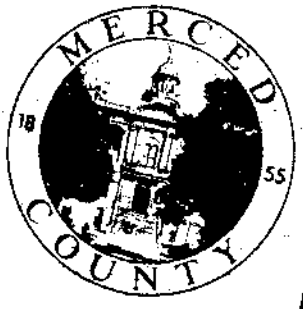


Conley

ANNUAL
REPORT OF AGRICULTURE



COUNTY OF MERCED
1970

MERCED COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

REX LYNDALL, Agricultural Commissioner
JAMES REED, Chief Deputy

REX LYNDALL
Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights and Measures
JAMES T. REED
Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
JACK A. RAHILLY
Chief Deputy Sealer

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

740 WEST TWENTY SECOND STREET
TELEPHONE (CODE AREA 209) 722-7411 EXT. 204
MERCED, CALIFORNIA 95340

To: Jerry W. Fielder, State Director of Agriculture, and The
Honorable Board of Supervisors of Merced County:

Johnnie Ramondini, Chairman
E. G. Nordman
Harry P. Schmidt

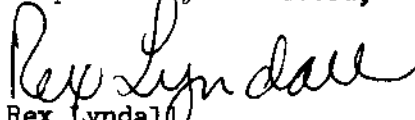
Fred Wack
Emory O'Banion

In accordance with Section 2279 of the Agricultural Code, I am pleased to submit the 1970 Agricultural Crop Report which contains the acreage, production, and gross value of the agricultural crops produced in Merced County for the year 1970.

The gross value in 1970 was \$191,860,000, a \$19,040,000 increase from 1969. Significant increases are to be noted in alfalfa hay which is up \$3 million, about 7,000 tons of alfalfa cubes were exported, a relatively new industry. Sugar beets \$1 million, wheat has risen \$ $\frac{1}{2}$ million, figs \$1 million, eggs down \$1 million because of price and production whereas broilers and fryers increased \$2 million despite a lower price. Milk, the number one commodity in gross value, was up \$2.75 million, turkeys increased in numbers with somewhat lower prices accounting for \$4.25 million increase. Seed crops including certified alfalfa seed continue downward in acreage and production. Freezer crops and sweet potatoes were significantly lower in acreage and price. Cotton down \$3/4 million, lower price and production down. Almonds were up \$1 million, and at the present time Merced County is the number one county in almond acreage in the state having about 22,000 acres of bearing almonds, and 10,000 acres of non-bearing almonds.

The values contained in this report are gross values and in no way reflect the net income of the farmer. Throughout California and the United States, production costs have continually risen, with price increases hardly taken care of by the cost of production.

Respectfully submitted,


Rex Lyndall
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights
and Measures

Compilation of this Report
By James Reed, Chief Deputy
Agricultural Commissioner

RL:jkd

MERCED COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Johnnie Ramondini, Chairman	District #1 (Merced)
E. G. Nordman	District #2 (LeGrand-Planada)
Harry P. Schmidt	District #4 (Gustine)
Fred Wack	District #3 (Atwater-Livingston)
Emory O'Banion	District #5 (Dos Palos-Los Banos)

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Andrew F. Murphy

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER
and
DIRECTOR OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Rex Lyndall	Agricultural Commissioner and Director of Weights & Measures
James T. Reed	Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
Robert Milbourn	Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
L. R. Greenough	Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
Michael J. Tanner	Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
LeRoy M. Harris	Agricultural Inspector - Merced
Norman Hill	Agricultural Inspector - Delhi-Ballico
David P. Isola	Agricultural Inspector - Gustine
Chester P. Matsen	Agricultural Inspector - LeGrand-Planada
Allen Miller	Agricultural Inspector - Los Banos
George Saunders	Agricultural Inspector - Livingston
Sanford Wentzel	Agricultural Inspector - Merced
G. Hugh Allison, Jr.	Fieldman - Merced
Stan Schindler	Fieldman - Merced
Janet Dillon	Stenographer Clerk III - Merced
Arlene Healy	Typist Clerk II - Merced
Jack A. Rahilly	Chief Deputy Sealer - Merced
Fred Montersino	Deputy Sealer - Merced
Dan Riley	Deputy Sealer - Los Banos- Gustine- Dos Palos
James D. Glidden	Weights & Measures Inspector - Merced

