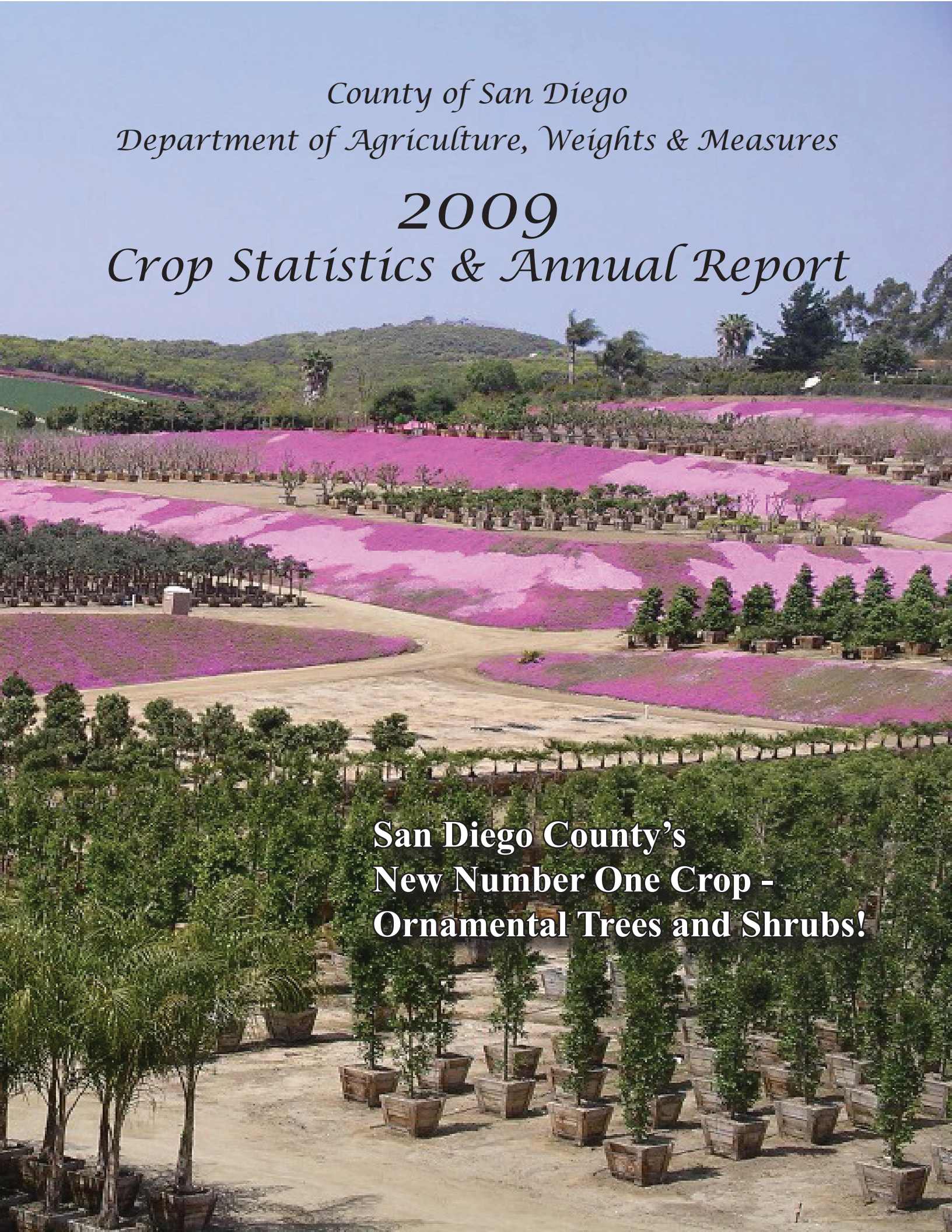
County of San Diego

Department of Agriculture, Weights & Measures

2009 Crop Statistics & Annual Report



San Diego County's New Number One Crop - Ornamental Trees and Shrubs!

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A.G. Kawamura, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture
and
The Honorable Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego
Supervisor Pam Slater-Price, Chairwoman, 3rd District
Supervisor Bill Horn, Vice-Chairman, 5th District
Supervisor Ron Roberts, 4th District
Supervisor Greg Cox, 1st District
Supervisor Dianne Jacob, 2nd District

I respectfully submit the report of acreage, yield, and value of agricultural production for San Diego County. In 2009, the value of agriculture totaled $1,548,131,332, down slightly by -0.26% from 2008's total of $1,552,222,947. Acreage also decreased in 2009 by -1.75%.

This report also contains detailed crop information and highlights of the many diverse programs within the Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures that support the County's focus on our children, the environment, and safe and livable communities.

I would like to express my thanks to the many farmers, ranchers, nursery men and women who provided information for this report. In addition, I would like to thank industry groups for their support in the compilation of statistics. Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to the dedicated Agriculture, Weights and Measures staff who continually strive to provide our customers with superior service.

Sincerely,

Robert G. Atkins
Agricultural Commissioner/
Sealer of Weights and Measures

All reported figures represent Freight on Board (F.O.B.) values for products, These are not net values and do not reflect cost of production. Total values may not add precisely due to rounding. Gross value of farm products does not reflect the total value to the economy.

Summary of 2009 Crops

Total Value	$1,548,131,332
Change in Value from 2008	-$4,091,615
Percent Change	-0.26%
Total Acreage	307,292
Change in Acreage from 2008	-5,474
Percent Change	-1.75%
Highest Value Crop, Per Acre	Indoor Flowering & Foliage Plants
Value Per Acre	$450,000
Lowest Value Crop, Per Acre	Barley, Grain
Value Per Acre	$9

Overview of 2009 Changes

This past year, San Diego County farmers certainly worked smarter to solve struggles of limited resources, competition and unpredictable forces of nature using innovation and determination. Additionally, San Diego County had an unprecedented five Mediterranean fruit fly quarantines. North County farmers were especially hard hit with the Fallbrook and Escondido area quarantines. Quarantines for Diaprepes root weevil (rescinded) and Asian citrus psyllid (still active) also affected local farmers. Given all these challenges, a decrease of only 0.26% in the value of agriculture is admirable. In fact, since 2000, when the total crop value was $1,253,884,664, San Diego County agriculture has experienced nearly a 24% increase in crop value.

