



2022

SAN MATEO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT



California Department of
Food and Agriculture
Karen Ross, Secretary

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It is my pleasure to present the 2022 Annual Crop Report for San Mateo County pursuant to Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. The total estimated gross value of San Mateo County agricultural production in 2022 was \$92,179,000, a decrease of 5.91% from 2021. It is important to note this gross value does not represent net profit or loss, as it does not account for inputs such as labor, packaging, transportation, and other production costs.

Drought remained a factor for growers and ranchers in 2022. With water in short supply, some operators switched to commodities they could dry farm, such as Field Crops with a 9.32% increase in gross value. Bright spots in this year's report include Livestock with a 12.29% increase and Fruit and Nut Crops with a 3.13% increase. Our largest commodity group, Floral and Nursery Crops, is down 8.57% from 2021, though still maintains the majority share of San Mateo County's total production value.

To better understand and serve our agricultural community, we included an extra questionnaire in our surveys to ask about the nature of their operations. Of the 178 surveys sent, we received 45 volunteered responses. Respondents showed 38% of operations have been in business over 41 years, with three of those over 80 years. However, a third are still new by agricultural standards, in operation under 20 years. Succession is a concern for all businesses and is especially acute in county agriculture where 72% of owner/operators reported as over the age of 55. Nationalities identified by operators include: Mexican, Salvadoran, Italian, Australian, Honduran, American, and Pacific Islander. Of the responses received, languages spoken at operations included: English, Spanish, German, and French. This is a small snapshot of the operations in the county, which should not be used to draw up program policies. Gathering information on our differences and similarities is key to engaging and serving San Mateo County's diverse agricultural community.

My sincere appreciation goes out to the producers that share their business information, as it gives us a true representation of the agricultural production in San Mateo County. Many staff members contribute to the crop report every year, and I would like to thank them all for a job well done. A special thanks to Michael Wong, Kelly Mayer, and Jenny Gossett for putting it all together.

Respectfully submitted,

Koren J. Widdel
Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights and Measures



County of San Mateo Agricultural Commissioner

P.O. Box 999 • 728 Heller Street, Redwood City, CA 94064

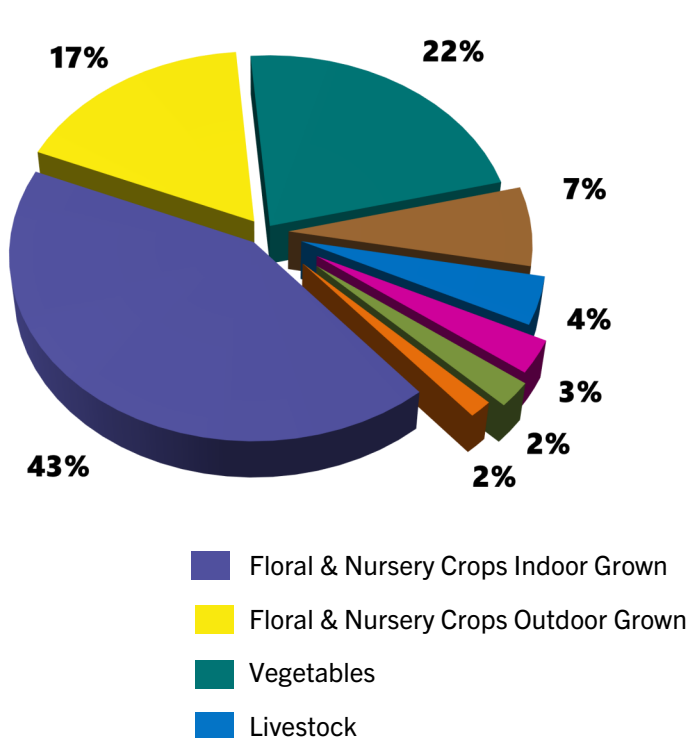
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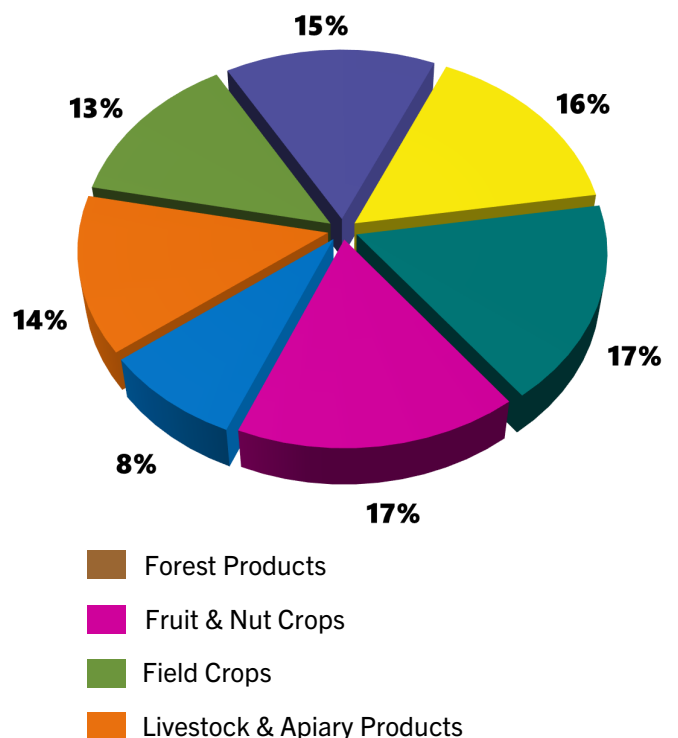
GROSS PRODUCTION VALUE

