



# LOS ANGELES COUNTY CROP & LIVESTOCK REPORT 2004





*"A civilization begins to decline when it loses touch with its agrarian roots."  
Richard Critchfield*

The first AG DAY LA, organized by the California Women for Agriculture and the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau, brought students of the Los Angeles Unified School District to a football field filled with lessons about California agriculture. The second year, Alhambra Unified School District took the ball and held an event for their entire school district. With the success of the first two events, the Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures Department and the 48<sup>th</sup> District Agricultural Association joined in to create a more permanent foundation for providing a hands-on educational experience for the students of Los Angeles County. The third year was an experiment of grandiose proportions, a two day event held at the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds in Pomona, inviting over 1,800 students from seven different school districts. Students of the Pasadena Unified School District attended the latest event. There is a great need for agricultural education in the schools, as our future employees and growers may come from the students we inspire at the AG DAY LA events.



Foundation Members receiving AG DAY LA proclamation certificate from Michael D. Antonovich, Supervisor



"It was the funnest day of my whole entire life," was a comment made by a fourth grader who attended AG DAY LA. Students were able to pet farm animals, watch a sheep being shorn, pick seeds from cotton and see spinners and weavers at work. They saw the inside of a hive and, both, common and exotic insects. They watched a cow being milked by a milking machine and learned about nutrition and our healthy and diverse food supply. They observed a model that demonstrated how water is supplied throughout the county. They planted vegetable plants to take back to the classroom and saw, first hand, a real vegetable garden in production.

Before the event, the students were asked the question, "What is agriculture?" One answer was "a group of cultures." Tests given to the students before and after the event showed an average increase in knowledge of 67% and, individually, as high as 170%. It is not long ago that Los Angeles County was the number one producing county in the state. Farms and dairies dotted the landscape and a variety of crops were produced. Today, the average elementary school student believes that food and clothing come from supermarkets and malls, and has no idea of where agriculture, if they even know that word, fits in. After the event, comments included "I never knew cows could be so interesting;" "I learned about the bees and insects and now I'm not afraid of them any more;" and "I liked learning about the groundwater." Hands-on learning is still the best tool.



Volunteers from many agencies bring a full table of agricultural education to the students

Thanks to everyone who helped make these events a success. We are grateful for those who provided monetary support for the event and educational materials that went back into the classroom to reinforce the lessons on California Agriculture.

**Visit the AG DAY LA website  
<http://www.agdayla.com>**



Deputies from the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department, Altadena and San Dimas Stations





**Kurt E. Floren**  
Agricultural Commissioner/  
Director of Weights and Measures

## **COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

### **Department of Agricultural Commissioner/ Weights and Measures**

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California Department of Food and Agriculture

and

the Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles

Gloria Molina, Chair of the Board - First District

Yvonne Brathwaite Burke - Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky - Third District

Don Knabe - Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich - Fifth District

### **2004 CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORT**

In 2004, a total gross value of **\$300,087,000** in agricultural crops and commodities were produced in Los Angeles County. This is a 5.5% decrease from last year's \$317,590,000 total. Production values of dry onions and alfalfa hay increased by 25% and 20%, respectively, driven by stronger market values and slight increases in acreage. Counteracting these gains were large decreases in strawberry and herb production resulting from losses of growing grounds diverted to development. Similarly, root vegetable production values decreased 42% and vine crops by 28%.

Los Angeles County's leading crop continues to be nursery products. Overall, nursery stock production values rose by more than 6 %, attributable, in part, to increases in greenhouse space and acreage for indoor flowering and foliage plants, ground covers, bedding plants, and other miscellaneous products. Producers of ornamental trees and shrubs, however, were affected by product distribution restrictions to alleviate risks of spreading Sudden Oak Death, providing protection to the environment and California's agricultural industry from this serious pathogen.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to each of the producers and individuals who provided information for this report. My thanks are extended to the skilled and dedicated staff of this department who continue to do an excellent job in compiling these important statistics.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt E. Floren  
Agricultural Commissioner/  
Director of Weights and Measures

*This annual publication presents statistical information on acreage, yield, and gross value of agricultural products produced in Los Angeles County. This is published in accordance with Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. The production values in this report represent gross values and do not reflect the cost of production, net income, or loss to producers.*

