

# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

## 2013

# AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT



**SAN MATEO COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
&  
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

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**RETIREMENT**

David Leung always made it look so easy. Unflappable and in control; he always knew what to do. David is a high rolling bowler, accomplished golfer, and seasoned traveler. Born in Hong Kong, David earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology and a Master's of Science degree in Agricultural Chemistry from Fresno State. He started his career with the County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures system in Santa Barbara County as an Agricultural Biologist in 1981, and moved to work in Weights and Measures for the City & County of San Francisco in 1997. David soon jumped to San Mateo County where he remained until retiring as a Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer. David leaves his career behind for extended travel adventures and to spend more time with his family. He may have moved on to greener pastures, but we will miss him.

# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE / WEIGHTS AND MEASURES



**Karen Ross, Secretary**

California Department of Food & Agriculture  
and

**San Mateo County Board of Supervisors**

Dave Pine, District 1, President

Carole Groom, District 2, Vice President

Don Horsley, District 3

Warren Slocum, District 4

Adrienne J. Tissier, District 5

As per Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agriculture Code, I am pleased to present the 2013 Agricultural Crop Report for San Mateo County.

The values in this annual report are gross values, which excludes commodity production costs and net profits for agricultural production.

Continuing the upward trend of 2012, the agricultural production year of 2013 had a 2.2% overall increase with a total gross value of \$143,147,000. The main contributors to the increased agricultural values were the Fruit and Vegetable Crops. An increase in unit value and greater production acreage of Brussels sprouts and fava beans brought the total value up by \$5,284,000 over 2012, or 23% for a total of \$22,669,000. Favorable weather for wine grape production resulted in greater yields in 2013, and increases in both acreage and yield from other fruit growers brought the Fruit and Nut Crops up 35% to a total production value of \$2,692,000.

Increased participation in Certified Farmers' Markets and direct marketing by honey and egg producers kept Livestock Products and Apiary on an upward swing with 2013 increasing by 4.8% to a total value of \$1,752,000. Forest Products brought \$2,475,000 to the gross agricultural total, an increase of 20% over the previous year due to rotational harvesting practices along the county border, which makes the value vary widely from year to year.

Unfortunately, the county's nursery and floral industries stumbled with several long-time indoor and outdoor ornamental producers closing their doors in 2013. This dropped the Indoor Grown Floral and Nursery Crops production value total to \$89,948,000, a loss of 2.4%, while Outdoor Grown Floral and Nursery Crops decreased 5.7% to total \$21,668,000. Although the shuttered doors brought a hit to the overall total of Floral and Nursery Crops, the remaining businesses had a steady production year.

The effects of the drought were apparent in Livestock and Field Crop production in 2013. Some producers culled their herds to address scarce water and forage, which was not wholly reflected in the year's 2.3% Livestock loss. Similarly impacted by the drought, Field Crops posted a 17% decrease in gross value to \$776,000. Many of these crops are dry farmed and the lack of rain resulted in lower yields and more land being left fallow. As the drought continues, so do the struggles, but through adaptations, preparation and resources, county agricultural producers remain resilient.

The annual crop report is an integral part of gathering data for protecting the agricultural industry and with the input of our agricultural community, becomes a meaningful representation for our county. I thank all of you that provided information, and Kelly Mayer and the rest of my dedicated staff for producing the 2013 Crop Report.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fred Crowder  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights and Measures

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Crop	Year	Acres	PRODUCTION			VALUE	
			Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Artichokes	2013	59	3.01	178	Ton	\$1,204	\$214,000
	2012	64	4.15	266	Ton	1,047	279,000
Beans, Fava	2013	284	5.20	1,477	Ton	1,397	2,063,000
	2012	168	2.99	502	Ton	1,300	653,000
Beans, Snap	2013	102	2.90	296	Ton	1,409	417,000
	2012	110	3.48	383	Ton	1,263	484,000
Brussels Sprouts <sup>1</sup>	2013	768	10.39	7,980	Ton	1,571	12,537,000
	2012	759	10.04	7,620	Ton	1,195	9,106,000
Leeks	2013	133	11.67	1,552	Ton	1,146	1,779,000
	2012	158	10.11	1,597	Ton	875	1,397,000
Peas	2013	202	1.68	339	Ton	1,847	626,000
	2012	211	2.05	433	Ton	1,568	679,000
Pumpkins	2013	171	8.61	1,472	Ton	546	804,000
	2012	183	9.67	1,770	Ton	420	743,000
Miscellaneous Vegetables Field and Indoor Grown <sup>2</sup>	2013	310					4,229,000
	2012	389					4,044,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	2013	2,029					\$22,669,000
	2012	2,042					17,385,000

