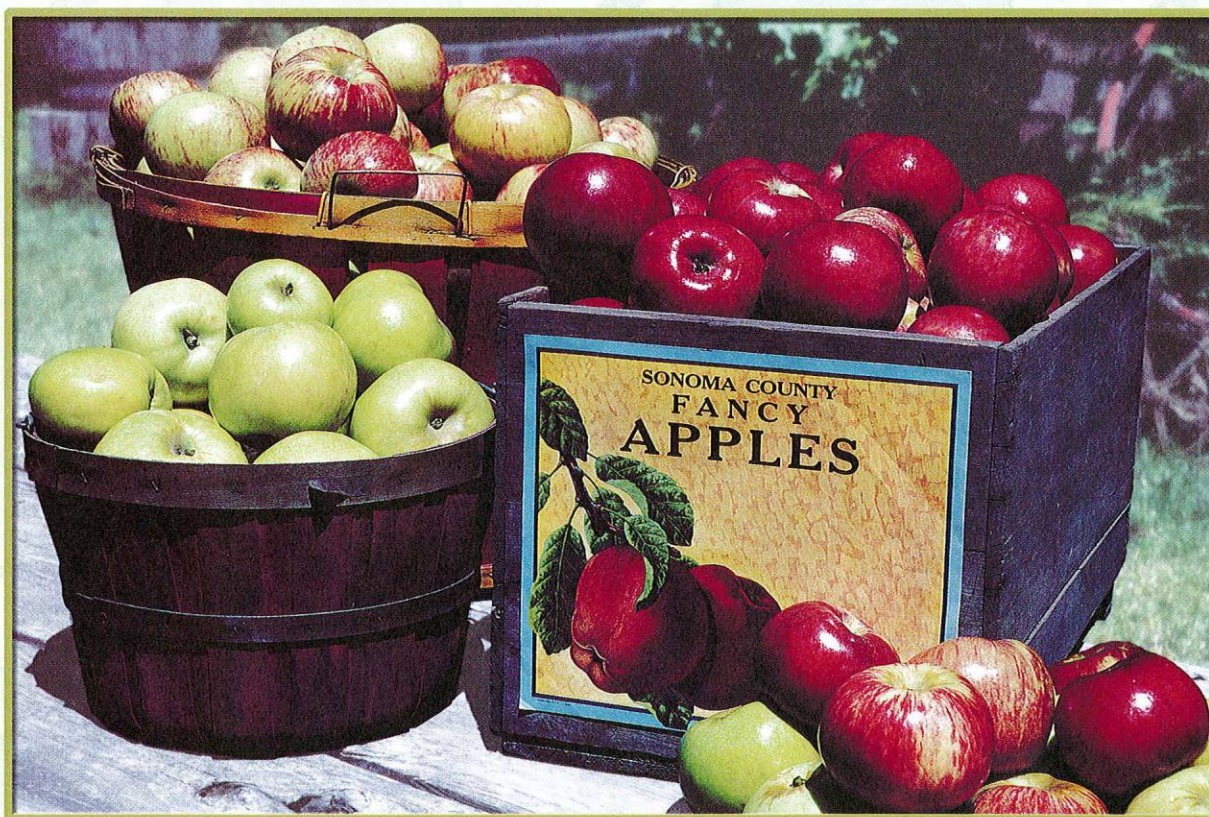


# Sonoma County

Agricultural Crop Report

1997



Dedicated to the Apple Industry of Sonoma County

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## OFFICE OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

**Ann M. Veneman**, Secretary  
California Department of Food and Agriculture

April, 1998

**Sonoma County Board of Supervisors:**  
**Michael J. Cale**, District 1  
**Tim Smith**, District 3

**Paul L. Kelley**, Chairman - District 4  
**Jim Harberson**, District 2  
**Mike Reilly**, District 5

The value of Sonoma County's agricultural production for 1997, grew by a phenomenal 30% over last year's record. Primarily due to the contribution of the wine grape industry, Sonoma County agricultural value exceeded a half of a billion dollars for the first time ever with a new record production value of \$507 million.

This year, in keeping with our recent tradition of recognizing various segments of our agricultural community, we highlight the apple industry. Although apple production has diminished in recent years, this important commodity is steeped in a rich history and continues to contribute to the diversity and value of our agricultural industry. As a result, we highlight the importance of this industry and recognize the value of its continued promotion. The Apple Blossom Fair and the Gravenstein Apple Fair are just two examples of efforts to involve the community, promote tourism and increase the public's knowledge of this valuable segment of agricultural industry.

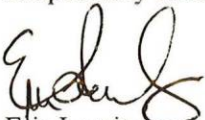
The 1997 *Wine Grape* crop exceeded the previous record tonnage by 42,000 tons. That combined with the highest average price ever paid for wine grapes in Sonoma County explains why our growers received nearly \$123 million more for this crop than ever before.

Although the wine grape industry accounts for the most notable increase, other segments of the agricultural industry contributed to the overall strength of the 1997 production total. *Livestock, Poultry and Aquaculture* increased \$2.3 million on the strength of increased beef prices, along with increases in the value of ducks, chickens, shellfish and turkeys. The value of *Vegetable Crops* increased by \$2.25 million as production acreage increased by 218 acres. *Livestock and Poultry Products* decreased slightly as manufacturing milk production price and production fell. *Market Milk* production was the highest ever recorded: however, the price per hundred weight fell by nearly 7.7%. The number of dairies and herd numbers continue to decline, but fortunately, production per head continues to increase. *Nursery Products* appears to show a decrease this year, although this is a result of an error in the previous reporting of grapevines grown in Sonoma County. In the past, a portion of what has been reported as sold here, was actually grown out-of-county. In any case, demand for grapevines remains very high. Other segments of the *Nursery* category, including ornamentals, bedding plants and cut flowers showed significant increases. *Field Crops* increased in value by \$250,000, with oat and volunteer hay crops benefitting from a dry spring.

Although the 1997 crop value is extraordinary, and bodes well for agriculture in Sonoma County, it in no way reflects the profit or loss experienced by individual growers. The risk in agriculture production can be rewarding as was the experience for many grape growers this past year, but each year provides examples of successes or failures which reminds us of the industry's dependency on Mother Nature.

