

**Butte
County
2020
Crop &
Livestock
Report**

Butte County Agricultural Commissioner's Mission Statement

Protect and perpetuate agriculture, the #1 industry in Butte County, by ensuring a safe and healthy agriculture product. Promote and provide confidence of buyers and sellers by ensuring fairness in local, national and international trade. Protect and promote the wellbeing of all our customers and our community through the fair, equitable application of agricultural and weights and measures standards, emphasizing education and cooperation, including the use of technology to enhance customer service.



BUTTE COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE / WEIGHTS & MEASURES

316 NELSON AVE.

OROVILLE, CA 95965

P: (530) 552-4100 F: (530) 538-7594

butteag@buttecounty.net

Louie B. Mendoza Jr.

Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer

Katharine Quist

Assistant Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer

October 26, 2021

Karen Ross
Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture

The Honorable Butte County Board of Supervisors

Bill Connelly, Chair Tami Ritter
Debra Lucero Doug Teeter
Tod Kimmelshue

Andy Pickett,
Chief Administrative Officer

Dear Sirs and Madams,

In accordance with provisions of the California Food and Agriculture Code section 2279, I am submitting the 81st annual crop report that shows the agricultural production and agricultural value in Butte County for the 2020 calendar year. Our department has been providing annual crop reports since 1939.

This report is a summary estimate of the acreage, production and gross value of Butte County agricultural products. The values presented in this report are gross values only, and do not reflect net farm income or costs of production and marketing.

The estimated gross value of agricultural production in Butte County for 2020 totaled **\$625,384,709**. This is a \$62,985,207 decrease over the 2019 gross value total of \$688,369,916. Butte County's 10-year average is \$715,658,933.

I wish to extend my appreciation to the many producers, processors and agencies, both private and governmental, who assist with this report by providing us with specific information pertaining to their business. I would also like to thank the staff of the Butte County Agriculture Department for compiling this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Louie B. Mendoza Jr.
Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights & Measures



Rob Hill Deputy Agricultural Commissioner

The 2020 Crop Report is dedicated to Mr. Robert Hill. Rob started working for the Butte County Agricultural Commissioner's office on August 12, 1991 as an Agricultural Biologist and on March 31, 2001 was promoted to Deputy Director. Throughout his career, Rob oversaw several programs including Invasive Pest Management, Industrial Hemp, and County Building and Planning Reviews related to agriculture. Rob represented the Agricultural Commissioner's office through his contributions and participation in Resource Conservation, Conditional Rice Disease Management, and the Butte/Yuba/Sutter Watershed Coalition - Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program. Rob provided innovative approaches to the Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter and Japanese Dodder programs, which resulted in the successful control of these invasive species in Butte County. On December 30, 2020 Rob retired from the County after serving the residents of Butte County for over 29 years.

Rob will be greatly missed by the department and we wish him nothing, but the best in retirement with his family on the Oregon Coast. We hope he continues to find time to kayak, ride his motorcycle and master his archery skills. Cheers to a happy & healthy retirement!

Agricultural and Weights & Measures Staff and Associates

Agricultural Commissioner / Director of Weights & Measures

Louie B. Mendoza Jr.