1 Includes Processed

2 Includes Broccoli, Herbs, Kale, Lettuce, Mushrooms, Peppers, Squash, Swiss Chard, Tomatoes, etc.

## FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

Crop	Year	Acres	Total Value
Wine Grapes	2013	153	\$1,073,000
	2012	131	694,000
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>	2013	102	1,619,000
	2012	95	1,070,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	2013	255	\$2,692,000
	2012	226	1,764,000

1 Includes Apples, Berries, Citrus, etc.



## FLORAL AND NURSERY CROPS INDOOR GROWN

Crop	Year	Square Feet	Total Value
<b>Potted Plants<sup>1</sup></b>			
Flowering & Foliage	2013	7,584,000	\$82,538,000
	2012	7,775,000	84,482,000
<b>Cut Flowers<sup>2</sup></b>			
	2013	1,440,000	\$6,849,000
	2012	1,580,000	7,083,000
<b>Bedding Plants, Cuttings and Liners<sup>3</sup></b>			
	2013	127,000	\$561,000
	2012	171,000	611,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			
	2013	9,151,000	\$89,948,000
	2012	9,526,000	92,176,000

1 Includes Ferns, Hydrangeas, Ivy, Lavender, Lilies, Orchids, Poinsettias, etc.

2 Includes Alstroemeria, Asiatic and Oriental Lilies, Roses, Snapdragons, etc.

3 Includes Grasses, Ivy, Vegetables, etc.



## FLORAL AND NURSERY CROPS OUTDOOR GROWN

Crop	Year	Acres	Total Value
<b>Ornamentals</b>			
Nursery Stock <sup>1</sup>	2013	119	\$14,724,000
	2012	127	15,638,000
Christmas Trees (cut)	2013	148	361,000
	2012	145	333,000
<b>Subtotal</b>			
	2013	267	\$15,085,000
	2012	272	15,971,000
<b>Cut Flowers<sup>2</sup></b>			
	2013	312	\$5,348,000
	2012	355	5,697,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			
	2013	579	\$20,433,000
	2012	627	21,668,000

1 Includes herbaceous perennials, shrubs and trees.

2 Includes Hydrangeas, Lilies, Tulips, Yarrow, etc.

## LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS AND APIARY

Commodity	Year	Production	Unit	VALUE	
				Per Unit	Total
Honey	2013	53,000	lbs	\$8.93	\$473,000
	2012	51,000	lbs	8.44	430,000
Beeswax	2013	1,535	lbs	7.53	12,000
	2012	946	lbs	5.93	6,000
Other <sup>1</sup>	2013				1,267,000
	2012				1,232,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	2013				\$1,752,000
	2012				1,668,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Eggs, Goat Cheese, Wool, etc.



## LIVESTOCK

Commodity	Year	Number Head Sold	Total Value
Cattle and Calves	2013	2,012	\$1,814,000
	2012	2,008	1,843,000
Other <sup>1</sup>	2013	7,780	588,000
	2012	5,665	616,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	2013		\$2,402,000
	2012		2,459,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Chickens, Goats, Sheep, Swine, Turkeys, etc.

## FIELD CROPS



Commodity	Year	PRODUCTION			Unit	VALUE	
		Acres	Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Beans, Dry Edible <sup>1</sup>	2013	56	0.93	52	Ton	\$5,139	\$267,000
	2012	58	1.02	59	Ton	5,503	325,000
Grain <sup>2</sup>	2013	201	0.67	135	Ton	255	34,000
	2012	361	0.60	216	Ton	298	64,000
Hay							
Oat & Rye	2013	281	1.92	540	Ton	196	106,000
	2012	292	2.76	806	Ton	184	148,000
Volunteer	2013	142	2.44	346	Ton	65	22,000
	2012	162	2.94	476	Ton	75	36,000
Pasture							
Irrigated	2013	149				140	21,000
	2012	193				140	27,000
Other	2013	21,719				15	326,000
	2012	22,218				15	333,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	2013	22,548					\$776,000
	2012	23,284					933,000