Commodity Group	2022	2021
Floral and Nursery Crops	\$55,103,000	\$60,268,000
Vegetables	\$20,649,000	\$21,167,000
Livestock	\$6,397,000	\$5,697,000
Forest Products	\$3,887,000	\$4,908,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	\$2,731,000	\$2,648,000
Field Crops	\$2,052,000	\$1,877,000
Livestock Products and Apiary	\$1,360,000	\$1,404,000
PRODUCTION TOTAL	\$92,179,000	\$97,969,000

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION VALUES



PRODUCERS PER COMMODITY GROUP



Loss in square footage and overall total value seen in indoor plants

An expected indoor floral/nursery crop decrease was realized after tapering off from healthy markets of recent years. Overall square footage for indoor grown floral/nursery crops decreased by 8% and had a total value decrease of 11%. Although there was growth in value in cut flower production, bedding plants, and other propagative cultivation, a drop in potted plant production value resulted in a net \$4.8 million loss in total value. Cut flowers had a 23% reduction in square footage, partially attributed to hemp flower production and Westland Nursery shutting their doors after 56 years in the business. Bedding plants and other propagative cultivation saw a 19% increase in square footage with an increase of 9% in total value.



INDOOR GROWN

Crop	Year	Square Feet	Total Value
Flowering and Foliage Potted Plants ¹	2022	1,950,000	\$30,227,000
	2021	2,035,000	\$35,574,000
Cut Flowers ²	2022	827,000	\$2,343,000
	2021	1,068,000	\$2,332,000
Bedding Plants, Cuttings, Other ³	2022	338,000	\$6,634,000
	2021	283,000	\$6,072,000
INDOOR GROWN FLORAL/ NURSERY CROP TOTAL	2022	3,115,000	\$39,204,000
	2021	3,386,000	\$43,978,000

¹Includes begonias, lilies, orchids, poinsettias, succulents, etc.

²Includes alstroemerias, freesias, hemp, lilies, ranunculus, etc.

³Includes herbs, seeds, succulents, vegetables, etc.