Thanks to all growers and others who provide information for this report as they ultimately contribute to the promotion of Sonoma County's agricultural industry. Special recognition also goes to Bonnie Sallee of our staff, for another tremendous report, and to David Henderson of Sonoma County's Reprographics Division for his continuing support and his special effort on this year's cover.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric Lauritzen  
Agricultural Commissioner

## *Sonoma County Apple Industry*

Contributing to the Success and Diversity of Sonoma County Agriculture

This year's Sonoma County Crop Report is dedicated to our Apple Industry. The apple has a mythological history in world literature. From Adam and Eve in the Bible, to tales about Johnny Applesed, this multicolored, crisp, fragrant and delicious fruit has been desired by mankind for centuries.

The apple is one fruit that the earliest California settlers planted for family use and remains a standard in many residential gardens today. In those early days, where home plantings did exceedingly well and produced large amounts of quality fruit, some individuals with agricultural instincts, opted to plant commercial orchards. Although the Russians planted apples in the early 1800's at Fort Ross, Green Valley and Mark West, records indicate that the first truly commercial apple orchard in Sonoma County was established in 1865 on Laguna Road in Sebastopol. That orchard consisted of 150 Gravenstein apple trees that were obtained from a nursery in Ohio.

After that original orchard was planted in 1865, the Sebastopol district led the County in apple plantings. In 1911, Luther Burbank, in his opening address at the second annual Gravenstein Apple Fair, recognized the Marshalls, McCristians, and the Maddocks families as the originators of an industry that had, "grown from the hazel brush, wild coffee, scrub oak and Douglas spruce-covered hills to great commercial orchards, extensive canneries, dryers and numerous packing houses." The plant wizard went on to describe the success of the Gravenstein apple variety and told of a single older tree, at the Harbine place, that yielded twenty-six boxes. By 1937, there were more than 15,000 acres of apples planted in Sonoma County, 75% of which were in Sebastopol. Other plantings were located in Healdsburg, Geyserville, Annapolis, Sonoma and Vineburg. 65-70% of the apple acreage was the Gravenstein variety, which was normally harvested in July and supplied the eastern market with the first boxed apples of the season.

By 1963, the acreage dropped to 8,500 acres in Sonoma County, but these orchards still produced 5-6 million bushels of apples annually, or approximately 5% of the nation's total, and 1.5% of the world's apple crop. Even then, 90% of the crop was canned as sauce or slices, dried or pressed into juice and cider. The saying at the time was, "the favorite secret weapon of the apple industry was a can opener in the hands of the American housewife."

Today, the citizens of Sonoma County have followed Luther Burbank's lead by building healthy, happy homes in the midst of our beautiful apple growing districts. This fulfillment of the American dream, coupled with the replanting to wine grapes and competition from other areas of California, the nation and the world, have caused a steady reduction in Sonoma County apple acreage, which now sits at 4,458 acres. Once familiar apple grower names like Bertoli, Furusho, Coelho, Keegan and others are no longer heard. Some pioneer families have new generations tending their trees, but more often than not, the tradition is not being carried on. Regardless of the changes over the years, with a value of \$9.1 million in 1997, our apple industry continues to thrive and contributes substantially to the beauty and agricultural bounty of this County. Oh, and don't forget, these growers still provide our community with the most delicious apples in the world each and every year!

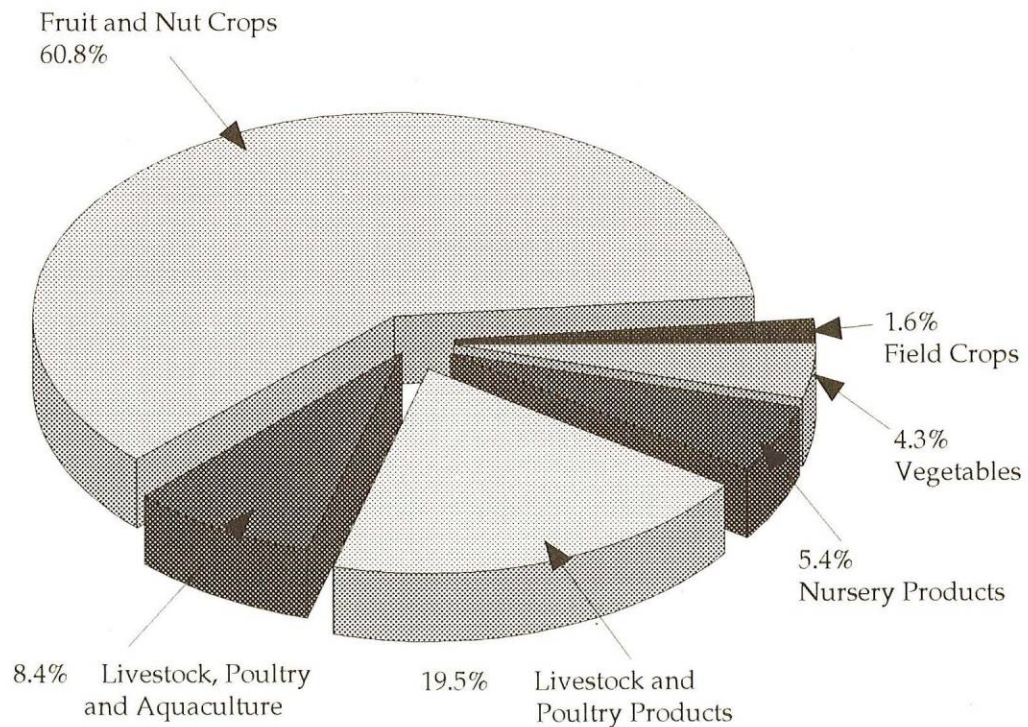
*Apple Blossom Festival last weekend in April*

*Gravenstein Apple Fair August 15 ~ 16, 1998*

Both events are held in Sebastopol

# R E C A P I T U L A T I O N

	1996	1997
APIARY	\$ 90,200	\$ 93,700
FIELD CROPS	\$ 7,633,700	\$ 7,880,400
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS	\$ 187,358,800	\$ 308,244,300
LIVESTOCK, POULTRY and AQUACULTURE	\$ 40,449,200	\$ 42,736,200
LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS	\$ 101,441,800	\$ 98,964,600
NURSERY PRODUCTS	\$ 33,078,300	\$ 27,427,000
VEGETABLE CROPS	\$ 19,519,200	\$ 21,774,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 389,571,200</b>	<b>\$ 507,120,200</b>



