

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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Yolo County Releases 2008 Crop Report

(Woodland, CA) – On Tuesday, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors will receive the 2008 Yolo County Agricultural Report – an annual report which summarizes the acreage, production and gross valuation of all agricultural commodities produced in Yolo County in 2008. Processing tomatoes remained the county's leading commodity at a value of \$105,124,614, an increase of 5%. The total gross valuation for all agricultural commodities in 2008 was \$527,330,803, up 16% from 2007.

"These production figures only partially reflect the overall measure of the economic impact agriculture has on Yolo County's economy," said Yolo County Agricultural Commissioner Rick Landon. "Field labor, processing, transporting, marketing and other farm-related services significantly multiply the value agriculture has to our county. When the multiplier effect of related industries is considered, agriculture contributes well over \$1.5 billion to the economy of Yolo County."

Within the report Agricultural Commissioner Landon notes that the increase in processing tomatoes was primarily due to an increase in price and yield as acreage actually decreased. Landon also notes the value of alfalfa hay, the number two crop, increased 41% to a value of \$73,405,515 due to a 34% increase in price, plus increased acreage and yield. An increase in price caused rice to move up to the number three spot with a value of \$57,819,601. Wine grapes dropped to the number four spot with a value of \$42,005,589. Seed crops continued in the number five spot with a value of \$35,184,445.

Almonds remained in sixth position with a value of \$24,074,400. Organic production, in seventh place, was up almost 12% to \$21,742,344. Wheat, in eighth place, was up 78% to \$21,718,263 due to significant increases in acreage, price and yield. Walnuts dropped to ninth with a value of \$16,220,530. Cattle and calves rounded out the top ten at \$13,679,300.

For more information on the acreage, production and gross valuation of agricultural commodities produced in Yolo County in 2008, visit <u>www.yolocounty.org</u> (go to Government > Agriculture & Cooperative Extension > Agriculture and Weights & Measures) or contact the Yolo County Agriculture Department at (530) 666-8154.