The value of Nursery crops and Cut Flowers/Cut Foliage stayed above the one billion dollar mark, increasing by 1%. Ornamental Trees and Shrubs ($365,203,494) overtook the long standing number one crop (since 1984) Indoor Flowering and Foliage Plants ($290,880,000). The reason for this increase was not because of sales, but due to a 20% increase in reported acreage. Changes such as these underscore the importance of all farmers annually reporting both sales and acreage in the annual crop questionnaire sent out by Agriculture, Weights and Measures.

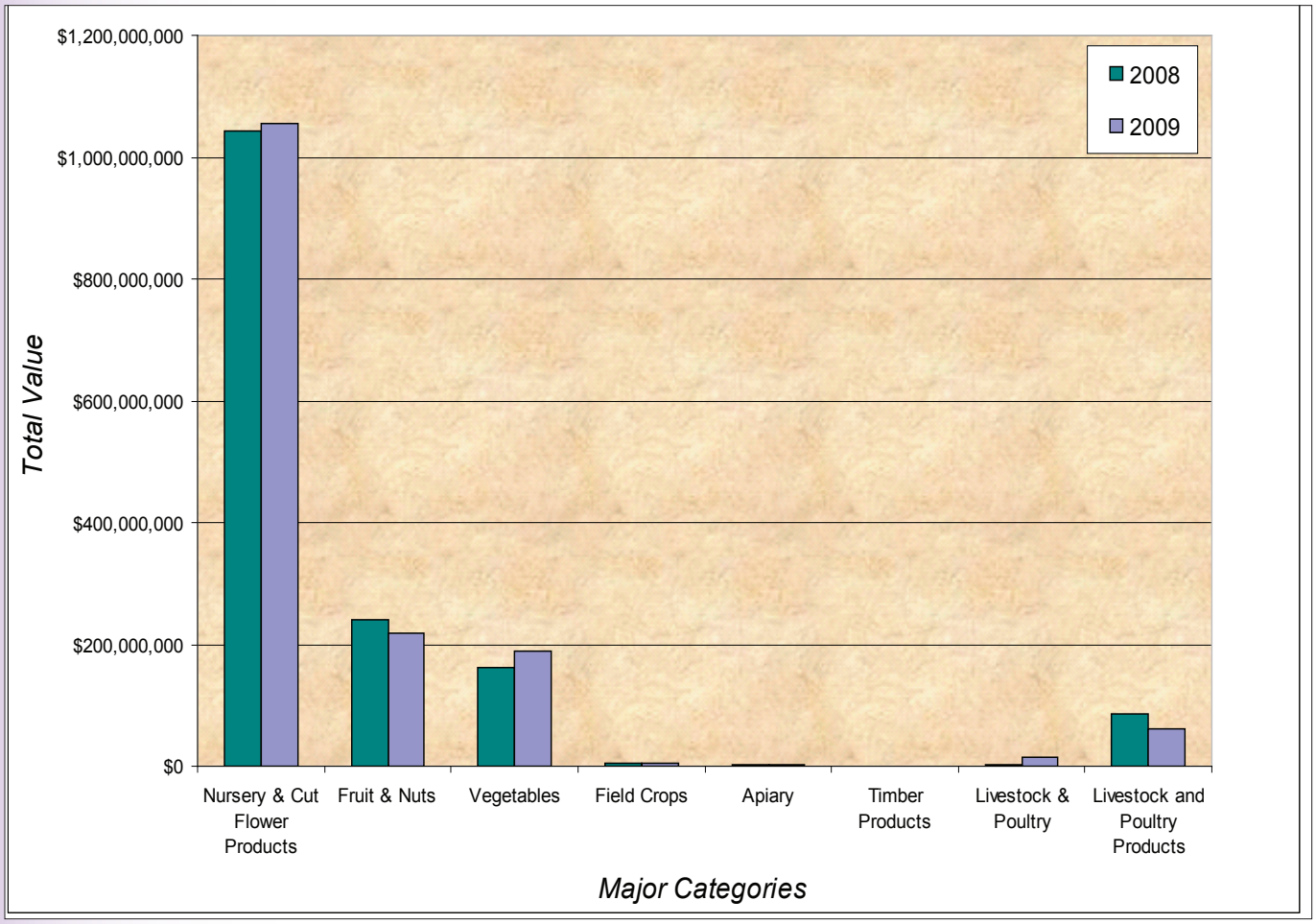
Fruit and Nut Crops decreased in acreage by 7.09% and value by 8.66%, with most crops showing decreases. Avocados remain the largest fruit crop, although the total value decreased by 9.83%. The shortage of water and subsequent increase in water cost, as well as stumping due to the 2007 fires resulted in significant avocado acreage reduction. Citrus acreage decreased by 7.51% as did value by 6.15%. This decrease may be partially attributed to the increase in the cost of water. Some citrus acreage transitioned to other agricultural products such as container nurseries which produce higher dollar value crops.

Vegetables and Vine Fruits increased by 15.69% in value and by 1.25% in acreage. The most significant increase was mushrooms, which climbed in value to over $18 million from $8 million the previous year.

Livestock and Poultry saw a significant increase in value of 26% as a result of a miscellaneous category that was previously unreported. However, Livestock and Poultry Products decreased by 26% due to decreases in the production and price of milk and eggs.