OUTDOOR GROWN

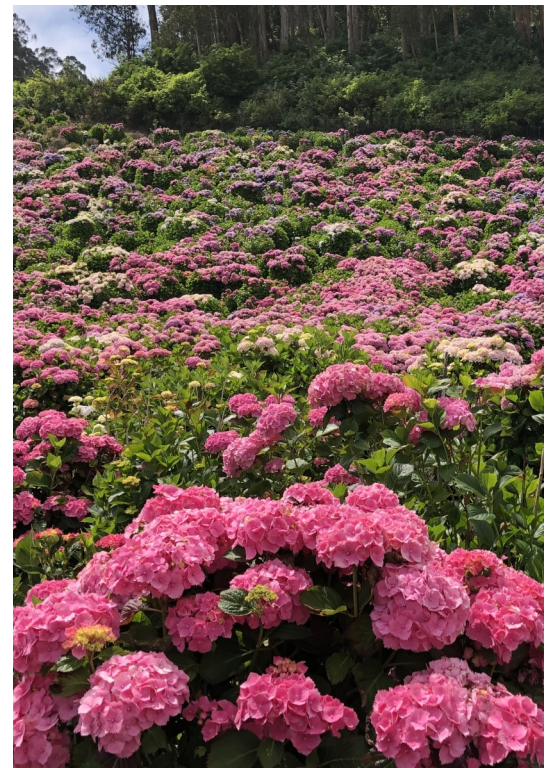
Crop	Year	Acres	Total Value
Ornamental Nursery Stock ¹	2022	77	\$12,503,000
	2021	73	\$12,637,000
Christmas Trees (cut)	2022	162	\$375,000
	2021	167	\$499,000
Cut Flowers ²	2022	181	\$3,021,000
	2021	180	\$3,154,000
OUTDOOR GROWN FLORAL AND NURSERY CROP TOTAL	2022	420	\$15,899,000
	2021	420	\$16,290,000

¹Includes herbaceous perennials, shrubs, and trees.

²Includes dahlias, hydrangeas, ranunculus, sunflowers, etc.

Outdoor grown floral/nursery crops show slight reduction in total value

Although outdoor grown floral/nursery crop acreage fluctuated in individual categories, production matched 2021 and saw its overall total value decreased by 2% in 2022. Ornamental nursery stock sales were stable, with a slight increase in acreage as lots were filled. Though the price per tree saw increases across the board, Christmas trees saw a reduction in both acreage and total value. This may be the result of mature trees being harvested during a period of increased holiday travel. Outdoor cut flower production remained steady and produced beautiful fields of color. Its acreage remained approximately the same, while its total value decreased by 4% overall.



VEGETABLE CROPS

Crop	Year	Acres	PRODUCTION			VALUE	
			Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Artichokes	2022	31	2.38	74	Ton	\$2,374	\$176,000
	2021	40	2.50	100	Ton	\$2,337	\$234,000
Beans, Fava	2022	107	2.30	246	Ton	\$1,991	\$490,000
	2021	110	2.68	295	Ton	\$1,891	\$558,000
Beans, Snap	2022	35	2.78	97	Ton	\$2,273	\$221,000
	2021	35	2.81	98	Ton	\$2,296	\$225,000
Brussels Sprouts	2022	476	10.48	4,988	Ton	\$1,654	\$8,250,000
	2021	457	11.17	5,105	Ton	\$1,739	\$8,878,000
Leeks	2022	41	13.15	539	Ton	\$1,186	\$639,000
	2021	40	14.28	571	Ton	\$1,169	\$668,000
Peas	2022	107	1.05	112	Ton	\$3,581	\$401,000
	2021	134	1.68	225	Ton	\$3,299	\$742,000
Pumpkins	2022	164	5.64	925	Ton	\$1,360	\$1,258,000
	2021	157	5.72	898	Ton	\$1,385	\$1,244,000
Miscellaneous Vegetables (Field and Indoor Grown ¹)	2022	311					\$9,214,000
	2021	322					\$8,618,000
VEGETABLE CROP TOTAL	2022	1,272					\$20,649,000
	2021	1,295					\$21,167,000

¹Includes herbs, kale, lettuce, mushrooms, peppers, squash, tomatoes, etc.

