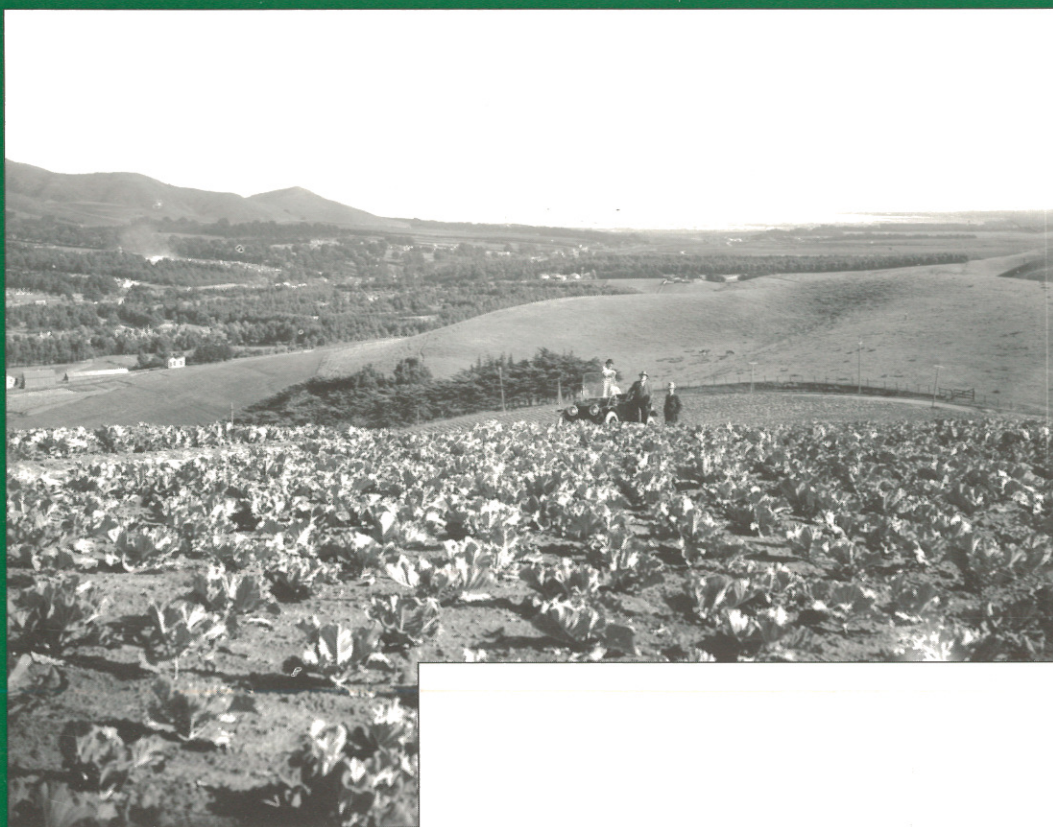


# SAN MATEO COUNTY

## 2000 AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT



*Colma  
Valley*

*c. 1915*

*Mills Dairy,  
Millbrae*

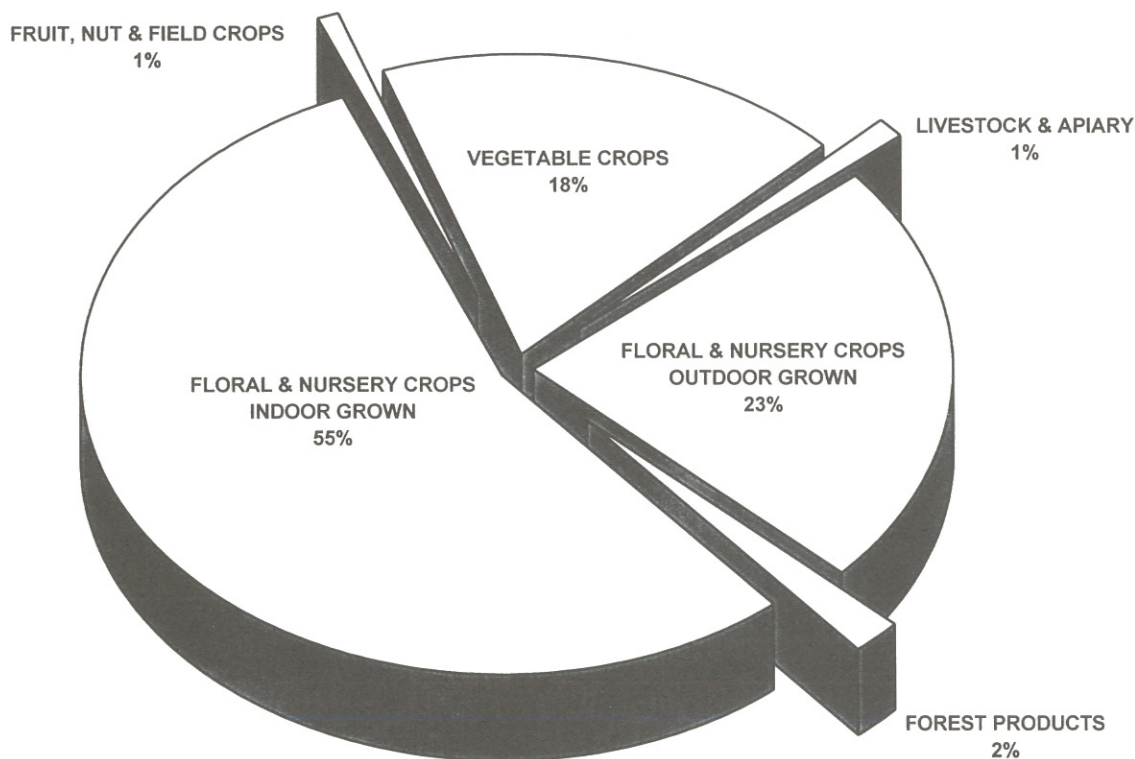
*c. 1915*



*Looking Back on a Century of Farming*

# SAN MATEO COUNTY 2000 CROP SUMMARY

TOTAL PRODUCTION VALUE \$198,664,000



## *On The Cover:*

Our 2000 Crop Report looks back at a century of agriculture in San Mateo County. The photograph in the upper left is a view of the Colma Valley from a cabbage field where Seton Medical Center now stands, looking toward San Bruno Mountain and the Bay. For many years farmers in North County provided a variety of fresh vegetables for residents of San Francisco and the Peninsula. The photo on the lower right is of Mills Dairy in the City of Millbrae where you would be hard pressed to find a cow today. San Mateo County had 13,575 dairy cows in 1940 and 200 dairy cows as recently as 1975. These two photographs were provided courtesy of the San Mateo County History Museum.

The photograph on the address page is of the T. Yamane family bunching chrysanthemums at their nursery on Old County Road in Redwood City. In the early 1900's "mums" were a major crop in San Mateo County where they were grown on the hillsides of San Mateo, Belmont, San Carlos and Redwood City under stick and cheesecloth houses. These houses were replaced with glass greenhouses after World War II. This photograph was provided courtesy of the California Chrysanthemum Growers Association.

I would like to thank Carol Peterson with the San Mateo County History Museum, and Jim Mori with the California Chrysanthemum Growers Association for their assistance with the photographs in our Crop Report.

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

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**William J. Lyons, Jr., Secretary**  
