



**NEVADA  
COUNTY**  
CALIFORNIA

**Department of Agriculture,  
Weights & Measures**



**2022 Crop and Livestock Report**

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County Executive Officer

**TRISHA TILLOTSON**  
Director of Community  
Development Agency

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Agricultural Commissioner  
and Sealer of Weights & Measures

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## MISSION STATEMENT

Nevada County's Department of Agriculture is dedicated to sustaining a healthy agricultural industry, while protecting the environment, the agricultural workforce and the community. The mission of the Nevada County Department of Weights & Measures is to provide fair compensation and equity in the marketplace and to ensure that the interest of the buyer and seller are protected through education, inspection and enforcement.

## STATISTICS

<b>Population<sup>1</sup></b> 100,720	<b>Highest Elevation</b> 9,152 ft	<b>Urban and Built-up Land<sup>2</sup></b> 17,274 ac
<b>Density</b> 101/sq mi	<b>Lowest Elevation</b> 280 ft	<b>Total Harvested Cropland<sup>3</sup></b> 3,313 ac
<b>Total Area<sup>1</sup></b> 974 sq mi (623,360 ac)	<b>Farmlands<sup>2</sup></b> 7,760 ac	<b>Number of Farms<sup>3</sup></b> 365
<b>Land Area<sup>1</sup></b> 958 sq mi (613,120 ac)	<b>Grazing Land<sup>2</sup></b> 133,393 ac	

<sup>1</sup> Source: California Department of Finance, E-1: City/County Population Estimates as of January 1, 2023

<sup>2</sup> Source: California Department of Conservation 2016-2018 Land Use Conversion

<sup>3</sup> Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service 2017 Census of Agriculture, farms reporting sales greater than \$2500



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### Karen Ross, Secretary

California Department of Food and Agriculture,  
and

### The Honorable Board of Supervisors, County of Nevada

- Ed Scofield, Chair, Supervisor District 2
- Hardy Bullock, Vice-Chair, Supervisor District 5
- Heidi Hall, Supervisor District 1
- Lisa Swarthout, Supervisor District 3
- Susan Hoek, Supervisor District 4

In accordance with Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I am pleased to submit the 2022 Crop and Livestock Report for the County of Nevada. This report is a summary of counts, acreage, yields, and gross values of all agricultural production in Nevada County. It should be emphasized that the values in this report do not attempt to measure farm profitability, nor does it consider costs associated with labor, planting, irrigation and other production related activities. Furthermore, this report does not attempt to place value on commodities grown for personal use.

The total gross value of all agricultural commodities produced in 2022 was \$18,773,400. This represents a decrease of approximately 12%. The single biggest factor for this decline was the extreme weather (frost) experienced in April and again in May of 2022. Freezing temperatures led to a significant decrease in productivity across many commodities in Nevada County, with the highest impacted commodity being our winegrapes. Nearly all of our white winegrape varieties were lost due to frost as well as approximately 55% of our red winegrape varieties were lost due to these two events alone. The total loss of winegrapes was approximately \$1.8 million. This year's Crop Report highlights the important role that the County Agricultural Commissioner plays in collecting crop statistics as well as assessing losses during crop damaging events, such as the one in 2022.

For the second year in a row, the Nevada County Department of Agriculture has prepared a supplement report on cannabis. In 2022, the gross value of legal cannabis grown in Nevada County was \$6,932,500. Down nearly 45%, largely due to a deflated market. Please note that this value is not included in the county's total gross value mentioned above.

I would like to thank the many producers, industry representatives, businesses, and other public agencies who cooperated in supplying the data necessary to produce this report. Without their assistance, this crop report would not be possible. I would also like to thank the members of my staff for their contributions, with special recognition going to Agricultural Biologist Luci Wilson, for compiling the information and designing this report. Thank you!