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

Crop	Year	Acres	Total Value
Wine Grapes, Red Varietals	2022	136	\$1,437,000
	2021	137	\$1,414,000
Wine Grapes, White Varietals	2022	40	\$404,000
	2021	40	\$376,000
Miscellaneous ¹	2022	114	\$890,000
	2021	115	\$858,000
FRUIT AND NUT CROP TOTAL	2022	290	\$2,731,000
	2021	292	\$2,648,000

¹Includes apples, berries, chestnuts, stone fruits, etc.

Pumpkins and fruit rise in value

With the exception of pumpkins, a decrease in total production was seen across the board for vegetables in San Mateo County with drought playing a factor in the downturn. As a result, total value also decreased among all those vegetable types. Snap beans, Brussels sprouts, and leeks had acreage that increased or remained constant in 2022, but still followed the overall trend of lower production and lower total value. In contrast, pumpkins showed increased acreage, production, and total value in concordance with each other.

Acreage for fruit and nut crops remained relatively constant in 2022. Red wine grape total value saw a slight increase of 2%, while white wine grape total value increased more significantly at 7%. Other fruit and nut crops also saw a small increase in value at 4%. All together, these modest increases resulted in a 3% overall increase in fruit and nut crop value.



LIVESTOCK

Commodity	Year	Number Head Sold	Total Value
Cattle and Calves	2022	1,396	\$2,851,000
	2021	1,406	\$2,924,000
Other ¹	2022	105,000	\$3,546,000
	2021	87,103	\$2,773,000
LIVESTOCK TOTAL		2022	\$6,397,000
		2021	\$5,697,000

¹Includes goats, lambs, pigs, poultry, etc.

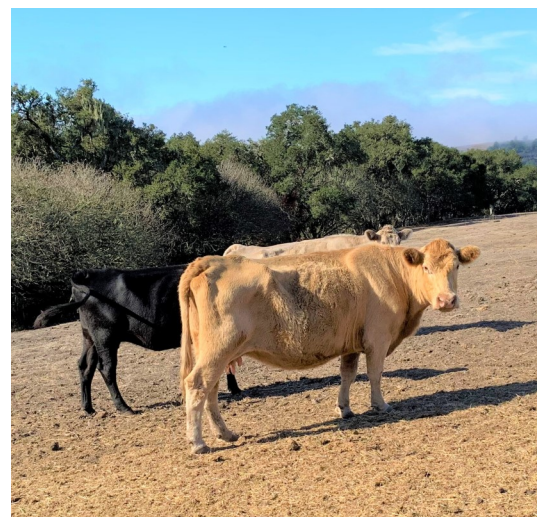
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS AND APIARY

Commodity	Year	Production	Per Unit	VALUE
				Total
Honey	2022	37,000 lbs	\$10.92	\$404,000
	2021	38,000 lbs	\$10.99	\$418,000
Other ¹	2022			\$956,000
	2021			\$986,000
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS AND APIARY TOTAL		2022		\$1,360,000
		2021		\$1,404,000

¹Includes beeswax, cheese, eggs, wool, etc.

Livestock value reaches new high

San Mateo County obtained a historic high in livestock total value due to poultry sale increases. Effects of avian influenza were felt across the nation, which may have attributed to greater local output. Although the number of hives increased, honey production did not. Overall field crop production increased across the board with the exception of grains. Decreases in salvaged timber from the CZU fire area and lack of milling locations may have lent to a drop in forest products.



FIELD CROPS

Commodity	Year	PRODUCTION			VALUE		
		Acres	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Beans, Dry ¹	2022	177	0.55	97	Ton	\$9,433	\$915,000
	2021	142	0.58	82	Ton	\$10,742	\$881,000
Grain ²	2022	74	0.61	45	Ton	\$364	\$16,000
	2021	99	0.54	53	Ton	\$452	\$24,000
Oat & Rye Hay	2022	569	2.26	1,286	Ton	\$211	\$271,000
	2021	478	2.05	980	Ton	\$213	\$209,000
Volunteer Hay	2022	165	1.57	259	Ton	\$113	\$29,000
	2021	165	1.35	223	Ton	\$108	\$24,000
Irrigated Pasture	2022	316				\$210	\$66,000
	2021	221				\$235	\$52,000
Other Pasture	2022	26,037				\$29	\$755,000
	2021	24,533				\$28	\$687,000
FIELD CROP TOTAL	2022	27,338					\$2,052,000
	2021	25,638					\$1,877,000

¹Includes cranberry, gigante, romano, scarlet runner, etc.