California Department of Food and Agriculture  
and

**San Mateo County Board of Supervisors**

Mark Church, 1st District  
Jerry Hill, 2nd District  
Richard S. Gordon, 3rd District  
Rose Jacobs Gibson, 4th District  
Michael D. Nevin, 5th District

I am pleased to submit the 2000 Agricultural Crop Report for San Mateo County in compliance with Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. Also included is the Sustainable Agriculture Report in accordance with Section 2272 of the Code.

The production values in this report represent gross values and do not reflect the cost of production. The total gross value of San Mateo County agricultural production for 2000 was \$198,664,000. This represents a 10% increase from the total production value for 1999, (\$179,605,000). The total gross value does not reflect the real impact agricultural production has on the local economy. For every dollar of agricultural production, a multiplier factor of 3.5 may be applied. Using this factor, the estimated economic impact on San Mateo County for 2000 was \$695,324,000.

Although late spring rains delayed planting of some crops, the overall production was back to normal from the growing seasons impacted by the El Niño and La Niña weather patterns. Most crops planted had higher yields, which added to the increased production value for 2000. vegetable crops increased 14% and outdoor cut flowers increased 16% overall. Larkspur production jumped significantly over last year, and this flower crop made it onto our list of Million Dollar Crops for the first time. Board feet of harvested timber was lower, but the value increased resulting in a 46% jump over the 1999 value.

I wish to express my appreciation to all individuals, growers and agencies who contributed information for the preparation of this crop report. Special thanks goes to Ronald Pummer on my staff who helped compile the report.

