	2015	975	18.04	17,589	107	1,877,800
	2014	792	28.00	22,176	38	842,700
Misc.*	2015					2,318,000
	2014					2,190,500
Total**	2015					\$12,300,200
	2014					\$8,923,300

*Misc: Barley, Beans, Corn (sweet), Rice, Rye Grass, Safflower, Sudangrass Hay, Sorghum, Sunflower, Triticale

Pasture & Range

	Year	Harvested Acres	Value/Acre	Total Value
Irrigated Pasture	2015	21,000	\$180	\$3,780,000
	2014	22,000	180	3,960,000
Range	2015	920,000	10	9,200,000
	2014	922,500	10	9,225,000
Stubble*	2015	6,803	7	47,600
	2014	5,478	7	38,300
Total	2015			\$13,027,600
	2014			\$13,223,300

*Includes Rice, Sudangrass, Barley & Wheat Acreages



Seed Crops

	Year	Harvested Acres	Total Value
Misc. *	2015	159	\$175,000
	2014	1,407	\$1,539,700

*2015: Beans, Cucumber, Squash, Sudangrass, Sunflower (Certified Seed)

**2014: Kohlrabi, Sunflower, Pumpkin, Watermelon, Beans (Certified & Uncertified Seeds)

Vegetable Crops

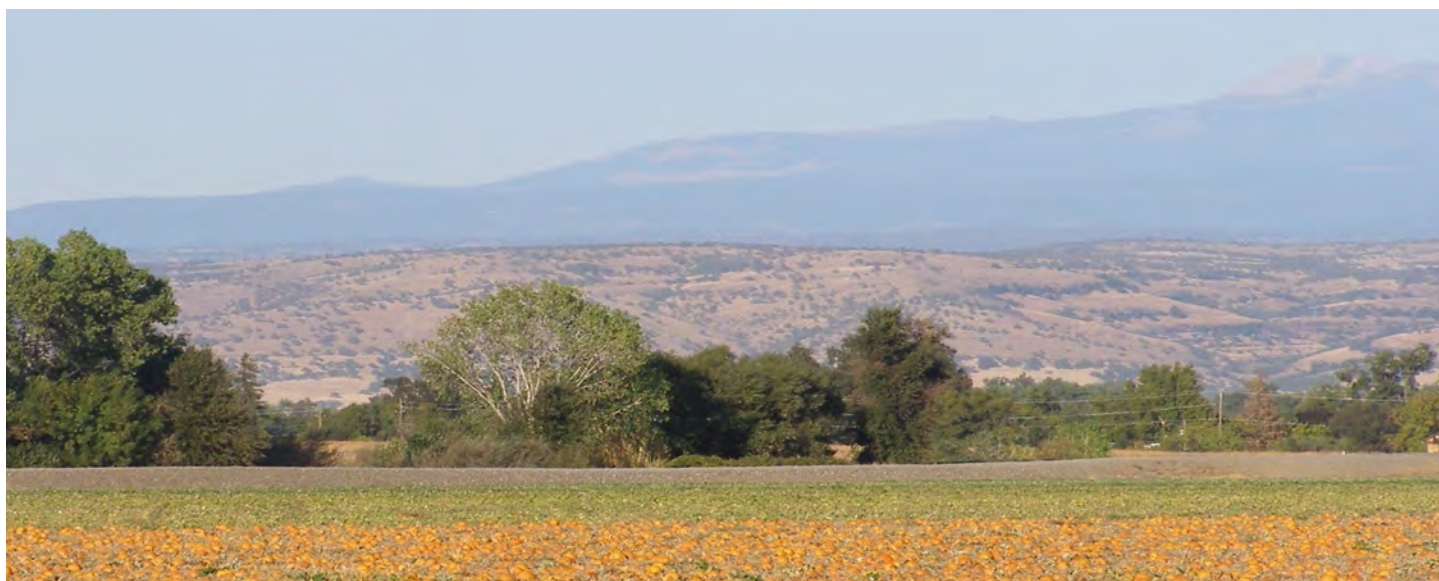
	Year	Harvested Acres	Total Value
Misc. Vegetables*	2015	180	\$481,000
	2014	150	\$350,000