# Table of Contents

Million Dollar Commodities.....	3
Summary.....	4
Nursery Products .....	5
Cut Flowers and Decoratives.....	5
Fruit and Nut Crops .....	6
Vegetable Crops .....	7
Field Crops .....	8
Dairy and Livestock.....	8
Apiary .....	9
Forest Crops.....	9
Sustainable Agriculture Reporting .....	10
Pest Detection Activities .....	11
Pest Eradication Activities.....	11
Biological Control Activities.....	12
Pest Exclusion Activities .....	12
Acknowledgments .....	16

# MILLION DOLLAR COMMODITIES

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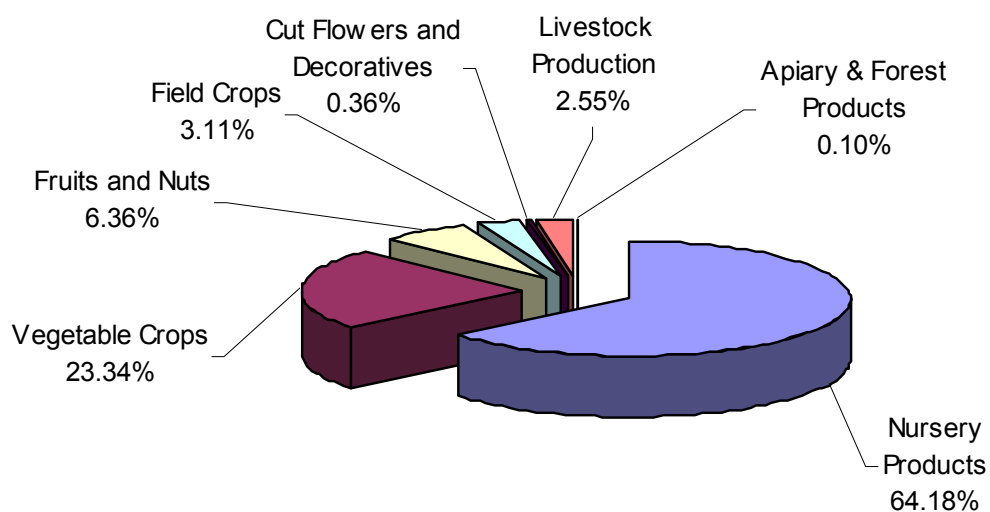
1.	Ornamental Trees	\$119,666,000
2.	Root Vegetables	43,035,000
3.	Bedding Plants	38,586,000
4.	Dry Onions	22,738,000
5.	Dairy & Livestock	7,651,000
6.	Alfalfa Hay	6,361,000
7.	Indoor Plants, Flowering	5,392,000
8	Ground Covers	4,080,000
9.	Indoor Plants, Foliage	3,332,000
10.	Strawberries	2,307,000
11.	Rangeland	2,000,000
12.	Herbs	1,739,000
13.	Vine Crops	1,382,000

# SUMMARY

Commodity	2002	2003	2004
Nursery Products	\$176,470,000	*\$179,289,000	\$192,600,000
Vegetable Crops	66,403,000	101,438,000	70,028,000
Fruits and Nuts	18,660,000	18,637,000	19,080,000
Field Crops	8,680,000	8,535,000	9,327,000
Cut Flowers and Decoratives	647,000	667,000	1,091,000
Livestock Production	4,516,000	8,249,000	7,651,000
Apiary	<u>587,000</u>	<u>767,000</u>	<u>303,000</u>
<b>Subtotal</b>	275,963,000	*317,582,000	300,080,000
Forest Products	6,000	8,000	7,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$275,969,000</u></b>	<b><u>*\$317,590,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$300,087,000</u></b>

\* Revised

## Year 2004 Crop Value Summary Total Value: \$300,087,000



# NURSERY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Green House Square Feet	Field Acres	Total Value	
Ornamental Trees	2004	7,747,000	1,713	\$119,666,000	▼
	2003	9,260,000	1,488	120,884,000	
Bedding Plants	2004	1,794,000	177	\$38,586,000	▲
	2003	1,767,000	136	36,343,000	
Indoor Plants, Flowering	2004	821,000	6	\$5,392,000	▲
	2003	691,000	7	4,747,000	
Indoor Plants, Foliage	2004	561,000	1	\$3,332,000	▲
	2003	418,000	1	**3,305,000	
Ground Covers	2004	391,000	28	\$4,080,000	▲
	2003	497,000	26	3,164,000	
Miscellaneous *	2004	505,000	1,149	\$21,544,000	▲
	2003	415,000	629	10,846,000	
TOTAL	2004	11,819,000	3,074	\$192,600,000	▲
	2003	13,048,000	2,287	**179,289,000	

\* Includes perennials, vegetable plants, bonsai plants, orchids, sod, palm trees, and cacti.