Respectfully Submitted,

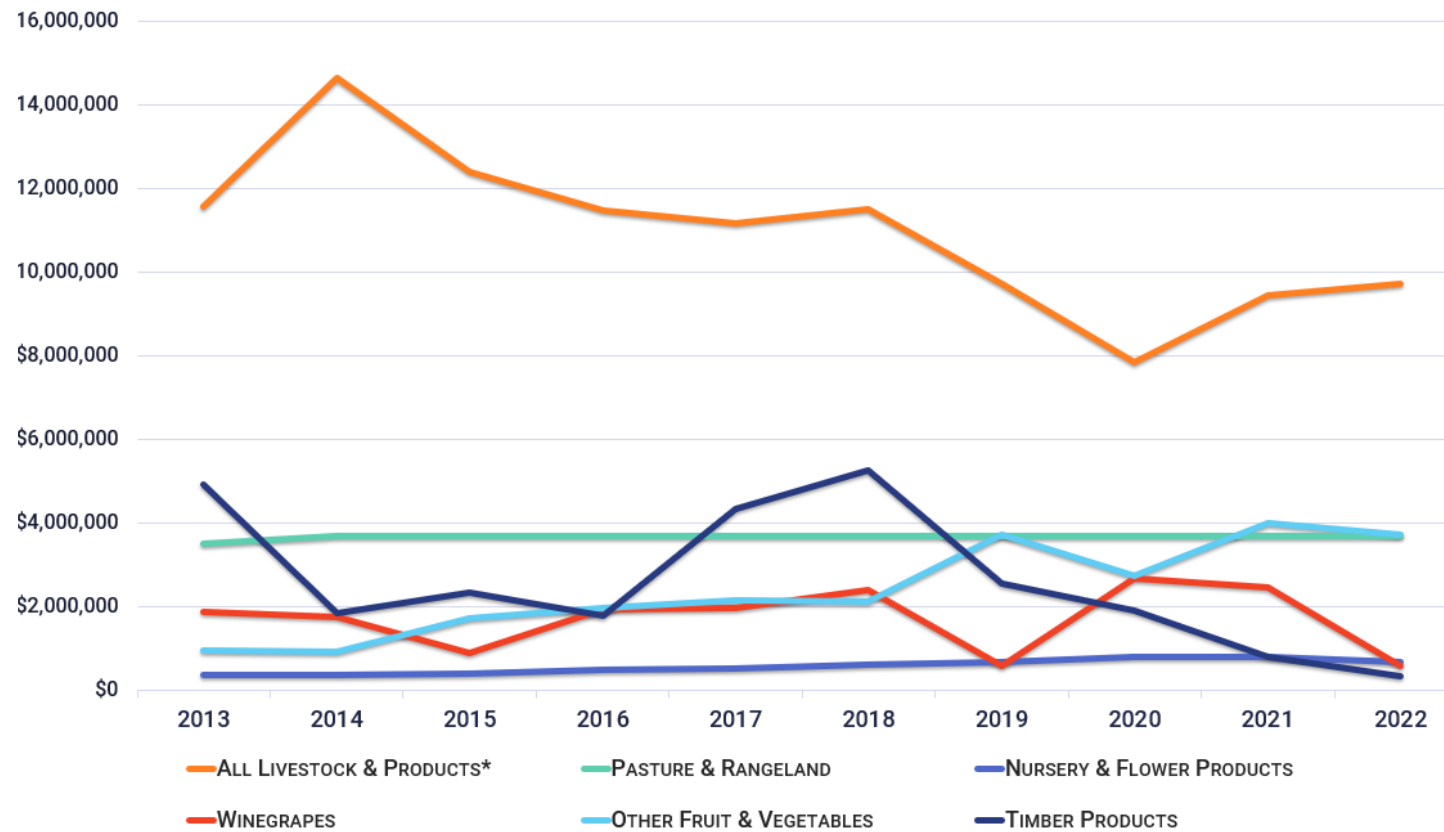
Chris de Nijs  
Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights and Measures



