

SUTTER COUNTY • 2021

# CROP & LIVESTOCK REPORT









# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>2</b>	Staff
<b>3</b>	Agricultural Commissioner's Letter
<b>4</b>	Fruit & Nut Crops / Bearing & Non-Bearing Acreage / Vegetable Crops
<b>5</b>	Field Crops
<b>6</b>	Seed Crops / Apiary Products
<b>7</b>	Livestock / Nursery Products
<b>8</b>	The History of Best Tractor Company
<b>10</b>	Ten Leading Crops / Summary
<b>11</b>	Gross Production Value
<b>12</b>	Sutter County District 1 Spotlight
<b>13</b>	Sutter County District 2 Spotlight
<b>14</b>	Sutter County District 3 Spotlight
<b>15</b>	Sutter County District 4 Spotlight
<b>16</b>	Sutter County District 5 Spotlight
<b>17</b>	Sutter County Exports
<b>18</b>	Statistics
<b>20</b>	Weights & Measures

## MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to serve the public's interest by ensuring equity in the marketplace, promoting and protecting agriculture, assuring environmental quality and protecting the health, safety and welfare of Sutter County's citizens.

We fulfill our mission through the following programs: Pest Exclusion, Pesticide Use Enforcement, Pest Detection, Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, Egg Quality Control, Pest Management, Nursery Inspection, Pest Eradication, Seed Inspection, Weights and Measures Enforcement, Predatory Animal Control and other non-regulatory and special services programs.

Photo Credits:

A.J. Anderson: Pages 5, 6-7, 18-19, and 21.



# STAFF

## **Agricultural Commissioner/ Sealer of Weights and Measures**

Lisa D. Herbert

## **Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/ Sealer of Weights and Measures**

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## **Agriculture & Standards Biologist III**

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Haily Dutton  
Courtney Krause  
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## **Animal Damage Control Specialist**

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Ashley Thibodeau – Accounting Technician I  
Melissa Ferreira – Secretary  
Trisha Royce - Secretary  
Jennifer Thompson – Secretary

## **Extra Help**

Mark Brown  
Bradley Buzzini  
Ava Evans  
Holden Hicks  
Courtney Krause  
Chancellor Poma-Sweet



OFFICE OF THE  
**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER**  
**SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES**

**LISA D. HERBERT**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights and Measures

October 2022

Karen Ross, Secretary  
California Department of Food and Agriculture  
and  
The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Sutter County  
Mike Ziegenmeyer, District 3, Chairman  
Nick Micheli, District 1  
Dan Flores, District 2  
Karm Bains, District 4  
Mat Conant, District 5

I am pleased to present the 2021 Crop and Livestock Report for Sutter County. The report is prepared pursuant to Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code and is a summary representing estimated acreage, yield and gross values. The gross value of Sutter County agricultural production for 2021 was \$621,366,000. This is an increase of \$52,509,000 or 9.2% above the 2020 total value.

Rice remains the top-ranking crop in 2021 despite a 30.5% decrease in acreage. An increase in yield and price offset the reduction in acreage as the total value fell to \$174,352,000. In second place, walnuts total value increased 60.9% to \$121,405,000 due to increases in harvested acreage and price. Cling Peaches remained in third with increases in acreage, yield and value to a total value of \$55,765,000. Remaining in fourth, processing tomatoes increased in acreage and price and decreased in yield to a total value of \$54,964,000. In fifth, nursery products total value rose to \$45,782,000 despite decreases in acreage and quantity sold.

This issue highlights the five Supervisorial Districts of Sutter County and how each district contributes to the total agricultural economy. Each Supervisor has a long history, connection, and appreciation of agriculture's importance. I would like to thank each Supervisor for their contributions and use of photographs.

While on a tour of Montna Farms in July 2022, I took the photograph used on the cover. The cover spread clearly shows the impact of the drought. The affect is clear as one side of the road is planted in rice and the other side left fallow.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the cooperation of all the growers, organizations and individuals who provided us the data that allows this report to be compiled. Thank you to all my staff, especially Nick Oliver for compiling and analyzing the data. This report represents gross values only and does not reflect net profits or loss to the producers.

To learn more about the Agricultural Commissioner's Office and the services we provide including crop reports dating back to 1940, please visit our website at <http://www.co.sutter.ca.us/doc/government/depts/ag/aghome>.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa D. Herbert

Agricultural Commissioner

# FRUIT & NUT CROPS

**2021**  
**\$271,006,000**

**2020**  
**\$200,105,000**

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	TOTAL
Almonds, Meats	2021	18,064	0.61	11,019	Ton	\$3,339	\$36,792,000
	2020	14,359	0.92	13,210	Ton	\$3,012	\$39,789,000
Olives	2021	1,031	4.48	4,619	Ton	861	3,977,000
	2020	939	0.69	648	Ton	617	400,000
Peaches, Clingstone	2021	7,783	14.33	111,530	Ton	500	55,765,000
	2020	7,617	14.18	108,009	Ton	476	51,412,000
Prunes, Dried	2021	13,006	1.61	20,940	Ton	2,037	42,655,000
	2020	12,002	1.16	13,922	Ton	1,703	23,709,000
Walnuts, English	2021	39,413	1.57	61,878	Ton	1,962	121,405,000
	2020	37,208	1.68	62,509	Ton	1,207	75,448,000
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>	2021	1,098		3,162	Ton	1,323	4,183,000
	2020	954		2,798	Ton	1,665	4,659,000
Orchard By-Products	2021				Ton		6,229,000
	2020				Ton		4,688,000
TOTAL	2021	80,395			Ton		\$271,006,000
	2020	73,079			Ton		\$200,105,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Apples, Apricots, Berries (Blackberries, Boysenberries & Raspberries), Cherries, Chestnuts, Citrus (Grapefruit, Lemons, Limes, Mandarins, Oranges, Tangerines), Feijoa, Figs, Grapes, Jujubes (Chinese Date), Kiwifruit, Kumquat, Nectarines, Nectarplums, Peaches (Freestone), Peacotum, Pears, Pecans, Persimmons, Pistachio Nuts, Plums, Pluots, Pomegranates, Quince, Strawberries, Walnuts (Black) and other miscellaneous fruit and nut crops of a limited number of growers/processors in Sutter County.