Respectfully submitted,

**Gail M. Raabe**  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights and Measures

# FLORAL AND NURSERY CROPS INDOOR GROWN

Item	Year	Square Feet	Production	Unit	VALUE	
					Per Unit	Total
<b>Cut Flowers</b>						
Alstroemeria .....	2000	595,000	504,000	Bunch	\$ 1.89	\$ 953,000
	1999	546,000	425,000	Bunch	1.86	791,000
Carnations .....	2000	320,000	4,414,000	Bloom	.22	971,000
	1999	581,000	5,598,000	Bloom	.22	1,232,000
Lilies .....	2000	316,000	591,000	Bunch	5.85	3,457,000
	1999	205,000	232,000	Bunch	5.85	1,357,000
Snapdragons .....	2000	1,325,000	958,000	Bunch	2.74	2,625,000
	1999	1,166,000	930,000 *	Bunch	2.68	2,492,000
Miscellaneous .....	2000	792,000				3,649,000
Cut Flowers <sup>1</sup> .....	1999	1,060,000				3,590,000
<b>Potted Plants</b>						
Flowering						
Chrysanthemums .....	2000	45,000	134,000	Pot	\$ 2.07	\$ 278,000
	1999	99,000	444,000	Pot	2.94	1,305,000
Lilies <sup>2</sup> .....	2000	770,000	1,605,000	Pot	3.83	6,147,000
	1999	770,000	1,447,000	Pot	4.45	6,439,000
Orchids .....	2000	469,000	673,000	Pot	11.23	7,558,000
	1999	463,000	407,000	Pot	11.75	4,782,000
Poinsettias .....	2000	598,000	941,000	Pot	4.29	4,037,000
	1999	603,000	926,000	Pot	4.30	3,982,000
Miscellaneous <sup>3</sup> .....	2000	5,669,000				48,766,000
	1999	6,287,000				47,460,000
Foliage <sup>4</sup> .....	2000	3,564,000				28,400,000
	1999	3,315,000				25,104,000
Subtotal .....	2000	14,463,000				\$ 106,841,000
	1999	15,095,000				98,534,000
<b>Propagated</b>						
Bedding Plants .....	2000	334,000				\$ 1,287,000
	(Ivy, Impatiens, Marigolds, etc.) 1999	332,000				1,281,000
Cuttings and Liners .....	2000	165,000				566,000
	(Ferns, Hydrangea, Ivy, etc.) 1999	178,000				515,000
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	2000	14,962,000				\$ 108,694,000
	1999	15,605,000				100,330,000
Total Glass and Plastic Areas .....					5,775,000 Square Feet	

1 Includes Chrysanthemum, Freesia, Gardenia, Roses, etc.

2 Includes Calla Lilies, Easter Lilies, Hybrid Lilies, Oriental Lilies, etc.

3 Includes Azaleas, Cyclamen, Gardenias, Gerberas, Hydrangea, Primula, Roses, Tulips, etc.

4 Includes Dieffenbachia, Ficus, Ivy, Philodendron, Pothos, etc.

# FLORAL AND NURSERY CROPS OUTDOOR GROWN

Item	Year	Acres	Production	Unit	VALUE	
					Per Unit	Total
Daisies -----	2000	78	1,060,000	Bunch	\$ 1.00	\$ 1,060,000
	1999	85	1,048,000	Bunch	1.01	1,058,000
Gypsophila -----	2000	21	170,000	Bunch	1.81	308,000
	1999	30	192,000	Bunch	1.99	382,000
Heather -----	2000	56	106,000	Bunch	2.13	226,000
	1999	52	104,000	Bunch	2.07	215,000
Iris -----	2000	47	1,143,000	Bunch	2.59	2,960,000
	1999	45	1,125,000	Bunch	2.67	3,004,000
Larkspur -----	2000	28	498,000	Bunch	2.10	1,046,000
	1999	30	122,000	Bunch	2.59	316,000
Stock -----	2000	98	717,000	Bunch	2.15	1,542,000
	1999	89	331,000	Bunch	2.45	811,000
Strawflowers <sup>1</sup> -----	2000	35	91,000	Bunch	1.51	137,000
	1999	46	231,000	Bunch	1.10	254,000
Sunflowers -----	2000	33	119,000	Bunch	2.25	268,000
	1999	34	106,000	Bunch	2.40	254,000
Miscellaneous ----- Flower/Foliage <sup>2</sup>	2000	342				4,082,000
	1999	307				3,415,000
Subtotal -----	2000	738				\$ 11,629,000
	1999	718				9,709,000
<b>Ornamentals</b>						
Herbaceous ----- Perennials <sup>3</sup>	2000	15				\$ 2,324,000
	1999	18				2,314,000
Christmas Trees -----	2000	149				287,000
	1999	150				259,000
Nursery Stock <sup>4</sup> -----	2000	192				31,822,000
	1999	183				30,230,000
<b>TOTAL</b> -----	2000	1,094				\$ 46,062,000
	1999	1,069				42,512,000