*Direct sales, Farmer's Markets, and Roadside Stands

Nursery Products

	Year	Total Value
Nursery*	2015	\$18,766,600
	2014	\$9,779,100

*Includes Christmas Trees, Berry & Bedding Plants



Livestock & Poultry

	Year	Number of Head Sold	Total Live Weight (cwt)	Value/CWT	Total Value
Calves	2015	5,100	27,999	\$208	\$5,823,800
	2014	4,896	26,879	254	6,827,300
Feeders	2015	11,900	83,300	196	16,326,800
	2014	11,424	79,968	202	16,153,500
Feedlot	2015	20,000	40,000	170	6,800,000
	2014	19,200	38,400	187	7,180,800
Cows & Bulls	2015	3,200	42,200	104	4,388,800
	2014	3,072	40,512	91	3,686,600
Dairy Cattle	2015				2,944,200
	2014				3,335,800
Sheep & Lambs	2015	4,750	4,750	157	745,800
	2014	4,750	4,750	143	679,300
Hogs & Pigs	2015	1,000	1,750	74	129,500
	2014	1,000	1,750	82	143,500
Misc. Livestock	2015				2,852,000
	2014				2,688,000
Total	2015				\$40,010,900
	2014				\$40,694,800

*Misc.: Aquaculture, Meat Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, and Misc. Fowl

Livestock & Poultry Products

	Year	Production (cwt)	Value/CWT	Total Value
Milk (Market)	2015	655,261	\$16.18	\$10,602,100
	2014	705,031	23.29	16,420,200
Milk (Mfg.)	2015	8,670	17.30	150,000
	2014	57,325	23.32	1,336,800
Animal Fiber*	2015			68,500
	2014			68,500
Misc.**	2015			2,313,300
	2014			522,000
Total	2015			\$13,133,900
	2014			\$18,347,500

* Animal Fiber: Includes Wool & Alpaca Fiber

** Misc: Includes Eggs & Other Dairy Products

Apiary Products & Services

	Year	Production (colonies)	Value/Colony	Total Value
Pollination	2015	22,981	\$167	\$3,837,800
	2014	21,498	156	3,353,700
Apiary Products*	2015			13,013,400
	2014			4,078,200
Total	2015			\$16,851,200
	2014			\$7,431,900