## BEARING & NON-BEARING ACREAGE

CROP	BEARING ACRES		NON-BEARING ACRES	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Almonds	18,064	14,359	2,233	3,678
Olives	1,031	939	0	0
Peaches, Clingstone	7,783	7,617	409	529
Prunes, Dried	13,006	12,002	1,333	2,861
Walnuts, English	39,413	37,208	4,604	5,733
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>	1,098	954	80	69
TOTAL	80,395	73,079	8,659	12,870

<sup>1</sup> Includes Apples, Apricots, Berries (Blackberries, Boysenberries & Raspberries), Cherries, Chestnuts, Citrus (Grapefruit, Lemons, Limes, Mandarins, Oranges, Tangerines), Feijoa, Figs, Grapes, Jujubes (Chinese Date), Kiwifruit, Kumquat, Nectarines, Nectarplums, Peaches (Freestone), Peacotum, Pears, Pecans, Persimmons, Pistachio Nuts, Plums, Pluots, Pomegranates, Quince, Strawberries, Walnuts (Black) and other miscellaneous fruit and nut crops of a limited number of growers/processors in Sutter County.

# VEGETABLE CROPS

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	TOTAL
Tomatoes, Processing	2021	13,976	45.73	639,122	Ton	\$86	\$54,964,000
	2020	12,640	51.25	647,800	Ton	\$78	\$50,528,000
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>	2021	666		6,777	Ton		3,477,000
	2020	192		2,789	Ton		1,781,000
TOTAL	2021	14,642					\$58,441,000
	2020	12,832					\$52,309,000

**2021**  
**\$58,441,000**

**2020**  
**\$52,309,000**

<sup>1</sup> Includes Artichoke, Asparagus, Basil, Beets, Bitter Melons, Bok Choy, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cantaloupe, Carrots, Cauliflower, Celery, Chard, Cilantro, Collards, Corn (sweet), Cucumbers, Eggplant, Garlic, Gourds, Greens (incl. micro) Green Beans, Herbs, Honeydew, Jicama, Kale, Kohlrabi, Leeks, Lettuce, Melons (Mixed), Mustard, Okra, Onions, Parsnips, Peas, Peanuts, Peppers, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Radishes, Rhubarb, Rutabagas, Shallots, Spinach, Sprouts, Squash, Sweet Potatoes, Tomatillos, Tomatoes (Fresh), Turnips, Watermelons, Winter Squash, Zucchini and other miscellaneous vegetables of a limited number of growers/processors in Sutter County.



# FIELD CROPS

**2021**  
**\$193,178,000**

**2020**  
**\$237,546,000**

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	TOTAL
Bean, Dried, Edible <sup>1</sup>	2021	5,774	0.62	3,580	Ton	\$1,088	\$3,895,000
	2020	4,794	1.00	4,794	Ton	\$1,037	\$4,971,000
Corn, Field Grain	2021	5,628	6.93	39,002	Ton	180	7,020,000
	2020	5,633	7.16	40,332	Ton	186	7,502,000
Hay, Alfalfa	2021	3,690	5.74	21,181	Ton	252	5,338,000
	2020	4,265	6.25	26,656	Ton	239	6,371,000
Hay, Grain	2021	4,165	2.36	9,829	Ton	205	2,015,000
	2020	4,428	2.41	10,671	Ton	154	1,643,000
Rice <sup>2</sup>	2021	74,506	4.44	330,807	Ton	494	163,419,000
	2020	108,778	4.37	475,360	Ton	413	196,324,000
Safflower	2021	2,041	1.04	2,123	Ton	513	1,089,000
	2020	1,854	1.00	1,854	Ton	438	812,000
Wheat, Grain	2021	10,722	2.24	24,017	Ton	226	5,428,000
	2020	5,060	2.60	13,156	Ton	187	2,460,000
Miscellaneous <sup>3,4</sup>	2021	71,242					4,974,000
	2020	76,271					12,945,000
Field Crop By-Products	2021						
	2020						4,518,000
TOTAL	2021	177,768					\$193,178,000
	2020	211,083					\$237,546,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes all varieties of edible Dried Bean, including Lima, Blackeye, Garbanzo, Light and Dark Red Kidney Bean and other miscellaneous beans of a limited number of growers/processors in Sutter County.

<sup>2</sup> Includes USDA Support Price.

<sup>3</sup> Pasture, Irrigated and Pasture, Range Dry moved to miscellaneous due to insufficient data.

<sup>4</sup> Includes Barley, Corn (Silage), Cotton, Grass Hay, Industrial Hemp, Oats (Silage), Pasture (Irrigated), Pasture (Range Dry), Popcorn, Triticale, Vetch, Sorghum and other miscellaneous field crops of a limited number of growers/processors in Sutter County.