1 Includes Cranberry, Fava, etc.

2 Includes Barley, Oats, Rye and Wheat

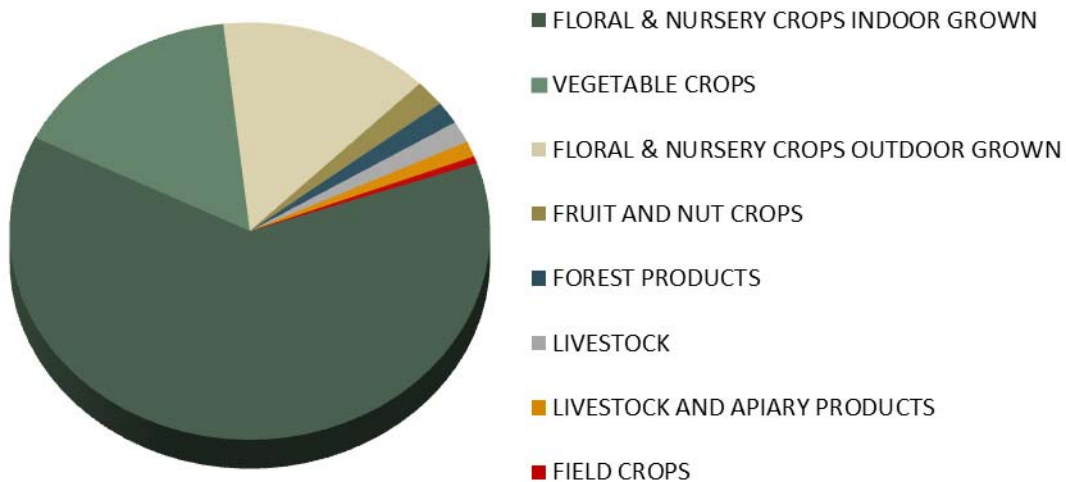
## FOREST PRODUCTS

Year	Board Feet	Total Value
2013	5,627,000	\$2,475,000
2012	5,547,000	1,979,000

## RECAPITULATION

	2013	2012	Net Difference	Percentage
Floral and Nursery Crops	\$110,381,000	\$113,844,000	-\$3,463,000	-3.0%
Vegetables	22,669,000	17,385,000	5,284,000	23.3%
Fruit and Nut Crops	2,692,000	1,764,000	928,000	34.5%
Forest Products	2,475,000	1,979,000	496,000	20.0%
Livestock	2,402,000	2,459,000	-57,000	-2.3%
Livestock Products and Apiary	1,752,000	1,668,000	84,000	4.8%
Field Crops	776,000	933,000	-157,000	-16.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$143,147,000</b>	<b>\$140,032,000</b>	<b>\$3,115,000</b>	<b>2.2%</b>