## 10 YEAR SUMMARY

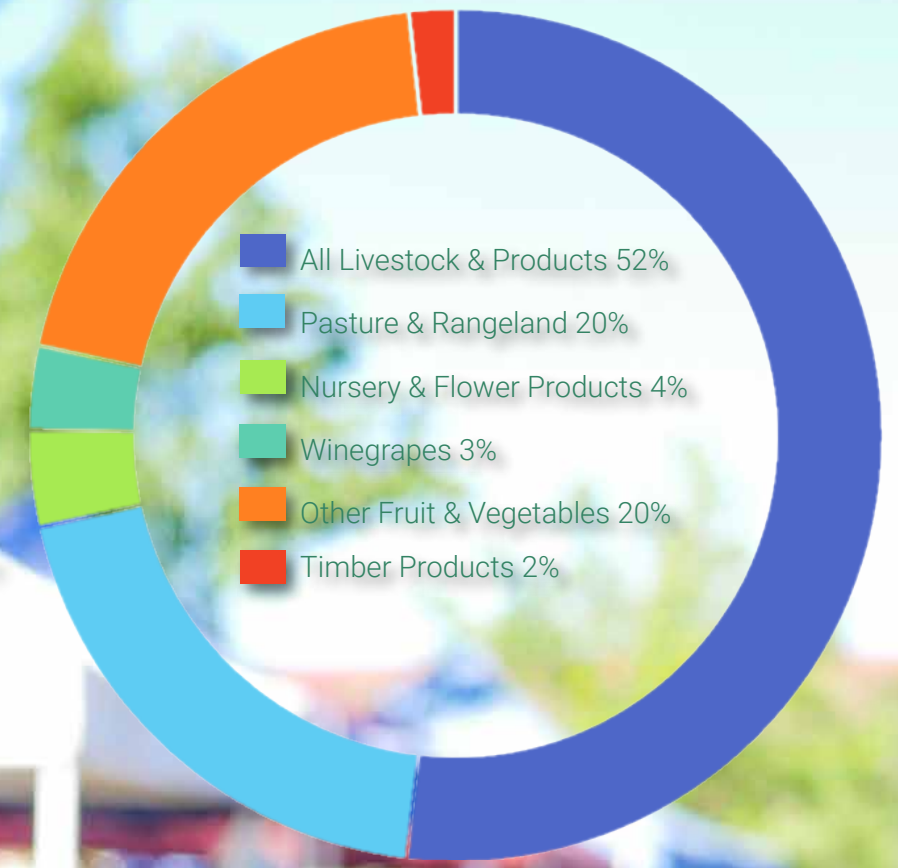
Year	All Livestock & Products <sup>1</sup>	Pasture & Rangeland	Nursery & Flower	Winegrapes	Other Fruit & Vegetables	Timber Products	Total Value
2013	\$11,573,200	\$3,510,000	\$383,900	\$1,886,900	\$966,400	\$4,924,900	\$23,245,300
2014	\$14,649,300	\$3,700,000	\$378,500	\$1,771,400	\$911,300	\$1,843,100	\$23,253,600
2015	\$12,417,100	\$3,700,000	\$392,500	\$888,900	\$1,725,700	\$2,344,600	\$21,468,800
2016	\$11,473,800	\$3,700,000	\$502,200	\$1,926,800	\$1,964,300	\$1,800,800	\$21,367,900
2017	\$11,167,100	\$3,700,000	\$531,400	\$1,957,400	\$2,150,300	\$4,356,300	\$23,862,500
2018	\$11,518,900	\$3,700,000	\$603,300	\$2,415,000	\$2,117,900	\$5,254,100	\$25,609,200
2019	\$11,367,300	\$3,700,000	\$631,700	\$2,550,400	\$2,579,900	\$2,565,000	\$23,394,300
2020	\$7,861,000	\$3,700,000	\$809,000	\$2,666,200	\$2,755,800	\$1,910,000	\$19,702,000
2021	\$9,446,800	\$3,700,000	\$810,200	\$2,449,100	\$4,002,400	\$813,800	\$21,222,300
2022	\$9,731,500	\$3,700,000	\$688,800	\$597,700	\$3,727,300	\$328,100	\$18,773,400

<sup>1</sup> Includes all livestock, poultry, apiary, wool and egg products.



The gross value of all agricultural production in Nevada County for 2022 was approximately

# \$18,773,400





## VEGETABLE, FRUIT & NUT CROPS

	Acres	Value
  Vegetables <sup>A</sup>	103	\$3,354,400
	101	\$3,653,200
  Other Fruits & Nuts <sup>B</sup>	41	\$374,900
	41	\$349,200
<b>Total Vegetable, Fruit &amp; Nut Crops Value:</b>		<b>\$3,727,300</b>
		<b>\$4,002,400</b>

## WINEGRAPE CROPS

	Acres	Total Tons	Value
  Red Winegrapes <sup>C</sup>	314	361	\$592,000
	315	1,201	\$1,855,700
  White Winegrapes <sup>D</sup>	92	5	\$5,700
	94	426	\$593,400
<b>Total Winegrapes:</b>			<b>\$597,700</b>
			<b>\$2,449,100</b>

A Vegetables include bean, beet, broccoli, cabbage, carrot, cauliflower, celery, chard, corn, cucumber, eggplant, garlic, ground cherries, herbs, kale, kohlrabi, leafy greens, leek, lettuce, melon, onion, pea, pepper, potato, parsnip, pumpkin, radish, squash, shallot, spinach, sweet potato, tomato, tomatillo and turnip.

B Fruits and nuts Include apple, apricot, blackberry, blueberry, boysenberry, cherry, chestnut, citrus, fig, grapes, nectarine, olive, peach, pear, persimmon, plum, pluot, pomegranate, prune, raspberry, and strawberry. Wine grapes are calculated separately.

C Red wine grape varieties include barbera, bastardo, bracciano, cabernet franc, cabernet sauvignon, cagnane, carmine, cinsaut, corvina, dolcetto, grenache, legrein, malbec, merlot, montepulciano, mouvedre, petite sirah, petite verdot, primitivo, refosco, sangiovese, syrah, tempranillo, teroldergo, tinta cao, tinta negra mole, tournet, touriga nationale and zinfandel

D White wine grape varieties include chardonnay, chenin blanc, falenghina, fiano, flora, forastera, marsanne, melon, muscat orange, peverella, pinot gris, rkatsiteli, rousanne, sauvignon blanc, semillon, tocai friulano, vespaiola, and viognier

## NURSERY PRODUCTS

	Acres	No. of Trees	Value
  Nursery	8		\$321,200
	6		\$483,900
  Cut Flowers	8		\$281,300
	8		\$237,300
  Christmas Trees		1,400	\$86,300
		1,800	\$89,000
<b>Total Nursery:</b>			<b>\$688,800</b>
			<b>\$810,200</b>

## TIMBER



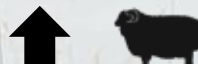

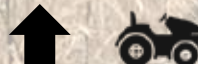
	Amount	\$/MBF	Value
  Timber <sup>E</sup>	2,977 MBF	\$110.21	\$328,100
	7,326 MBF	\$111.08	\$813,800



E Milled Board Feet  
Numbers may not compute exactly due to rounding.