\*\* Revised

# CUT FLOWERS & DECORATIVES

Item	Year	Green House Square Feet	Field Acres	Total Value	
Miscellaneous *	2004	137,000	104	\$1,091,000	▲
	2003	26,000	113	667,000	

\* Includes lilacs, pompoms, freesias, fruit blossoms, mums, snapdragons, yarrow, delphiniums, Christmas trees, and other miscellaneous.

# FRUIT & NUT CROPS

Item	Year	Acreage	Production Per Acre	Production Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total Value	
Strawberries	2004	101	17.9	1,808	Ton	\$1,276	\$2,307,000	▼
	2003	152	23.8	3,620		1,059	3,845,000	
Avocados	2004	59	1.2	71	Ton	\$1,454	\$103,000	▼
	2003	34	2.5	85		1,240	105,000	
Cherries	2004	140	0.8	112	Ton	\$3,800	\$426,000	▲
	2003	130	0.8	98		4,000	390,000	
Apples	2004	150	5.0	750	Ton	\$900	\$675,000	▼
	2003	150	4.0	600		1,200	720,000	
Grapes	2004	225	2.7	608	Ton	\$1,450	\$882,000	▲
	2003	190	3.0	566		626	354,000	
Orchard Fruit	2004	1,072	Include nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, oranges,				\$14,645,000	▲
	2003	1,067	tangerines, apricots, lemons, and grapefruits.				13,173,000	
Miscellaneous	2004	27	Includes figs, pistachios, raspberries, other				\$42,000	▼
	2003	31	miscellaneous fruit, and nut crops.				50,000	
TOTAL	2004	1,774					\$19,080,000	▲
	2003	1,754					18,637,000	



# VEGETABLE CROPS

Item	Year	Acreage	Production Per Acre	Production Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total Value		
Dry Onions	2004	2,891	27.5	79,502	Ton	\$286	\$22,738,000	▲	
	2003	2,814	24.8	69,724		261	18,212,000		
Root Vegetables	2004	7,403	Includes carrots, potatoes, radishes, beets, turnips, and other root vegetables.				\$43,035,000	▼	
	2003	8,555					74,834,000		
Herbs	2004	80	Includes cilantro, parsley, chives, mint, thyme, and other herb vegetables.				\$1,739,000	▼	
	2003	326					4,898,000		
Table Greens	2004	85	Includes spinach, kale, oriental specialties, and lettuce.				\$610,000	▼	
	2003	118					905,000		
Vine Crops	2004	175	Includes cucumbers, green beans, melons, pumpkins, squash, tomatoes, watermelons, and zucchini.				\$1,382,000	▼	
	2003	181					1,921,000		
Miscellaneous	2004	150	Includes bell peppers, cacti, celery, chard, sweet corn, green onions, Mexican onions, and other miscellaneous.				\$524,000	▼	
	2003	192					668,000		
TOTAL	2004	10,784					\$70,028,000	▼	
	2003	12,186					101,438,000		

## FIELD CROPS

Item	Year	Acreage	Production Per Acre	Production Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total Value	
Alfalfa Hay	2004	5,746	8.2	47,117	Ton	\$135	\$6,361,000	▲
	2003	5,500	8.0	44,120		120	5,290,000	
Grain Hay	2004	2,370	3.2	7,584	Ton	\$88	\$667,000	▼
	2003	2,600	3.5	9,100		110	1,001,000	
Rangeland	2004	200,000					\$2,000,000	
	2003	200,000					2,000,000	
Miscellaneous	2004	774	*				** \$299,000	▲
	2003	569	*				** 244,000	
TOTAL	2004	8,890	***				\$9,327,000	▲
	2003	8,669	***				8,535,000	

\* Acreage excludes stubble.

\*\* Value includes irrigated pasture, sudan hay, oat hay, and grazing privileges on stubble.

\*\*\* Excluding rangeland and stubble.