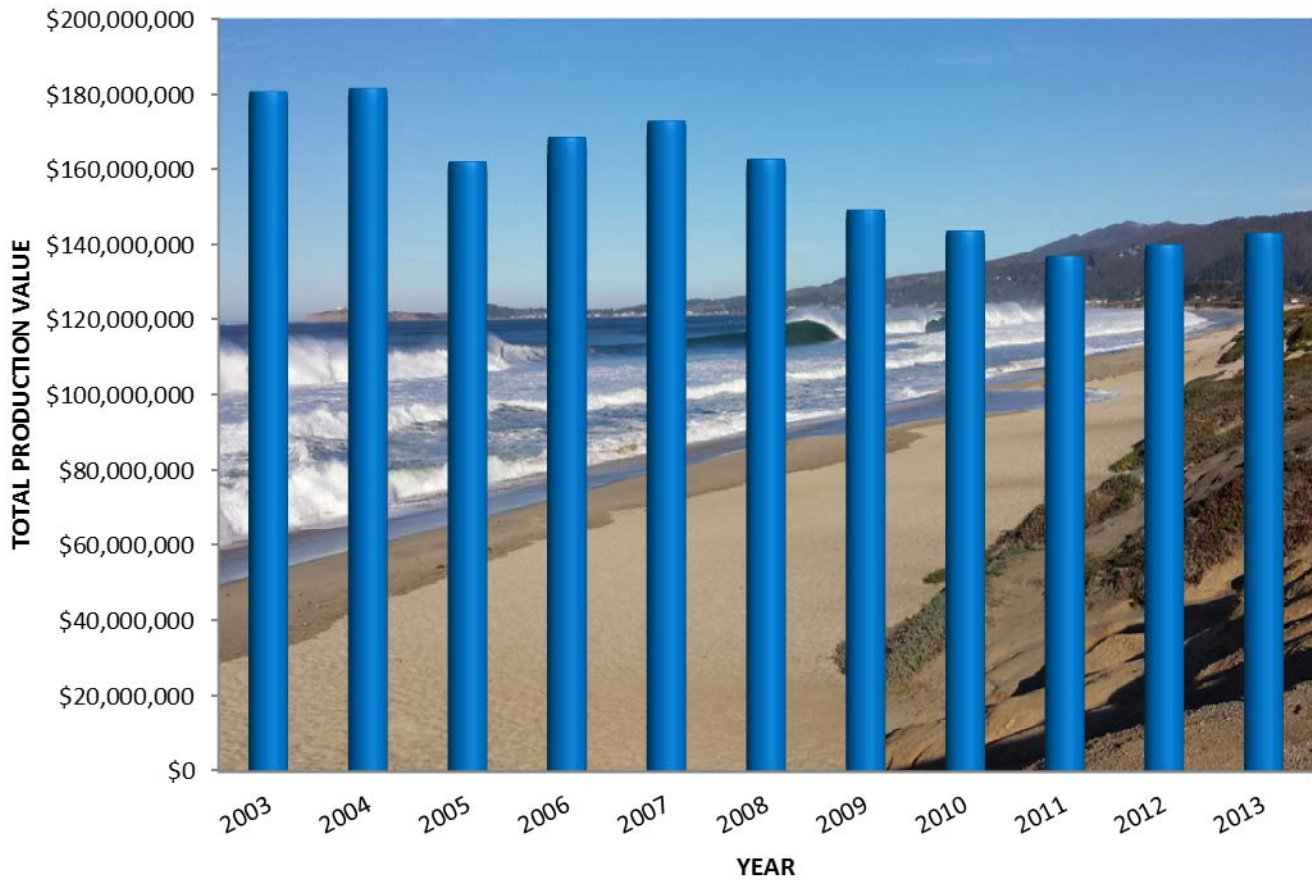
## 2013 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION



## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS

	2013	2012
Flowering & Foliage Potted Plants (Indoor Grown)	\$82,538,000	\$84,482,000
Ornamental Nursery Stock	14,724,000	15,638,000
Brussels Sprouts	12,537,000	9,106,000
Cut Flowers (Indoor Grown)	6,616,000	7,083,000
Cut Flowers (Outdoor Grown)	5,348,000	5,697,000
Forest Products	2,475,000	1,979,000
Fava Beans	2,063,000	653,000
Cattle and Calves	1,814,000	1,843,000
Leeks	1,779,000	1,397,000
Wine Grapes	1,306,000	694,000

## AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION VALUE OVER THE DECADE



### 50 YEARS AGO...

#### Top Ten Agricultural Commodities in 1963

1	Carnations (Indoor Grown)	1,931,000 Square Feet	\$2,308,000
2	Brussels Sprouts	1,420 Acres	1,710,000
3	Flowering Potted Plants (Indoor Grown)	888,000 Square Feet	1,604,000
4	Miscellaneous Vegetables	67 Acres	1,508,000
5	Ornamental Nursery Stock (Indoor Grown)	432,000 Square Feet	1,013,000
6	Milk (Market)	160,000 Hundredweight	714,000
7	Cattle & Calves	3,500 Head	512,000
8	Chrysanthemums (Indoor Grown)	524,000 Square Feet	554,000
9	Chrysanthemums (Outdoor Grown)	60 Acres	555,000
10	Strawflowers (Outdoor Grown)	112 Acres	431,000

In 1963, the total value of San Mateo County agricultural production was \$17,880,000, or about 12.5% of 2013's total value.

# SAN MATEO COUNTY 2013 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORT

Pest exclusion, detection, eradication and organic farming are part of San Mateo County's Sustainable Agricultural programs. Sustainable agriculture includes inspecting, monitoring, mapping and implementing integrated pest management practices in efforts to maintain environmental balance and economic viability.

## PEST EXCLUSION

In an effort to prevent introduction and dispersion of exotic insects, weeds and plant diseases transported on shipments from other counties, states and countries, agricultural commodities are inspected upon arrival in San Mateo County as required by quarantine regulations. The Pest Exclusion program is the first line of defense mechanisms carried out to protect agricultural production against harmful pests and diseases. Shipments may be rejected due to presence of live pests, improper container markings, or lack of valid certification.