1 Includes Fresh and Dried.

2 Includes Calla Lily, Delphinium, Eucalyptus, Pittosporum, Statice, Yarrow, etc.

3 Includes Cinerarias, Fuchsias, Impatiens, Primrose, etc.

4 Includes Heather, Mini Christmas trees, other trees and shrubs.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Crop	Year	Acres	PRODUCTION		Unit	VALUE	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Artichokes <sup>1</sup>	2000	231	2.81	649	Ton	\$ 968.00	\$ 628,000
	1999	281	1.98	556	Ton	888.00	494,000
Beans, Snap	2000	143	2.96	423	Ton	1,117.00	473,000
	1999	135	2.68	362	Ton	1,106.00	400,000
Brussels Sprouts <sup>1</sup>	2000	723	8.45	6,109	Ton	659.00	4,026,000
	1999	812	7.62	6,187	Ton	551.00	3,409,000
Leeks	2000	163	11.49	1,873	Ton	716.00	1,341,000
	1999	182	10.42	1,896	Ton	563.00	1,067,000
Mushrooms	2000	17					24,184,000
	1999	17					20,423,000
Peas	2000	345	2.20	759	Ton	859.00	652,000
	1999	414	1.69	700	Ton	902.00	631,000
Pumpkins	2000	240	14.23	3,415	Ton	155.00	529,000
	1999	233	11.49	2,677	Ton	153.00	410,000
Miscellaneous Vegetables Field and Indoor Grown <sup>2</sup>	2000	647					4,327,000
	1999	801					4,173,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	2000	2,509					\$ 36,160,000
	1999	2,875					31,007,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Processed.

<sup>2</sup> Includes Cabbage, Corn, Herbs, Leaf lettuce, Potatoes, Spinach, Swiss chard, etc.

## FIELD CROPS

Crop	Year	Acres	PRODUCTION		Unit	VALUE	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Beans, Dry Edible <sup>1</sup>	2000	200	0.75	150	Ton	\$2,000.00	\$ 300,000
	1999	200	1.00	200	Ton	2,000.00	400,000
Grain Oats	2000	300	0.96	288	Ton	520.00	150,000
	1999	600	1.12	672	Ton	520.00	349,000
Hay Oats	2000	500	1.00	500	Ton	100.00	50,000
	1999	500	1.00	500	Ton	100.00	50,000
Volunteer	2000	300	1.50	450	Ton	80.00	36,000
	1999	300	1.50	450	Ton	80.00	36,000
Pasture Irrigated	2000	300				140.00	42,000
	1999	300				140.00	42,000
Other	2000	30,000				9.00	270,000
	1999	30,000				9.00	270,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	2000	31,600					\$ 848,000
	1999	31,900					1,147,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes Cranberry, Fava, etc.

## FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

Item	Year	Acres	Total Value
Bushberries .....	2000	24	\$ 217,000
	1999	29	126,000
Strawberries .....	2000	18	256,000
	1999	16	217,000
Wine Grapes .....	2000	45	139,000
	1999	40	130,000
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup> .....	2000	18	166,000
	1999	54	118,000
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	2000	105	<b>\$ 778,000</b>
	1999	139	<b>591,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes Apples, Kiwi, Pears, Walnuts, etc.

## LIVESTOCK

Item	Year	Number Head Sold	Total Value
Cattle and Calves .....	2000	2,420	\$ 930,000
	1999	2,400	975,000
Sheep and Lambs .....	2000	900	80,000
	1999	1,010	89,000
Hogs and Pigs .....	2000	1,930	143,000
	1999	1,252	96,000
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	2000	1,800	179,000
	1999	1,400	168,000
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	2000		<b>\$ 1,332,000</b>
	1999		<b>1,328,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes chickens, goats, turkeys

## LIVESTOCK AND APIARY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Production	Unit	VALUE	
				Per Unit	Total
Honey .....	2000	36,000	LB.	\$ 1.50	54,000
	1999	36,000	LB.	1.50	54,000
Beeswax .....	2000	500	LB.	2.00	1,000
	1999	500	LB.	2.00	1,000
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	2000				202,000
	1999				195,000
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	2000				<b>\$ 257,000</b>
	1999				<b>250,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes goat cheese, eggs, wool