# FRUIT AND NUT CROP SUMMARY

CROP	YEAR	BEARING ACRES	TON/ACRE	TOTAL TONS	D O L L A R    V A L U E	
					\$/TON	TOTAL
Apples (all)	1997	4,458	11.47	15,718	\$ 178.67	\$ 9,136,400
	1996	4,407	11.23	49,500	\$ 210.00	\$ 10,395,200
<i>Fresh</i>						
	1997				\$ 1,142,794	
	1996				\$ 2,384,495	
<i>Processed (a)</i>						
	1997				\$ 7,993,641	
	1996				\$ 8,010,658	
Grapes (wine)	1997	34,121	5.50	187,674	\$ 1,588.64	\$ 298,147,300
	1996	33,703	3.80	127,990	\$ 1,371.76	\$ 175,572,200
Pears, Bartlett (b)	1997	96	1.88	180	\$ 236.67	\$ 42,600
	1996	88	1.99	175	\$ 367.57	\$ 64,300
Prunes (c)	1997	491	1.06	521	\$ 893.47	\$ 465,500
	1996	503	1.45	729	\$ 896.43	\$ 653,500
Walnuts	1997	266	0.34	89	\$ 1,209.20	\$ 107,800
	1996	258	0.26	67	\$ 1,415.68	\$ 94,300
Misc. (d)	1997					\$ 344,700
	1996					\$ 579,300
TOTAL	1997					\$ 308,244,300
	1996					\$ 187,358,800

- (a) Includes canned, juice/cider, vinegar and dried
- (b) Includes fresh and processed.
- (c) Dry tons
- (d) Includes cherries, bush-berries, kiwi, black walnuts, plums, Asian pears, strawberries, figs, chestnuts, olives, etc.

## APIARY PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	D O L L A R    V A L U E	
				\$/UNIT	TOTAL
Honey	1997	39,675	lb.	\$ 1.42	\$ 56,200
	1996	49,194	lb.	\$ 0.83	\$ 40,900
Wax	1997	710	lb.	\$ 1.55	\$ 1,100
	1996	710	lb.	\$ 8.87	\$ 6,300
Pollination	1997				\$ 36,400
	1996				\$ 43,000
TOTAL	1997				\$ 93,700
	1996				\$ 90,200

## FIELD CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	TON/ ACRE	TOTAL TONS	UNIT	DOLLAR VALUE	
						\$/UNIT	TOTAL
Hay, Oat	1997	9,890	1.78	17,594	ton	\$ 97.01	\$ 1,706,900
	1996	9,799	2.04	20,015	ton	\$ 71.56	\$ 1,432,200
Hay, Volunteer	1997	1,430	1.83	2,616	ton	\$ 76.65	\$ 200,500
	1996	1,047	1.47	1,538	ton	\$ 60.49	\$ 93,000
Green Chop (a)	1997	539	6.46	3,484	ton	\$ 24.25	\$ 84,500
	1996	706	10.10	7,129	ton	\$ 16.65	\$ 118,700
Oats, Grain	1997	1,357	0.78	1,064	ton	\$ 379.75	\$ 403,900
	1996	1,118	0.79	887	ton	\$ 237.12	\$ 210,400
Ensilage, Corn (a)	1997	214	20.56	4,400	ton	\$ 47.34	\$ 208,300
	1996	230	21.83	5,020	ton	\$ 44.00	\$ 220,900
Oats, Silage (a)	1997	4,228	9.14	38,651	ton	\$ 42.33	\$ 1,636,100
	1996	4,795	9.91	47,498	ton	\$ 39.00	\$ 1,852,400
Hops (b)	1997			133	lb	\$ 4.47	\$ 600
	1996			102	lb	\$ 5.00	\$ 500
Straw	1997			1,958	ton	\$ 31.78	\$ 62,200
	1996			858	ton	\$ 67.39	\$ 57,800
Pasture, Irrigated	1997	9,500			acre	\$ 100.00	\$ 950,000
	1996	9,500			acre	\$ 100.00	\$ 950,000
Grassland	1997	206,425			acre	\$ 10.00	\$ 2,064,300
	1996	206,450			acre	\$ 10.00	\$ 2,064,500
Woodland	1997	172,800			acre	\$ 1.00	\$ 172,800
	1996	172,800			acre	\$ 1.00	\$ 172,800
Miscellaneous (c)	1997						\$ 390,900
	1996						\$ 461,000
TOTAL	1997						\$ 7,880,400
	1996						\$ 7,633,700

- (a) Much of the green chop and ensilage is not sold, but used on the farm. The value is determined by its feed equivalent of hay after it is cut, loaded and ensiled.
- (b) This includes Mt. Hood, Tetnanger, Willamette, Cascade and miscellaneous varieties.
- (c) Includes alfalfa, barley, safflower, wheat, rye, vetch, sudan, etc.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	DOLLAR VALUE
Miscellaneous Truck farms (d)	1997	1,507	\$ 21,774,000
	1996	1,289	\$ 19,519,200

- (d) Includes melons, mushrooms, potatoes, pumpkins, sprouts, squash, tomatoes, lettuces, etc.

## LIVESTOCK, POULTRY and AQUACULTURE

ITEM	YEAR	NUMBER OF HEAD	TOTAL LIVE WEIGHT	UNIT	DOLLAR VALUE	
					\$/UNIT	TOTAL
Cattle/Calves	1997	45,181	265,027	cwt	\$ 54.61	\$ 14,473,700
	1996	48,938	281,965	cwt	\$ 46.00	\$ 12,970,800
Sheep/Lambs	1997	11,758	12,699	cwt	\$ 80.52	\$ 1,022,500
	1996	13,591	14,678	cwt	\$ 77.96	\$ 1,144,300
Hogs	1997	2,610	6,238	cwt	\$ 51.49	\$ 321,200
	1996	2,610	6,235	cwt	\$ 47.78	\$ 297,900
Miscellaneous (a)	1997					\$ 26,918,800
	1996					\$ 26,036,200
TOTAL	1997					\$ 42,736,200
	1996					\$ 40,449,200

(a) Includes chicks, ducks, turkey poults, fryers, roasters, shellfish, turkeys, etc.