Type of Shipment	Inspections	Rejections	Pests Intercepted
Parcel Carriers	17,042	71	10
Truck	1,320	8	5
Air	2,866	88	111
Sea Containers	12	0	0
Household Goods (Gypsy Moth)	64	1	0
Nursery Stock (GWSS)	2,333	0	0
Other	28	1	1

## EXOTIC PESTS INTERCEPTED

Pest	Rating*	Number of Interceptions	Pest	Rating*	Number of Interceptions
<b><i>Aonidiella orientalis</i></b> Oriental scale	A	2	<b>Mealybugs</b> (various species)	Q	6
<b><i>Ceroplastes floridensis</i></b> Florida wax scale	A	1	<b>Mites</b> (various species)	Q	4
<b><i>Pinnaspis strachani</i></b> lesser snow scale	A	3	<b>Moths &amp; Butterflies</b> (various species)	Q	24
<b><i>Pseudaulacaspis pentagona</i></b> white peach scale	A	1	<b>Psyllids</b> (various species)	Q	3
<b><i>Pseudoparlatoria paratiroides</i></b> false parlatoria scale	A	3	<b>Scales</b> (various species)	Q	64
<b>Ants</b> (various species)	Q	7	<b>Snails &amp; Slugs</b> (various species)	Q	2
<b>Aphids</b> (various species)	Q	1	<b>Thrips</b> (various species)	Q	1
<b>Beetles</b> (various species)	Q	1	<b>True Bugs</b> (various species)	Q	2
<b>Leaf &amp; Plant hoppers</b> (various species)	Q	2	<b>Whiteflies</b> (various species)	Q	1
			<b>Other</b> (various species)	Q	8

\* "A" or "Q" pest rating requires quarantined products to be destroyed, treated, or shipped out of state.

San Mateo County is a major export hub due to the close proximity to international airports and ocean freight services. In 2013, 1,961 Federal Phytosanitary Certificates were issued to transport agricultural goods to 31 countries, with over 75% shipping to Canada, Japan and South Korea. There were also 1,566 State Phytosanitary Certificates issued to export agricultural products to 16 states. These certifications verify that import requirements are met and the commodities are free from harmful insects or diseases as required by a particular state or country.

# SAN MATEO COUNTY 2013 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORT




## PEST DETECTION

Pest monitoring is carried out by the Pest Detection program through deployment, mapping and surveillance of pheromone traps. In 2013, Pest Detection staff set 3,793 insect traps and serviced them 47,262 times. The good news for our local agricultural producers is that there were no viable finds of these following agricultural threatening insects in San Mateo County:

Asian Citrus Psyllid	Glassy-winged Sharpshooter	Mediterranean Fruit Fly
European Corn Borer	Gypsy Moth	Melon Fly
European Grape Vine Moth	Japanese Beetle	Mexican Fruit Fly
European Pine Shoot Moth	Khapra Beetle	Oriental Fruit Fly

## PEST ERADICATION

In 2013, as part of the San Mateo County Weed Management Area (WMA) program, the San Mateo County Department of Agricultural/Weights and Measures created the scope of work and funded projects for eradication and control of “A” rated skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*) and fertile capeweed (*Arctotheca calendula*), as well as “B” rated purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*). These projects were chosen based on high risk of weed transportation and feasibility of maintaining control. The last few years has seen progress in decreasing populations of these invasive weeds with full eradication and/or controlled growth at sites.

Weed Species	Fertile Capeweed <i>Arctotheca calendula</i>	Skeletonweed <i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	Purple Loosestrife <i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
			
Characteristics	Perennial rosettes w/ daisy-like yellow flowers, A-Rated*	Perennial or biennial, basal rosettes w/ wiry stems and small yellow flowers, A-Rated*	Perennial clumps up to 3 meters tall w/ spikes of purple flowers, B-Rated**
Reproduction	Seeds and vegetative stolons	Seeds and vegetative roots	Seeds, up to 2 million per plant, viable up to 3 years
Distribution	Open or disturbed sites; Only one site in San Mateo County, 1 ac. in Pescadero rangeland	Disturbed land; San Carlos, near Caltrain tracks (Atherton to Burlingame) and Edgewood Road/Hwy 280	Wetlands; 17 plants found at Reflection Lake in La Honda
Monitoring & Control	Flagged, mapped and treated with herbicides	Mapped, hand-pulled, herbicide treatment and 2 biocontrol agents released: gall mite, <i>Eriophyes chondrillae</i> , and rust fungus, <i>Puccinia chondrillina</i>	Mapped, treated with herbicides when lake levels were below overflow level, and hand-pulled

\*A - Rated pests are highly invasive, considered detrimental to agriculture and the environment, and regulated for eradication.