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FIELD CROPS..... Page 1-2
CERTIFIED SEED AND OTHER SEED CROPS..... Page 3
VEGETABLE CROPS..... Page 4-5
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS..... Page 6-7
FRUIT AND NUT ACREAGE PLANTINGS 1970-1965 Page 8
LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS..... Page 9
BEE INDUSTRY..... Page 9
LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY..... Page 10
NURSERY PRODUCTS..... Page 10
MERCED COUNTY GROSS VALUE ALL CROPS..... Page 11

FIELD CROPS

ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1970-1969

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE HARVESTED	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
BARLEY (Grain)	1970	49,700	1.50	74,500	Ton	\$57.00	\$3,800,000
	1969	50,300	1.50	75,500	Ton	50.00	3,775,000
BEANS (Dry)	1970	2,950	0.9	2,655	Ton	200.00	531,000
	1969	3,620	1.0	3,620	Ton	205.00	742,000
CORN (Grain)	1970	20,700	2.0	41,400	Ton	65.00	2,691,000
	1969	25,600	2.1	53,800	Ton	55.00	2,959,000
COTTON (Lint)	1970	23,500	625 lbs.	30,200	500 lb. bale	112.50	3,398,000
	1969	24,030	760 lbs.	38,100	500 lb. bale	105.38	4,015,000
COTTON (Seed)	1970	-----	----	12,000	Ton	67.00	804,000
	1969	-----	----	15,200	Ton	48.00	730,000
HAY (Alfalfa)	1970	73,530	6.0	442,000	Ton	29.00	12,818,000
	1969	57,700	6.0	346,000	Ton	28.50	9,861,000
HAY (Alfalfa-Cube)	1970	6,180	6.0	37,100	Ton	33.00	1,224,000
	1969	9,200	6.0	52,200	Ton	32.00	1,670,000
HAY (Grain)	1970	16,195	2.5	40,500	Ton	25.00	1,012,000
	1969	7,240	2.4	17,400	Ton	24.00	418,000
OATS (Grain)	1970	1,530	0.75	1,150	Ton	48.00	55,200
	1969	1,560	0.7	1,090	Ton	50.00	54,500
PASTURE (Permanent)	1970	125,500	---	-----	Acre	42.00	5,271,000
	1969	106,000	---	-----	Acre	42.00	4,452,000
PASTURE (Other)	1970	745,000	---	-----	Acre	5.00	3,725,000
	1969	746,000	---	-----	Acre	5.00	3,730,000
PASTURE (Sudan)	1970	3,525	---	-----	Acre	25.00	88,000
	1969	3,250	---	-----	Acre	25.00	81,200
PEAS (Dry)	1970	540	1.0	540	Ton	120.00	64,800
	1969	1,400	0.75	1,050	Ton	100.00	105,000
RYE (Grain)	1970	---	---	--	---	----	-----
	1969	302	0.25	75	Ton	65.00	4,900
RICE	1970	6,200	2.9	17,980	Ton	95.00	1,708,000
	1969	6,580	2.8	18,400	Ton	95.00	1,748,000
SILAGE (Corn)	1970	19,200	18.0	345,600	Ton	5.00	1,728,000
	1969	15,300	20.0	306,000	Ton	6.00	1,836,000
SORGHUM (Grain)	1970	16,350	2.0	32,700	Ton	50.00	1,635,000
	1969	15,000	1.75	26,200	Ton	45.00	1,179,000
STRAW	1970	-----	---	4,000	Ton	10.00	40,000
	1969	-----	---	4,000	Ton	10.00	40,000