Assistant Agricultural Commissioner / Director of Weights & Measures

Katharine Quist

Deputy Directors of Agriculture / Weights & Measures

Rob Hill, Tom Pisani & Eric Pittman

Administrative Analyst

Charmaigne Damron

Accounting Specialists

Janice Wallick & Sandra Wright

Supervisor, Agricultural Biologist / Weights & Measures

Randy Hartman & Ramon Jauregui

Agricultural Biologist / Weights & Measures Inspector, Senior

Dan Shrout, Eric Jennings, Uriah Johnson, Sonia Zarate, & Jennifer Berger

Agricultural Biologist / Weights & Measures Inspector III

Apolinar Barrales & George Mendoza

Agricultural Biologist / Weights & Measures Inspector II

Garrett Peters

Agricultural Biologist / Weights & Measures Inspector I

Danny Maciel

Agricultural Technicians

Lee Hunt, Jose Torres, & James Fox

GIS Technician

George Adams

USDA Wildlife Specialist

Matt Albertsen

Million Dollar Ag Commodities

Rice	\$179,098,920
Almonds	\$147,413,000
Walnuts	\$128,028,000
Prunes	\$28,789,500
Nursery Stock	\$16,817,934
Apiary, Pollination	\$15,042,000
Rice Seed	\$12,959,520
Peaches	\$11,388,960
Cattle & Calves	\$11,062,735
Harvested Timber	\$8,413,434
Field Crops, Misc.	\$4,623,040
Pistachios	\$4,342,800
Fruit & Nut, Misc.	\$4,304,393
Apiary, Other Products	\$3,364,315
Almond Hulls	\$3,006,510
Pasture, Other	\$2,400,000
Kiwifruit	\$2,174,700
Livestock, Misc.	\$1,800,000
Olive, Oil	\$1,728,240
Pasture, Irrigated	\$1,650,000
Vegetables	\$1,493,675
Citrus	\$1,462,500
Milk, Market & Manufacturing	\$1,190,899
Seed, Misc.	\$1,016,099

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF CROP VALUES

CROP	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
APIARY PRODUCTS	\$10,586,121	\$11,198,212	\$11,339,919	\$16,278,127	\$18,406,315
FIELD CROPS	\$135,340,039	\$153,907,456	\$168,499,501	\$178,916,025	\$189,041,960
FRUIT & NUT CROPS	\$475,230,758	\$453,611,637	\$372,212,935	\$410,596,026	\$332,638,603
LIVESTOCK	\$14,478,648	\$12,744,180	\$12,342,133	\$13,894,423	\$13,203,215
NURSERY STOCK	\$11,664,000	\$13,877,606	\$18,806,821	\$16,488,171	\$16,817,934
SEED CROPS	\$14,677,834	\$12,186,168	\$10,288,040	\$12,002,400	\$13,975,619
VEGETABLE CROPS	\$1,524,973	\$1,601,222	\$1,681,283	\$1,723,471	\$1,493,675
ORGANIC CROPS	\$23,759,940	\$23,902,017	\$20,716,243	\$30,145,653	\$31,393,954
CROP TOTALS	\$687,262,313	\$683,028,498	\$615,886,875	\$680,044,296	\$616,971,275
TIMBER	\$8,525,004	\$13,534,716	\$15,911,852	\$8,325,620	\$8,413,434
GRAND TOTAL	\$695,787,317	\$696,563,214	\$631,798,727	\$688,369,916	\$625,384,709

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF PLANT CROP ACRES

CROP	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
FIELD CROPS	321,932	309,483	253,644	310,582	272,094
FRUIT & NUT CROPS	101,446	101,409	107,299	108,113	102,984
SEED CROPS	6,176	5,492	5,533	6,144	6,557
VEGETABLE CROPS	674	603	615	525	462
GRAND TOTAL	430,228	416,987	367,091	425,364	382,097



2020 FRUIT & NUT CROPS ACREAGE STATISTICS

ORCHARD CROPS	BEARING	NON-BEARING	TOTAL
ALMONDS	37,605	2,910	40,515
APPLES	45	0	45
APRICOTS	10	0	10
CHESTNUTS	123	10	133
GRAPES (Wine)	225	5	230
KIWIFRUIT	573	0	573
MANDARINS	80	0	80
OLIVES (Oil)	758	214	972
ORANGES	70	0	70
PEACHES	1,438	80	1,518
PECANS	219	0	219
PERSIMMONS	132	10	142
PISTACHIOS	766	280	1,046
PRUNES	7,363	509	7,872
WALNUTS, ENGLISH	53,345	4,135	57,480
TOTAL	102,752	8,153	110,905

Data from California Crop and Livestock Reporting Service and other sources.



2020 FRUIT & NUT CROPS ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing (ac)	Yield (tons)	Yield (tons) / Bearing (ac)	Value (\$) / 1 (ton)	Total (\$)
ALMONDS	2020	37,605	42,118	1.12	\$3,500	\$147,413,000
	2019	39,205	31,364	0.80	\$4,486	\$140,698,904
HULLS	2020	--	46,254	--	\$65	\$3,006,510
	2019	--	31,000	--	\$95	\$2,945,000
CITRUS	2020	150	750	5.00	\$1,950	\$1,462,500
	2019	165	949	5.75	\$2,230	\$2,116,270
KIWIFRUIT	2020	573	1,977	3.45	\$1,100	\$2,174,700
	2019	573	3,094	5.40	\$700	\$2,165,800
OLIVES (OIL)	2020	758	2,274	3.00	\$760	\$1,728,240
	2019	1,083	5,415	5.00	\$730	\$3,952,950
PEACHES	2020	1,438	23,008	16.00	\$495	\$11,388,960
	2019	1,722	23,247	13.50	\$473	\$10,995,831
PISTACHIOS	2020	766	1,034	1.35	\$4,200	\$4,342,800
	2019	690	794	1.15	\$3,900	\$3,096,600
PRUNES	2020	7,363	16,935	2.30	\$1,700	\$28,789,500
	2019	7,100	17,750	2.50	\$1,400	\$24,850,000
WALNUTS	2020	53,345	106,690	2.00	\$1,200	\$128,028,000
	2019	56,312	131,207	2.33	\$1,633	\$214,261,031
MISC. *	2020	986	--	--	--	\$4,304,393
	2019	1,263	--	--	--	\$5,513,640
TOTAL	2020	102,984	--	--	--	\$332,638,603
	2019	108,113	--	--	--	\$410,596,026