## LIVESTOCK and POULTRY PRODUCTS

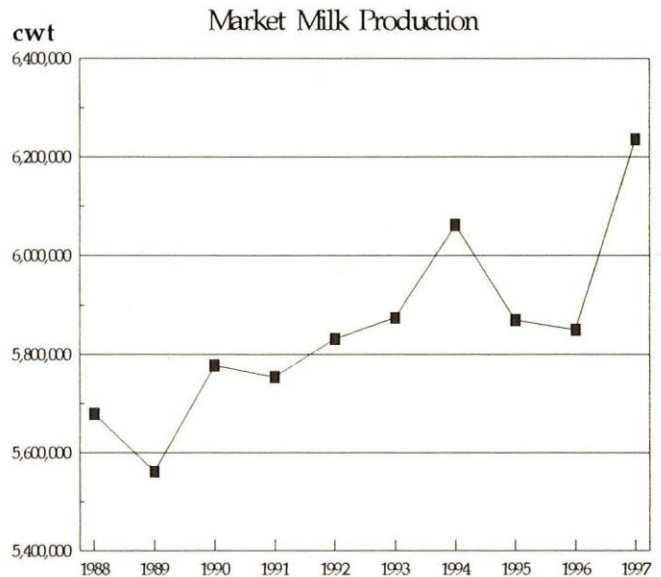
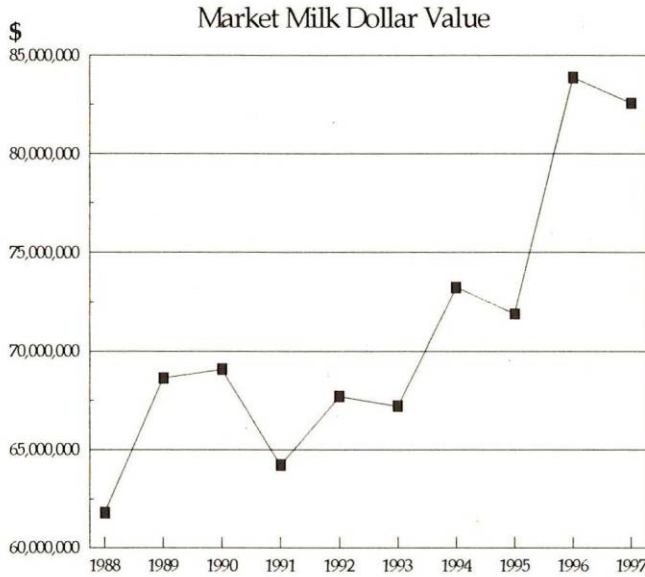
ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	DOLLAR VALUE	
				\$/UNIT	TOTAL
Milk (Market)	1997	6,235,778 (b)	cwt	\$ 13.24	\$ 82,561,700
	1996	5,849,219	cwt	\$ 14.34	\$ 83,877,800
Milk (Manufacturing)	1997	84,249	cwt	\$ 11.62	\$ 979,000
	1996	167,060	cwt	\$ 13.09	\$ 2,186,800
Wool	1997	116,404	lb.	\$ 0.65	\$ 75,700
	1996	134,592	lb.	\$ 0.77	\$ 104,300
Misc. Products (c)	1997				\$ 15,348,200
	1996				\$ 15,272,900
TOTAL	1997				\$ 98,964,600
	1996				\$ 101,441,800

(b) Preliminary

(c) Includes market duck eggs, turkey hatching eggs, chicken eggs for consumption, egg bi-products and goat milk.



# A TEN YEAR COMPARISON ~ 1988 thru 1997



## NURSERY PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	UNIT SOLD	UNIT	DOLLAR VALUE	
				\$/UNIT	TOTAL
Grapevines (all)	1997	6,560,581	plant/cutting (a)	\$	6,560,600
	1996	8,462,828	plant/cutting	\$	14,248,000
Ornamentals	1997	1,345,363	plant (b)	\$ 5.05	\$ 6,793,200
	1996	1,174,167	plant	\$ 5.34	\$ 6,274,100
Bedding Plants	1997	322,843	flat	\$ 11.82	\$ 3,816,700
	1996	263,561	flat	\$ 10.78	\$ 2,840,000
Cut Flowers	1997			\$	2,661,900
	1996			\$	2,352,300
Christmas Trees	1997	13,888	each	\$ 27.90	\$ 387,500
	1996	15,234	each	\$ 25.89	\$ 394,400
Misc. Products (c)	1997			\$	7,207,100
	1996			\$	6,969,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	1997			\$	27,427,000
	1996			\$	33,078,300

- (a) Includes green, dormant rootings and bench grafts.
- (b) Average unit price includes all type trade containers
- (c) Includes deciduous fruit and nut trees, bulbs, forest seedlings, house plants, liners, orchids, cacti, herbaceous perennials, dry flowers, turf and wreaths.

## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS

1. WINE GRAPES	\$	298,147,300
2. MARKET MILK	\$	82,561,700
3. MISC. LIVESTOCK, POULTRY and AQUACULTURE	\$	26,918,800
4. VEGETABLES	\$	21,774,000
5. MISC. LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS	\$	15,348,200
6. CATTLE AND CALVES	\$	14,473,700
7. MISC. NURSERY PRODUCTS	\$	7,207,100
8. NURSERY ~ ORNAMENTALS	\$	6,793,200
9. GRAPEVINES	\$	6,560,600
10. APPLES ~ LATE VARIETIES	\$	6,429,200
11. NURSERY ~ BEDDING PLANTS	\$	3,816,700
12. APPLES ~ GRAVENSTEINS	\$	2,707,200
13. NURSERY ~ CUT FLOWERS	\$	2,661,900
14. OAT HAY	\$	1,706,900
15. OAT SILAGE	\$	1,636,100
16. SHEEP AND LAMBS	\$	1,022,500