## LIVESTOCK, POULTRY AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

	Head <sup>1</sup>	\$/Head	Value
 ↑ 1%	4,100	\$1,273	\$5,219,300
	4,100	\$1,255	\$5,145,500
 ↑ 2%	2,100	\$1,192	\$2,503,200
	2,100	\$1,174	\$2,465,400
 ↑ 1%	1,100	\$192	\$213,400
	1,100	\$192	\$211,200
 ↓ -1%			\$211,500
			\$213,600
 ↑ 15%			\$911,500
			\$794,200
<b>Total Livestock:</b>			<b>\$9,061,900</b>
			<b>\$8,833,200</b>



## APIARY AND EGG

	Amount	\$/Unit	Value
 ↓ -1%	3300 hives		\$312,700
	3100 hives		\$316,400
 ↑ 54%	33,800 lbs	\$6.68	\$207,700
	25,300 lbs	\$5.31	\$134,600
 ↓ -9%	22,100 doz	\$6.77	\$149,200
	22,300 doz	\$7.29	\$162,600
<b>Total Apiary &amp; Eggs:</b>			<b>\$669,600</b>
			<b>\$613,600</b>

## PASTURE AND RANGELAND

	Amount	\$/Acre	Value
 0%	10,000 ac	\$180	\$1,800,000
	10,000 ac	\$180	\$1,800,000
 0%	95,000 ac	\$20	\$1,900,000
	95,000 ac	\$20	\$1,900,000
<b>Total Pasture and Rangeland:</b>			<b>\$3,700,000</b>
			<b>\$3,700,000</b>

1 Number of head as of January 1, 2022  
 2 Includes poultry, goats, hogs and wool  
 Numbers may not compute exactly due to rounding

3 Includes wax, queens, nucs, and in-county pollination  
 Numbers may not compute exactly due to rounding



## THE IMPORTANCE OF CROP STATISTICS by Luci Wilson

In the heart of our vibrant county, agriculture plays a vital role in shaping our local identity. Our farms not only sustain us but also bolster our economy, provide jobs, and contribute to the scenic beauty of our landscape. To ensure the prosperity of our agricultural endeavors and the well-being of our community, we rely on an often-under appreciated tool: crop statistics

The Annual County Crop Reports puts a dollar amount on the value of agricultural production in Nevada County. Approximately 200 copies of the Annual Crop and Livestock Report are disseminated to the media, legislators, businesses, and the public. It is widely cited for policy development, assessing crop damage events, informing food policy, evaluating the sustainability of our local food production and resiliency.

### Not Just Another Survey

As mandated under California Food and Agriculture Code 2279, the Nevada County Department of Agriculture collects data annually for our County Crop Report. Data is used to calculate county wide averages and other statistical information about agriculture in Nevada County, focusing on acreage, yield, production and gross value. Many other agencies, including USDA and CDFA are also required to collect statistical data that often overlaps with the data we are requesting, but the confidentiality of the data by the collecting agency prevents sharing the data.

### Confidentiality

Many people express privacy concerns about sharing aspects of their livelihoods with a government agency. The information collected during our surveys is confidential, and is protected under California Government Code § 6254 which states, "...nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require disclosure of records that are any of the following: (e) Geological and geophysical data, plant production data, and similar information relating to utility systems development, or market or crop reports, that are obtained in confidence from any person."

What does it mean? We cannot share the information about any one business or individual with any other department or agency, whether that is the County Assessor or the IRS. There are specific methodologies for combining data in such a way as to protect

any one farmer's data. For example, I'm often asked to provide data about a specific commodity like apples, but we have so few commercial apple growers, that to share apple-specific information would also mean sharing too much about just a few growers. Therefore apples are summarized with other fruit to form a larger category that protects individual privacy and confidentiality.

### Policy Development

The foundation of a thriving community lies in its ability to plan for the future. Crop statistics are instrumental in shaping our county's general plan. By analyzing crop yields, acreage under cultivation, and trends in agricultural production, local policymakers can make informed decisions about land use, infrastructure development, and resource allocation. This ensures that our county's growth is sustainable and aligns with the needs of our agricultural community.

### Assessing Crop Damage Events

Nevada County is no stranger to the challenges posed by Mother Nature, from unexpected freezes and wildfires to droughts. When these events strike, crop statistics provide the basis for crop value calculations used during disaster relief efforts. When a damaging event occurs, the Agricultural Commissioner's Office will survey affected producers. If it seems that there will be greater than 30% losses, then a disaster event can be petitioned to the US Department of Agriculture. Once approved by, the emergency declaration allows affected farmers to apply for eligible disaster and emergency loan programs through the Farm Service Agency (FSA).

