



Fresno County Farm Bureau (FCFB) is a non-profit membership organization founded in 1917 to promote and protect agriculture. FCFB membership provides:

Advocacy

Farm Bureau advocates on legislation and regulation at the local, regional, state and federal levels.

Areas of emphasis in 2014 included:

Water - Led and contributed to coalitions to secure a reliable water supply. Advocated for passage of Proposition 1.

Taxation - Fought for the Williamson Act, tractor tax repeal and higher estate tax exemptions.

Rural Crime - Worked with law enforcement to implement rural crime measures.

Trainings

FCFB hosts a variety of workshops and trainings to assist members with their resource needs. Examples include: heat-illness prevention, equipment safety, succession planning, water quality, human resources, hazardous material hauling and continuing education hours.

Outreach

FCFB serves as the region's leading agricultural media source. Farm Bureau keeps the agricultural community informed on issues that affect agriculture by utilizing its weekly e-newsletter, *Ag Wire*, weekly newspaper, *Ag Alert*, and monthly newspaper, *Agricultural Today*.

Education

Farm Bureau educates farmers and ranchers on critical issues, as well as connects children and the public to agriculture, through an array of annual programs, including:

Coffee Talk - Hosts monthly forums between public officials and FCFB members.

Farm & Nutrition Day - Informs more than 4,000 students/volunteers about food, fiber and nutrition.

Leadership Development - Cultivates community champions for agriculture.

"Valley's Gold" - Partners with ValleyPBS to produce a television series highlighting aspects of local agriculture beyond the grocery counter. To learn more, visit www.valleysgold.org.





Overview of California Agriculture

- California is leading farm state in the union — \$44.7 billion in 2012. (CDFA)
- California is the fifth largest supplier of food and farm commodities in the world, producing more than 400 commercial crops. (UC Davis, CDFA)
- For more than 50 years, California has been the number one agricultural exporter. The state set a record in agricultural exports, with nearly \$18.18 billion in 2012. (CDFA)
- California sells agricultural products to more than 190 countries, but the top 10 export destinations account for 69 percent of the 2012 export value. (CDFA)
- California produces nearly half of the U.S. grown fruits, nuts and vegetables. (CDFA)
- **California has 80,500 farms and ranches; less than 4 percent of the nation's total. Yet, the Golden State's agricultural production represents 11.6 percent of the nation's total value.** (CDFA)
- In 2012, California land in farms and ranches totaled more than 25.5 million acres. The average farm size in the state is 328 acres, compared to the U.S. average of 434 acres. (USDA 2012 Census of Agriculture)
- **California's top 20 crop and livestock commodities account for more than 81 percent of the state's cash farm receipts.** Eleven commodities now exceed \$1 billion in value. Milk remained the number one commodity, followed by grapes and almonds. (CDFA)

California's Top 20 Commodities, 2012

(in billions)

1. Milk	\$6.90	11. Pistachio	\$1.11
2. Grapes	\$4.45	12. Floriculture	\$0.985
3. Almonds	\$4.35	13. Rice	\$0.770
4. Nursery	\$3.54	14. Oranges	\$0.764
5. Cattle & Calves	\$3.29	15. Chickens	\$0.720
6. Strawberries	\$1.93	16. Cotton	\$0.650
7. Lettuce	\$1.45	17. Broccoli	\$0.644
8. Walnuts	\$1.34	18. Carrots	\$0.503
9. Hay	\$1.23	19. Lemons	\$0.435
10. Tomatoes	\$1.17	20. Chicken eggs	\$0.393



Fresno County
Farm Bureau
Serving agriculture since 1917

Overview of Fresno County Agriculture

- Fresno County continues to be one of the top producing agricultural counties in the nation. Fresno County produces more than 400 commercial crops, worth more than \$6.44 billion in 2013. (*2013 Fresno County Crop and Livestock Report*)
- **In 2011, Fresno County's agricultural productivity ranked 23 out of the 50 U.S. states.** (*USDA ERS*)
- Fresno County has more than 5,600 farms. The average farm size is 303 acres. Family farms range in size from less than 10 acres to 25,000 acres. (*USDA 2012 Census of Agriculture*)
- Fresno County is one of the leading farm counties in the nation because of its diversity:
 - Availability of a diverse water supply – Kings and San Joaquin Rivers, and Delta-Mendota Canal surface water supplies conjunctively used with an adequate groundwater aquifer.
 - Fertile and various soil types allowing more than 400 different crops to grow here – west side heavier clay soils; east side sandier soils.
 - Long growing season – abundant sunshine and mild temperatures – low temperatures (30s-50s F) during winter, and warm temperatures (90s-100s F) in the summer.
 - Availability of an adequate work force. One out of every five jobs in the Central Valley is related to agriculture.
- Fresno County is one of the most diverse agricultural counties in the nation, with more than 1,499 farm operators of Asian decent, 140 of American Indian or Alaskan Native decent, and more than 52 farm operators of Black or African American decent. (*USDA 2012 Census of Agriculture*)