# FOREST PRODUCTS

<b>TOTAL</b> .....	2000	4,505,000 Board Feet	\$4,533,000
	1999	4,675,000 Board Feet	2,440,000

## Department of Agriculture COASTSIDE RAIN STATIONS

	Half Moon Bay	Pescadero
1989/1990 .....	11.87 inches	9.35 inches
1990/1991 .....	13.43 inches	21.10 inches
1991/1992 .....	25.31 inches	28.98 inches
1992/1993 .....	33.17 inches	29.87 inches
1993/1994 .....	17.93 inches	15.45 inches
1994/1995 .....	37.48 inches	31.00 inches
1995/1996 .....	30.69 inches	25.56 inches
1996/1997 .....	26.05 inches	19.31 inches
1997/1998 .....	50.69 inches	81.71 inches
1998/1999 .....	29.48 inches	22.63 inches
1999/2000 .....	31.54 inches	29.83 inches

### 50 YEARS AGO . . . . .

### Top Ten Agricultural Commodities in 1950

ITEM		TOTAL VALUE
1. Dairy Cattle	10,488 Head	\$1,912,124
2. Hogs	32,893 Head	1,777,228
3. Chrysanthemums (Field Grown)	212 Acres	1,386,708
4. Brussels Sprouts	2,162 Acres	1,253,920
5. Artichokes	1,915 Acres	873,240
6. Gardenias (Glass House Grown)	531,940 Square Feet	552,218
7. Heather	372 Acres	507,852
8. Ferns (Glass House Grown)	863,008 Square Feet	431,504
9. Potted Plants (Glass House Grown)	391,982 Square Feet	431,180
10. Ducks	191,808 Birds	386,949



# RECAPITULATION

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## PRODUCTION VALUES

	2000	1999
FLOWER AND NURSERY CROPS .....	\$154,756,000	\$142,842,000
VEGETABLE CROPS .....	36,160,000	31,007,000
FOREST PRODUCTS .....	4,533,000	2,440,000
FIELD CROPS .....	848,000	1,147,000
LIVESTOCK .....	1,332,000	1,328,000
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS .....	778,000	591,000
LIVESTOCK AND APIARY PRODUCTS .....	257,000	250,000
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$198,664,000</b>	<b>\$179,605,000</b>

## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS

	2000	1999
Ornamental Nursery Stock	\$31,822,000	\$30,230,000
Potted Foliage Plants	28,400,000	25,104,000
Mushrooms	24,184,000	20,423,000
Orchids (potted)	7,558,000	4,782,000
Lilies (potted)	6,147,000	6,439,000
Forest Products	4,533,000	2,440,000
Poinsettia (potted)	4,037,000	3,982,000
Brussels Sprouts	4,026,000	3,409,000
Lilies (cut)	3,457,000	1,357,000
Iris	2,960,000	3,004,000
Snapdragons	2,625,000	2,492,000
Herbaceous Perennials	2,324,000	2,314,000
Stock	1,542,000	811,000
Leeks	1,341,000	1,067,000
Bedding Plants	1,287,000	1,281,000
Daisies	1,060,000	1,058,000
Larkspur	1,046,000	316,000

# SAN MATEO COUNTY 2000 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORT

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Sustainable Agriculture is the implementation of agricultural programs and practices designed to promote the economic viability of agriculture, while minimizing the impact of agricultural practices on natural resources and the environment. This report includes information on San Mateo County's programs for the eradication, control or detection of pests, as well as the enforcement of quarantines to exclude such pests. Also included is information on alternative pest control measures employed by the agricultural industry and organic farming.

## — COUNTY PROGRAMS —

### BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

Pest	Agent/Mechanism	Scope of Program
Yellow Star Thistle	<u>Bangasternus orientalis</u> , weevil <u>Eustenopus villosus</u> , weevil	Monitored established populations of these two bio-control agents at 13 sites.
	<u>Urophora sirunaseva</u> , gall fly	Monitored established populations at 5 sites.
Ash Whitefly	The release and natural disbursement of <u>Encarsia partenopea</u> and <u>Clitostethus arcuatus</u> since 1991 has been highly successful in keeping the Ash Whitefly under control. These bio-control agents have now become established and no further releases are planned.	

### PEST ERADICATION

Skeletonweed, Chondrilla juncea, was treated at two locations. This is an "A" rated pest. Pests with this designation are detrimental to agriculture and require complete eradication.