FIELD CROPS (Continued)

ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1970-1969

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE HARVESTED	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
SAFFLOWER	1970	2,100	1.0	2,100	Ton	\$95.00	\$ 200,000
	1969	2,200	1.1	2,420	Ton	80.00	194,000
SUGAR BEETS	1970	10,378	26.0	270,000	Ton	14.32	3,866,000
	1969	9,200	21.30	196,000	Ton	13.80	2,705,000
STUBBLE* (Pasture)	1970	44,000	---	---	Acre	1.50	66,000
	1969	45,000	---	---	Acre	1.50	67,500
WHEAT (Grain)	1970	11,844	1.9	22,500	Ton	47.00	1,058,000
	1969	5,750	1.75	10,100	Ton	49.00	495,000
TOTAL	1970	1,174,593					\$45,783,000
	1969	1,090,232					\$40,862,100

*STUBBLE NOT INCLUDED IN TOTAL ACREAGE

**Revised

CERTIFIED SEED CROPS

ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1970-1969

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE HARVESTED	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
ALFALFA (All Varieties)	1970	---	---	---	---	---	---
	1969	100	175	17,500	lb.	\$0.45	\$ 7,900
BEANS (All Varieties)	1970	510	1,000	510,000	lb.	0.12	66,200
	1969	305	1,000	305,000	lb.	0.12	36,600
OTHER	1970	---	---	---	---	---	---
	1969	350	2,000	700,000	lb.	0.050	35,000
TOTAL	1970	510					\$61,200
	1969	755					\$79,500

OTHER SEED CROPS

ALFALFA (All Varieties)	1970	100	100	10,000	lb.	\$0.37	\$ 3,700
	1969	800	165	132,000	lb.	0.40	52,800
BEANS (All Varieties)	1970	1,447	2,000	2,894,000	lb.	0.11	318,000
	1969	2,220	2,200	4,884,000	lb.	0.10	488,000
CANTALOUPE	1970	93	360	33,480	lb.	0.85	28,400
	1969	175	330	57,800	lb.	0.84	48,600
SQUASH	1970	58	1,215	70,470	lb.	0.51	36,000
	1969	65	560	36,400	lb.	0.51	18,600
WATERMELON	1970	---	---	---	--	---	---
	1969	195	225	43,900	lb.	0.85	37,300
MISCELLANEOUS SEED CROPS	1970	110	2,000	220,000	lb.	0.10	22,000
	1969	112	2,830	317,000	lb.	0.10	31,700
TOTAL OTHER SEED CROPS	1970	1,808					\$408,100
	1969	3,567					\$677,000
TOTAL ALL SEED CROPS	1970	2,318					\$469,300
	1969	4,322					\$756,500

VEGETABLE CROPS

ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1970-1969

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE HARVESTED	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
BEANS-LIMA (Freezer)	1970	2,630	1.36	3,580	Ton	\$170.00	\$ 608,000
	1969	4,100	1.16	4,760	Ton	169.00	804,000
CORN (Sweet)	1970	736	4.5	3,312	Ton	95.00	314,000
	1969	1,150	3.6	4,140	Ton	75.00	310,000
MELONS (Cantaloupe)	1970	5,880	6.0	35,300	Ton	90.00	3,177,000
	1969	6,800	5.2	35,400	Ton	93.50	3,310,000
MELONS (Mixed)	1970	1,409	9.0	12,680	Ton	100.00	1,268,000
	1969	1,110	8.0	8,880	Ton	100.00	888,000
MELONS (Watermelons)	1970	700	10.0	7,000	Ton	27.50	192,500
	1969	997	5.0	4,980	Ton	30.00	149,000
PEAS (Freezer)	1970	500	1.4	700	Ton	81.40	57,000
	1969	894	1.5	1,340	Ton	105.00	141,000
PEPPERS (Bell)	1970	260	5.0	1,300	Ton	240.00	312,600
	1969	385	2.0	770	Ton	175.00	135,000
PEPPERS (Processing)	1970	132	5.0	660	Ton	90.50	60,000
	1969	65	6.0	390	Ton	63.00	24,600
SWEET POTATOES (Cannery)	1970	70	14.0	980	Ton	70.00	68,600
	1969	270	14.0	3,780	Ton	60.00	227,000
SWEET POTATOES	1970	3,800	5.0	19,000	Ton	140.00	2,660,000
	1969	5,300	4.51	23,900	Ton	170.00	4,063,000