### Resources

US Consolidated Farm Services Agency is located in Yuba City. Information about their programs and services is available at [fsa.usda.gov](https://fsa.usda.gov).

Copies of past crop reports are available on our website at [NevadaCountyCA.Gov/AG](https://NevadaCountyCA.Gov/AG).

April 2022 began with dry weather and above average temperatures. April 8, 2022 recorded a high of 82°F. Many varieties of fruit, including winegrapes, were beginning to break dormancy and set out flowers; bees were busy pollinating. Then a cold front arrived, bringing below freezing temperatures to the area. The local weather station reported lows of 27°F, 27°F, 30°F and 31°F for the next four nights, with some locations reporting colder temperatures. The freezing temperatures significantly damaged or killed the tender new growth, especially on the frost tender grape vine buds.

Temperatures then warmed to their seasonal averages for the rest of the month and while there were some losses among stone fruit, grape growers remained cautiously optimistic. After a frost vines will send out a secondary shoot, never as fruitful as the primary buds but still maybe 50-60% of the normal bud production.

But beginning May 10, Nevada County experienced more freezing temperatures, not as cold as previously, but three consecutive nights at 33°F, 32°F and 30°F, respectively. Again, some locations reported colder temperatures. In most cases the secondary buds were damaged again, incurring significant losses, up to 100% crop loss at some vineyards.

A survey of grape growers revealed an overall estimated production loss of 55% throughout the county, including anticipated yields of 1.75 tons per acre compared to the five-year average of 3.85 tons per acre. This would result in \$1.2M of lost revenue for Nevada County grape growers. While many other crops also experienced damage, the grape crop was the only crop determined to have met the 30% loss threshold to qualify for a USDA disaster declaration request.

On June 9, 2022, the Nevada County Agricultural Commissioner Chris de Nijs requested a USDA disaster declaration through the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for grape growers in Nevada County.

Once approved by USDA, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) notified farmers of the availability of the emergency loans and any other USDA assistance that may be available.

The interactive Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool is available at [www.farmers.gov/protection-recovery/disaster-tool](https://www.farmers.gov/protection-recovery/disaster-tool) for affected producers to apply.

## A STORY OF FROST

During our damage and crop report surveys, farmers shared comments like these:

- *Two late frosts severely affected the grape yield for 2022. Yield on the merlot was about 80% of the prior year and only 21% of cabernet Sauvignon.*
- *Hit by frost in April then May, 25% loss.*
- *Late frost wiped out most of 2022's harvest.*
- *Frost damage reduced our vineyard crop production by 80%*
- *Frost damage in 2022. Minimal crop resulted.*
- *All of the fruit set in our orchard was frozen. We don't expect any fruit this year. We had some flats of starts in the greenhouse frozen, even with doors closed and extra agribon covering the tables.*
- *Two freeze events, in mid April and mid May ensured that there wouldn't be much of a crop for 2022. Yields on the estate vineyard were about 30%, the second vineyard was a complete loss for the year.*
- *Both primary and secondary bud growth froze in the first deep freeze and again in the lighter freeze to follow. I will have no crop this year. In addition, I have extensive cordon and vine loss.*
- *Horrible freeze last year that devastated our orchard and vineyard. Some fruit came back, the grapes and figs, but the taste was inferior.*
- *A late frost damaged or killed off our 2022 crop of peonies and hydrangeas, and set back our annuals significantly.*

Damaged vines in Nevada County, May 2022.





## PEST EXCLUSION AND DETECTION REPORT

### Exclusion

All incoming plants and other host material originating from known areas of pest or disease infestations are inspected to help protect Nevada County. The introduction of Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) or European Grapevine Moth (EGVM) are potential threats to the production of winegrapes in our area.

Out-of-state shipments may contain pests or diseases of economic importance, such as the Spongy Moth (SM) and Sudden Oak Death (SOD). The state agriculture border stations notify us of incoming shipments. When a shipment arrives, it is inspected for pests, general cleanliness, and compliance with all applicable federal, state and county regulations. County biologists also inspect agricultural packages at the UPS and FedEx sorting facilities in Grass Valley each morning.

In 2022, approximately 4,715 packages and 521 nursery shipments were inspected for live exotic pests, and resulted in 2 live pest finds.



Biologist Luci Wilson inspects ag packages at FedEx.

### Detection

Nevada County's insect trapping program monitors for populations of pests that cause potentially devastating crop, forest and ornamental plant damage. Traps are placed throughout the county in host plants and high-risk areas, and are inspected by county staff every two weeks during the trapping season. Suspect insects are sent to the California Department of Food and Agriculture Lab for evaluation.