# SEED CROPS

**2021**  
**\$39,305,000**

**2020**  
**\$24,567,000**

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	TOTAL
Cucumbers	2021	95	98	9,310	Lb	\$49.34	\$459,000
	2020	199	390	78,000	Lb	\$4.20	\$328,000
Pumpkins & Squash	2021	298	481	143,000	Lb	9.08	1,298,000
	2020	266	227	60,000	Lb	7.37	442,000
Rice	2021	4,803	9,105	43,731,000	Lb	0.25	10,933,000
	2020	5,262	5,892	31,004,000	Lb	0.20	6,201,000
Sunflower	2021	11,652	995	11,594,000	Lb	1.72	19,942,000
	2020	8,235	1,267	10,434,000	Lb	1.28	13,356,000
Watermelons	2021	849	207	176,000	Lb	33.00	5,808,000
	2020	647	256	166,000	Lb	19.17	3,182,000
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>	2021	1,241		3,534,000	Lb		865,000
	2020	1,745		3,880,000	Lb		1,058,000
TOTAL	2021	18,938					\$39,305,000
	2020	16,354					\$24,567,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Alfalfa, Arugula, Basil, Fresh Beans, Dried Beans (Blackeye, Cowpea, Cranberry, Lima, Dark Red Kidney, Light Red Kidney), Broccoli, Cabbage, Cantaloupe, Carrots, Cauliflower, Coriander, Gourds, Kale, Lettuce, Onion, Peppers, Mixed Melons, Okra, Radish, Safflower, Sugar Peas, Swiss Chard, Tomato, Tomatillo, Triticale, Wheat, Wild Rice and other miscellaneous seed crops of a limited growers/processors in Sutter County.

# APIARY PRODUCTS

**2021**  
**\$8,589,000**

**2020**  
**\$6,783,000**

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	TOTAL
Pollination	2021	69,710	Colony	\$106	\$7,389,000
	2020	55,467	Colony	\$103	\$5,713,000
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>	2021				1,200,000
	2020				1,070,000
TOTAL	2021				\$8,589,000
	2020				\$6,783,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Package Bees, Queen Bees, Honey and Wax.



## LIVESTOCK

**2021**  
**\$5,065,000**

**2020**  
**\$4,417,000**

ITEM	YEAR	NUMBER	LIVE WEIGHT	UNIT	UNIT VALUE	TOTAL
Cattle & Calves <sup>1</sup>	2021	2,720	23,065	Cwt.	\$126	\$2,906,000
	2020	2,640	20,632	Cwt.	\$109	\$2,249,000
Miscellaneous <sup>2</sup>	2021					2,156,000
	2020					2,166,000
Livestock By-Products	2021					3,000
	2020					2,000
TOTAL	2021					\$5,065,000
	2020					\$4,417,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes USDA Support Price.

<sup>2</sup> Includes Alpaca & Angora Fur, Aquaculture, Chickens, Chicken Eggs, Ducks, Fish Bait, Geese, Goats, Hogs, Milk (Market), Game Birds, Musk Oxen, Pheasants, Pigeons, Rabbits, Rabbit Hides, Turkeys, Water Buffalo, Wool and other miscellaneous livestock and poultry of a limited number of growers/processors in Sutter County.

## NURSERY PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	FIELD ACRES	QUANTITY SOLD	TOTAL
Trees and Vines (Fruit and Nut, Bareroot and Potted)	2021	347	8,136,497	\$45,586,000
	2020	476	9,699,275	\$43,107,000
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>	2021	5	60,469	196,000
	2020	5	2,390	23,000
TOTAL	2021	352	8,196,966	\$45,782,000
	2020	481	9,701,665	\$43,130,000

**2021**  
**\$45,782,000**

**2020**  
**\$43,130,000**

<sup>1</sup> Includes Ornamental Trees, Shrubs and other Nursery Stock.

# THE HISTORY OF BEST TRACTOR

Sutter County holds an interesting place in the developmental history of farm machinery, and the genesis of Caterpillar Company, which can trace half of its roots back to the farm of Henry Best, in the 1870s. Henry Best farmed roughly 1500 acres about 8 miles south of Yuba City, in the vicinity of the road that bears his name today. Henry's Brother Daniel began working on this farm in 1872; Daniel, with a genius for solving practical problems, directed his talents towards the design and development of harvesting equipment. This would blossom into a string of innovative advancements, a revolution in Agriculture, taking it from the age of horse-drawn implements into that of steam engines, and ultimately gasoline and diesel-powered implements.

Upon seeing the difficulties of transporting all cut wheat out of fields to distant locations for cleaning (separation of wheat from chaff), Daniel began development/ design of a portable cleaner. He tried out his prototypes on the Henry Best ranch. Ultimately Daniel perfected the cleaner and it won 1<sup>st</sup> place at the California State Fair. He obtained a patent and began fabricating and marketing them from Henry's ranch. With the development of a portable grain cleaner, the concept of the modern "combine" tractor was not far behind: a cleaner that could be combined with a header to cut and clean grain in the field all at once. However, the weight of such a combination—in the words of one collaborator— "would take a field full of horses and mules to pull it." A solution of one problem then presented a new problem—weight—and Daniel looked to solve it with a steam-powered engine.



