

PLUMAS AND SIERRA COUNTIES



2009 **Annual** **Crop and Livestock** **Report**

To: A.G. Kawamura, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture

The Honorable Board of Supervisors,

County of Plumas

Terry Swofford, District 1
Robert A. Meacher, District 2
Sherrie Thrall, District 3
Lori Simpson, District 4
Ole Olson, District 5

County of Sierra

Lee Adams, District 1
Peter Huebner, District 2
Bill Nunes, District 3
Dave Goicoechea, District 4
Patricia Whitley, District 5

I am pleased to submit, in accordance with Section 2279 of the California Food and Agriculture Code, Plumas and Sierra Counties' Annual Crop Report for 2009. This report summarizes the acreage, production, and gross values of agricultural commodities produced in Plumas and Sierra Counties. It does not attempt to show county inventory, cost of production, or net income of agricultural producers.

Plumas County's 2009 estimated commodity production value is \$19,759,000 (excluding timber returns). This represents a 4.5% increase over 2008's value of \$18,878,350. Livestock continues to be the primary commodity produced in Plumas County and there was an estimated 12% increase in this category overall, but much of this increase was offset with an estimated 11% decrease in Field Crop returns. Non-irrigated Pasture and Range Pasture bucked the downward trend in Field Crops and both showed healthy increases. Timber returns were significantly lower than in 2008, with revenue plummeting by nearly 82% down to \$4,070,980.

Sierra County's 2009 agricultural production values decreased from 2008's levels. In 2009, total production is estimated to be \$5,133,740 (excluding timber returns) which represents a nearly 14% decrease from 2008. Reductions were seen in both the Livestock (-13%) and Field Crop (-16%) categories. However, some subcategories did show increases. In Livestock, animals going to slaughter increased by nearly 8.2% and in Field Crops both irrigated Pasture (+70%) and Range Pasture (+67%) showed strong increases. As seen in Plumas County, timber revenues also dropped significantly for Sierra County down to \$606,926 or 42% from last year.

This report includes a summary of sustainable agriculture activities, which have been completed by the Department in 2009. The purpose of these activities is to prevent and control the spread of exotic plant and insect pests throughout our two counties using integrated pest management techniques.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the many producers, agricultural business representatives, and public agencies that have cooperated in supplying data and to Andrea Oilar, who helped compile this report.

Respectfully yours,

KEITH MAHAN
Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights of Measures

PLUMAS COUNTY

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION REPORT - 2009

LIVESTOCK

| Commodity | Number of Head | Total Liveweight | Unit | per Unit | <u>2009 Total</u> | 2008 Total |
|------------------------|----------------|------------------|------|----------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Steers | 8,800 | 66,444 | CWT | \$99.99 | \$6,643,700 | \$5,938,800 |
| Heifers | 7,437 | 62,632 | CWT | \$102.00 | \$6,388,500 | \$5,603,880 |
| Slaughter | 693 | 12,474 | CWT | \$51.04 | \$636,700 | \$535,920 |
| Other | | | | | \$125,000 | \$125,000 |
| Total Livestock | | | | | \$13,793,900 | \$12,203,600 |

FIELD CROPS

| Commodity | Acreage | Per Acre | Total | Unit | Per Unit | <u>2009 Total</u> | 2008 Total |
|--------------------------|---------|----------|--------|------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Alfalfa Hay | 6,105 | 3 | 18,315 | Tons | \$102.00 | \$1,868,100 | \$2,557,500 |
| Meadow Hay | 2,970 | 1.93 | 5,732 | Tons | \$162.00 | \$928,600 | \$1,076,250 |
| Grain Hay | 700 | 1.5 | 1,050 | Tons | \$120.00 | \$126,000 | \$ 126,000 |
| Irrigated Pasture | 32,550 | - | - | Acre | \$50.00 | \$1,627,500 | \$1,750,000 |
| Non-irrigated Pasture | 59,000 | - | - | Acre | \$17.00 | \$1,003,000 | \$ 850,000 |
| Range Pasture | 53,950 | - | - | Acre | \$3.00 | \$161,900 | \$ 65,000 |
| Total Field Crops | 155,275 | | | | | \$5,715,100 | \$6,424,750 |

MISCELLANEOUS CROPS (Nursery, apiary, seed, fruit, potatoes, grain, etc.)