²Includes barley, oats, quinoa, rye, and wheat.

FOREST PRODUCTS

Year	Board Feet	Total Value
2022	10,084,000	\$3,887,000
2021	12,843,000	\$4,908,000

COMMERCIAL FISH CATCH

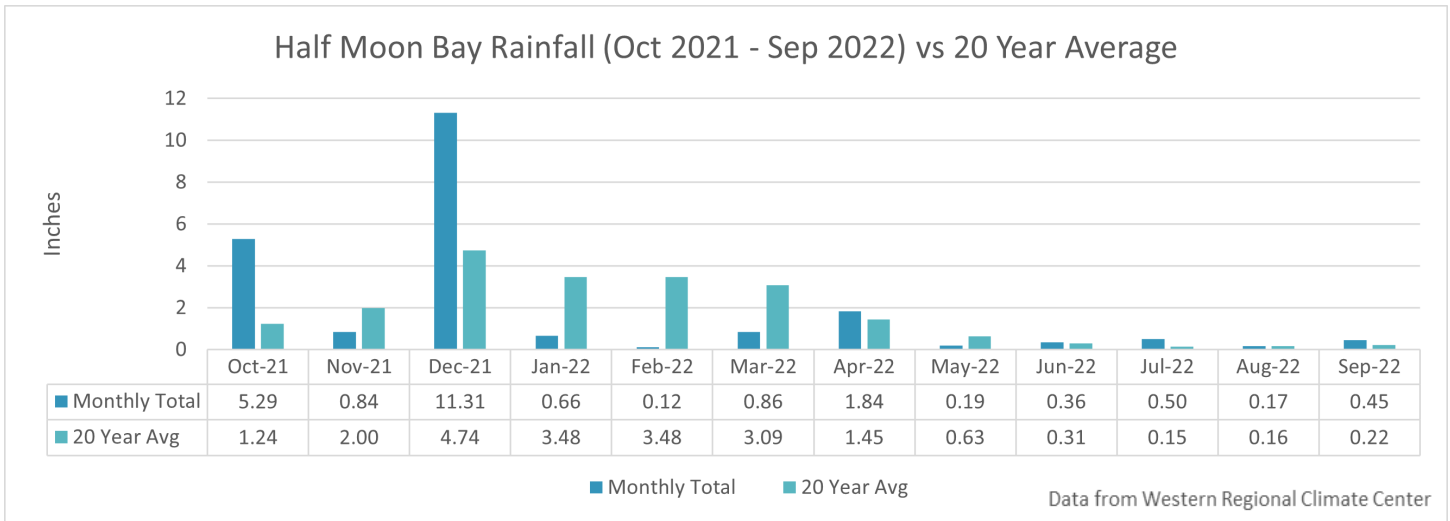
Species	Year	Pounds	Value	Species	Year	Pounds	Value
Crab, Dungeness	2022	855,125	\$5,060,872	Rockfish, all	2022	255,594	\$370,785
	2021	1,079,864	\$6,165,960		2021	279,565	\$289,859
Crab, Rock	2022	23,876	\$87,586	Sablefish	2022	146,008	\$283,077
	2021	66,237	\$147,550		2021	69,717	\$249,792
Flounder, all	2022	3,787	\$4,229	Salmon, Chinook	2022	447,164	\$3,478,663
	2021	5,161	\$6,429		2021	317,699	\$2,948,910
Halibut, California	2022	103,323	\$504,587	Sole, all	2022	141,529	\$149,230
	2021	104,384	\$539,616		2021	154,888	\$151,134
Lingcod	2022	7,356	\$27,900	Tuna, Albacore	2022	46,544	\$93,151
	2021	16,408	\$28,971		2021	23,876	\$71,058
Miscellaneous	2022	53,798	\$136,994				
	2021	5,612,618	\$3,367,669				
FISH CATCH GRAND TOTAL	2022			2,084,104 lbs			\$10,197,074
	2021			7,730,417 lbs			\$13,966,948

Source: CA Department of Fish and Game Poundage Value of Landings. Princeton-Half Moon Bay. Informational only, value not included in annual report.