Seated, left to right: Daniel, Henry, Samuel. Standing, left to right: Richard, Darb.  
PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLAN BEST



Best "Sixty" pulling a combine wheat harvester (unknown location)

PHOTO COURTESY OF SUTTER COUNTY MUSEUM



# BEST COMPANY



Best "Sixty" pulling a harrow to plant grain (Tarke farm location)

PHOTO COURTESY OF SUTTER COUNTY MUSEUM

By 1885, Daniel bought a farm implement factory in San Leandro and converted it from the manufacture of plows towards the manufacture of steam-powered tractors. Soon the company was building steam-powered tractors used in agriculture and logging. In subsequent years, Daniel's business interests were passed to his son, C.L. Best, who then took the business into the production of tracklayer tractors. In 1925, Best merged his company with Holt Manufacturing Company of Stockton, a long-time competitor that had been building combines and tracklayer tractors during the same decades as the Best Company. By this time, the tractors of Best and Holt were already in use around the world. They called this new merger the Caterpillar Company. A great American success story that had part of its origin here, in Sutter County.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KEVIN PUTMAN



Sutter Cemetery, Sutter, CA  
PHOTO COURTESY OF KEVIN PUTMAN

*Henry Best farmed roughly 1500 acres about 8 miles south of Yuba City, in the vicinity of the road that bears his name today.*

## TEN LEADING CROPS

CROP	2021	CROP	2020
RICE <sup>1</sup>	\$174,352,000	RICE <sup>1</sup>	\$202,525,000
WALNUTS	\$121,405,000	WALNUTS	\$75,448,000
PEACHES, CLINGSTONE	\$55,765,000	PEACHES, CLINGSTONE	\$51,412,000
TOMATOES, PROCESSING	\$54,964,000	TOMATOES, PROCESSING	\$50,528,000
NURSERY PRODUCTS	\$45,782,000	NURSERY PRODUCTS	\$43,130,000
PRUNES, DRIED	\$42,655,000	ALMONDS	\$39,789,000
ALMONDS	\$36,792,000	PRUNES, DRIED	\$23,709,000
SUNFLOWER, SEED	\$19,942,000	SUNFLOWER, SEED	\$13,356,000
CORN, FIELD GRAIN	\$7,020,000	CORN, FIELD GRAIN	\$7,502,000
WATERMELON, SEED	\$5,808,000	HAY, ALFALFA	\$6,371,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Seed, does not include Wild Rice.

## SUMMARY

CATEGORIES	2021	2020
FRUIT & NUT CROPS	\$271,006,000	\$200,105,000
FIELD CROPS	193,178,000	237,546,000
SEED CROPS	39,305,000	24,567,000
VEGETABLE CROPS	58,441,000	52,309,000
NURSERY PRODUCTS	45,782,000	43,130,000
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS	5,065,000	4,417,000
APIARY PRODUCTS	8,589,000	6,783,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$621,366,000</b>	<b>\$568,857,000</b>



# GROSS PRODUCTION VALUE

YEAR	VALUE	YEAR	VALUE	YEAR	VALUE
1959	\$50,707,000	1980	\$299,014,700	2001	\$264,673,000
1960	\$50,536,000	1981	\$316,465,900	2002	\$291,061,100
1961	\$55,585,000	1982	\$247,784,100	2003	\$307,322,300
1962	\$57,322,000	1983	\$205,335,300	2004	\$299,219,300
1963	\$55,155,000	1984	\$262,285,500	2005	\$305,190,190
1964	\$66,740,000	1985	\$255,449,600	2006	\$358,845,200
1965	\$64,564,000	1986	\$229,364,800	2007	\$377,940,800
1966	\$71,627,000	1987	\$216,183,600	2008	\$498,195,200
1967	\$69,313,000	1988	\$201,345,800	2009	\$475,691,100
1968	\$80,275,000	1989	\$243,940,200	2010	\$521,640,570
1969	\$74,006,000	1990	\$217,400,000	2011	\$518,198,460
1970	\$77,238,000	1991	\$268,941,900	2012	\$528,253,000
1971	\$82,209,000	1992	\$285,622,700	2013	\$597,530,000
1972	\$95,118,000	1993	\$292,108,300	2014	\$726,066,000
1973	\$159,204,000	1994	\$340,171,300	2015	\$538,147,000
1974	\$179,719,000	1995	\$330,170,500	2016	\$514,408,000
1975	\$187,517,000	1996	\$302,706,400	2017	\$583,996,000
1976	\$178,554,000	1997	\$277,169,700	2018 <sup>1</sup>	\$609,058,000
1977	\$200,878,000	1998	\$268,323,100	2019	\$698,680,000
1978	\$220,502,000	1999	\$347,939,000	2020	\$568,857,000
1979	\$258,666,900	2000	\$340,176,000	2021	\$621,366,000

<sup>1</sup> 2018 Total value revised.



# Sutter County District 1



**Supervisor Nick Micheli**

**Total Acreage – 75,708**

**Population – 19,649**

**Pesticide Permit Acreage – 46,603**  
(62% of total acreage)

**Prime Ag Land – 11,741**

**Top Crops by Acreage:**

- Walnut – 9,316
- Rice – 8,482
- Almond – 6,644
- Prune – 4,840
- Peach – 3,210

**Describe your District for someone who's never been there.** District 1 is rural and consists of small communities scattered throughout its many orchards and a small incorporated town with a population of roughly 8,500. The rural nature of District 1 fosters a friendly small-town atmosphere. It is flanked by the iconic Sutter Buttes to the west and the Feather River to the east. The combination of the mountains, wetlands, and the river provides for many outdoor recreational activities, from hiking and biking in the Sutter Buttes to fishing and boating in the Feather River and hunting at the Gray Lodge Wildlife Area.

**What makes your District special?** District 1 is special in that there are many opportunities to enjoy nature. Its proximity to the Sutter Buttes and the Feather River coupled with its rich agricultural land makes it unique from others. It is home to the first winery in Sutter County and also home to

one of the oldest oak trees in the United States, the Bicentennial Living Witness Tree, which is over 200 years old.