Summary of Major Categories

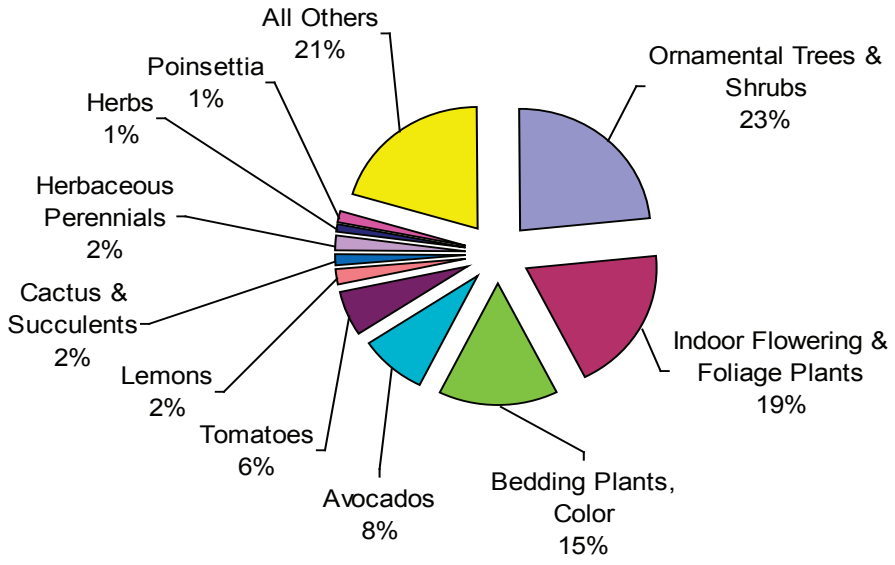
Crop	Year	Acres	Value
Nursery & Cut Flower Products	2009	11,499	$1,054,314,219
	2008	10,670	$1,042,703,756
Fruit & Nuts	2009	40,532	$219,053,918
	2008	43,624	$239,811,360
Vegetables	2009	7,318	$188,603,198
	2008	7,228	$163,027,399
Field Crops	2009	247,943	$5,414,955
	2008	251,244	$4,599,445
Apiary	2009		$1,990,545
	2008		$3,186,328
Timber Products	2009		$757,474
	2008		$870,000
Livestock & Poultry	2009		$15,863,725
	2008		$12,575,250
Livestock and Poultry Products	2009		$62,133,298
	2008		$85,449,409
Grand Totals	2009	307,292	$1,548,131,332
	2008	312,766	*$1,552,222,947



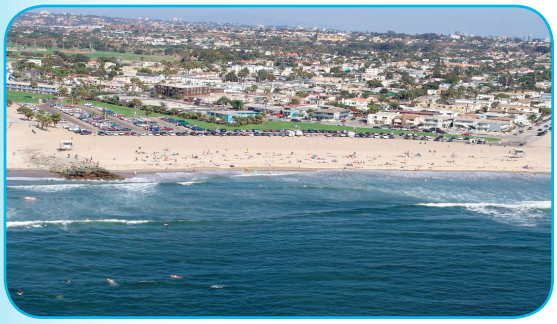
2009 Top Ten Crops

Crop	Value
Ornamental Trees & Shrubs	$365,203,494
Indoor Flowering & Foliage Plants	$290,880,000
Bedding Plants, Color	$227,796,845
Avocados	$130,478,067
Tomatoes	$91,303,425
Lemons	$32,419,800
Cactus & Succulents	$23,640,375
Herbaceous Perennials	$26,340,718
Herbs	$20,731,624
Poinsettia	$19,500,000

Top Ten Crops by Percentage



What Makes San Diego County Agriculture Unique?



San Diego County is the most southwestern county in the United States with a geographic area of 4,200 square miles, approximately the size of Connecticut, and a population of more than 3 million.

The National Weather Service describes the San Diego climate as the most nearly perfect in America, characterized as Mediterranean, with warm winters and cool summers.

San Diego County's varied topography creates a wide fluctuation of microclimates resulting in nearly 30 different types of vegetation communities. This diversity allows for San Diego to grow over 200 different agricultural commodities - from strawberries along the coast, apples in the mountain areas, to palm trees in the desert.

San Diego County has the 6th highest urban population among counties in the United States, but the County also has the 16th largest agricultural economy.

Agriculture in San Diego County covers 312,766 acres and is a key contributor to San Diego County's economy, along with defense, manufacturing, tourism and biotechnology.

San Diego County has 6,687 farms, more than any other county in the United States!!! 68% of San Diego County farms are 1-9 acres. Nearly 27% of farms in San Diego County are operated by women.

The high cost of water and land make farming in San Diego County expensive and encourages growers to raise products with a high dollar value per acre. San Diego produces the highest dollar value per acre of any county in California!

The median size farm is just 4 acres and yet our county's farmers rank number one in both California and the nation in the production value of nursery, floriculture and avocados.

Statewide San Diego County is in the top five counties for cucumbers, mushrooms, tomatoes, boysenberries and strawberries, grapefruit, Valencia oranges, tangelos and tangerines, honey, and eggs.

San Diego County has the largest community of organic growers in the state and nation, with 374 farms growing more than 175 crops!

Nursery and Cut Flower Crops

Crop	Year	Acres	Total
Bedding Plants, Color	2009	941	$227,796,845
	2008	980	$237,288,380
Bulbs, Corms, Rhizomes, Roots, Tubers	2009	57	$5,643,000
	2008	185	$3,409,920
Cacti & Succulents	2009	275	$23,640,375
	2008	235	$20,201,775
Citrus, Avocado, & Subtropical Fruit Trees	2009	279	$15,297,167
	2008	275	$15,071,100
Herbaceous Perennials	2009	374	$26,340,718
	2008	382	$26,878,284
Indoor Flowering & Foliage Plants	2009	646	$290,880,000
	2008	640	$319,080,960
Ornamental Trees & Shrubs	2009	4,518	$365,203,494
	2008	3,765	$304,336,245
Poinsettia	2009	156	$19,500,000
	2008	142	$38,671,854
Turf and Cut Christmas Trees	2009	709	$12,082,069
	2008	605	$10,309,805
Total Nursery Products	2009	7,956	$986,383,668
	2008	7,209	$975,248,323
Leptospermum	2009	400	$3,000,400
	2008	396	$1,898,028
Proteas	2009	565	$4,237,500
	2008	550	$3,437,500
Wax Flowers	2009	783	$5,448,114
	2008	770	$5,357,660
Other Cut Flowers	2009	960	$35,372,832
	2008	950	$36,846,700
Foliage	2009	835	$19,871,706
	2008	795	$19,915,545
Total Flower Products	2009	3,543	$67,930,552
	2008	3,461	$67,455,433
Total Nursery & Cut Flower Products	2009	11,499	$1,054,314,219
	2008	10,670	$1,042,703,756