INDUSTRIAL HEMP AND COMMERCIAL CANNABIS

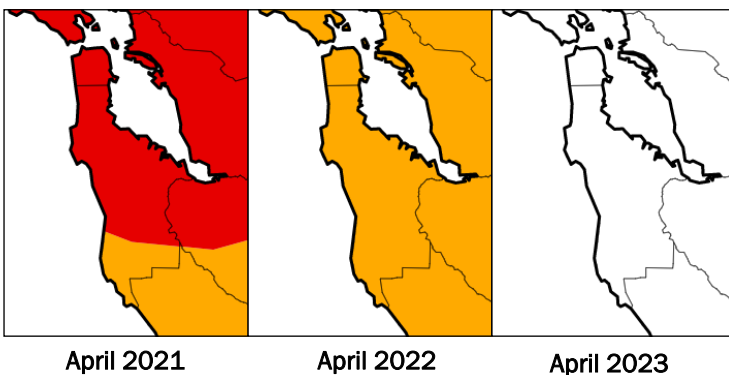
Two hemp registrations were active in 2022, with a total registered square footage of 630,000. Cannabis licenses remained constant, with five for small mixed-light, three for medium mixed-light, and two for nursery. Total registered area for commercial cannabis was 178,781 sq ft. In 2022, the local ordinance was amended to allow for greater cultivation area and distribution licenses permitting direct product movement from cultivators to retailers.

WATER RESOURCES

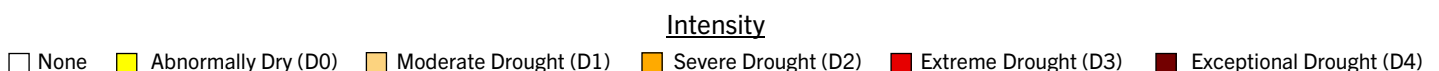


Rainfall data taken from the Western Regional Climate Center for Half Moon Bay shows monthly totals in the 2021/2022 water year were down 15% as compared with the last 20 years. However, there was an unprecedented amount of rain at the beginning of the water year, with October having over three times the amount compared to the 20 year average, and December having over double the amount in comparison. Although the significant increase in rainfall was welcomed after a long period of drought, it led to flooding conditions that caused crop loss and structural damage along the coast.

DROUGHT CONDITIONS



As a result of heavy rainfall events at the end of both 2021 and 2022, drought conditions have improved over the past three years, as shown by the U.S. Drought Monitor. San Mateo County transitioned from the D3 Extreme Drought designation to the D2 Severe Drought between 2021 and 2022. In 2023, the drought intensity designation had been dropped during the same comparison interval.



SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORT

Sustainable Agriculture utilizes farming practices that conserve resources and plant health, and ensures the economic vitality of the farm. Activities carried out through programs such as Weed Management, Pest Detection, and Pest Exclusion provide safeguards to maintain livestock and crop health. Early pest detection and proactive management of invasive pests using Integrated Pest Management strategies help protect California’s agricultural industry and reduces environmental stressors.

WEED MANAGEMENT



In 2022, the department conducted field surveys and managed historical survey and treatment data using Calflora for fertile capeweed, skeletonweed, and purple loosestrife with the help of an intern. Geographic information system (GIS) maps were also created depicting the change in populations over time. This work is used internally to track progress on eradication efforts for these noxious weeds, in addition to outreach efforts for noxious weed control on public lands. Eradication efforts for Mexican pokeweed continued utilizing mechanical removal, chipping, and burning. The San Mateo County Weed Management Area Group met in person for the first time since 2019. Bimonthly meetings continued online and covered topics such as grassland restoration, control of oxalis and licorice plant, and flame weeding. The Steering Committee signed the Strategic Plan extending through 2027. Passthrough funding from the California Department of Food and Agriculture Noxious Weed Grant Project continued for Jubata grass management by the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Algerian sea lavender by the California Invasive Plant Council.