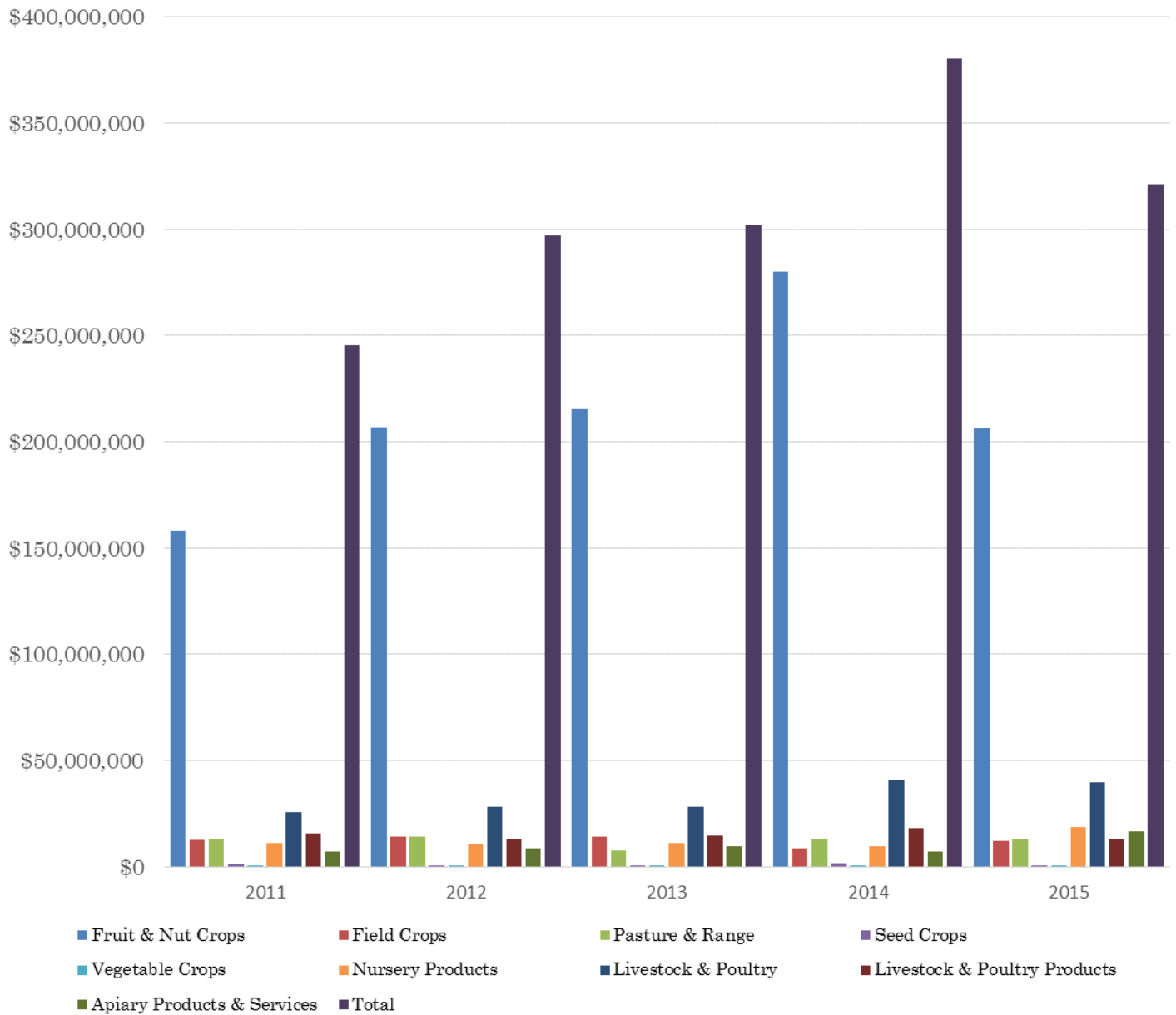
*Honey, Queens, Wax, & Package Bees

Timber Products

	Year	Harvested Board Feet	Total Value
	2015	18,762,000	\$3,196,500
	2014	48,570,000	\$10,406,000



Five-Year Trend



Commodity	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Fruit & Nut Crops	\$158,133,800	\$206,903,200	\$215,608,600	\$280,050,700	\$206,259,000
Field Crops	\$12,913,800	\$14,044,600	\$14,027,800	\$8,923,300	\$12,300,200
Pasture & Range	\$13,369,500	\$14,283,700	\$7,824,800	\$13,223,300	\$13,027,600
Seed Crops	\$1,018,700	\$284,700	\$489,100	\$1,539,700	\$175,000
Vegetable Crops	\$250,000	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$481,000
Nursery Products	\$11,103,000	\$10,539,900	\$11,083,000	\$9,779,100	\$18,766,600
Livestock & Poultry	\$25,900,200	\$28,356,100	\$28,353,000	\$40,694,800	\$40,010,900
Livestock & Poultry Products	\$15,777,600	\$13,337,300	\$14,700,400	\$18,347,500	\$13,133,900
Apiary Products & Services	\$7,203,400	\$8,882,100	\$9,570,700	\$7,431,900	\$16,851,200
Total	\$245,670,000	\$296,981,600	\$302,007,400	\$380,340,300	\$321,005,400

A Glimpse into the Past

Commodity	1965 Total Sold	2015 Total Sold	1965 Value	2015 Value
Almonds	573 tons (1,513 acres)	7,718 tons (10,870 acres)	\$342,000	\$46,065,000
Olives (table)	10,100 tons (4,531 acres)	20,766 tons (5,311 acres)	\$2,050,000	\$19,362,400
Prunes	8,790 tons (4,396 acres)	17,217 tons (6,020 acres)	\$1,900,000	\$39,386,600
Walnuts	1,590 tons (3,067 acres)	47,951 tons (23,738 acres)	\$636,000	\$81,996,200
Grapes	*	762 tons (162 acres)	*	\$706,400
Pistachio	*	163 tons (172 acres)	*	\$866,400
Corn	2,850 tons (865 acres)	1,260 tons (262 acres)	\$147,000	\$200,700
Alfalfa	44,900 tons (7,300 acres)	14,981 tons (2,378 acres)	\$1,055,000	\$2,925,200
Misc. Truck Crops			\$47,400	\$481,000
Other Hay	6,800 tons (5,690 acres)	11,085 tons (2,560 acres)	\$105,000	\$1,496,500
Sugar Beets	15,600 tons (750 acres)	*	\$156,000	*
Corn Silage	1,800 tons (180 acres)	17,589 tons (975 acres)	\$18,000	\$1,877,800
Ladino Clover Seed	594,000 lbs (1,930 acres)	*	\$269,800	*
Other Seed (Sudan, Alfalfa)	3,208,000 lbs (3,000 acres)	*	\$326,400	*
Nursery Stock	Olives, Deciduous Fruit and Nut Trees, Strawberry Plants & Decorative Material	Christmas Trees, Berry & Bedding Plants	\$496,000	\$18,766,600
Dairy Cattle	6,160 head		\$456,000	\$2,944,200
Beef Cattle	40,900 head	40,200 head	\$3,720,000	\$33,339,400
Dairy Products			\$1,637,000	\$10,752,100
Sheep & Lambs	80,400 head	4,750 head	\$1,380,000	\$745,800
Hogs	8,120 head	1000 head	\$356,000	\$129,500
Chicken Eggs	1,615,000 dozen	*	\$446,000	*
Year Total**			\$15,645,600	\$321,005,400

