

BUILDING PROSPERITY IN THE YUBA-SUTTER REGION

APPENDIX IV

AGRICULTURE ECONOMIC PROFILE

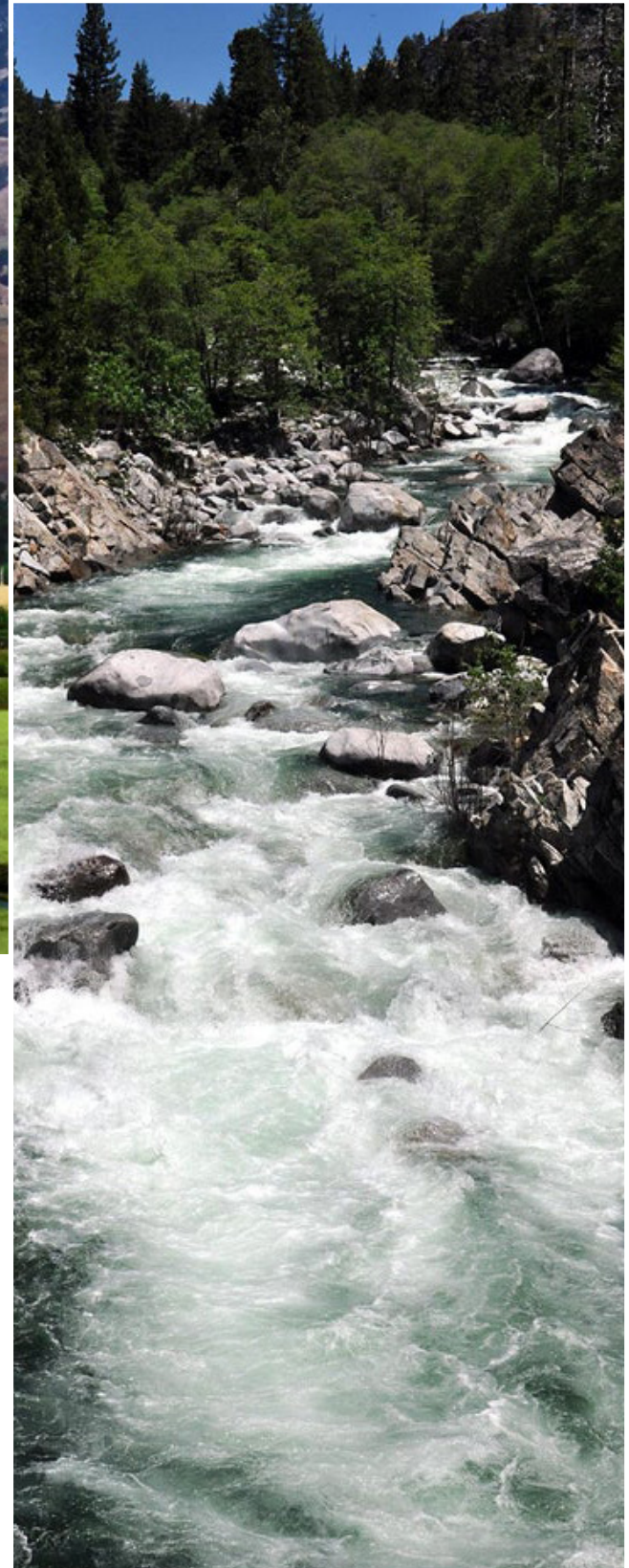
2020-2025

COMPREHENSIVE
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY

Updated January 1, 2024



YUBA-SUTTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



AGRICULTURE AS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

California is the leading state in the US in terms of income derived from agricultural activities. This sector also provides 10 percent of the state's labor force. Of approximately 99 million acres of land comprising the State, 25 million acres have been dedicated to farmland. The success of this sector is associated with the state's long growing season as well as the fertile soil. Additionally, most of the land is irrigated which results in the stability of farming activities. The agricultural products in California are utilized for both consumption and export nationwide and internationally. The exports account for one-fifth of the state's income.

This appendix will help economic developers, planners, local food advocates, and community members to understand the geography of the Yuba-Sutter region's place in the multi-billion-dollar California agriculture industry. The economic indicators provided can help local governments design ways to support agricultural businesses as key components of vibrant and resilient local economies.

Yuba-Sutter generally enjoys an abundant water supply, good soil and a long growing season. However, California has had the driest period on record and water deliveries were substantially slashed during the drought. According to the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) the outlook for Sutter County is drought remains but improves. In Yuba County the northern half of the county drought removal is likely and in the southern half drought conditions remains but improves.