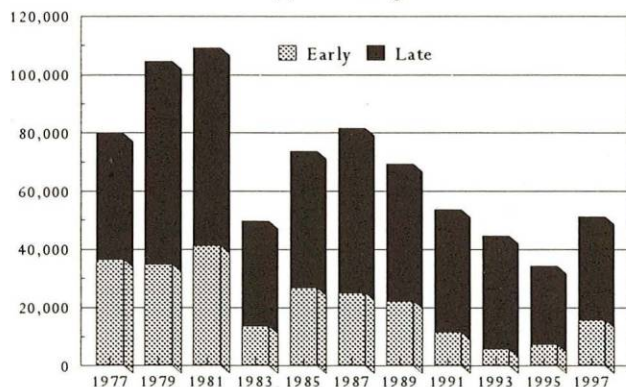
# A P P L E P R O D U C T I O N

CROP	YEAR	BEARING ACRES	TONS/ACRE	TOTAL TONS	DOLLAR VALUE	
					\$ / TON	TOTAL
Gravenstein	1997	1,361	11.55	15,718	\$ 172.24	\$ 2,707,200
	1996	1,364	8.15	11,113	\$ 208.09	\$ 2,312,500
<i>Fresh</i>	1997			459	\$ 782.47	\$ 359,345
	1996			899	\$ 580.03	\$ 521,444
<i>Processed</i>	1997			15,259	\$ 153.87	\$ 2,347,882
	(a) 1996			10,214	\$ 175.35	\$ 1,791,022
Late Apples	1997	3,097	11.44	35,417	\$ 181.53	\$ 6,429,200
	1996	3,043	12.61	38,387	\$ 210.56	\$ 8,082,700
<i>Fresh</i>	1997			981	\$ 798.47	\$ 783,449
	1996			1,777	\$ 1,048.42	\$ 1,863,051
<i>Processed</i>	1997			34,436	\$ 163.95	\$ 5,645,759
	(a) 1996			36,610	\$ 169.89	\$ 6,219,636
<b>TOTAL</b>	1997	4,458	11.47	51,135	\$ 178.67	\$ 9,136,400
	1996	4,407	11.23	49,500	\$ 210.00	\$ 10,395,200

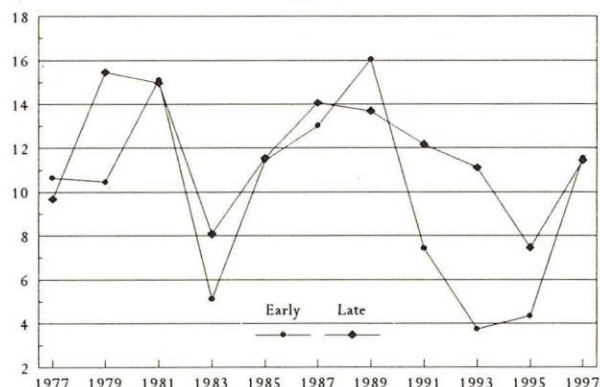
(a) includes canned, juice, vinegar, cider and dried

## A TWENTY YEAR COMPARISON

Apple Tonnage



Tons of Apples Per Acre



# T I M B E R H A R V E S T

( Informational Only )

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT (b)	VALUE (c)
Timber	1997	THIS INFORMATION WAS NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINTING		
	1996	32,698,000	board feet	\$ 14,060,000

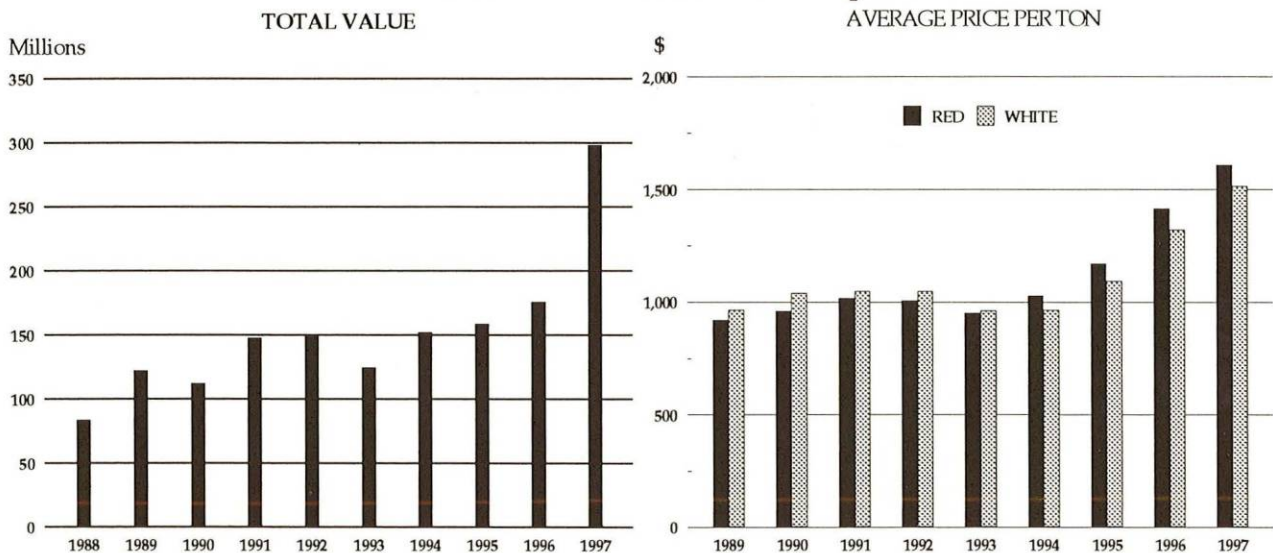
(b) Board feet is the quantity of timber cut and scaled