Pest	No. Of Traps
Spongy Moth (GM)	197
Japanese Beetle (JB)	12
European Grapevine Moth (EGVM)	33
European Grape Berry Moth	47
European Pine Shoot Moth (EPSM)	23
Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS)	123
Exotic Fruit Flies*	34

\*Exotic fruit flies include Mediterranean fruit fly, melon fruit fly and oriental fruit fly.



Oriental fruit fly trap, photo courtesy of CDFA

## INSECT FOCUS: ORIENTAL FRUIT FLY

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Bactrocera dorsalis*

Oriental fruit fly has been established in Hawaii since 1946 where it is a major pest of agriculture, particularly on mangoes, avocados and papayas. Maggots have been found in over 125 kinds of fruit and vegetables in Hawaii alone. A great number of crops in California are threatened by the introduction of this pest, including pears, plums, cherries, peaches, apricots, figs, citrus, tomatoes and avocados. It has been estimated that the cost of not eradicating oriental fruit fly in California would range from \$44 to \$176 million in crop losses, additional pesticide use, and quarantine requirements.

OFF was first found in California in 1960 and has been reintroduced every year since 1966 through the movement of infested fruits and vegetables into the state. Four major oriental fruit fly infestations in California were eradicated between 1960 and 1997. Additional infestations were detected in 2002, 204, and 2010, and were eradicated successfully each time. OFF were most recently found in Contra Costa and Santa Clara Counties



Oriental Fruit Fly, courtesy of Okinawa Prefectural Fruit Fly Eradication Project Office

### Key Facts

- The adult, is noticeably larger than a house fly, about 8.0 mm long
- The color of the fly is very variable, but there are prominent yellow and dark brown to black markings on the thorax
- A single female can lay more than 1,000 eggs in her lifetime (about 90 days)
- The adult is a strong flyer and can travel as much as 30 miles in search of food and sites to lay eggs

### What can I do?

- Do not bring or mail fresh fruits, vegetables, plants into your state or another state unless agricultural inspectors have cleared them first.
- When returning from international travel, declare all agricultural products to U.S. customs officials.
- Learn more at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/travel/>.
- Allow authorized agricultural workers access to property to install and inspect insect-monitoring traps.
- Know and follow the quarantines in your area and learn to leave Hungry Pests behind



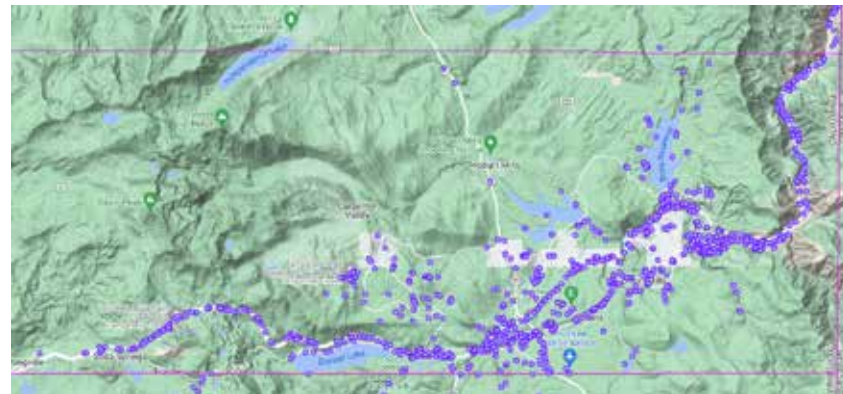
# INVASIVE PLANT REPORT

The Nevada County Agriculture Commissioners Office is tasked with protecting the agriculture and natural resources of the county. This includes management and eradication of noxious invasive plants. The species we target in Nevada County include, but are not limited to mostly A- and B-rated weeds.

When sites are located on private property, we work with the landowner to gain access and permission to treat. Methods used to eradicate these unwanted plants include hand pulling, shoveling, and herbicides. If herbicide treatment is required, we use a selective product that only acts on the target plants. When utilizing herbicides we spot spray, leaving non-target plants unaffected, thereby mitigating herbicide drift and damage to sensitive sites. Proper weed eradication and management takes many years, and repeat visits to each site are necessary.

### Noxious Weed Control Benefits:

- Safeguard our natural infrastructure
- Strengthen climate resiliency
- Protect our water resources
- Decrease wildfire risk
- Preserve biodiversity
- Maintain our agricultural production
- Provide recreational opportunities



Sites of invasive weeds in eastern Nevada County.