PEST DETECTION

Pest Detection staff place and monitor insect traps in San Mateo County to find pests before infestations can take hold. In 2022, 4,228 traps were placed in host plants and serviced 49,649 times. In June, an oriental fruit fly was trapped in Menlo Park, prompting a delimitation of 25 additional Jackson traps and McPhail traps in the area without further incident. No other additional insect pests were found by the pest detection staff.

Asian Citrus Psyllid	European Corn Borer
European Grape Vine Moth	European Pine Shoot Moth
Fruit Fly species of <i>Bactrocera</i> , <i>Dacus</i> , <i>Ceratitis</i> , and <i>Anastrepha</i>	Glassy-winged Sharpshooter
Japanese Beetle	Spongy Moth

PEST EXCLUSION

Pest Exclusion inspections of imported agricultural shipments prevent the introduction and establishment of damaging pests. Exotic pests are regularly intercepted by staff biologists at parcel facilities, San Francisco International Airport, nurseries, and other entry points during daily inspections. Origin certifications of shipments are also verified for compliance with plant quarantines, regulations, and entry requirements. When an infested or noncompliant shipment is found, it may be destroyed, reconditioned and released, or returned to the shipper.

Type of Shipment	Inspected	Rejected	Pests Intercepted
Parcel Carriers	28,809	90	9
Truck	506	3	2
Air	3,021	23	21
Sea Containers	4	0	0
Household Goods (Spongy Moth and Spotted Lanternfly)	14	0	0
Nursery Stock (Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter)	2,977	0	0

While performing routine inspections, biologists found numerous A-rated and Q-rated insect and weed pests and diseases as confirmed by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) plant pest laboratory. Pests go through scientific review to determine their harmful potential. A-rated pests and diseases are of known economic significance requiring containment, eradication, and rejection. Q-rated determinations are suspected to cause harm to agriculture or the environment, resulting in the same regulatory action of containment, eradication, and rejection to keep them out of trade.

A-Rated Pests (Number of times intercepted)

Maconellicoccus hirsutus pink hibiscus mealybug (1)

Bactrocera dorsalis oriental fruit fly (1)

Ceroplastes rusci fig wax scale (2)

Diaphorina citri Asian citrus psyllid (1)

Dysmicoccus grassii mealybug (1)

Nipaecoccus viridis mealybug (1)

Phytolacca heterotepala Mexican pokeweed (7)

Pseudaulacaspis cockerelli magnolia white scale (1)

Pseudaulacaspis pentagona white peach scale (1)

Pseudococcus jackbeardsleyi mealybug (1)



INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT



Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a systematic approach to managing destructive pests and keeping them below economic thresholds. IPM begins with identification and monitoring of target pests and uses interactive control strategies including: natural enemies, biological controls, sanitation, less toxic pesticides, traps, and pheromones to disrupt reproduction. Applying certain IPM practices not only controls pests, but also benefits biodiversity in both the soil and surrounding environment. Crop and grazing rotations, cover crops, and mulching are just a few techniques implemented by agricultural producers that help capture and sequester carbon dioxide, creating healthier soils to support production as well as combat weather impacts of climate change such as extreme fluctuations in soil moisture. San Mateo County growers have received funding for various IPM projects such as these in past years.