### PEST DETECTION

#### **Insect Trapping for Exotic Pests**

3,651 insect traps were deployed for exotic pests, with 48,104 trap servicings during the year. This included traps for the following economically significant insects: Mediterranean Fruit Fly, Mexican and Oriental Fruit Fly, Melon Fly, Gypsy Moth, Japanese Beetle, Khapra Beetle, European Pine Shoot Moth and European Corn Borer.

Two adult male gypsy moths, Lymantria dispar, were found. Additional traps were set within one square mile of each find for a total of 105 traps. No additional gypsy moths were detected.

### PEST EXCLUSION

Inspection of incoming shipments of plant products and other high risk articles to prevent the introduction of pests and diseases harmful to California's agricultural industry. Shipments are rejected due to the presence of live pests, improper container markings, or lack of valid certification.

Type of Shipment	Number Inspected	Number Rejected
Parcel Carriers	25,422	420
Truck	2,313	72
Air	11,256	221
Sea Containers	33	3
Household Goods	150	0

## EXOTIC PESTS INTERCEPTED\*

<b>Pest</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Number of Interceptions</b>	<b>Pest</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Number of Interceptions</b>
<u>Achatina fulica</u> giant African snail	A	4	<u>Ants</u> (various species)	Q	67
<u>Anastrepha suspensa</u> Caribbean fruit fly	A	1	<u>Aphids</u> (various species)	Q	18
<u>Aspidiotus destructor</u> coconut scale	A	3	<u>Beetles</u> (various species)	Q	5
<u>Ceraplaste rubens</u> red wax scale	A	1	<u>Craneflys</u>	Q	4
<u>Chrysodeiris eriosoma</u> green garden looper	A	3	<u>Crickets</u>	Q	3
<u>Coccus viridis</u> green scale	A	1	<u>Katydid</u> (various species)	Q	9
<u>Dolichodurus heteroc</u> Cobb's awl nematode	A	2	<u>Leafhoppers</u> (various species)	Q	25
<u>Hemiberlesia palmarum</u> tropical palm scale	A	3	<u>Mealybugs</u> (various species)	Q	12
<u>Howardia biclavata</u> mining scale	A	2	<u>Moths</u> (various species)	Q	8
<u>Hydrilla verticillata</u> hydrilla	A	1	<u>Scales</u> (various species)	Q	12
<u>Lepidosteus oculatus</u> spotted gar	A	1	<u>Slugs</u> (various species)	Q	12
<u>Pinnaspis buxi</u> boxwood scale	A	1	<u>Snails</u> (various species)	Q	7
<u>Pinnaspis strachani</u> lesser snow scale	A	3	<u>True Bugs</u> (various species)	Q	3
<u>Pseudaulacaspis cockerelli</u> magnolia white scale	A	19	<u>Thrips</u>	Q	2
<u>Pseudaulacaspis pentagona</u> white peach scale	A	1	<u>Whiteflies</u> (various species)	Q	18
<u>Solenopsis invicta</u> red imported fire ant	A	1	<u>Weeds</u> (various species)	Q	27
<u>Unaspis citri</u> citrus snow scale	A	1			

\*Pest rating designation of "A" or "Q" requires that quarantined plant products be destroyed, treated under departmental supervision, or shipped out of state.

### — AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY —

#### ALTERNATIVE PEST CONTROL MEASURES

The following alternative pest control methods are being utilized on indoor ornamentals, outdoor ornamentals, vegetables and fruit.

<u>Bacillus thuringiensis</u> , bacteria	Predatory Mites	Refined Oils
Lacewings	Insect Monitoring, Pheromone Traps	Cover Crops
Ladybird Beetles	Botanicals	Crop Rotation
Parasitic Nematodes	Insect Growth Regulators	Steam Sterilization of soils
Parasitic Wasps	Insecticidal soaps	Weed Covers

#### ORGANIC FARMING

	<b>Crops</b>
<b>Number of Farms</b>	Apples, arugula, artichokes, asparagus, beans, berries, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, chard, collard greens, cucumbers, eggs, eggplant, flowers (cut), garlic, hay (oat), herbs, horseradish, kale, leeks, lemons, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, potatoes, pumpkins, spinach, strawberries, squash, tomatoes, vegetable transplants, watermelon.
<b>Estimated Acres</b>	
9	
148	

**SAN MATEO COUNTY**  
**Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures**  
**728 Heller Street**  
**P.O. Box 999**  
**Redwood City, California 94064-0999**



*Redwood City c. 1940*