Weed Species	No. Of Sites	Treatment Method
Canada Thistle	3	Mechanical/Chemical
Dalmation Toadflax	1	Chemical
Diffuse Knapweed	3	Mechanical/Chemical
Klamathweed	9	Mechanical/Chemical
Lens-podded Hoary Cress	16	Mechanical/Chemical
Musk Thistle	31	Mechanical/Chemical
Oblong Spurge	15	Mechanical/Chemical
Perennial Pepperweed	31	Chemical
Rush Skeletonweed	10	Chemical
Russian Knapweed	4	Mechanical/Chemical
Spotted Knapweed	18	Chemical
Yellow Starthistle	10	Chemical

# PLANT FOCUS: DALMATIAN TOADFLAX

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Linaria dalmatica*

Dalmation Toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*) is an herbaceous perennial that was introduced as an ornamental. They have a showy yellow flower very similar to the well known snapdragon (*Antirrhinum* spp.), a likely reason was cultivated.

It can be found in disturbed open sites, fields, pastures, degraded rangelands, roadsides, agronomic and perennial crops. The overall form of the plant is narrow and upright, with multiple stems growing from a single woody base, as well as dense waxy thick leaves. This weed is most commonly found in northern California, but can sporadically occur in other areas. Infestations often form large colonies, displacing desirable vegetation and animal habitat.



Eric Coombs, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org



K. George Beck and James Sebastian, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org



## DIRECT MARKETING

Local farmers' markets allow producers to sell their certified commodities directly to the public. There were 28 certified producers that were issued certificates in Nevada County in 2022. The following 6 Farmers Markets have been certified by the Agricultural Commissioner to market local and regional produce in Nevada County. These producers offer a wide variety of commodities, including fresh produce, herbs, mushrooms, flowers, honey, nursery stock, eggs, meat and poultry. Many markets accept CalFresh, be sure to ask at the market booth.



### CERTIFIED FARMERS MARKETS

Current market schedules may be found online at [nevadacountyca.gov/ag](https://nevadacountyca.gov/ag).

#### Grass Valley

Raley's Pine Creek Center  
Saturday 8am-1pm  
May-September

Raley's Pine Creek Center  
Tuesday 8am-1pm  
May-September

Mill Street  
Thursday 6pm-9pm  
May-Oct, 4pm-9pm  
Nov-Apr, 4pm-7pm

#### Penn Valley

Western Gateway Park  
Sunday 9am-1pm

#### Nevada City

Union Street  
Saturday 8:30-1pm  
May-Dec: every Saturday  
Jan-Apr: 1st & 3rd Saturdays

#### Truckee

Truckee River Regional Park  
Tuesday 8am-1pm  
May-October

## BUYING DIRECT

Buying farm fresh food has many benefits that extend beyond the health benefits. Purchasing food directly from the farmer keeps money invested in our local economy and builds local food resilience. In addition to farmers markets, shopping at a farm stand, u-pick or CSA (community supported agriculture) is a fun way see what's fresh and in season while forming relationships with our local farming community.

### More farm fresh opportunities!

#### Food and Farm Directory

Sierra Harvest is a local non-profit offering programs for kids, farmers and the community, including farm tours and the online Nevada County Food & Farm Directory. [sierraharvest.org/food-and-farm-directory](https://sierraharvest.org/food-and-farm-directory)

#### 49er Farm Trail Map

Nevada County Resource Conservation District (NCRCD) is a local government agency providing technical information and resources for small farms. They organize the Annual Farm Day and Ag in the Classroom events. They also produce the 49er Farm Trail Map. [ncrcd.org/49er-farm-trail-map](https://ncrcd.org/49er-farm-trail-map)

U-pick thornless blackberries at the Woolman Farm.



## ORGANIC

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.

Consumer demand for certified organic products continues to increase, with an expectation that organic products are verifiable. All organic producers in California must register with the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Organic Program. 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.



In 2023, 23 organic producers were registered with active growing sites in Nevada County and reported \$2,187,500 in gross sales. For more information on the Organic Food and Farming Act, please visit the California Department of Food and Agriculture's State Organic Program website at <https://www.cdffa.ca.gov/is/organicprogram/>.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & PESTICIDE USE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

Under state and federal law, a pesticide is any substance intended to control, destroy, repel, or attract a pest. Pesticides are chemicals designed to be harmful to a target pest and purposely introduced into the environment to do their job of managing insects, bacteria, weeds, rodents, or other pests. Pesticide refers to not only insecticides but many other kinds of chemicals, including herbicides, fungicides and rodenticides.

The Nevada County Agricultural Commissioner's Office protects human health and the environment by regulating pesticide sales and use, and by supporting integrated pest management and best practices. We work closely with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) to enforce state laws and regulations pertaining to pesticide use, sales, licensing, worker safety, and pesticide use reporting.

- Performed 69 inspections, including compliance monitoring, and compliance assistance that focus on protecting pesticide applicators and workers;
- Investigating all priority pesticide related incidents and illnesses;
- Issued 245 CEQA-compliant pesticide permits for the use of commercial quantity products, including herbicides;
- Enforcing the requirements of pesticide product labeling and ensuring safe use.
- Taught grower continuing education classes and issued 80 private applicator certificates for farmers to provide required pesticide training to their employees.