(c) Value of the timber immediately before cutting

# WHITE WINE GRAPE PRODUCTION

VARIETY	YEAR	A C R E S			P R O D U C T I O N		
		BEARING	NON-BEARING	TOTAL	TONS	DOLLAR PER TON	TOTAL VALUE
Chardonnay	1997	12,277	1,381	13,658	71,456	\$ 1,646.60	\$ 117,660,100
	1996	12,597	1,235	13,832	47,458	\$ 1,455.61	\$ 69,080,300
Chenin Blanc	1997	211	0	211	1,182	\$ 596.52	\$ 705,200
	1996	251	0	251	1,043	\$ 575.96	\$ 600,400
French	1997	321	0	321	2,531	\$ 532.53	\$ 1,347,800
Colombard	1996	383	0	383	2,129	\$ 480.20	\$ 1,022,100
Gewurztraminer	1997	272	7	279	1,312	\$ 988.03	\$ 1,296,000
	1996	321	7	328	1,333	\$ 915.70	\$ 1,220,700
Muscat Blanc	1997	29	1	30	142	\$ 1,428.87	\$ 203,500
	1996	41	0	41	114	\$ 1,143.07	\$ 130,000
Pinot Blanc	1997	121	2	123	438	\$ 1,120.55	\$ 490,700
	1996	80	5	85	410	\$ 1,018.04	\$ 417,500
Sauvignon Blanc	1997	1,384	231	1,615	9,609	\$ 1,074.19	\$ 10,322,300
	1996	1,417	153	1,570	5,411	\$ 933.20	\$ 5,049,500
Semillion	1997	132	22	154	829	\$ 1,104.35	\$ 915,400
	1996	157	36	193	655	\$ 906.88	\$ 594,200
Viognier	1997	73	50	123	377	\$ 1,541.99	\$ 581,500
	1996	36	42	78	164	\$ 1,341.81	\$ 219,900
White Riesling	1997	161	4	165	509	\$ 904.33	\$ 915,400
	1996	172	6	178	534	\$ 824.88	\$ 440,100
Other Whites	1997	99	150	249	781	\$ 888.62	\$ 694,100
	1996	181	30	215	692	\$ 654.91	\$ 453,200
TOTAL WHITES	1997	15,080	1,848	16,928	89,167	\$ 1,515.50	\$ 135,132,000
	1996	15,636	1,514	17,150	59,942	\$ 1,321.75	\$ 79,227,900

## WINE GRAPES - A Ten Year Comparison

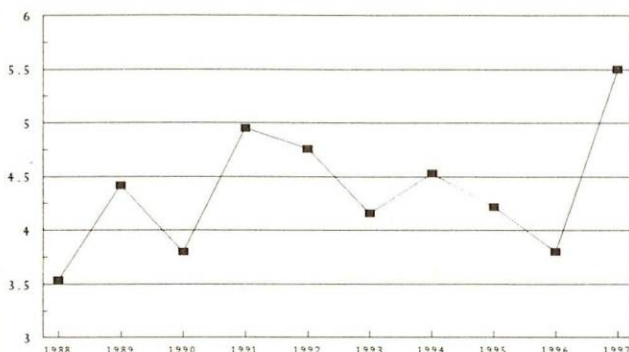


# RED WINE GRAPE PRODUCTION

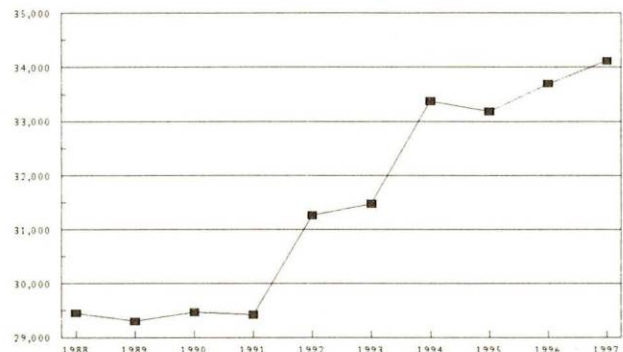
VARIETY	YEAR	A C R E S			P R O D U C T I O N		
		BEARING	NON-BEARING	TOTAL	TONS	DOLLAR PER TON	TOTAL VALUE
<b>Cabernet Franc</b>	1997	479	38	517	2,498	\$ 1,784.36	\$ 4,456,500
	1996	474	26	500	1,861	\$ 1,482.49	\$ 2,758,500
<b>Cabernet Sauvignon</b>	1997	6,272	987	7,259	29,046	\$ 1,761.26	\$ 51,158,300
	1996	6,289	803	7,092	19,619	\$ 1,496.28	\$ 29,355,100
<b>Carignane</b>	1997	223	0	223	976	\$ 1,075.64	\$ 1,050,000
	1996	285	9	294	711	\$ 898.40	\$ 638,700
<b>Merlot</b>	1997	3,873	1,420	5,293	25,213	\$ 1,784.48	\$ 44,991,900
	1996	3,290	1,446	4,736	14,308	\$ 1,660.13	\$ 23,752,600
<b>Meunier</b>	1997	97	24	121	607	\$ 1,255.29	\$ 761,700
	1996	65	8	73	392	\$ 1,043.65	\$ 409,500
<b>Napa Gamay</b>	1997	165	0	165	1,034	\$ 931.85	\$ 963,300
	1996	186	6	192	451	\$ 849.83	\$ 383,600
<b>Petite Sirah</b>	1997	254	16	270	720	\$ 1,508.45	\$ 1,085,900
	1996	261	33	294	485	\$ 1,275.56	\$ 619,200
<b>Petite Verdot</b>	1997	86	12	98	255	\$ 1,715.54	\$ 438,100
	1996	63	30	93	158	\$ 1,500.21	\$ 237,500
<b>Pinot Noir</b>	1997	3,040	884	3,924	17,384	\$ 1,584.01	\$ 27,536,400
	1996	2,701	327	3,028	13,567	\$ 1,312.16	\$ 17,801,900
<b>Sangiovese</b>	1997	161	81	242	1,288	\$ 1,575.23	\$ 2,028,600
	1996	85	107	192	574	\$ 1,422.91	\$ 817,200
<b>Syrah-shiraz</b>	1997	175	124	299	1,265	\$ 1,628.41	\$ 2,060,400
	1996	159	61	220	658	\$ 1,302.86	\$ 856,600
<b>Zinfandel</b>	1997	3,845	261	4,106	16,771	\$ 1,445.68	\$ 24,245,200
	1996	3,836	242	4,078	14,134	\$ 1,221.45	\$ 17,263,500
<b>Other Reds</b>	1997	371	185	556	1,450	\$ 1,544.35	\$ 2,239,000
	1996	373	93	457	1,130	\$ 1,283.31	\$ 1,450,400
<b>TOTAL REDS</b>	1997	19,041	4,032	23,073	98,507	\$ 1,654.87	\$ 163,015,300
	1996	18,072	3,191	21,263	68,048	\$ 1,415.83	\$ 96,344,300
<b>TOTAL ALL WINE GRAPES</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>34,121</b>	<b>5,880</b>	<b>40,001</b>	<b>187,674</b>	<b>\$ 1,588.64</b>	<b>\$ 298,147,300</b>
	<b>1996</b>	<b>33,703</b>	<b>4,696</b>	<b>38,399</b>	<b>127,990</b>	<b>\$ 1,371.76</b>	<b>\$ 175,572,200</b>