## DAIRY & LIVESTOCK

Item	Year	Total Value	
	2004	Includes dairy cattle, beef cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, chickens, milk, goat milk, eggs, etc.	\$7,651,000 ▼
	2003		8,249,000

# APIARY

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Value Per	Total Value	
				Unit		
Honey	2004	160,627	Lb.	\$1.73	\$278,000	▼
	2003	393,000		1.82	715,000	
Beeswax	2004	11,000	Lb.	\$2.00	\$22,000	▼
	2003	17,800		2.70	48,000	
Miscellaneous	2004				\$3,000	▼
	2003				4,000	
TOTAL	2004				\$303,000	▼
	2003				767,000	

# FOREST PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Total Value	
Firewood *	2004	\$7,000	▼
	2003	8,000	

\* Figures obtained from USDA Forest Services, Angeles National Forest

# SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORTING

## ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS

### Estimated Acres

<u>Crops</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Apples	1	8
Apricots	7	4
Asian Pears	0	1
Avocados	2	10
Carrots	0	300
Cherries	3	6
Citrus	23	24
Grapes	28	28
Herbs (including sprouts)	5	12
Nectarines	0	1
Peaches	14	18
Pears	0	1
Miscellaneous	5	9
Vegetables	<u>29</u>	<u>36</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>117</u></b>	<b><u>458</u></b>

<u>Year</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Acres</u>
2004	14	117
2003	36	458

## PEST DETECTION ACTIVITIES

<b>Pest</b>	<b>Number of Traps Pest Detection</b>	<b>Specimens Trapped</b>
<b>Mediterranean Fruit Fly</b>	5,010	1
<b>Melon Fly</b>	4,994	1
<b>Oriental Fruit Fly</b>	4,994	18
<b>Mexican Fruit Fly</b>	4,973	0
<b>Guava Fruit Fly</b>	4,994	4
<b>Gypsy Moth</b>	3,700	0
<b>Japanese Beetle</b>	3,080	0
<b>Khapra Beetle</b>	297	0
<b>European Pine Shoot Moth</b>	13	0
<b>European Corn Borer</b>	12	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>32,067</u></b>	<b><u>24</u></b>

## PEST ERADICATION ACTIVITIES

<b>Pest</b>	<b>Method</b>	<b>Scope of Program</b>
Oriental Fruit Fly	Male annihilation	2 treatment areas
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	Continued preventative program: sterile Medfly release countywide	Approximately 10.4 billion steriles released

# BIOLOGICAL CONTROL ACTIVITIES

Pest	Agent/Mechanism	Scope of Program
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	Sterile Release	10,355,700,000 sterile Medflies released

# PEST EXCLUSION ACTIVITIES

Pest Exclusion Violations	Number of Violations Issued
Infested/Presumed Infested	474
Markings	56
Failure to Hold	92
Burrowing and Reniform Nematodes	9
Caribbean Fruit Fly	20
Cedar Apple Rust	1
Cereal Leaf Beetle	1
Cherry Fruit Fly	2
Chestnut Bark/Oak Wilt Disease	2
Citrus Pests	16
Colorado Potato Beetle	1
Cotton Pests	2
Federal Foreign Quarantines	3
Federal (Hawaiian) Quarantines	4
Federal (Puerto Rico) Quarantines	1
Gypsy Moth	3
Imported Fire Ant	7
Japanese Beetle	13
Misuse/Nursery Stock Certificate	1
Persimmon Root Borer	1
Pine Shoot Beetle	1
Plum Curculio and Blueberry Maggot	6
Prohibited Species	1
Unauthorized Movement	1
Walnut and Pecan Pests	1
Weed Pests	6
West Indian Sugarcane Root Borer	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>727</u></b>



# PEST EXCLUSION ACTIVITIES

<u>Pest Intercepted</u> Common Name/ <i>Genus Species</i>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Source *</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u> Pest Interceptions
Ambrosia beetle <i>Xylosandrus crassiusculus</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	2
Ant <i>Ochetellus glaber</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	7
Ant <i>Monomorium floricola</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	1
Armored scale <i>Acutaspis sp.</i>	Bay leaves	Quar	1
Bamboo armored scale <i>Poliaspoides formosanus</i>	Bamboo	Nurs	1
Big headed ant <i>Pheidole megacephala</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	54
Black stink bug <i>Coptosoma xanthogramma</i>	Basil	Quar	1
Boxwood scale <i>Pinnaspis buxi</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	10
Chinese rose beetle <i>Adoretus sinicus</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	4
Coconut mealybug <i>Nipaecoccus sp.</i>	Palms	Nurs	2
Coconut scale <i>Aspidiotus destructor</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	4
Coffee bean weevil <i>Araecerus coffeae</i>	Basil	Quar	1
Dunnage beetle <i>Sinoxylon anale</i>	Wooden pallets	Quar	1
Glassy-winged leafhopper <i>Homalodisca coagulata</i> (adults)	Nursery plants	Nurs	84
Glassy-winged leafhopper <i>Homalodisca coagulata</i> (eggs)	Nursery plants	Nurs	434
Green garden looper <i>Chrysodeixis eriosoma</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	30