Fruit & Nut Crops

Crop	Year	Acres Harvested	Tons/ Acre	Tons Total Production	US $/ Ton	Value
Apples	2009	266	1.3	346	$496	$171,517
	2008	270	1.5	405	$814	$329,670
Total Avocados	2009	24,684	1.9	45,779		$130,478,067
	2008	26,549		59,805		$144,694,905
Hass	2009	22,896	1.8	40,660		$115,618,818
	2008	24,506	2.3	56,364	$2,476	$139,556,769
Lamb-Hass	2009	998	4.4	4,368		$13,630,488
	2008	1,100	2.1	2,310	$1,852	$4,278,120
Other	2009	790	1.0	752		$1,228,761
	2008	943	1.2	1,132	$760	$860,016
Berries, Misc.	2009	216	6.0	1,296	$4,000	$5,184,000
	2008	221	6.4	1,414	$4,400	$6,223,360
Total Citrus	2009	13,550	92.0	190,193		$60,615,936
	2008	14,650		216,092		$64,586,488
Total Grapefruit	2009	1,747	24.0	41,935		$12,926,451
	2008	2,217	16.8	37,246		$7,351,178
Fresh Market	2009		18.0	31,451	$382	$12,014,366
	2008		12.7	28,156	$233	$6,560,348
Byproduct	2009		6.0	10,484	$87	$912,085
	2008		4.1	9,090	$87	$790,830
Kumquats	2009	224	2.6	591	$1,632	$965,100
	2008	219	2.5	548	$1,595	$873,263
Total Lemons	2009	3,486	18.0	62,748		$32,419,800
	2008	3,922	12.6	49,417		$20,047,671
Fresh Market	2009		15.0	52,290	$600	$31,374,000
	2008		8.5	33,337	$543	$18,101,991
Byproduct	2009		3.0	10,458	$100	$1,045,800
	2008		4.1	16,080	$121	$1,945,680
Total Limes	2009	310	10.5	3,255		$1,016,025
	2008	357	10.5	3,749		$1,170,295
Fresh Market	2009		6.5	2,015	$455	$916,825
	2008		6.5	2,321	$455	$1,056,055
Byproduct	2009		4.0	1,240	$80	$99,200
	2008		4.0	1,428	$80	$114,240

Fruit & Nut Crops

Crop	Year	Acres Harvested	Tons/ Acre	Tons Total Production	US $/ Ton	Value
Total Oranges, Navel	2009	1,200	13.7	16,452		$3,484,800
	2008	1,472	11.2	16,486		$4,296,768
Fresh Market	2009		9.0	10,800	$260	$2,808,000
	2008		7.5	11,040	$330	$3,643,200
Byproduct	2009		4.7	5,640	$120	$676,800
	2008		3.7	5,446	$120	$653,568
Total Oranges, Valencia	2009	5,500	9.1	50,050		$5,775,000
	2008	5,531	17.2	95,133		$26,875,129
Fresh Market	2009		7.0	38,500	$138	$5,313,000
	2008		12.9	71,350	$336	$23,973,566
Byproduct	2009		2.1	11,550	$40	$462,000
	2008		4.3	23,783	$122	$2,901,563
Total Tangerines, Tangelos	2009	1,083	14.0	15,162		$4,028,760
	2008	932	14.5	13,514		$3,972,184
Fresh Market	2009		12.0	12,996	$293	$3,807,828
	2008		11.0	10,252	$355	$3,639,460
Byproduct	2009		2.0	2,166	$102	$220,932
	2008		3.5	3,262	$102	$332,724
Grapes, Wine	2009	489	1.5	734	$1,204	$883,134
	2008	365	1.7	621	$1,021	$633,531
Macadamia Nuts	2009	70	0.7	49	$3,000	$147,000
	2008	63	0.7	44	$2,871	$126,611
Misc Fruit & Nuts*	2009	724				$5,311,264
	2008	707				$5,186,552
Persimmons	2009	300	7.3	2,190	$500	$1,095,000
	2008	354	5.5	1,947	$841	$1,637,427
Total Strawberries	2009	233	30.0	6,990		$15,168,000
	2008	445	33.8	15,041		$16,392,816
Fresh Market	2009		18.0	8,190	$1,600	$13,104,000
	2008		19.5	8,678	$1,482	$12,860,796
Processing	2009		12.0	5,160	$400	$2,064,000
	2008		14.3	6,364	$555	$3,532,020
Total Fruit & Nuts	2009	40,532				$219,053,918
	2008	43,624				** $239,811,360

* Includes apricots, cherimoyas, guavas, peaches, pears, walnuts and others.
** Total reflects corrections made to 2008 data.