More than 600,000 of the 798,000 acres (75 percent) in Yuba-Sutter are in agricultural use. The largest use of agricultural land is for field crops and vegetables. Fruit and nut crops account for the second highest use of acreage. Yuba and Sutter counties are among the leading counties of California that produce sorghum, kiwi fruit, honeydew melons, peaches, pears, rice, walnuts, wool, and mohair.



YUBA COUNTY

Approximately 272,480 acres or 66 percent of the total county area, are comprised of agricultural croplands and pasture. The gross value of Yuba County’s agricultural production for 2022 is \$246,441,480 down approximately 9 percent from the 2021 value estimate of \$278,604,580. The decrease in value can be attributed to the decrease in commodity prices for walnuts alone. However, kiwi, prunes, livestock and almonds also decreased in value due to lower yields. Peaches, timber, and rice increased in value due to increases in yield and price. The overall value in Yuba County’s agricultural production remains strong with this year’s values only decreasing by 9 percent despite unprecedented drought and low prices for walnuts. Fluctuating commodity prices and adverse weather conditions continue to pose significant challenges for producers in the long run.

The contribution of agriculture to the economy of Yuba County is not totally reflected by the value of the crops.

Processing, transporting, marketing and other farm related services directly or indirectly tied to agriculture benefit appreciably. It is estimated the agricultural industry returned an additional 62.5 percent of the gross agriculture value for an estimated total value of \$400,467,405 in 2022. Agriculture accounts for 1 out of every 11 jobs in Yuba County. (Source: Yuba County 2022 Crop Report)

In 2021, Yuba County ranked 31st in gross value of agricultural production of the entire state of California, second in plums and livestock and fourth in rice production value. (Source: CDFA)

To access the complete 2022 crop report visit: <https://cms7files.revize.com/yubaca/Yuba%20County/Agricultural%20Commission/Crop%20Reports/Yuba%20Co%20Annual%20Crop%20Report%202022%20Final.pdf>

LEADING AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES



RANK	CROP	2021	2022
1	Rice	\$100,866,000	\$113,948,000
2	Prunes/Dried Plums	\$28,801,000	\$28,202,000
3	Livestock - All	\$25,059,000	\$22,577,000
4	Walnuts	\$55,705,000	\$21,531,000
5	Kiwi	\$19,586,000	\$12,441,000
6	Peaches/Cling	\$11,645,000	\$11,664,000
7	Pasture - All	\$5,692,000	\$5,689,000
8	Nursery Stock	\$4,663,000	\$5,586,000
9	Almonds - All	\$6,789,000	\$3,464,000
10	Timber	\$37,580	\$586,480



SUTTER COUNTY

The gross value of Sutter County agricultural production for 2021 was \$568,883,000. This is a decrease of \$52,483,000 or 8.4% below the 2021 total value.

Rice remains the top-ranking crop in 2022 driven by a 54% increase in price. A 32% in decrease in acreage offset much of the price gains as the total value rose to \$182,593,000, an overall increase of 4.7% from 2021. Rising to second, processing tomatoes increased in acreage, price, and yield to a total value of \$89,621,000. Cling peaches remained in third as an increase in price offset decreases in acreage and yield to a total a value of \$48,425,000. Dried prunes rose to fourth with a total value of \$47,518,000 despite a decrease in price.

Dropping from second to fifth place, walnuts total value decreased 64.1% to \$43,539,000 due to moderate decreases in harvested acreage and yield and a 61.1% decrease in price. (Source: Sutter County 2022 Crop Report)

In 2021, Sutter County ranked 22nd in gross value of agricultural production of the entire state of California, first in prunes production and fourth in walnut production. (Source: CDFA)

To access the complete 2022 crop report visit: <https://www.suttercounty.org/home/showpublisheddocument/7106/638386556019370000>

LEADING AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES



RANK	CROP	2021	2022
1	Rice ¹	\$174,352,000	\$182,593,000
2	Tomatoes/Processing	\$54,964,000	\$89,621,000
3	Peaches/Cling-stone	\$55,765,000	\$48,405,000
4	Prunes (Dried)	\$42,655,000	\$47,518,000
5	Walnuts	\$121,405,000	\$43,529,000
6	Nursery Products	\$45,782,000	\$28,203,000
7	Sunflower, Seed	\$19,942,000	\$20,216,000
8	Wheat, Grain	\$5,428,000	\$16,177,000
9	Almonds	\$36,792,000	\$12,823,000
10	Corn/Field Grain	\$7,020,000	\$10,553,000

1. Includes seed, does not include Wild Rice