Fresno County Farm Bureau's Role

Fresno County Farm Bureau (FCFB) is a non-profit membership organization founded in 1917 to promote and protect agriculture. As part of a nationwide Farm Bureau network of more than 5 million members, FCFB provides agricultural advocacy and outreach activities for some of the most productive and efficient farmers in the world.

The organization's vision is to lead the agriculture industry and the community in addressing issues that result in long-term economic viability for agriculture and promoting the economic vitality of the region. FCFB is one of 53 county Farm Bureaus currently representing a combined membership of over 3,500 members in Fresno County.

Fresno County Top 10 Crops—2013

Total gross production value of Fresno County agricultural commodities: \$6.44 billion



1. Almonds
\$1.109 billion



6. Cattle & Calves
\$385.214 million



2. Grapes
\$1.037 billion



7. Pistachios
\$242.802 million



3. Poultry
\$548.204 million



8. Garlic
\$201.312 million



4. Milk
\$512.276 million



9. Cotton
\$192.556 million

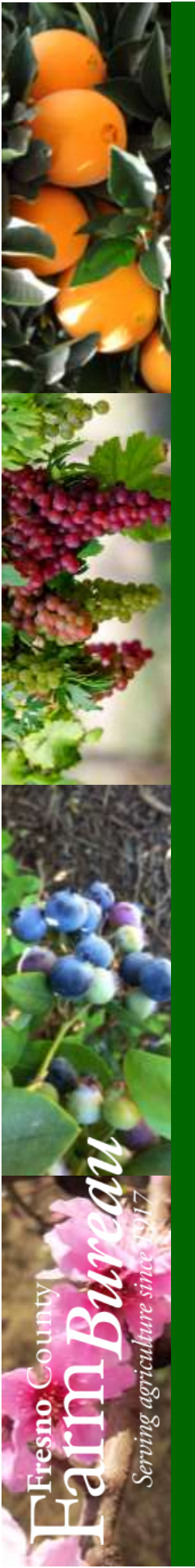


5. Tomatoes
\$444.705 million



10. Oranges
\$149.024 million

Source: Fresno County Department of Agriculture 2013 Agricultural Crop and Livestock Report