14
290
980

VEGETABLE CROPS (Continued)

ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1970-1969

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE HARVESTED	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
TOMATOES MARKET	1970	5, 154	---	964, 000	40 lb.ctns.	\$3.43	\$3, 306, 000
	1969	10, 100	---	1, 342, 000	40 lb.ctns.	2.56	3, 436, 000
PROCESSING (From Market Acreage)	1970	---	---	42, 520	Ton	25.00	1, 063, 000
	1969	---	---	127, 000	Ton	27.00	3, 429, 000
PROCESSING (Canning Varieties)	1970	4, 644	23	106, 000	Ton	25.00	2, 650, 000
TOTAL TOMATOES	1970	9, 798		167, 800	Ton		7, 019, 000
	1969	10, 100		153, 840	Ton		6, 865, 000
MISCELLANEOUS VEGETABLES (Asparagus, Lettuce, Squash, Onion Turnip Cucumber)	1970	585					334, 000
	1969	566					312, 000
TOTAL	1970	26, 500					\$16, 070, 700
	1969	31, 737					\$17, 228, 600

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1970-1969

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE HARVESTED	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
ALMONDS	1970	21,864	0.72	15,740	Ton	\$535.00	\$8,420,000
	** 1969	19,197	0.70	13,440	Ton	545.00	7,324,000
ALMONDS (Hulls)	1970	----	---	19,700	Ton	10.00	197,000
	1969	----	---	17,000	Ton	10.00	170,000
APRICOTS	1970	1,289	4.0	5,156	Ton	128.00	660,000
	1969	1,259	8.0	10,100	Ton	120.00	1,212,000
BERRIES (Bush)	1970	33	1.5	50	Ton	275.00	13,700
	1969	20	1.5	30	Ton	240.00	7,200
CHERRIES	1970	58	0.3	17	Ton	400.00	6,800
	1969	50	1.0	50	Ton	300.00	15,000
CITRUS	1970	29	0.75	21	Ton	180.00	3,800
	1969	20	0.5	10	Ton	175.00	1,750
FIGS (Cannery)	1970	1,876	4.0	7,504	Ton	271.00	2,034,000
	1969	1,876	2.1	3,940	Ton	260.00	1,024,000
FIGS (Dry)	1970	649	0.5	324	Ton	230.00	74,600
	1969	878	0.5	440	Ton	212.00	93,300
GRAPES (Raisin)	1970	5,497	4.5	24,736	Ton	54.00	1,336,000
	1969	5,706	5.5	31,400	Ton	46.00	1,444,000
GRAPES (Table to Wine)	1970	201	4.0	804	Ton	65.00	52,000
	1969	199	5.0	995	Ton	50.00	49,800
GRAPES (Wine)	1970	7,534	4.0	30,200	Ton	95.00	2,869,000
	1969	7,565	5.0	37,800	Ton	68.00	2,570,000
NECTARINES	1970	229	7.5	1,720	Ton	130.00	223,600
	1969	232	7.0	1,620	Ton	110.00	178,000
OLIVES	1970	134	1.25	168	Ton	120.00	20,000
	1969	134	2.5	335	Ton	130.00	43,600
PEACHES (Clingstone)	1970	7,716	10.3	79,500	Ton	81.00	6,440,000
	1969	7,534	11.3	85,100	Ton	74.00	6,297,000
PEACHES (Freestone)	1970	2,899	8.6	25,000	Ton	50.00	1,250,000
	1969	2,864	10.6	30,400	Ton	55.00	1,672,000
PEACHES (Fresh)	1970	---	---	5,400	Ton	63.00	340,000
	1969	---	---	2,000	Ton	54.00	108,000
PLUMS	1970	104	4.5	468	Ton	115.00	54,000
	1969	95	3.1	295	Ton	140.00	41,300
PRUNES	1970	957	2.4	2,296	Ton	340.00	780,000
	1969	773	2.0	1,550	Ton	375.00	581,000