\*\*B - Rated pests may be detrimental to agriculture and eradication and is subject to the discretion of the local Agricultural Commissioner.

# SAN MATEO COUNTY 2013 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORT

## INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

Agricultural producers use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for balancing insect pest and disease control with optimum environmental health. IPM focuses on maintaining sanitary conditions, encouraging beneficial insect populations, replenishing nutrients in the soil, and monitoring and controlling pests that may harm agricultural commodities. The following IPM practices were used last year by San Mateo County agricultural producers:

<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> , Bacteria	Hedgerows	Owl Boxes	Sticky Traps
Botanical Extracts	Insect Growth Regulators	Parasitic Wasps	Soil Steam Sterilization
Companion Planting	Insect Monitoring	Parasitic Nematodes	Temperature/Humidity Control
Cover Crops	Insecticidal Soaps	Pheromone Traps	Torching Weeds
Crop Rotation	Lacewings	Predatory Mites	Weed Covers
Diatomaceous Earth	Ladybird Beetles	Pressure Washing	Vertebrate Traps
Field Sanitation	Mulching	Refined Oils	

## ORGANIC FARMING

Although acreage and number of organic farms decreased in 2013, the commodity value continued on the upward trend of the past few years. The gross agricultural production value of organic commodities was estimated at \$3,859,000, an increase of over a million dollars or 28% from the previous year.

	Organic Farms	Production Acreage
2013	16	373
2012	18	410
2011	16	230

## COASTSIDE RAIN STATIONS



Year	Half Moon Bay inches	Pescadero inches
2012/2013	18.78	20.11
2011/2012	16.16	18.32
2010/2011	27.75	29.38
2009/2010	25.34	30.28
2008/2009	20.74	25.69
2007/2008	20.65	21.86
2006/2007	18.29	15.13
2005/2006	35.58	30.30
2004/2005	37.83	32.61
2003/2004	23.15	19.29
2002/2003	*	24.95

\* Data not available



## COMMERCIAL FISH CATCH

<u>Species</u>	<u>Year*</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Value</u>
Crab, Dungeness	2012	2,345,450	\$7,522,553
	2011	3,371,188	8,240,626
Squid, market	2012	17,725,231	5,321,521
	2011	1,408,943	352,700
Salmon, Chinook	2012	283,740	1,693,041
	2011	57,804	389,657
Prawn, spot	2012	36,492	452,993
	2011	2,345	26,325
Halibut, California	2012	47,291	226,211
	2011	61,301	272,427
Sablefish	2012	95,500	144,554
	2011	158,791	560,346
Tuna, Albacore	2012	54,853	127,512
	2011	18,055	49,861
Rockfish, all	2012	99,718	106,074
	2011	86,727	109,583
Sole, all	2012	66,668	67,014
	2011	64,407	68,034
Sanddab	2012	55,327	27,773
	2011	24,640	12,429
Lingcod	2012	6,369	20,645
	2011	4,724	16,176
Crab, rock unspecified	2012	7,956	17,854
	2011	7,489	16,322
Miscellaneous	2012	20,100	16,313
	2011	19,221	19,606
Seabass, white	2012	1,253	7,010
	2011	2,771	8,487
Flounder, all	2012	6,808	5,730
	2011	11,440	8,545
TOTAL	2012	20,852,756	\$15,756,798
	2011	5,299,846	\$10,151,124

Source: California Department of Fish and Game Poundage Value of Landings  
Princeton-Half Moon Bay

Informational only, value not included in Annual Report

\*Values shown are from previous year

## CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKETS

Certified Farmers' Markets give agricultural producers an opportunity to sell their fresh commodities directly to the consumer. A producer's agricultural commodities must be confirmed through inspection by the County Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures as grown by that farm. An embossed Certified Producers Certificate is displayed at each farmer's stall, which gives consumers confidence that they are buying local goods. The most current list of Certified Farmers' Markets in San Mateo County may be found at:

[www.smcgov.org/agwm](http://www.smcgov.org/agwm)





**COUNTY** OF  
**SAN MATEO**

# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE/WEIGHTS & MEASURES

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Photo by: D. Latta