Vegetable Crops

Crop	Year	Acres Harvested	Tons/ Acre	Tons Total Production	US $/Ton	Value
Beans, Snap	2009	398	5.4	2,149	$1,440	$3,094,848
	2008	306	5.4	1,652	$1,330	$2,197,692
Bunch Vegetables*	2009	473				$4,169,495
	2008	885				$7,801,275
Corn, Sweet	2009	143	3.0	429	$1,440	$617,760
	2008	144	7.6	1,094	$472	$516,557
Cucumbers	2009	299	22.5	6,728	$640	$4,305,600
	2008	339	16.4	5,560	$518	$2,879,873
Herbs	2009	467	11.6	5,417	$3,827	$20,731,624
	2008	482	18.0	8,676	$2,715	$23,555,340
Lettuce	2009	580	11.0	6,380	$403	$2,571,140
	2008	580	11.0	6,380	$519	$3,311,220
Melons	2009	167	5.0	835	$400	$334,000
	2008	166	4.8	797	$318	$253,382
Mushrooms	2009	39	141.9	5,534	$3,260	$18,041,166
	2008	19	132.0	2,508	$3,240	$8,125,920
Oriental Vegetables**	2009	63				$516,726
	2008	67				$549,534
Peppers	2009	176	18.8	3,300	$1,000	$3,300,000
	2008	188	18.1	3,403	$730	$2,484,044
Potatoes	2009	728	13.0	9,486	$301	$2,855,238
	2008	603	12.5	7,538	$367	$2,766,263
Squash	2009	418	10.5	4,389	$384	$1,685,376
	2008	241	10.7	2,579	$594	$1,531,748
Tomatoes	2009	2,267	44.8	101,448	$900	$91,303,425
	2008	2,179	41.5	90,429	$821	$74,241,799
Misc Vegetables***	2009	1,100				$35,076,800
	2008	1,029				$32,812,752
Total Vegetables	2009	7,318				$188,603,198
	2008	7,228				$163,027,399

* Includes collards, green onions, mustard and turnip greens, parsley, radishes and spinach
** Includes bamboo shoots, bok choy, chinese greens, gai choy, gai lon and snap peas
*** Includes cauliflower, celery, chayote, sweet potatoes, tomatillos and others

Field & Specialty Crops

Crop	Year	Acres Harvested	Tons/ Acre	Tons Total Production	US $/Ton	Value
Barley, Grain	2009	700	0.1	60	$100.00	$6,000
	2008	250	1.1	275	$160.00	$44,000
Greenchop	2009	30	20.0	600	$20.00	$12,000
	2008	85	22.0	1,870	$27.00	$50,490
Hay, Oat	2009	5,043	1.4	7,060	$162.50	$1,147,283
	2008	1,000	1.3	1,300	$92.00	$119,600
Oat, Grain	2009	0				
	2008	250	0.1	25	$150.00	$3,750
Pasture, Irrigated	2009	1,513			$1,880.00	$2,844,816
	2008	1,560			$1,880.00	$2,932,800
Range	2009	240,630			$5.63	$1,395,653
	2008	248,072			$5.80	$1,438,818
Silage	2009	27	13.0	351	$26.19	$9,203
	2008	27	13.7	370	$27.00	$9,987
Total Field Crops	2009	247,943				$5,414,955
	2008	251,244				$4,599,445

Apiary Crops

Crop	Year	Value
Honey	2009	$589,015
	2008	$2,001,886
Bees Wax	2009	$9,200
	2008	$62,997
Bees & Queens	2009	$80,500
	2008	$150,200
Pollen	2009	$0
	2008	$65,810
Pollination	2009	$1,311,830
	2008	$905,435
Total Apiary	2009	$1,990,545
	2008	$3,186,328

Timber Crops

Crop	Year	Value
Timber	2009	$7,474
	2008	$120,000
Firewood	2009	$750,000
	2008	$750,000
Total Timber Products	2009	$757,474
	2008	$870,000

Livestock & Poultry

	Year	Number of Head	Total Weight CWT*	US $/CWT	Value
Cattle and Calves	2009	17,000	127,500	$92.30	$11,768,250
	2008	17,000	127,500	$92.90	$11,844,750
Hogs and Pigs	2009	800	2,000	$42.30	$84,600
	2008	800	2,000	$48.00	$96,000
Chickens	2009				$1,070,400
	2008				$535,200
Ratites, Meat	2009	500		$7.00	$3,500
	2008	1,000		$8.00	$8,000
Lambs and Sheep	2009	1,000	1,000	$59.90	$59,900
	2008	1,000	1,000	$91.30	$91,300
Miscellaneous	2009				$2,877,075
	2008				
Total	2009	19,300			$15,863,725
	2008	19,800			$12,575,250

Livestock & Poultry Products

	Year	Number	Total CWT*	US $/Unit	Value
Milk, Market	2009		546,072	$11.51	$6,285,298
	2008		816,582	$17.31	$14,135,034
Eggs, Chicken Market	2009	76,650,000 dz		$0.72	$55,188,000
	2008	70,764,375 dz		$1.00	$70,764,375
Ratite, Oil	2009	1,100 gal		$600	$660,000
	2008	1,100 gal		$500	$550,000
Total	2009				$62,133,298
	2008				$85,449,409

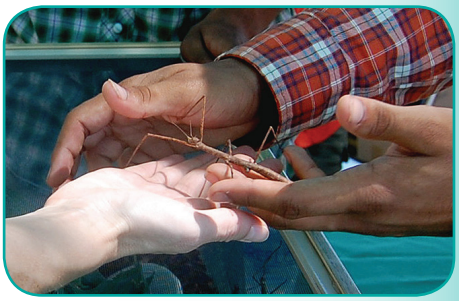
* CWT = Hundred weight, equal to 100 pounds

Spread the Word, Not Bugs!

Our job is to find bugs and diseases harmful to San Diego agriculture before they settle into our County. Over the years, we've learned that enlisting the public to be our second set of eyes is invaluable. So, in 2009 Agriculture, Weights and Measures (AWM) participated in many different activities to spread the word!
Following is a sampling of last year's events:

Nature provides the greatest classroom and nowhere is it put to better use than at the Seeds of Wonder, held at San Diego Botanic Garden (formerly Quail Botanical Gardens). Last year, over 200 children had the opportunity to handle all types of insects and to learn how to grow food and flowers. Whether crafting, planting seeds or listening to a story, everyone left knowing more about plants and insects that play a role in San Diego County agriculture.