* No correlating values between 1965 and 2015

**Totals will not add to above values listed

Agricultural Report

In accordance with Section 2272 of the California Food and Agriculture Code, the Agricultural Report provides a brief account of efforts being made to exclude or eradicate exotic pests and to best manage those which already exist in a manner most conducive to the protection of our environment.

Quarantine Inspections

During 2015, 135 shipments were inspected for compliance with quarantine requirements, which resulted in several findings of small hive beetle, a 'B'-rated species. Tehama County requires treatment of small hive beetle prior to entering the county.



Small Hive Beetle

Pest Prevention

Tehama County's pest prevention program included pest detection trapping, specific species trapping and nursery inspections for light brown apple moth and glassy winged sharpshooter, and trapping for European grapevine moth. Tehama County continued to actively monitor for the light brown apple moth with emphasis on nurseries and fields destined for the global market, and European grapevine moth in commercial grape vineyards.



Glassy Winged Sharpshooter

126 traps deployed
No detections



Light Brown Apple Moth

70 traps deployed
No detections



European Grapevine Moth

13 traps deployed
No detections



Mediterranean Fruit Fly

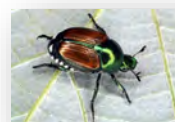


Oriental Fruit Fly



Melon Fly

317 traps deployed
No detections



Japanese Beetle



Gypsy Moth

Agricultural Report

Noxious Weeds

Tehama County encompasses approximately 1,904,640 acres, which are surveyed by our department for noxious weeds listed by California Department of Food and Agriculture. In 2015, three 'A' rated noxious weeds were under eradication and five 'B' rated species were under limited control treatment.

A-rated Species

Skeleton Weed



Dalmatian Toad-Flax



Spotted Knapweed



B-rated Species

Oblong Spurge



Whitehorse Nettle



Perennial Peppergrass

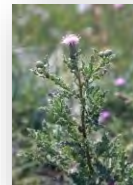


Heart-podded Hoarygrass



Courtesy Joseph DiTomaso

Canada Thistle



Organic Farming

Thirty-four organic growers registered in Tehama County in 2015, which is up 26% from 2014. Organically farmed land totaled 36,847 acres. Operations range from small gardens catering to local Certified Farmer's Markets to livestock, dairy, orchard and field crop producers providing products on a larger-scale.



Tehama County Exports

Phytosanitary certificates are documents stating that a said plant or plant product is free from pests and diseases, which are required by an importing country. Import requirements are designed to protect the importing countries' agricultural industry from insects and diseases, which have the potential to arrive with the shipment, and ensure a higher quality product.

USDA Phytosanitary Certificates Issued: 2,505

Products Exported to other Countries: Almonds, Figs, Lumber, Pecans, Strawberry Plants, Walnuts, Walnut Trees & Walnut Shells

Importing Countries:

Algeria	Argentina	Australia	Austria	Belgium
Brazil	Canada	Chile	China	Colombia
Costa Rica	Cyprus	Dominican Republic	Ecuador	Egypt
El Salvador	Finland	France	Germany	Greece
Guatemala	Hong Kong	India	Indonesia	Israel
Italy	Japan	Jordan	Korea	Kuwait
Lebanon	Lithuania	Malaysia	Mexico	Nepal
Netherlands	New Zealand	Norway	Panama	Philippines
Portugal	Qatar	San Marino	Saudi Arabia	Singapore
South Africa	Spain	Switzerland	Taiwan	Thailand
Tunisia	Turkey	Ukraine	United Arab Emirates	
United Kingdom	Uruguay	Vietnam		

State Phytosanitary Certificates Issued: 15

Products Exported to Other States: Strawberry Plants, Bamboo

Importing States: Florida, Missouri, North Carolina, Oregon, Virginia



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