



Agriculture, Weights & Measures

Date: July 20, 2026

To: The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Orange County
Doug Chaffee, Fourth District, Chair
Katrina Foley, Fifth District, Vice Chair
Janet Nguyen, First District
Vicente Sarmiento, Second District
Donald P. Wagner, Third District

From: Jose Arriaga, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights, and Measures

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Subject: 2025 Orange County Annual Crop Report and The Economic Contributions of Orange County Agriculture

Enclosed are the 2025 Orange County Annual Crop Report and The Economic Contributions of Orange County Agriculture for your review. In compliance with the California Food and Agricultural Code Sections 2272 and 2279, the Agricultural Commissioner compiles Orange County agricultural production information and then forwards this data to the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

The 2025 Orange County Annual Crop Report

Agricultural production values are based on the free-on-board (F.O.B.) packed price at the first point of delivery. These values include the cost of production, harvesting, and preparation for market. This report is produced each year with the outstanding partnership and cooperation of the agricultural industry in Orange County. The following are highlights of the 2025 Orange County Annual Crop Report:

1. **Total agricultural production in 2025 reached \$81.5 million**, reflecting a 10% increase from the prior year.
2. **Nursery products continue to lead the county's agriculture**, remaining relatively stable representing 48% of total production value and showing steady growth with a 4.5% increase.
3. **Strawberries continued to be a standout crop**, building on the significant gains achieved in 2024. Their total value increased again in 2025, driven largely by higher yields and continued strong consumer demand.

The Annual Crop Statistics Report recognizes the accomplishments of Orange County's commercial agricultural sector while highlighting the essential role of the Agricultural Commissioner's Office. This year's report features the Pesticide Use Enforcement program and its five core functions, inspections, investigations, permitting, enforcement, and public outreach, which work together to protect public health and the environment while supporting a safe, sustainable, and economically resilient agricultural industry.

Basic crop and plant production data are collected from many sources, and may include grower surveys; regulatory and inspection data; shipment data; industry assessments; etc. Farmers and growers provide crop information to the Agricultural Commissioner on a voluntary basis. These business and financial records are confidential under State and Federal statutes.

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2025 OC Crop Report and Economic Contributions

The Economic Contributions of Orange County Agriculture Report

This year marks the introduction of the first-ever *Economic Contributions of Orange County Agriculture* report. While the Annual Crop Report measures the value of commodities produced at the farm gate, this companion report tells the broader story of agriculture's impact on Orange County's economy. Using modern economic analysis, it quantifies not only agricultural production, but also local processing, employment, and the economic ripple effects generated throughout the county.

Key findings from the report:

1. **\$179 Million** in total economic activity generated countywide.
2. **1,688 Total Jobs** supported through direct employment and multiplier effects.

Together, the Annual Crop Report and the Economic Contributions report provide a more complete understanding of agriculture's importance to Orange County, demonstrating not only what we grow, but also the jobs, economic activity, and public benefits that agriculture creates throughout our community. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me directly at 714- 955-0101.

Thank you.

Enclosures: 2025 Crop Report
 The Economic Contributions of Orange County Agriculture (Crop Report Plus)

cc: KC Roestenberg, Interim Chief Executive Officer