**What does your District contribute to the agricultural economy of Sutter County?**

District 1's top crops include walnut, rice and almonds. Orchards and rice fields make up much of its available agricultural land. District 1 has the highest ratio of walnut orchards to available agricultural land and also produces a majority of Sutter County's prune crop. Coe Orchard Equipment Inc, a harvesting equipment manufacturing company whose products are used all over the world, is also located in District 1.

**Describe any connection to agriculture that you may have.**

I am a third generation Sutter County farmer whose family has been farming in Sutter County since the 1920's. I have been managing the family farm since the age of 20 and



also serve as the Secretary and Treasurer of Lomo Receiving Co. in Live Oak.

**What is the importance of agriculture to Sutter County?**

Agriculture is a vital part of Sutter County and its economy. Sutter County's rich soil is well-suited for agriculture and has made it a prime location for growing crops. This is important not just locally but all over the world as Sutter County is responsible for producing many crops that the rest of the state, country, and world depend on.







**Supervisor Dan Flores**

**Total Acreage – 2,665**

**Population – 20,579**

**Pesticide Permit Acreage – 267**  
(10% of total acreage)

**Prime Ag Land – 123**

**Top Crops by Acreage**

- Peach – 90
- Walnut – 36
- Certified Farmers' Markets - 1



**Describe your District for someone who's never been there.** District 2 lies in the heart of Yuba City, CA where the majority of the population of Sutter County resides. It includes downtown Yuba City, a quaint historic neighborhood lined with small shops and restaurants perfect for a night out on the town. District 2 has a good mix of residential and commercial neighborhoods and is always bustling with activity. There are numerous parks and community facilities within the district which makes it ideal for community events, such as the Yuba-Sutter Fair.

**What makes your District special?** District 2 is special because it is in the city center and there are a host of activities to enjoy, whether it's spending time with friends and family at one of its many parks, exploring the many shops and restaurants in downtown Yuba City, participating at community events, or visiting the farmers' market. The diversity of District 2 also makes it special in that there are people from all different kinds of backgrounds.

**What does your District contribute to the agricultural economy of Sutter County?** District 2 hosts a number of agriculture related events throughout the year including the Yuba-Sutter Fair, Annual Farm Day, and the farmers' market. The Yuba-Sutter Fair allows the community to gather to celebrate agriculture and provides a platform for youth and young adults to display and auction their livestock. The Annual Farm Day is an event that educates young children and the community about agriculture and how it impacts the region and local economy. The Yuba City Certified Farmers' Market takes place on Saturdays in District 2. It allows local farmers to sell their produce and products and allows residents to shop for locally grown food. Many of the residents of District 2 are part of the agriculture workforce in the region and help drive the economy of Sutter County.

**Describe any connection to agriculture that you may have.** My grandfather was a cattle rancher and I spent many childhood years

helping him as a ranch hand and learning about farming. In the late 1980's my family moved from the San Francisco Bay area to Sutter County where my dad purchased a prune farm. I spent many seasons farming with my dad and brother before I later moved to town. I come from a background of providing training and education to people to prepare them for the workforce and have developed relationships with countless agricultural workers. The agricultural workforce is important to me because they are a vital part of our agricultural industry. I think it is important for everyone to understand the history of agriculture and how it important it is to not only the Sutter County community but worldwide. I support local small farmers at the farmers' market and assist with agricultural events like the Yuba-Sutter Fair whenever the opportunity arises.

**What is the importance of agriculture to Sutter County?** Agriculture was the foundation of Sutter County and is a part of its rich history. Agriculture in Sutter County goes as far back to its founding when John Augustus Sutter established his farm in the Yuba City area in the early 1840's. A large part of Sutter County's economy depends on agriculture, and it has become a half billion-dollar industry in Sutter County creating jobs and providing for the needs of its residents.





# Sutter County District 3



## Supervisor Mike Ziegenmeyer

**Total Acreage** – 76,767

**Population** – 19,287

**Pesticide Permit Acreage** – 44,890  
(58% of total acreage)

**Prime Ag Land** – 35,131

### Top Crops by Acreage:

- Rice – 14,584
- Walnut – 7,702
- Wheat – 4,145
- Almond – 3,452
- Tomato – 3,265

**Certified Farmers' Markets** – 1



### Describe your District for someone who's never been there.

District 3 is bordered by the Sacramento River to the west and the Sutter Buttes to the north. It includes the Sutter National Wildlife Refuge, a wetland habitat that supports hundreds of thousands of ducks and geese during migration. It includes the very best part of the city and stretches through the southern half of the Sutter Buttes where we have some of the best crops grown by world class farmers from peaches, prunes, almonds, walnuts, wheat, safflower, rice, grapes, and many more.

### What makes your District special?

The

beautiful Sutter Buttes create a scenic backdrop for District 3. The Sacramento River provides for year-round fishing and nurtures a rich environment for seasonal hunting. District 3 is also home to the high school football powerhouse, the Sutter High School Huskies.

### What does your District contribute to the agricultural economy of Sutter County?

District 3's primary contribution to the agricultural economy of Sutter County includes rice, walnuts, wheat and almonds. It is also home to Sweco, a manufacturer of agricultural and industrial machinery.

### Describe any connection to agriculture that you may have.

My dad founded Sweco, an agricultural and industrial machinery manufacturing company, in 1946 after he came home from the war. I've worked there since I was 14. I am currently VP of Sales and work with growers all over the world.

### What is the importance of agriculture to Sutter County?

With nearly 70% of Sutter County's land mass located in FEMA flood zones, agriculture makes the best use of our rich and valuable soil. Agriculture brings in jobs and is critical to the economy of Sutter County.