**Revised

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS (Continued)

ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1970 - 1969

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE HARVESTED	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
STRAWBERRIES	1970	2.5	2.0	5	Ton	\$475.00	\$ 2,400
	1969	2.5	2.0	5	Ton	500.00	2,500
WALNUTS (Black)	1970	103	1.0	103	Ton	18.00	1,850
	1969	91	1.0	91	Ton	18.00	1,640
WALNUTS (English)	1970	7,193	1.5	10,800	Ton	460.00	4,968,000
	1969	6,260	1.0	6,260	Ton	520.00	3,255,000
MISCELLANEOUS (Pears, Pecans)	1970	40					5,000
	1969	40					6,600
TOTAL	1970	58,407					\$29,752,000
	1969	54,796					** \$26,098,000

**Revised

FRUIT AND NUT ACREAGE PLANTINGS 1970 - 1965

CROPS	YEAR 1970		YEAR 1965	
	BEARING	NON BEARING	BEARING	NON BEARING
ALMONDS	21,864	10,906	12,903	5,996
APRICOTS	1,289	260	1,362	----
CHERRIES	58	178	27	83
FIGS (Cannery)	1,876	----	1,986	----
FIGS (Dry)	647	28	1,270	50
GRAPES (Raisin)	5,497	----	8,609	466
GRAPES (Table)	201	----	770	----
GRAPES (Wine)	7,534	730	5,854	1,533
NECTARINES	229	44	315	----
OLIVES	134	19	141	----
ORANGES	30	2	28	7
PEACHES (Clingstone)	7,716	1,528	6,045	1,898
PEACHES (Freestone)	2,899	613	4,216	319
PEARS	28	----	8	65
PECANS	3	14	4	2
PERSIMMONS	13	----	9	----
PISTACHIO	-----	60	-----	----
PLUMS	104	46	118	67
PRUNES	957	359	235	839
WALNUTS (Black)	103	87	171	448
WALNUTS (English)	7,193	769	6,069	1,056
MISCELLANEOUS AND BERRIES	73	----	53	----
TOTAL	<u>58,375</u>	<u>15,643</u>	<u>50,193</u>	<u>12,829</u>

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS 1970 - 1969

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL
EGGS-CHICKEN (Market)	1970	14,403,000	Doz.	\$0.318	\$ 4,580,000
	1969	17,175,000	Doz.	0.34	5,840,000
EGGS-CHICKEN (Hatching)	1970	106,450	Doz.	0.70	74,500
	1969	153,000	Doz.	0.70	107,000
EGGS-TURKEY (Hatching)	1970	8,292,890	Each	0.23	1,907,000
	1969	5,742,000	Each	0.24	1,378,000
MILK (Goat)	1970	29,000	Lb. Butterfat	2.25	65,300
	1969	26,000	Lb. Butterfat	2.20	57,200
MILK (Market)	1970	5,255,000	Cwt.	5.16	27,116,000
	1969	5,007,000	Cwt.	4.94	24,735,000
MILK (Manufacturing)	1970	1,536,000	Cwt.	4.40	6,758,000
	1969	1,419,000	Cwt.	4.17	5,917,000
WOOL	1970	432,000	Lb.	0.40	172,000
	1969	436,000	Lb.	0.431	188,000
TOTAL	1970				\$40,672,000
	1969				\$38,222,200