\$250,000 \$ 250,000

GRAND TOTAL

\$19,759,000 \$18,878,350

TIMBER

| Commodity | Production | Unit | <u>2009 Total</u> | 2008 Total |
|----------------------|------------|------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Gross Timber Harvest | 63,742 | MBF | \$4,070,982 | \$22,297,325 |
| Misc. Timber Prod. | | MBF | \$0 | \$96,000 |
| Total Timber | | | \$4,070,982 | \$22,393,325 |

SIERRA COUNTY

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION REPORT - 2009

LIVESTOCK

| Commodity | Number of Head | Total Liveweight | Unit | per Unit | <u>2009 Total</u> | 2008 Total |
|------------------------|----------------|------------------|------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Steers | 2,350 | 20,613 | CWT | \$88.88 | \$1,832,083 | \$2,146,250 |
| Heifers | 1,920 | 13,392 | CWT | \$94.86 | \$1,270,365 | \$1,468,800 |
| Slaughter | 200 | 3,036 | CWT | \$57.42 | \$174,327 | \$160,080 |
| Other | | | | | \$60,000 | \$60,000 |
| Total Livestock | | | | | \$3,336,776 | \$3,835,130 |

FIELD CROPS

| Commodity | Acreage | Per Acre | Total | Unit | Per Unit | <u>2009 Total</u> | 2008 Total |
|--------------------------|---------------|----------|-------|------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Alfalfa Hay | 1,000 | 2.10 | 2,100 | Tons | \$71.50 | \$150,150 | \$624,000 |
| Meadow Hay | 1,760 | 1.75 | 3,080 | Tons | \$66.30 | \$204,204 | \$364,000 |
| Grain Hay | 324 | 2.40 | 778 | Tons | \$85.10 | \$66,174 | \$165,600 |
| Irrigated Pasture | 19,550 | - | - | Acre | \$50.00 | \$977,500 | \$575,000 |
| Non-irrigated Pasture | 16,400 | - | - | Acre | \$17.00 | \$278,800 | \$340,000 |
| Range Pasture | 24,000 | - | - | Acre | \$3.00 | \$72,000 | \$24,000 |
| Total Field Crops | 63,034 | | | | | \$1,748,828 | \$2,092,600 |

MISCELLANEOUS CROPS (Nursery, apiary, seed, fruit, potatoes, grain, etc.)

\$48,141 **\$30,000**

GRAND TOTAL

\$5,133,744 **\$5,957,730**

TIMBER

| Commodity | Production | Unit | <u>2009 Total</u> | 2008 Total |
|----------------------|------------|------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Gross Timber Harvest | 8,632 | MBF | \$606,926 | \$1,012,773 |
| Misc. Timber Prod. | | MBF | \$0 | \$29,000 |
| Total Timber | | | \$606,926 | \$1,041,773 |

PLUMAS COUNTY and SIERRA COUNTY SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORT – 2009

Pest Agent / Mechanism Scope of Program

| | | |
|---|--|----------------|
| PEST EXCLUSION Exotic pests | Nursery Stock & Seed Inspections, Shipments into Counties via U.S. Postal Service, United Parcel Service, Federal Express, common carriers, etc. | 56 inspections |
| PEST DETECTION Gypsy Moth Japanese Beetle Light Brown Apple Moth European Grapevine Moth | 269 traps placed throughout Plumas and Sierra Counties to detect the presence of these pests. | None Detected |
| CERTIFICATES | Certificate of Q.C. and Certificate Of Agreement | 3 Issued |

The Pest Eradication and Pest Management programs incorporate integrated pest management (IPM) practices including biological control agents, mechanical removal, and chemical (herbicide) applications.

PEST ERADICATION

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Dalmatian Toadflax | mechanical, chemical |
| Diffuse Knapweed | biological (<i>Larinus minutus</i> , <i>Bangasternus fausti</i>), mechanical, chemical |
| Leafy Spurge | chemical |
| Mediterranean Sage | chemical |
| Musk Thistle | biological (<i>Rhinocyllus conicus</i>), mechanical, chemical |
| Rush Skeletonweed | biological (<i>Puccinia chondrillina</i>), mechanical, chemical |
| Scotch Thistle | mechanical, chemical |
| Spotted Knapweed | mechanical, chemical |

PEST MANAGEMENT

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Bull Thistle | biological (<i>Urophora sirunaseva</i>) |
| Dyer's Woad | chemical, mechanical |
| Klamath Weed | biological (<i>Chrysolina quadrigemina</i>) |
| Russian Knapweed | chemical |
| Scotch Broom | chemical, mechanical |
| Tall Whitetop | chemical |
| Yellow Starthistle | biological (<i>Eustenopus villosus</i> , <i>Chaetorellia australis</i> , <i>Larinus curtus</i> , <i>Bangasternus orientalis</i> , <i>Puccinia jaeae</i> variety <i>Solstitslis</i>) mechanical, chemical |

Organic Farming Statistics

| CROPS | NUMBER OF FARMS | ESTIMATED ACRES |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Fruits, Vegetables, Livestock and Nursery Products | 3 | 183.18 |

**PLUMAS-SIERRA COUNTIES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

2009 ANNUAL CROP REPORT

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures is to promote and protect the agricultural industry of the State of California and the Counties of Plumas and Sierra , while also protecting the environment, citizens of the county and the county's workforce, and to provide equity in the marketplace for consumers and businesses alike.

STAFF

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Sealer of Weights and Measures

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