* Misc. includes apples, apricots, cherry, chestnut, fig, nectarine, pear, asian pear, pecan, pomegranate, raisins, table grapes, plums, table olives, etc.



2020 FIELD CROP ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing (ac)	Yield (tons)	Yield (tons) / Bearing (ac)	Value (\$)/ 1 (ton)	Total
BEANS, DRY EDIBLE	2020	382	802	2.1	\$1,100	\$882,200
	2019	258	258	1	\$1,500	\$387,000
ALFALFA	2020	277	1,939	7	\$200	\$387,800
	2019	727	4,725	6.5	\$226	\$1,067,850
RICE	2020	96,915	426,426	4.4	\$420	\$179,098,920
	2019	96,772	425,797	4.4	\$390	\$166,060,830
MISC. *	2020	3,520	--	--	--	\$4,623,040
	2019	5,825	--	--	--	\$7,650,345
Crop	Year	Acres			Value (\$)/ 1 Acre	Total
PASTURE, IRRIGATED	2020	11,000	--	--	\$150	\$1,650,000
	2019	12,000	--	--	\$150	\$1,800,000
PASTURE, OTHER	2020	160,000	--	--	\$15	\$2,400,000
	2019	195,000	--	--	\$10	\$1,950,000
TOTAL	2020	272,094	--	--	--	\$189,041,960
	2019	310,582	--	--	--	\$178,916,025

* Misc. includes barley, corn, forage hay, hops, oat, ryegrass, sorghum milo, vetch, wheat, tomato processing, industrial hemp, etc.





2020 REGISTERED ORGANIC STATISTICS

13,426 Acres • 78 Producers • 20 Handlers • 2 Processors • 0 Retailers
Total Value \$31,393,954

Includes alfalfa, almonds, apples, berries, cherries, cut flowers, grapes, herbs, kiwi fruit, livestock, dairy, mandarins, nursery stock, olives, peaches, persimmons, prunes, rice, safflower, tomatoes, vegetables, vetch, walnuts and wild rice.

2020 VEGETABLE VALUE

2020 Total Value - \$1,493,675
2019 Total Value - \$1,723,471

**Vegetable Values reflect commodities such as asparagus, broccoli, corn, cucumbers, melons, onions, squash, tomatoes, strawberries, etc.*

2020 NURSERY ACREAGE & VALUE

2020 Total Acres – 192 - \$16,817,934
2019 Total Acres – 192 - \$16,488,171

**Nursery data includes broad leaved evergreens, coniferous evergreens, deciduous fruit and nut trees, shade trees, shrubs, kiwi vines, herbaceous perennials, indoor decorative plants, bulbs, rhizomes, bedding plants, and specimen trees.*



2020 HARVEST TIMBER PRODUCTION & VALUE

	YEAR	PRODUCTION (BFT)*	VALUE
HARVESTED TIMBER**	2020	60,220,000	\$8,413,434
	2019	68,484,000	\$8,325,620
OTHER TIMBER PRODUCTS	2020	--	\$0
	2019	--	\$0
TOTAL	2020	--	\$8,413,434
	2019	--	\$8,325,620

*Board feet is the quantity of timber cut and scaled.

**Timber production and value data are provided by State Board of Equalization, Timber Tax Division.



2020 LIVESTOCK

	YEAR	NUMBER OF HEAD	TOTAL LIVE WEIGHT (CWT)	VALUE/CWT	TOTAL
CATTLE & CALVES	2020	14,100	71,006	\$155.80	\$11,062,735
	2019	14,700	67,625	\$169.00	\$11,428,625
SHEEP	2020	1,400	2,240	\$152.00	\$340,480
	2019	1,600	2,567	\$142.50	\$365,798
MISC.*	2020	--	--	--	\$1,800,000
	2019	--	--	--	\$2,100,000
TOTAL	2020	--	--	--	\$13,203,215
	2019	--	--	--	\$13,894,423

*Misc. may include hogs, poultry, goats, etc.