## WINE GRAPES - 1988 THRU 1997

TONS PER ACRE



ACREAGE



## FRUIT, NUT and GRAPEVINE ACREAGE

CROP	BEARING	NON-BEARING	TOTAL
Apples	4,458	54	4,512
Cherries	3	0	3
Figs	0	4	4
Wine Grapes	34,121	5,880	40,001
Kiwi	28	0	28
Peaches	8	0	8
Pears	96	0	96
Plums	9	0	9
Prunes	491	27	518
Walnuts	266	22	288
Miscellaneous	18	2	20
<b>TOTAL ACREAGE</b>	<b>39,498</b>	<b>5,989</b>	<b>45,487</b>

## INVENTORIES OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

(Number of Head as of January 1, 1998)

ITEM	NUMBER
Cattle and Calves, all	100,652
Milk cows and heifers 2 years and over	37,468
Beef cows and heifers 2 years and over	25,750
Sheep and Lambs, all	15,390
Hogs	2,900
Laying Hens and Pullets	984,319
Turkey Breeders	20,761

# COMMERCIAL FISH CATCH ~ 1996

*(Information Only)*

SPECIES	POUNDS		VALUE
Crab, Dungeness	504,161	\$	914,191
Salmon, Chinook	290,488	\$	433,911
Urchin, Red	517,745	\$	403,134
Sablefish	317,725	\$	395,332
Sole, Dover	1,212,500	\$	359,208
Thornyheads (all)	332,115	\$	283,575
Rockfish, Widow	391,678	\$	135,351
Rockfish, unspecified	229,453	\$	92,399
Rockfish, Chilipepper	144,723	\$	75,056
Swordfish	20,709	\$	66,768
Sole, Petrale	55,481	\$	58,816
Rockfish, copper	28,515	\$	46,472
Rockfish, Bolina	18,537	\$	39,645
Sole, English	101,582	\$	38,239
Tuna, Albacore	31,612	\$	37,686
Rockfish, Bocaccio	84,771	\$	36,164
Lingcod	51,460	\$	26,338
Rockfish, Group Small	99,286	\$	25,030
Rockfish, Yellowtail	54,072	\$	24,374
Sole, Rex	56,754	\$	20,829
Halibut, California	8,545	\$	20,168
Other	156,974	\$	109,607
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,708,886</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,642,293</b>

*The figures are provided by the California Department of Fish and Game.*

*The 1997 figures were not available at time of printing.*

## HORSES

*(Informational Only)*

BACK YARD	BOARDED	TOTAL VALUE
10,991	4,049	\$1,200,000

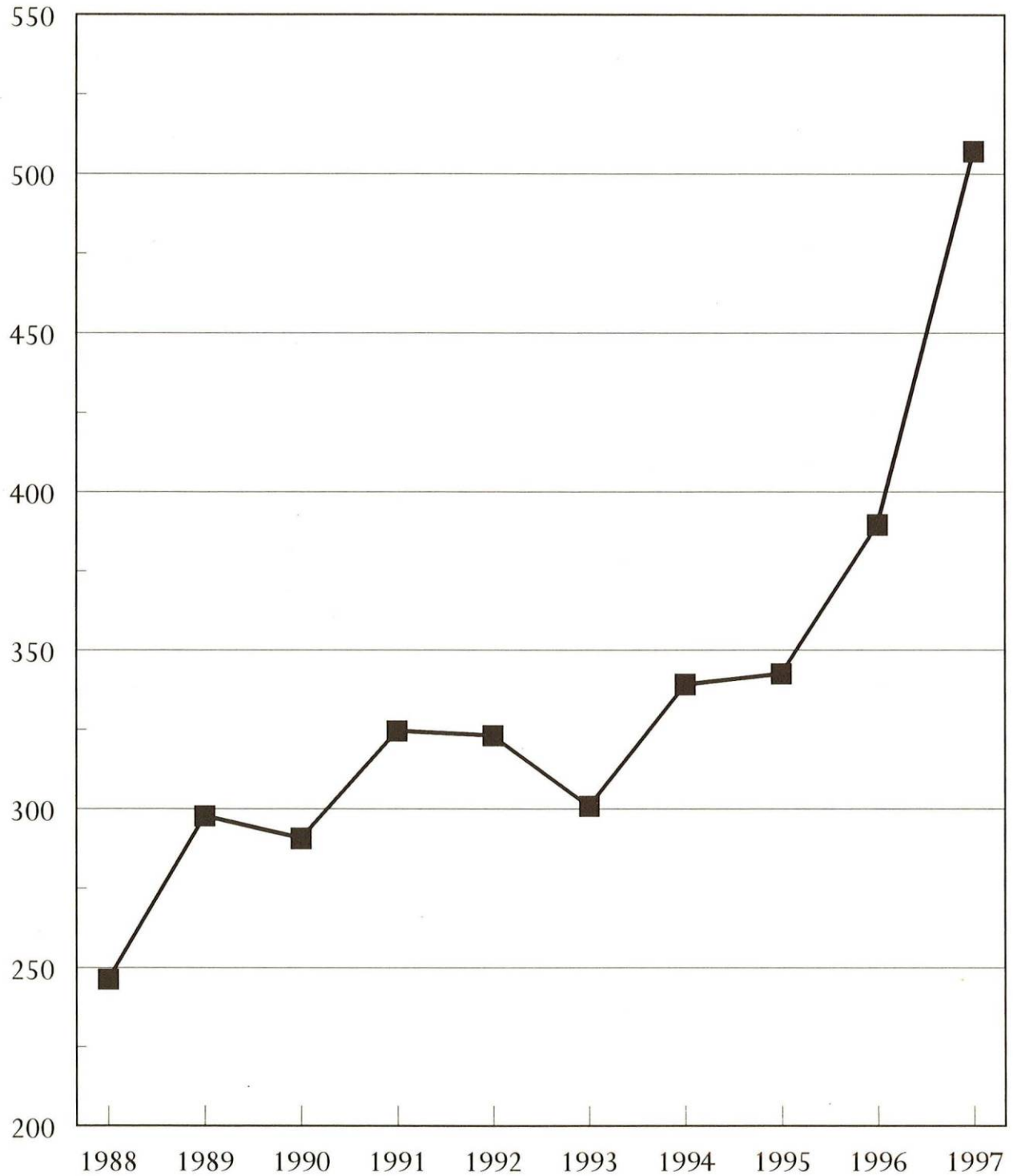
*These figures were furnished by Dr. Carlos Benito, Professor of Economics at Sonoma State University. Another survey will be done in 1998. This survey will be more extensive and will appear in our 1998 crop report.*

