

# Sierra County



2021

Agricultural Production Report



Willo Vieira  
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# Plumas-Sierra Counties Department of Agriculture



**Agricultural Commissioner**  
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**Karen Ross, Secretary**  
California Department of Food and Agriculture

And

## The Honorable Board of Supervisors, County of Sierra

Lee Adams	District 1
Peter W. Huebner	District 2
Paul Roen	District 3
Terry LaBlanc	District 4
Sharon Dryden	District 5

I am pleased to submit, in accordance with Section 2279 of the California Food and Agriculture Code, Sierra County Annual Crop Report for 2021. This report summarizes the acreage, production, and gross values of agricultural commodities produced in Sierra County. It does not attempt to show county inventory, cost of production, or net income of agricultural producers.

Sierra County's 2021 estimated commodity production value is \$11,426,802 plus an additional \$299,263 for timber production. Livestock continues to be the primary commodity produced in Sierra County followed by Field Crops. Our niche markets are surging in Sierra County with healthy gains in the Organic and specialty livestock sectors. This report includes a summary of sustainable agriculture activities, which have been completed by the department in 2021. The purpose of these activities is to prevent and control the spread of exotic and/or invasive plant and insect pests throughout Sierra County 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 especially to Dax Albrecht, who helped compile this report.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Willo Vieira".

Willo Vieira  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights of Measures

# PLUMAS-SIERRA COUNTIES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## 2021 ANNUAL SIERRA COUNTY 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

Willo Vieira	Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights and Measures
Dax Albrecht	Agricultural and Standards Inspector
Melissa Nisbet	Agricultural and Standards Management Analyst
Jennifer Wiley	Agricultural Technician

# Cattle



	Number of Head	Total Live- weight	Average price per pound	2021 Total
Steers	2,809	2,387,997	\$1.61	\$3,844,192
Heifers	1,169	935,410	\$1.52	\$1,421,824
Slaughter Cows/				
Bulls	148	222,094	\$0.71	\$157,687
Miscellaneous				
Cattle*	121	—	—	143,500
<b>Total Cattle</b>	<b>4,247</b>	<b>3,545,501</b>		<b>\$5,567,203</b>

\* Includes Calves, Cow/calf pairs, and breeding animals

# Sheep



	Volume	Units	Price per Unit	2021 Total
Sheep, Unspecified	361	Each		\$60,247
Wool	2,527	Pounds		\$22,111

# Apiary



	Volume	Units	Price per Unit	2021 Total
Honey	1,080	pounds	\$9.00	\$9,720
Wax	22	Pounds	4.35	\$96
<b>Total Apiary</b>				<b>\$9,816</b>

# Field Crops



	Harvested Acres	Yield/ Acre	Total Tons Harvested	Price / Ton	2021 Total Value
Alfalfa Hay	3,223	2.7	8,702	\$230	\$2,001,483
Grain Hay	961	1.86	1,787	\$200	\$357,492
Grass Hay	784	2.0	1,568	\$250	\$392,000

	Number of Acres	Value per Acre	Total Value
Pastureland	9,483	\$180.00	\$1,706,940
Rangeland	47,558	\$20.00	\$951,160



CA

Organic Program

Organic farming practices focus on maintaining ecological health and balance through promoting biodiversity and soil health while minimizing pollutants. Organic farming practices exclude the use of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers as well as genetically modified organisms.

The County Agricultural Commissioner's Office performs inspections on behalf of California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) for first-time registrants and producers that make less than \$5000 in annual sales, and conducts spot checks at farmers markets.

## Certified Organic Production 2021

\$246,573

410 acres

# Specialty Crops

2021

Certified Farmers Markets

0

Certified Producers

1



	Acres	Units Produced	2021 Value
Vegetables	15	67,010 pounds	\$ 354,955
Fruit	6.0	3,395 pounds	\$3,395

# Forestry Data



	Volume (Net MBF)	Volume percent	Public percent	2021 Value
Sierra Timber				
Receipts	3,139	.18	15.64	\$279,445
Christmas Trees	14,225 (linear feet)			\$19,818

# SIERRA COUNTY

## SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORT –2021

### PEST EXCLUSION

Exotic pests	Nursery Stock & Seed Inspections	6 inspections
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### PEST DETECTION

Gypsy Moth	32 traps placed	None Detected
Japanese Beetle	1Trapsplaced	None Detected

### CERTIFICATES

Weed Free Certificates	Forage and Gravel	None issued
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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 | biological ( <i>Mecinus janthiniformis</i> ), mechanical, chemical |
| Musk Thistle       | biological ( <i>Rhinocyllus conicus</i> ), mechanical, chemical    |
| Rush Skeletonweed  | biological ( <i>Puccinia chondrillina</i> ), mechanical, chemical  |
| Spotted Knapweed   | mechanical, chemical                                               |

### PEST MANAGEMENT

|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bull Thistle       | biological ( <i>Urophora sirunaseva</i> )                                                                                                                                                              |
| Klamath Weed       | biological ( <i>Chrysolina quadrigemina</i> )                                                                                                                                                          |
| Russian Knapweed   | chemical                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Scotch Broom       | chemical, mechanical                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Tall Whitetop      | chemical                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Puncture Vine      | Chemical, mechanical                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Yellow Starthistle | biological ( <i>Eustenopus villosus</i> , <i>Chaetorellia australis</i> , <i>Larinus curtus</i> , <i>Bangasternus orientalis</i> , <i>Puccinia jaea</i> variety <i>Solstis</i> ), mechanical, chemical |

# Weights and Measures

The Plumas County Agricultural Commissioner is also the Sealer of Weights and Measures, which plays a vital role in the economic activity of the county. The department serves the community by safeguarding and measuring accuracy and assuring confidence and integrity in the marketplace. The benefit our office provides ensures fair competition for industry and accurate value comparison for consumers.

As a neutral third party between buyers and sellers we:

- Test weighing and measuring devices for accuracy
- Examine and evaluate the work of service repairmen
- Verify the quantity of bulk and packaged commodities
- Check consumer packages for proper labeling
- Inspect price scanner systems for accuracy
- Review weighmaster certificates and licensing requirements



| Measuring Devices                   |    | Scales           |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|------------------|----|
| Cordage meters                      | 1  | Computing Scales | 6  |
| Liquefied Gas Meters                | 8  | Counter Scales   | 4  |
| Retail Motor Fuel Meters            | 12 | Platform Scales  | 2  |
|                                     |    | Hanging Scales   | 2  |
| <b>Petroleum Inspections</b>        | 3  | Livestock Scales | 12 |
| <b>Quantity Control Inspections</b> | 0  | Vehicle Scales   | 1  |
| <b>Consumer Complaints</b>          | 0  |                  |    |
| <b>Notices of Violation Issued</b>  | 2  |                  |    |