San Diego Botanic Garden also served as a premier venue for the annual insect fair co-sponsored by AWM. This two day extravaganza brings out kids of all ages to interact with many types of insects and animals from fruit flies to snakes. Last year, 8,000 attendees had the opportunity to munch meal worms of various flavors! Children are often braver than their parents when it comes to interacting with the creepy and not-so-creepy garden crawlers.



High visibility is key to getting the word out and one of the best places is at the San Diego County Fair. For the past 28 years, Agriculture, Weights and Measures has displayed agricultural information. Our 2009 display featured how the Mediterranean Fruit Fly and Asian Citrus Psyllid quarantines were helping to eliminate these serious pests in San Diego County.

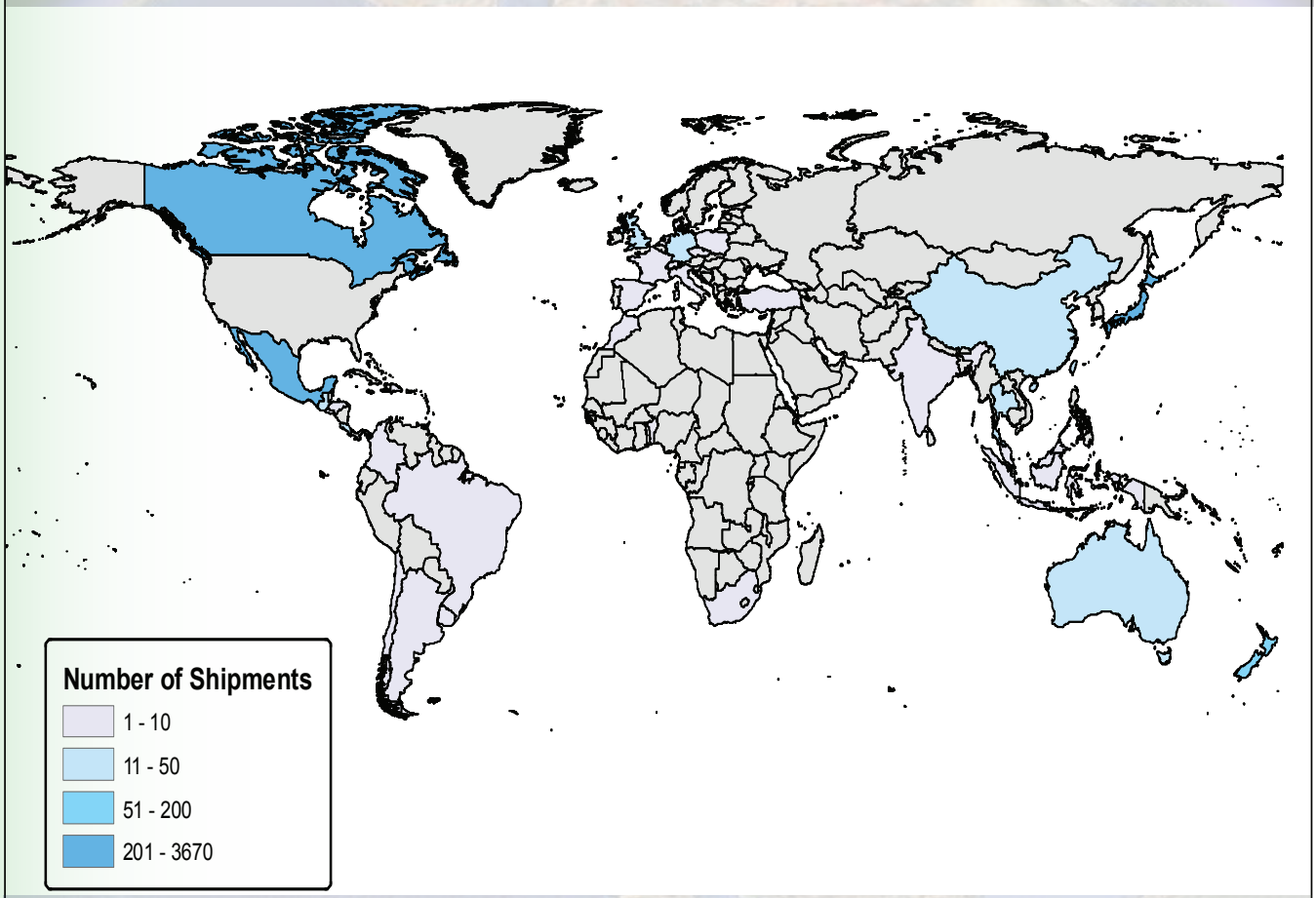
700 students, staff and parents attended Agricultural Day held in Valley Center. Our collection of live insects varied from Vietnamese Walking Sticks to Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches. However, the display with the most "buzz" was the honey bee display where kids of all ages viewed the inner workings of a bee hive and were able to see firsthand how honey is produced. Many even spotted the queen bee! Students also learned about all the different traps used in AWM's insect trapping program.

Teaching others to be aware of potential pests that may be harmful to our local agriculture increases our ability to catch problems early. AWM participated in a variety of educational programs spreading the word to Master Gardeners, community college students, landscapers, farmers and community groups on current and potential plant diseases, insect pests and invasive weeds. Many people responded by bringing in samples for identification. In 2009, our entomology and plant pathology labs processed 41,779 samples of potentially invasive pests and diseases. (See page 13 for more information on finds.)

Additionally, when serious insect pests are found in the county, AWM publishes Media Advisories to alert the public. Last year, advisories were issued for both Mediterranean Fruit Fly and Asian Citrus Psyllid containing information useful to the public and farmers.

We hope each year to have an pest-free year. While that may not happen, AWM will continue to spread the word and depend on you to be our eyes in the field.