2020 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	TOTAL
MILK, MARKET & MANUFACTURING	2020	\$1,190,899
	2019	\$1,082,635

2020 APIARY PRODUCTS, PRODUCTION & VALUE

	YEAR	TOTAL
POLLINATION	2020	\$15,042,000
	2019	\$12,540,000
OTHER APIARY PRODUCTS*	2020	\$3,364,315
	2019	\$3,738,127
TOTAL	2020	\$18,406,315
	2019	\$16,278,127

*Other apiary products include queens, combs, wax, etc.



2020 SEED ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

CROP	YEAR	ACREAGE	YIELD / ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE	TOTAL
RICE	2020	5,800	10,640	61,712,000	lbs.	\$0.21	\$12,959,520
	2019	5,400	9,600	51,840,000	lbs.	\$0.21	\$10,886,400
MISC.*	2020	757	--	--	--	--	\$1,016,099
	2019	744	--	--	--	--	\$1,116,000
TOTAL	2020	6,557	--	--	--	--	\$13,975,619
	2019	6,144	--	--	--	--	\$12,002,400

*Misc. may include bean, carrot, cucumber, melon, onion, pumpkin, squash, sunflower, watermelon seed, etc.

2020 PHYTOSANITARY EXPORTS

In 2020, a total of 2,353 phytosanitary certificates were issued and exported to 63 countries and 23 states within the United States. Shipments included a variety of fruits, vegetables, grains, beans, lumber and plants. Almonds, rice and walnuts are the top three exported commodities. In addition, approximately 757 seed field acres were inspected and certified during the 2020 season.

Afghanistan	Algeria	Australia
Austria	Bahrain	Belarus
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Cambodia	Canada
Chile	China	Columbia
Costa Rica	Czech Republic	Dominican Republic
Egypt	El Salvador	France
French Polynesia	Georgia	Germany
Ghana	Greece	Hong Kong
India	Indonesia	Iraq
Israel	Italy	Japan
Jordan	Korea, Republic of	Kuwait
Libya	Lithuania	Maldives
Mexico	Mongolia	Morocco
Nepal	Netherlands	New Zealand
Pakistan	Panama	Peru
Poland	Samoa	Saudi Arabia
Serbia	Singapore	Slovakia
South Africa	Spain	Sweden
Switzerland	Taiwan	Thailand
Trinidad & Tobago	Turkey	Ukraine
United Arab Emirates	United Kingdom	Viet Nam

2020 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL REPORT

This report summarizes the varied activities and the methods used to prevent and control the spread of exotic pests in Butte County.

The Pest Exclusion, Detection, Management, and Eradication programs serve to protect the County from an infestation of introduced pests. Through monitoring and quick response to small infestations, damaging pest populations can be controlled before they require a large-scale response.

Biological Control provides a method of sustainable pest control with a minimum impact to the environment.

PEST DETECTION

A total of 1,023 traps were placed throughout the County to detect the presence of pests. The trap total included 299 Mediterranean, Oriental and Melon Fruit Fly traps, 77 Japanese Beetles traps, 214 traps for the Gypsy Moth, 233 Glassy-winged Sharpshooter traps, 142 Asian Citrus Psyllid traps, 32 European Grapevine Moth traps and 26 European Corn Borer traps.

PEST EXCLUSION

Approximately 5,956 shipments were inspected for live exotic pests including the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter and Sudden Oak Death resulting in the issuance of 2 Notice of Rejections.

PEST MANAGEMENT

Weed Control Projects

	Control Activity	Distribution
Skeleton Weed (<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>)	Herbicide, Aminopyralid	5 sites ~ 15 acres
Knap Weed, species (<i>Centaurea</i> species)	Herbicide, Aminopyralid	3 sites ~ 35 acres
Oblong Spurge (<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>)	Herbicide, Triclopyr	3 sites
Sesbania (<i>Sesbania punicea</i>)	Herbicide, Triclopyr	Multiple sites in Oroville
Broom, species		
Spanish (<i>Spartium junceum</i>)	Herbicide, Triclopyr	Multiple County Locations
French (<i>Genista monspessulana</i>)	Herbicide, Triclopyr	Multiple County Locations
Scotch (<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>)	Herbicide, Triclopyr	Multiple County Locations
Purple Loosestrife (<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>)	Various Bio-Controls	>500 acres in Oroville
White Horsenettle (<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>)	Herbicide, Triclopyr	1 site South Gridley Hwy 99
Winged-Water Primrose (<i>Ludwigia decurrens</i>)	Herbicide, Glyphosate	Limited Locations in Richvale