Fresno County Harvest Calendar

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Broccoli Citrus Grapefruit Lemons Oranges Pummelos Tangelos Tangerines	Asparagus Broccoli Citrus Oranges Lettuce Peas Strawberries Wheat	Alfalfa Asparagus Blueberries Cherries Citrus Oranges Cucumbers Green Beans Nectarines Onions Peaches Peas Plums Squash Strawberries Wheat	Alfalfa Apricots Asparagus Barley Bell Peppers Blueberries Boysenberries Cherries Chili Peppers Citrus Oranges Corn Cucumbers Eggplant Figs Garbanzo Beans Grapes Green Beans Nectarines Onions Peaches Squash Strawberries Tomatoes Wheat	Alfalfa Asparagus Blueberries Cherries Citrus Oranges Corn Cucumbers Eggplant Grapes Green Beans Nectarines Onions Peaches Peas Plums Squash Strawberries Tomatoes Wheat	Alfalfa Apricots Apriums Barley Bell Peppers Blueberries Cantaloupes Chili Peppers Citrus Oranges Corn Cucumbers Eggplant Figs Garbanzo Beans Garlic Grapes Green Beans Honeydew Jujubes Nectarines Onions Peaches Pears Plums Pluots Safflower Squash Strawberries Tomatoes Watermelons Wheat	Alfalfa Almonds Apples Apriums Barley Bell Peppers Cantaloupes Carrots Chili Peppers Corn Cucumbers Eggplant Figs Garlic Grapes Green Beans Honeydew Jujubes Lettuce Nectarines Onions Peaches Pistachios Plums Pumpkins Rice Sorghum Squash Tomatoes Walnuts Watermelons Wheat	Alfalfa Almonds Apples Barley Bell Peppers Broccoli Cantaloupes Carrots Chili Peppers Corn Cotton Eggplant Grapes Green Beans Kiwi Long Beans Olives Persimmon Pistachios Pomegranate Squash Tomatoes Walnuts	Alfalfa Almonds Apples Barley Bell Peppers Broccoli Cantaloupes Chili Peppers Corn Cotton Eggplant Grapes Green Beans Kiwi Lettuce Persimmon Pistachios Pomegranate Pumpkins Rice Sorghum Squash Tomatoes Walnuts Watermelons Wheat	Alfalfa Almonds Bell Peppers Broccoli Citrus Lemons Oranges Cotton Eggplant Green Beans Kiwi Long Beans Olives Persimmon Pistachios Pomegranate Squash Tomatoes Walnuts	Alfalfa Almonds Apples Barley Bell Peppers Broccoli Cantaloupes Chili Peppers Corn Cotton Eggplant Grapes Green Beans Kiwi Lettuce Persimmon Pistachios Pomegranate Pumpkins Rice Sorghum Squash Tomatoes Walnuts Watermelons Wheat	Alfalfa Almonds Apples Barley Bell Peppers Cantaloupes Carrots Chili Peppers Corn Cucumbers Eggplant Figs Garlic Grapes Green Beans Honeydew Jujubes Lettuce Nectarines Onions Peaches Pistachios Plums Pumpkins Rice Sorghum Squash Strawberries Tomatoes Walnuts Watermelons Wheat

Agricultural Fun Facts

- Every \$1 produced on the farm generates more than \$3.50 in the local and regional economy.
- Farmers use water to produce our food. Examples include: (*California Farm Water Coalition*)
 - It takes three gallons of water to produce a one cup of lettuce.
 - It takes 10.6 gallons of water to produce a slice of whole wheat bread.
 - To produce one serving of oranges, it takes 13.8 gallons.
 - It takes 48 gallons of water to produce eight fluid ounces of milk.
 - To produce one egg, it takes 62.7 gallons of water.
 - It takes 115 gallons of water to produce one chicken.
- California raisin growers produce 100 percent of the U.S. raisins annually in an area within a 60 mile radius of the City of Fresno. (*California Raisin Marketing Board*)
- California is the number one producer of almonds in the world. In 2012, California produced over 80 percent **of the world's almonds. Fresno County continues to lead the state in almond production.** (*CDFA*)
- In 2012, Fresno County had more than 3.8 million turkeys. There are more than four times as many turkeys than people in Fresno County! (*2012 Fresno County Crop and Livestock Report*)
- One 500 pound bale of cotton can produce 3,400 pairs of socks, 750 shirts, or 313,600 \$100 bills. (*California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations; Cotton Council International*)
- Cotton is a food crop. Cottonseed oil is used in food products such as margarine and salad dressing, toothpaste, ice cream and cosmetics. (*California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations*)
- In 2013, California produced 41.2 billion pounds of milk—**more than 1/5 of the nation's production.** (*CDFA*)
- **California has been the nation's leading dairy state since 1993, when it surpassed Wisconsin in milk production.** California is ranked first in the U.S. in the production of total milk, butter, ice cream, nonfat dry milk and whey protein concentrate. (*CDFA*)
- In 2013, the average California dairy cow produced 23,178 pounds of milk. (*CDFA*)
- Over 99 percent of grapes commercially grown in the U.S. come from California. (*California Table Grape Commission*)
- **California is the nation's sole exporter of many agricultural commodities, supplying 99 percent or more of the following:** almonds, artichokes, dates, figs, grapes (raisins), kiwifruit, olives, peaches (clingstone), pistachios, plums (dried), pomegranates, rice (sweet) and walnuts. (*CDFA*)
- Fresno County is a leading county in the state for production of: tomatoes, onions, melons, beans, sweet corn, garlic, lettuce, bell peppers, squash, almonds, apricots, blueberries, grapes, nectarines, citrus, peaches, pears, plums, pistachios, barley, cotton, hay, cattle and calves, chickens, hogs and pigs, honey, sheep, milk and cream, and turkeys. (*California Agricultural Statistics Review 2013-2014*)

Updated Jan. 2015