**Supervisor Karm Bains**

**Total Acreage** – 16,031

**Population** – 20,563

**Pesticide Permit Acreage** – 11,519  
(72% of total acreage)

**Prime Ag Land** – 1,661

**Top Crops by Acreage**

- Rice – 6,058
- Almond – 1,152
- Walnut – 1,107
- Peach – 896
- Prune – 550



**Describe your District for someone who's never been there.** District 4 is diverse with a unique combination of residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural communities. Its residential and commercial neighborhoods are flourishing with new restaurants and businesses, excellent school districts, and several large residential and recreational development projects including four large residential subdivisions and parks. District 4 also has a strong agricultural presence with vast expanses of orchards and farmland. In addition, the industrial hub of Sutter County lies within its boundaries.

**What makes your District special?** District 4 is home to the first elected Sikh supervisor in the nation. It is a melting pot of political, ethnic, and religious diversity. It is a great place to raise children with a balance of urban and suburban. It has the convenience of being close to the city center along with the peaceful family-friendly atmosphere of the rural and suburban environments. District 4 is also known

as the chicken capital of Sutter County where you frequently see chickens roam the streets.

**What does your District contribute to the agricultural economy of Sutter County?**

District 4's rich fertile soil and adequate water supply contributes to its success in growing peaches, prunes, walnuts, almonds, pistachios, pecans, pomegranates, rice, wheat, beans, corn, tomatoes, cotton, sunflower, safflower, and milo, among others. Sunsweet Growers Incorporated is located in District 4 and operates one of the largest dried fruit processing plants in the world. It is also "the largest employer in Sutter County" creating jobs for the county and ultimately contributing to the economy of the region. The industrial hub of Sutter County is located in District 4 which include many companies that specialize in different aspects of agriculture, from farming equipment and repair to supplies for irrigation and pest control to processing, packaging, and distribution of produce.

**Describe any connection to agriculture that you may have.**

I eat, sleep, and breath farming. I am a fourth generation Sutter County farmer. I was raised on a farm and it is all that I know. My family and I grow peaches, prunes, walnuts, almonds, pistachios, and rice in Sutter County. To me, agriculture is my livelihood.

**What is the importance of agriculture to Sutter County?**

Agriculture is the economic engine for Sutter County. Because of this, Sutter County has become the agricultural hub of Northern California. It provides jobs for many of the residents in Sutter County as well as surrounding counties. We have a great agricultural workforce. It is also a significant source of revenue for the region. The variety and quantity of commodities grown here in Sutter County speaks volumes to the importance of agriculture to Sutter County.





# Sutter County District 5



## Supervisor Mat Conant

**Total Acreage** – 218,229

**Population** – 19,848

**Pesticide Permit Acreage** – 175,755  
(81% of total acreage)

**Prime Ag Land** – 110,518

### Top Crops by Acreage:

- Rice – 86,582
- Walnut – 23,469
- Sunflower – 9,540
- Almond – 8,062
- Tomato – 7,784



**Describe your District for someone who's never been there.** District 5 is largely made up of agricultural land and small rural communities. It is a prime location for growing crops with its great location and climate. The Sacramento, Feather, and Bear Rivers all converge in District 5. The confluence of these rivers in the region provides for fertile soil and irrigation that makes sense.

**What makes your District special?** District 5 has some great communities, schools, and community organizations which make it special. The rural environment of District 5 promotes strong, active and involved communities. Its schools are rated among the top in the State in academics and athletics. Its small rural communities foster unity and friendliness among the residents.

**What does your District contribute to the agricultural economy of Sutter County?** District 5 makes up roughly 48 percent of the land mass of Sutter County and has the largest amount of agricultural land available for crop production. It produces most crops in Sutter County from rice to walnuts, prunes, peaches, and alfalfa, not to mention a variety of organic crops such as corn, popcorn, tortilla corn, rice, beans, sunflowers, and safflower.

**Describe any connection to agriculture that you may have.** I am a fifth generation California farmer. My family has been farming in Sutter County for over 100 years, since 1921. They have been farming for over 150 years in California and almost 400 years in America. They have been farming since 1623. I do custom farming, raise walnuts, commercial drying, and hauling.

**What is the importance of agriculture to Sutter County?** Agriculture is the economic driver for Sutter County and helping to feed the world. Sutter County's crops are exported all over the world. According to the California Department of Food and Agriculture, California produces 99 percent of the walnuts in the United States and Sutter County is among the top producers of walnuts in the state. The agriculture industry in Sutter County not only provides jobs for the people but also brings in revenues.





# SUTTER COUNTY EXPORTS

Sutter County exported to 83 countries in 2021, the top five being China, United Arab Emirates, Republic of Korea, Japan and Germany.