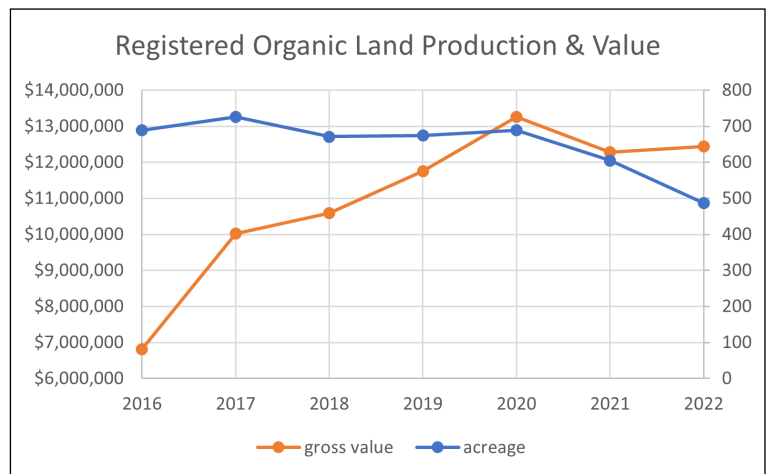
For information on agricultural financial resources, visit:

<https://www.smcgov.org/agwm/financial-resources>

ORGANIC FARMING AND DIRECT MARKETING

San Mateo County agricultural land registered with California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) as organic production was an estimated 487 acres (excluding rangeland), totaling an estimated gross production value of \$12,435,000 in 2022. Although acreage decreased by 20% for the 21 registered organic producers, gross value increased by about \$150K.

Direct sales from producers to consumers provide greater profits for farmers, reduce packaging and transportation, promote the local agricultural economy, and increase access to the freshest produce, flowers, and meat. These avenues include: Certified Farmers' Markets (CFMs), Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), Farm Stands, and U-pick. In 2022, a total of 43 Certified producer's certificates were issued in San Mateo County to sell at CFMs. There were also 18 active CFMs that were inspected 57 times.



To find up-to-date locations of Certified Farmers' Markets in San Mateo County, please visit:

<https://www.smcgov.org/agwm/find-certified-farmers-market>

For more information on Community Support Agriculture, Farm Stands and U-pick producers, please visit:

<https://www.smccvb.com/fresh-as-it-gets>

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The other half of the Department’s namesake, Weights and Measures, is responsible for the preservation, maintenance, and enforcement of measurement standards (weight, volume, time, distance) necessary for value comparison by consumers and essential for fair competition within industry. This is accomplished by comparing the performance of weighing and measuring devices against certified standards, inspecting prepackaged products to verify label statements, conducting annual weighmaster audits, and verifying petroleum products meet the product label standards.



Devices	Inspected	Passed	Failed	Compliance
Gas Station Pumps	3,937	3,831	106	97%
Water, Gas, Electric Submeters	2,091+	1,787+	304+	-
Small Capacity Scales	1,366	1,339	27	98%
Propane Dispensers	30	29	1	97%

Weights and Measures officials conduct inspections at businesses within San Mateo County that use commercial weighing and measuring devices such as gas station pumps, water, gas, and electric submeters, scales, and propane dispensers. When these commercial weighing and measuring devices comply with all the state laws and regulations, each device is sealed by applying an official San Mateo County seal (see top-right). Each business that uses commercial point-of-sale systems to charge consumers for commodities is also required to be registered and inspected for pricing accuracy. Each of these businesses are required to post a notice (see bottom-right) to consumers at each point-of-sale checkout register stating consumers are entitled to the lowest advertised price by the store.



Price Verification	Total
Locations Inspected for Price Accuracy	294
Packages Scanned	9366
Overcharges	238
Undercharges	1

ATTENTION CONSUMERS
ATENCIÓN CONSUMIDOR

You are entitled to the lowest advertised or posted price offered by this store. For information or complaints, you may contact the San Mateo County Sealer of Weights and Measures. **(650) 599-SCAN**

Tiene derecho al precio más bajo ofrecido por esta tienda. Para obtener información o quejas, puede comunicarse con el Departamento de Pesas y Medidas del Condado de San Mateo. **(650) 599-7483**

Koren J. Widdel, Sealer
smcgov.org/sgwm | (650) 363-4700

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
DEPARTMENT of
AGRICULTURE/WEIGHTS & MEASURES
728 Heller Street • P. O. Box 999
Redwood City, California 94064-0999