Our Trading Partners



59 Countries; 5,101 Shipments

American Samoa	2	Ecuador	3	Jamaica	7	Republic of Korea	16
Argentina	2	Egypt	1	Japan	492	Rota	1
Australia	12	Federated States of Micronesia	2	Kenya	1	Saipan	2
Bahamas	2	France	3	Korea	3	Singapore	4
Bahrain	2	Germany	17	Macau	12	South Africa	5
Barbados	1	Greece	1	Malaysia	2	Spain	4
Bermuda	44	Guadeloupe	1	Martinique	1	Switzerland	1
Brazil	1	Guam	14	Mexico	3690	Taiwan	29
Canada	449	Guatemala	27	Morocco	2	Thailand	1
Chile	8	Honduras	4	Netherlands	10	Trinidad and Tobago	8
China	34	Hong Kong	8	New Zealand	60	United Arab Emirates	3
Colombia	4	India	1	N Mariana Islands	2	United Kingdom	12
Costa Rica	13	Indonesia	1	Panama	4	Venzuela	1
Czech Republic	2	Israel	8	Puerto Rico	40	Vietnam	9
Dominican Republic	1	Italy	10	Qatar	1		

Sustainable Agriculture

Sustainable Agriculture promotes the economic viability of agriculture while preserving natural resources and the environment. Pest prevention activities are essential to inhibiting the spread of exotic pests and ensuring a sustainable agricultural industry in California.

The Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures administers programs for the detection, control and eradication of insect pests, plant diseases and invasive weeds, as well as for the enforcement of quarantines to prevent the spread of invasive pests.

Medfly

A - Rated Pest Finds

	Number found
Allopeas clavulinum, allopeas snail	1
Aonidiella orientalis, oriental scale	1
Ceroplastes floridensis, Florida wax scale	2
Ceroplastes rubens, red wax scale	2
Ceroplastes rusci, fig wax scale	8
Darna pallivitta, limacodid moth	1
Paropeas sp., land snail	2
Pinnaspis strachani, lesser snow scale	1
Pseudaulacaspis cockerelli, magnolia white scale	36
Pseudaulacaspis pentagona, white peach scale	1
Solenopsis invicta, red imported fire ant	3
Subulinidae, land snail	1
Fusarium oxysporum, palm wilt	7
Rotylenchulus reniformis, reniform nematode	8
Salvinia auriculata, aquatic plant	1

Inspecting for Agricultural Pests

Q - Rated Pest Finds

	Number found
Agrilus coxalis auroguttatus, gold spotted oak borer	2
Amphibian, coqui frog	1
Aulacaspis tubercularis, white mango scale	2
Aulacaspis yasumatsui, cycad aulacaspisscale	1
Bambusaspis miliaris, bamboo pit scale	2
Ceroplastes sp., a wax scale	1
Cicadellid spp., leafhoppers	3
Cicadellidae, egg masses, sharpshooter	2
Coccidae, immature, a soft scale	1
Diaspis texensis, an armored scale	2
Exserohilum rostratum, fungus	1
Homoptera, scale/mealybug	1
Lepidoptera, a moth	1
Oncometopia sp. a leafhopper,	1
Gastropods, snail	1
Palmicultor lumpurensis, bamboo mealybug	11
Pheidole megacephala, bigheaded ant	1
Pheidole sp., an ant	1
Philephedra sp., a soft scale	1
Planococcus sp., a mealybug	1
Platycorypha nigrivirga, tipu tree psyllid	5
Poliaspis cycadis, cycad poliaspis scale	1
Pseudococcidae, mealybug	2
Pseudococcus odermatti	1
Psychidae, bagworm moth	1
Rhizoecus saintpauliae, soil mealybug	1
Ripersiella hibisci, root mealybug	1
Salsola australis, aquatic plant	1
Scantius aegyptius, pyrrhocorid bug	2
Tetranychidae, a mite	1
Tortricidae, leafroller moth	1
Trioza vitreoradiata, pittosporum psyllid	2
Veronicellidae, land slug	2
Zachrysia provisoria, Cuban garden zachrysia	1
Bagrada hilaris, bagrada bug	5

Diaprepes Root Weevil

"A" RATED: A PEST OF KNOWN ECONOMIC OR ENVIRONMENTAL DETRIMENT AND IS EITHER NOT KNOWN TO BE ESTABLISHED IN CALIFORNIA OR IT IS PRESENT IN A LIMITED DISTRIBUTION THAT ALLLOWS FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF ERADICATION OR SUCCESSFUL CONTAINMENT.

"Q" RATED: AN ORGANISM OR DISORDER SUSPECTED TO BE OF ECONOMIC OR ENVIRONMENTAL DETRIMENT, BUT WHOSE STATUS IS UNCERTAIN BECAUSE OF INCOMPLETE IDENTIFICATION OR INADEQUATE INFORMATION.

Sustainable Agriculture

High Risk Pest Exclusion

Pest Exclusion: 11,667 shipments inspected, with 56 pest finds

Dog Team: Intercepted 575 unmarked parcels, with 5 pest finds

Total incoming shipments = 12,242

Total pest finds = 61

Inspector and Detector Dog "Friday"

Invasive Weed Control Activities

Weed	Rating	Removal Method	Scope of Treatment
Spotted knapweed *Centaurea maculosa*	A	Hand Removal	10.5 acres
Purple loosestrife *Lythrum salicaria*	B	Herbicides Hand Removal	2 sites, 1 acre
Perennial pepperweed *Lepidium latifolium*	B	Herbicides	27 sites, 168 acres
Tamarisk *Tamarix parviflora*	B	Herbicides	1 site, 59 acres
Yellow starthistle *Centaurea solstitialis*	C	Herbicides Hand Removal	6 sites, 102 acres

Treatments to Remove Invasive Weeds

Programs and Services Annual Report

Agricultural Water Quality performs inspections at nurseries, greenhouses, golf course restaurants and pest control businesses to ensure compliance with the County's Stormwater Permit, mandated by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board. Inspections, education and investigations are aimed at stopping the potential for discharging pollutants such as fertilizers, pesticides and sediment into local waterways. Highlight for 2009 include:

- Completed 341 inspections and 37 complaint investigations.