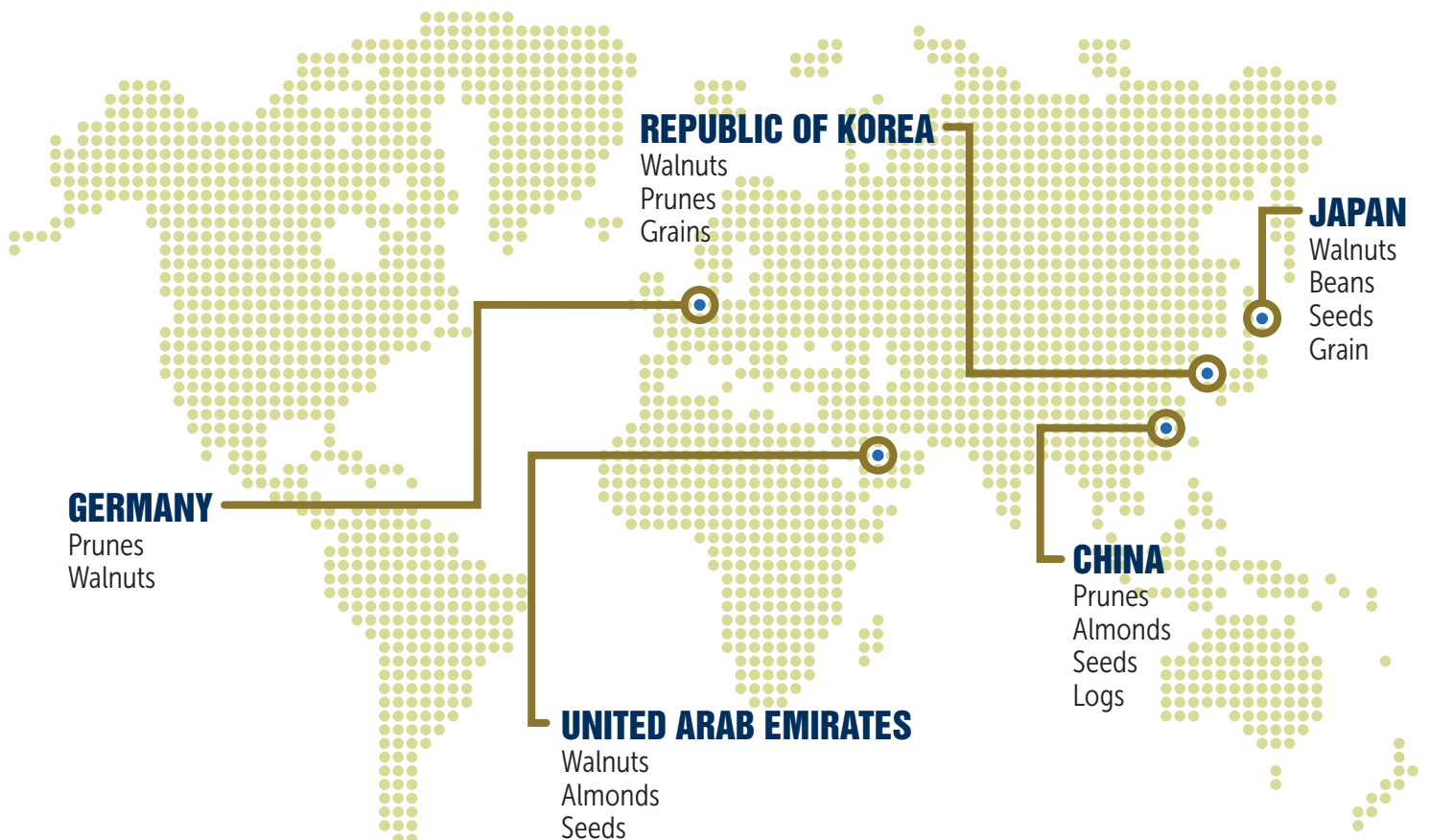
## 2021 FEDERAL PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATES

Total of 1,813 issued to 83 countries

## NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES ISSUED

China - 187  
United Arab Emirates - 105  
Republic of Korea - 100  
Japan - 87  
Germany - 72

## TOP FIVE EXPORT COUNTRIES



# STATISTICS

## CROP STATISTICS

As required by the California Food & Agricultural Code, the gross production and value of the county's commodities are compiled and recorded in the annual crop report. This valuable information helps associated businesses while promoting the production and prosperity of agriculture in California.

**Total Hours Expended 2021: 150**

## SEED LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CERTIFICATION

Inspections are performed at retail and wholesale establishments that sell seed. Samples are drawn for germination and purity testing and labeling is inspected for compliance with state requirements. Through this program, certification services are also available for growers and processors in cooperation with the California Crop Improvement Association.

**Total Hours Expended 2021: 483**

## APIARY INSPECTION

This program emphasizes the registration and site location of honeybee colonies in the county. At the request of beekeepers or growers, the County Agricultural Commissioner inspects colonies for strength and health to ensure effective pollination.

**Total Hours Expended 2021: 634**

## KILL THE BUG, RECYCLE THE JUG

This program is funded by a grant from Feather Air Quality Management District with the Sutter County Agricultural Commissioner's Office making an in-kind contribution of approximately 145 hours annually. Growers are encouraged to bring their empty pesticide containers to permanent recycling events held throughout the year. In 2021 we recycled 82,080 pounds of used pesticide containers. A total of 1,360,207 pounds have been recycled since the program began in 2007.

## PESTICIDE USE ENFORCEMENT

This is a complex legislatively mandated program that provides for the proper, safe and effective use of pesticides essential for production of food and fiber and for protection of the public health and safety. It also protects the environment from potentially

harmful pesticides by prohibiting, regulating or ensuring proper stewardship of pesticides. An important component of the program focuses on agricultural and pest control workers, ensuring safe working conditions, use of proper protective equipment and training for employees who work with or around pesticides. Other components of the program include pesticide use reporting, incident investigations, outreach activities promoting best management practices and monitoring applications in the field.

**Total Hours Expended 2021: 10,960**

## FRUIT, NUT AND VEGETABLE STANDARDIZATION

This program ensures compliance with California's minimum standards regarding quality and marketing of all produce commercially grown and/or marketed in the state. Regulation of two certified market and 21 certified producers as well as Organic Program law enforcement are part of a program that provides for local protection to growers, marketers and consumers.