# SONOMA COUNTY

## TOTAL CROP VALUE

1988 ~ 1997

Millions





# Sonoma County 1997 Sustainable Agriculture Report

BY PRISCILLA LANE

## BIOLOGICAL CONTROL PROGRAM

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL	# OF RELEASE SITES
Yellow Starthistle Seedhead Weevil ( <i>Bangasternus orientalis</i> )	3
Yellow Starthistle Hairy Weevil ( <i>Eustenopus villosus</i> )	5

## ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS

181 organic producers were registered in 1997

	Producers	Properties	Acres
Eggs	3	3	
Fruits / Nuts	87	481	1,816.5
Milk	2	2	
Vegetables	84	85	325.2
Wine Grapes	13	18	282.5

### PEST DETECTION

TRAPPING: 11,607 trap servicings for exotic insect pests. (Includes Mediterranean and Oriental Fruit Fly, Melon Fly, Gypsy Moth, Japanese Beetle, Khapra Beetle and Western Grapeleaf Skeletonizer)

ENTRYWAY SURVEY: 719 miles and 143 properties were surveyed for the presence of noxious weed and disease pests. Eleven pet stores were inspected as well as one property for kernal bunt and 2 properties for chrysanthemum white rust.

### WEED SURVEY

Pest	Gross Acres Treated	Pest	Gross Acres Treated	Pest	Gross Acres Treated
Artichoke Thistle	250	Iberian Starthistle	750	Purple Starthistle	500

### PEST EXCLUSION

A total of 1,760 premise inspections for incoming shipments of plant material were made by the Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner's Office. Inspections occurred at the express carriers, nurseries, post office, feed mills, ethnic markets, post entry inspections and United Parcel Service. 284 rejections of plant material were made. Rejected plant material was either destroyed or reconditioned and released. Listed below are a few of the economically important pest species intercepted in 1997:

Gypsy Moth <i>Lymantria dispar</i>	Mite <i>Tetranychus</i>	Quack Grass <i>Elytrigia repens</i>	Silverleaf Whitefly <i>Homoptera aleyrodidae</i>
Snail <i>Zachrysia prouisoria</i>	Western Grapeleaf Skeletonizer <i>Harrisina brillians</i>	Wisteria Gall <i>Erwinia herbicola</i>	Tropical Palm Scale <i>Hemiberlesia palmae</i>

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL DAY  
GRAND PRIZE  
ESSAY / POEM



**WHAT HAPPENS IN SONOMA COUNTY?**

By Ian Thompson

**What happens in the Spring in Sonoma County?**

Beautiful flowers sprout,  
all about.  
Farmers pull out all the weeds,  
and plant their seeds.  
Grapevines grow new shoots,  
with energy from the roots.  
That's what happens in the Spring in Sonoma County.

**What happens in the Summer in Sonoma County?**

Farmers water their plants,  
and keep off the ants.  
From flowers on the vine,  
grapes will grow in good time.  
It's a good season to pick berries,  
apples, pears and cherries.  
That's what happens in the Summer in Sonoma County.

**What happens in the Fall in Sonoma County?**

It's harvest time for many crops,  
which usually are tops.  
The grapes are picked from the vines,  
which are made into great wines.  
There's also the Harvest Fair,  
most of the best crops and livestock are there.  
That's what happens in the Fall in Sonoma County.

**What happens in the Winter in Sonoma County?**

As the year grows older,  
the temperature gets colder.  
Farmers store some seeds,  
for next year's planting needs.  
The final harvest fills us all with glee,  
for it is when we pick our Christmas tree.  
That's what happens in the Winter in Sonoma County.

*This winning poem  
from the  
Agricultural Day  
essay / poem  
contest, sponsored  
by the North Bay  
Chapter, California  
Women for  
Agriculture,  
Sonoma County  
Farm Bureau and the  
Press Democrat is  
reprinted with the  
permission of Ian  
Thompson and his  
parents.*

*Ian is a third grade  
student at Matanzas  
School in Santa  
Rosa. Ian's prize  
winning poem is  
titled:*

**WHAT HAPPENS  
IN SONOMA  
COUNTY?**

# 1 9 9 8    S t a f f

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**Eric Lauritzen**

Agricultural Commissioner

**John Westoby**

Assistant Agricultural Commissioner

**Jim Sallee**

Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner

**Lisa Correia ~ Mike Smith**

Deputy Agricultural Commissioner

**Gary Bjork ~ Pierre Gadd ~ Joseph Gray**

**Priscilla Lane ~ Bruce McArthur ~ Stefan Parnay**

**Alexis Ramey ~ Marilyn Vernon**

Agricultural Biologist / Standards Specialist III

**Michael Milligan ~ Bonnie Sallee**

Senior Agricultural Program Assistant

**James O'Brien**

County Trapper

**Esther Martinez ~ Tracy Mulvihill ~ Jeann Nelson**

Administrative Support Staff

**Dan Curtin ~ Helen Rivera**

Support Staff

**Stan Peterson ~ Renee Milligan**

Detection Trappers