Civil Actions advocates for the department on actions brought against persons or businesses due to violations found through inspections. Number of cases for 2009:

- Certified Farmers' Market Actions: 10
- Weights and Measures (including scanners) Actions: 369
- Agricultural Pesticide Actions: 37
- Structural Pesticide Actions: 36

Environmental Services prepares crop statistics, documents crop losses, provides information for land use projects involving agricultural lands, conducts community outreach, coordinates with the media, and maintains AWM's website.

Integrated Pest Control works under the Board of Supervisors' Policy mandating an Integrated Pest Management approach in the use of pesticides at all county facilities. Mechanical methods are used when possible in the control of invasive weeds, and structural pest control. Highlights for 2009:

- 2,977 acres of weed control performed on County roadsides and airports.
- 191 County-operated facilities received structural pest control.
- 20,367 pounds of rodent bait manufactured for sale.

Labs - Entomology and Plant Pathology provide rapid insect and plant disease identification which aids in reducing possible spread within our county. Highlights from 2009:

- Entomology lab performed 38,506 determinations.
- Plant Pathology Lab processed 8843 samples in 2009. Major finds included reniform nematode (*Rotylenchulus reniformis,* A rated) in 8 shipments of plants originating in Hawaii, resulting in the suspension of these nurseries' shipping privileges to California.

Pest Detection is a critical component of our statewide pest prevention network and is our county's second line of defense against the introduction and spread of insect pests, such as exotic fruit flies, Japanese beetle, and Gypsy moth. In 2009, 256,928 trap inspections were conducted.

Pesticide Regulation enforces state and federal pesticide laws and regulations with oversight from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation. Inspections, complaint and illness investigations and the evaluation of restricted material permits are conducted enabling inspectors to ensure pesticides are used in a safe and effective manner while protecting the environment and human and animal health. Highlights for 2009 include:

- Collected evidence for the District Attorney's Office to successfully prosecute an unlicensed pest control operator.
- Implemented the Structural Fumigation Enforcement Program by increasing the number of regulatory inspections from 130 to 406 and collecting required fees to support the additional regulatory activities.
- Completed over 1,100 pesticide use monitoring inspections.
- Worked with stakeholders to clarify compliance issues relating to the interpretation of the bee protection statements on pesticide labels and assisted the Bee Protection Stakeholder Advisory Committee to finalize bee protection best management practices.

Plant Health and Pest Prevention is the first line of defense in keeping out unwanted pests. Inspections performed on incoming and outgoing plant shipments and production nurseries look for pests harmful to agricultural production here or at the shipment destination. Highlights for 2009:

- High Risk Pest Exclusion: 11,667 shipments inspected with 56 pest finds.
- Dog Team: Intercepted 575 unmarked parcels with 5 pest finds.
- Nursery Inspection: 316 nurseries comprising 5,225 acres inspected for sudden oak death disease; 1 positive find requiring 33 additional nursery investigations (trace forwards.)

Standards Enforcement protects consumers by conducting regulatory work by testing commercial weighing and measuring devices, performing price verification on Point-of-Sale systems, inspecting certified producers and farmers' markets and conducting organic registrations and shell egg quality inspections. Highlights for 2009:

- 51,443 commercial weighing and measuring devices (scales, gas pumps, utility sub-meters, taximeters, etc.) inspected, providing assurance of accuracy to both purchasers and sellers in transactions based upon weight, measure, or count. 94% of commercial devices inspected were in compliance.
- 38 active farmers' markets and 179 local growers certified in San Diego County.
- 376 growers registered as organic in San Diego County, the largest community of organic growers in the country.
- 233 inspections at 101 egg facilities.
- 550 consumer complaints about commercial meters, petroleum and price overcharges investigated.

The County Veterinarian operates the Vector Borne Disease Laboratory for the Department of Environmental Health. Services are critical for rapid vector borne disease identification and minimizing new and emerging zoonotic diseases. The San Diego Vector Borne Disease Laboratory examines specimens from insect vectors, domestic animals, and wildlife for pathogens transmissible to humans, including rabies, plague, West Nile virus, Hantavirus, Tularemia and Lyme disease. Tests conducted in 2009 include:

- 384 Lyme disease
- 244 Tularemia
- 556 Hantavirus
- 145 West Nile Virus
- 50 Plague

Contact Us

Main Phone: (858)694-8988
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Program	Services	Number
Agricultural Water Quality	Stormwater; agricultural hazardous material storage	(858) 694-8980
Entomology	Insect identification; apiary registration; pest surveys	(858) 694-3076
Environmental Services	Crop statistics; land use issues; public information	(858) 694-2775
Integrated Pest Control	Invasive weed control; rodent bait production	(858) 571-4209
Plant Health & Pest Prevention	Licenses to sell nursery products, flowers, & foliage; shipping certificates; incoming shipment inspection; nursery inspections; glassy-winged sharpshooter; sudden oak death	(760) 752-4700
	Inspection Request Line	(760) 752-4713
Pest Detection	Exotic insect trapping/eradication	(858) 571-4209 (800) 300-TRAP
Pesticide Regulation	Voluntary compliance inspections; registration; operator identification numbers; pesticide use reporting; restricted materials permits; employee pesticide training requirements; pesticide complaints	(858) 694-8980
Plant Pathology	Plant disease diagnostic services; plant disease surveys	(858) 694-2753
Standards Enforcement	Certified farmers' markets; certified producer certificates; organic handler/producer; egg producer/handler; scanner registration; commercial weighing & measuring devices; device serviceperson; weighmaster	(858) 694-2778
Veterinarian	Vector borne diseases identification and surveillance	(858) 694-2838

The 2009 Crop Statistics and Annual Report was produced by Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer Dawn Nielsen and Agricultural/Standards Inspector Colleen Carr with assistance from GIS Analyst John Taylor, Christi Lardy and Jose Ortero.

Department Personnel 2009

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Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures

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