**Total Hours Expended 2021: 566.9**

## MEASUREMENT STANDARDS

County Weights and Measures officials ensure the accuracy of commercial weighing and measuring devices; verify the quantity of both bulk and packaged commodities and enforce the quality advertising and labeling standards for most petroleum products.

**Total Hours Expended 2021: 1,834**

## PEST MANAGEMENT

The County Agricultural Commissioner is charged with the responsibility of managing nuisance pests of agriculture and human health. Many of these pests are introduced species that have become established despite our best pest exclusion efforts. If promising, programs are established to distribute biological agents for troublesome pests.

To prevent the spread of glassy-winged sharpshooter (GWSS), Sutter County inspected 100 shipments of nursery stock arriving from infested areas in California. There were zero shipments of plant material rejected for the presence of GWSS egg masses or other life stages. There were 126 traps placed in nurseries and urban areas for the detection of GWSS, which were serviced a total of 1,272 times.



The Biological Control program utilizes natural enemies to suppress populations of pests to economically and environmentally acceptable levels. Following establishment, the agents are self-sustaining, reducing the need for chemical controls. A number of biological control agents are general distribution or locally established, including agents for puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*) and yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*). The puncturevine agents include puncturevine seed weevil (*Microlarinus lareynii*) and puncturevine stem weevil (*M. lypriformis*) and distributed countywide. There are six yellow starthistle agents present in Sutter County. Additionally, the lerp psyllid wasp (*Psyllephagus bliteus*) is present, which acts as a biocontrol for the redgum lerp psyllid (*Glycaspis brimblecombei*), a pest of eucalyptus.

In 2021, the County Agricultural Commissioner continued effort under a State weed grant to survey for noxious weeds and weeds of concern.

**Total Hours Expended 2021: 898.6**

## ORGANIC FARMING

35 farms, totaling approximately 20,136 acres of crop land were registered as organic in Sutter County in 2021. These farms produce a wide array of commodities such as almonds, stone fruit, beans, herbs, corn, popcorn, miscellaneous vegetables, apples, grapes, pears, pomegranates, melons, squash, oats, peas, prunes, rice, seed crops, tomatoes, walnuts and wheat. The total estimated values of organic production in Sutter County in 2021 was \$48,633,494. In comparison, 2020 had 13,674 production acres with an estimated value of \$23,871,158.

## NURSERY INSPECTION

Through this program, inspections are performed at the growing propagation, production and sales sites to ensure cleanliness from pests, varietal trueness and stock vigor prior to consumer sales. In 2021, 211 hours were spent performing inspections at 163 locations, consisting of 445 acres.

**Total Hours Expended 2021: 737**

## PEST DETECTION

This program provides the second line of defense against exotic pests through the early detection of new introductions before they become widely established. Through early detection, the likelihood

of these pests becoming established in the state is lessened and the cost and environmental impact of eradication is minimized.

There were 678 traps placed for detection of exotic insect pests including Mediterranean, Oriental and melon fruit flies, gypsy moth, Japanese beetle, European pine shoot moth, khapra beetle, vine mealybug, European grapevine moth, light brown apple moth, and Asian citrus psyllid, European Corn Borer and False Codling moth. Additionally, surveys were conducted for European Stone Fruit Yellows and Plum Pox virus. Over the course of the season, a cumulative total of 7,111 servicings were performed and 50 disease sites surveyed.

**Total Hours Expended 2021: 1,781**

## PEST EXCLUSION

This program provides the first line of defense for California agriculture and the environment against the invasions of exotic pests. Inspections provide protection from the introduction of plant, animal, insect and disease pests that may be introduced into the state through the movement of legal and illegal trade. This program also involves inspections of plant material being delivered to other states and countries and the issuance of certificates documenting compliance with their entry requirements.

A total of 365 premise visits were conducted in 2021. A total of 2,668 shipments of plant material were inspected during these visits. Inspection occurred at the express carriers, nurseries, and other farms. There were 2 rejections of plant material issued. Rejected plant material may be returned to the shipper, reconditioned, and released or destroyed. To assist our industry, we issued 1,831 federal phytosanitary certificates for international shipments and 41 state phytosanitary certificates for shipments to other states.

**Total Hours Expended 2021: 5,214**



# WEIGHTS & MEASURES



MEASURING DEVICE INSPECTIONS	
DEVICE TYPE	INSPECTIONS COMPLETED
Vehicle Meters	1
Fabric, Cord, Wire Meters	12
Liquid Propane Gas Meters	25
Retail Motor Fuel Meters	908
Retail Meters	6
Retail Water Meters	26
Taximeters	2
Gas Vapor Submeters	16
Water Submeters	6
<b>TOTAL MEASURING DEVICES INSPECTED</b>	<b>1,002</b>
Compliance Rate:	98.50%

WEIGHING DEVICE INSPECTIONS	
DEVICE TYPE	INSPECTIONS COMPLETED
Computing Scales	230
Counter Scales	60
Dormant/Platform Scales	94
Hanging Scales	7
Hopper Scales	4
Livestock Scales	6
Misc. Weighing Device	1
Monorail & Meatbeam	1
Prescription/Jewelry	5
Vehicle Scales	85
<b>TOTAL MEASURING DEVICES INSPECTED</b>	<b>493</b>
Compliance Rate:	94.10%

PETROLEUM SIGNS & LABELING INSPECTIONS	
Number of Inspections Completed	43
Consumer complaints	4
Notices of Violations Issued	67

QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTIONS	
Packaging Inspections	
Number of Lots Inspected	0
Number of Packages Sampled	6
<b>OVERALL COMPLIANCE</b>	<b>99.80%</b>









**COUNTY OF SUTTER**  
**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER**  
**SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

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