Biologists Preston Neufeld and Tony Romero role-play an inspection at a grower training.



## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The Nevada 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
- Regulate the advertising, labeling and quality standards of petroleum products



Testing the accuracy of hopper scales for asphalt mixing plant.

Measuring Devices	# Of Devices	Weighing Devices	# Of Devices
CNG	2	Class II Scales	82
Domestic Water Submeters	1,033	Computing Scales	278
Electric Submeters	1,337	Counter Scales	219
Fabric, Cordage & Wire Meters	14	Dormant/Port Plat >=2,000 lbs	16
LPG Dispensers	82	Hanging Scales	23
Retail Motor Fuel Meters	802	Hopper & Tank Scales	4
Taxi Meters	3	Livestock & Animal >=2,000 lbs	2
Vapor Submeters	1,778	Misc. Weighing Devices	4
Vehicle Meters	21	Jewelry Scales	5
Wholesale Meters	2	Vehicle Scales	11
<b>Total Measuring Devices</b>	<b>5,080</b>	<b>Total Weighing Devices</b>	<b>644</b>

## FARM DAY 2023

On September 20th, 2023, Nevada County Ag in the Classroom hosted its Annual Farm Day at the Nevada County Fairgrounds. This popular event was open to all Nevada County's 2nd 3rd graders. This year we hosted over 500 children including FFA guides and had over 30 exhibitor stations that featured many different aspects of agriculture presented by people working in the field. This hands on experience included a farrier shoeing a horse; cows, chickens, rabbits, alpacas; and many other stations where children learned about the value of agriculture.

Our Farm Day is designed to help students acquire the knowledge



necessary to understand where their food and fibers come from. Agriculture is everywhere. It is the food we eat, the clothes we wear, the houses we live in, and the plants we enjoy. A well-rounded education should include hands-on experiences and true-to-life learning at the most fundamental level. By exposing students to agriculture through engaging lessons and activities, we hope students will be inspired to continue to learn about food and fiber and, ultimately, gain an appreciation for all that agriculture provides.

Stakeholders included Nevada County Resource Conservation District, Nevada County Farm Bureau, Nevada County Ag Commissioner, Placer/Nevada Cattle Women, Sierra Harvest, and the Nevada County Fairgrounds.

## DAVE BARHYDT IN MEMORIAM

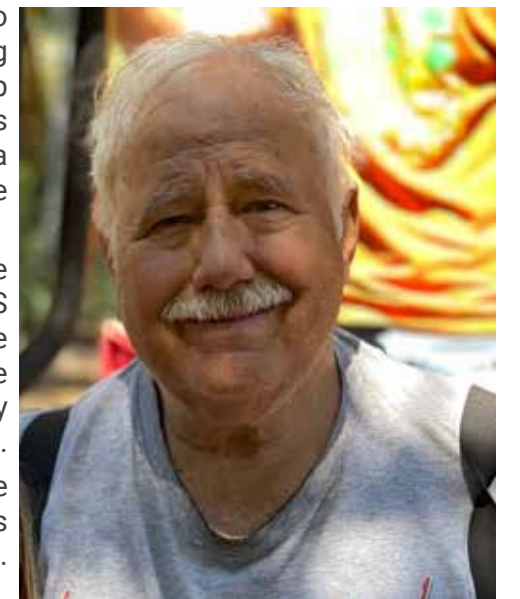
Dave Lewis Barhydt was born in 1949 and grew up in Orangevale where he met and married his wife of 53 years, Laura. They enjoyed camping, hiking, fishing, horseback riding and exploring back roads in the Sierras, especially Nevada County. The love they developed for Nevada County led them to purchase bare land in the Garden Bar area where they built their homestead and raised their family. (A picture of the Barhydt barn is on the back page.)

Dave volunteered as coach for Bear River Little league and as a 4H leader with Meadowlarks. One of his fondest memories was getting the 4H camp ready for campers each year. He also volunteered his time with Bear River FFA at the cook shack and driving students to competitions. He was a member of Higgins Diggins Lions Club and participated in the fundraising for and construction of the Higgins Lions Community Center. Dave served several years on the Nevada County Youth Ag Boosters and the Board for the Nevada County Resource Conservation District and was the current Board President.

Preserving agriculture in Nevada County was a top priority for Dave. He loved his cattle and taking care of the land. He was working with NRCS and Point Blue Conservation to improve the soil and wildlife habitat on the ranch and the family intends to continue his efforts. One of the things he enjoyed most was welcoming visitors to the ranch to enjoy McCourtney Roads Pumpkins and was sad when his illness made it necessary to close.

Dave served as a Board Member for the Nevada County Farm Bureau since the 1990's and was past president. He was honored and proud to serve as the District 15 Director for the California Farm Bureau from 2017-2021.

-excerpted from Hooper and Weaver Mortuary







**NEVADA  
COUNTY**  
CALIFORNIA