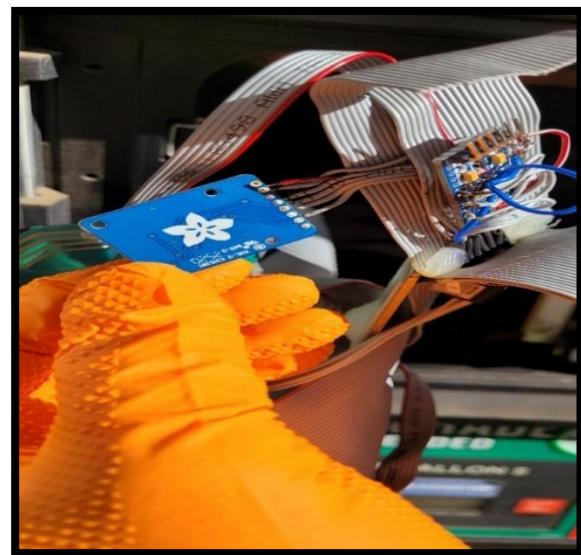
Butte County Weights & Measures

Gas Station Skimmers

Have you ever heard of a skimmer? A skimmer is a small device illegally installed on a credit card reading system in order to secretly capture credit card information from an unsuspecting buyer. Sadly, this unique device has been found throughout California gas stations and inside of gas pumps, ATM's and even convenience store checkout counters. If undiscovered, skimmers will continue to steal information from each cardholder and ultimately be used to make fraudulent charges or sold to another criminal.

In California, skimmers first appeared in the mid to late 1990's but may have been around much earlier. In 2018, 27 skimmers were found at 14 locations. In 2019, 270 were discovered at 133 locations and in 2020, 404 were identified at 188 locations.¹ In 2020, while conducting routine inspections at local gas stations, Butte County Weights and Measures staff found five skimmers. Although this may not seem like a lot, it is unknown how long the devices were in place and how much personal information was stolen. In any case, all criminal evidence was forwarded to appropriate law enforcement.

Since 2001, 31 states and Puerto Rico have enacted statutes that provide criminal penalties for using a credit card skimming device.² In California, any person who possesses or uses a scanning and or re-encoding device with the intent to defraud will be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable up to one year in a county jail and or fined a maximum of \$1,000.³



Skimmer found inside a gas pump card reading system.

¹ State of California Division of Measurement Standards

² National Conference of State Legislatures Summit Web Page

³ State of California Penal Code 502.6

In addition to working with local law enforcement, the Butte County Weights and Measures Division has been working in partnership with the California State Division of Measurement Standards through ongoing educational outreach to inform the public. The next time you are at a gas station, you should pay special attention to the card reader at the pump. If the credit card reader sticks out past the panel or if it's not securely in place it may contain a skimmer. Also, know that some skimmers are designed to fit over the existing credit card reader and any moving parts may be a sign the reader has been tampered with or that a skimming device has been affixed to the existing reader.

Most gas stations place a security label across the card reader access door. If the paper adhesive security strip on the face of the pump is torn, damaged or missing it may be an indication of tampering inside the unit. If the keys on a key pad seem too hard to push, it may be fake. Thieves will sometimes place a fake keypad on top of a real one to capture your keystrokes enabling them to steal your pin or zip code. Overall, if something looks out of the ordinary, avoid paying at the pump. Let the gas station attendant know and either pay inside or go to another gas station. And always, monitor your checking and credit card accounts online at least weekly and immediately report any suspicious activity to your bank or credit card issuer.

As skimmers become more common, the Butte County Weights & Measures Division will remain vigilant in their examinations of card readers during routine inspections and continued effort to educate the public to help keep fraudulent activity out of the marketplace. To report a skimmer or if you have any questions or concerns please contact the Butte County Agriculture Department Division of Weights & Measures at (530) 552-4080.

Email: ButteAg@buttecounty.net



Another type of skimmer found inside a gas pump reading system.



Security label across the card reader door on a gas pump.