BEE INDUSTRY 1970 - 1969

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL
BEESWAX	1970	35,300	Lb.	0.58	\$ 20,500
	1969	82,800	Lb.	0.60	49,700
BULK BEES	1970	1,470	Lb.	1.00	1,500
	1969	3,050	Lb.	1.00	3,050
HONEY	1970	863,000	Lb.	0.14	121,000
	1969	2,178,000	Lb.	0.125	272,000
POLLEN	1970	3,000	Lb.	1.00	3,000
	1969	----	--	---	-----
POLLINATION	1970	27,000	Colony	8.11	219,000
	1969	26,000	Colony	8.12	211,000
QUEENS	1970	3,750	Each	1.25	4,700
	1969	----	----	----	-----
TOTAL	1970				\$ 370,000
	1969				\$ 535,750

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

PRODUCTION & VALUE 1970 - 1969

ITEM	YEAR	NUMBER OF HEAD	LIVEWEIGHT	UNIT	PER UNIT	VALUE	
						TOTAL	
CATTLE AND CALVES	1970	135,000	945,000	Cwt.	\$29.30	\$27,688,000	
	1969	134,000	938,000	Cwt.	26.80	25,138,000	
BROILERS AND FRYERS	1970	23,634,000	87,446,000	Lb.	0.16	13,992,000	
	1969	18,588,000	69,703,000	Lb.	0.17	11,850,000	
OTHER CHICKENS	1970	445,600	1,782,000	Lb.	0.07	124,000	
	1969	452,000	1,807,000	Lb.	0.09	163,000	
PULLETS	1970	388,500	-----	Each	1.60	622,000	
	1969	548,000	-----	Each	1.60	877,000	
GOATS	1970	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
	1969	760	-----	Each	20.50	15,600	
HOGS AND PIGS	1970	13,787	27,600	Cwt.	24.00	662,000	
	1969	13,900	27,800	Cwt.	23.00	639,000	
HORSES	1970	1,680	-----	Each	200.00	336,000	
	1969	1,850	-----	Each	210.00	388,000	
SHEEP AND LAMBS	1970	55,580	47,200	Cwt.	27.00	1,274,000	
	1969	62,300	56,100	Cwt.	27.00	1,515,000	
TURKEYS	1970	2,501,000	50,020,000	Lb.	0.228	11,404,000	
	1969	1,311,000	26,218,000	Lb.	0.24	6,292,000	
TURKEY POULTS	1970	519,000	-----	Each	0.50	260,000	
	1969	140,000	-----	Each	0.50	70,000	
TOTAL	1970					\$56,362,000	
	1969					\$46,947,600	

NURSERY PRODUCTS
PRODUCTION ACREAGE, SALES AND VALUE 1970-1969

TOTAL*	1970	445	\$2,382,000
	1969	427	\$2,170,000

*Includes Budwood, Pits and Cuttings; Citrus, Deciduous Fruit and Nut Trees; Grapevines; Semi-Tropical Ornamental and Shade Trees; Shrubs and Ornamental Plants. The separate production and value data are not shown to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**Revised

MERCED COUNTY GROSS VALUE ALL CROPS

ITEM	1970	1969
BEE INDUSTRY	\$ 370,000	\$ 535,750
FIELD CROPS	45,783,000	40,862,100
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS	29,752,000	*26,098,000
LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY - HORSES	56,362,000	46,947,600
LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS	40,672,000	38,222,200
NURSERY PRODUCTS	2,382,000	2,170,000
SEED CROPS	469,300	756,500
VEGETABLES CROPS	16,070,700	17,228,600
GRAND TOTAL	<u>\$191,860,300</u>	<u>*\$172,820,000</u>

*Revised

310,000 - 1670
Dairy 34,000,000 - 18
 24
 17
 17
 8

Livestock - 113
 98