# PEST EXCLUSION ACTIVITIES

<u>Pest Intercepted</u> <u>Common Name/Genus Species</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Source *</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u> <u>Pest Interceptions</u>
Green shield scale <i>Pulvinaria psidii</i>	Ficus	Nurs/Quar	3
Hopper <i>Protalebrella brasiliensis</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	3
Leafhopper <i>Agallia sp.</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	103
Leafhopper <i>Gyponana germari</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	8
Leafhopper <i>Empoasca sp.</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	6
Lesser snow scale <i>Pinnaspis strachani</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	11
Limacodid moth <i>Darna pallivitta</i>	Palm	Quar	1
Long horned beetle <i>Sybra alternans</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	5
Long-legged ant <i>Anoplolepis gracilipes</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	1
Lygaeid bug <i>Nysius sp.</i>	Cut leaves	Quar	53
Magnolia white scale <i>Pseudaulacaspis cockerelli</i>	Cut foliage/palms	Quar	61
Mango shield scale <i>Milviscutulus magniferae</i>	Cut flowers	Quar	13
Mint aphid <i>Ovatus mentharius</i>	Mint	Quar	1
Orchid weevil <i>Orchidophilus alterrimus</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	3
Pacific beetle cockroach <i>Diploptera punctata</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	2
Pandanas scale <i>Thysanococcus pandani</i>	Pandanus	Quar	1

# PEST EXCLUSION ACTIVITIES

<u>Pest Intercepted</u> Common Name/ <i>Genus Species</i>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Source *</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u> Pest Interceptions
Pickle worm <i>Diaphania nitidalis</i>	Cucumbers	Quar	4
Planthopper <i>Kallitaxila granulata</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	23
Planthopper <i>Melormenis antillarum</i>	Basil	Quar	1
Psyllid <i>Heteropsylla huasachae</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	2
Purple scale <i>Lepidosaphes beckii</i>	Grapefruit/Tangerine	Quar	4
Pyriform scale <i>Protopulvinaria pyriformis</i>	Nursery plants	Nurs	4
Red Imported Fire Ant <i>Solenopsis invicta</i>	Cut flowers	Quar	1
Red wax scale <i>Ceroplastes rubens</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	4
Redbanded thrips <i>Selenothrips rubrocinctus</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	1
Scolytid beetle <i>Xyleborus affinis</i>	Cut leaves	Quar	1
Scolytid beetle <i>Euwallacea fornicatus</i>	Box elder	Nurs	1
Slant-faced grasshopper <i>Atractomorpha sinensis</i>	Basil	Quar	2
Slug <i>Veronicella sp.</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	17
Slug <i>Meghimatium striatum</i>	Dracaena	Quar	1
Snail <i>Opeas sp.</i> or near	Coriander	Quar	1
Snail <i>Zachrysia provisoria</i>	Palm	Quar	1

# PEST EXCLUSION ACTIVITIES

<u>Pest Intercepted</u> Common Name/ <i>Genus Species</i>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Source *</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u> Pest Interceptions
Snail <i>Bradybaena similaris</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	13
Soil mealybug <i>Rhizoecus hibisci</i>	Palms	Quar	11
Soil mealybug <i>Geococcus coffeae</i>	Palm	Quar	1
Spiraling whitefly <i>Aleurodicus dispersus</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	47
Stellate scale <i>Vinsonia stellifera</i>	Cut flowers	Quar	14
Taro leafhopper <i>Tarophagus colocasiae</i>	Taro	Quar	7
Tropical fire ant <i>Solenopsis geminata</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	4
White footed ant <i>Technomyrmex albipes</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	48
Whitefly <i>Aleurotrachelus sp.</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	36

**TOTAL**

**1,161**

**Source \* :**    **Nurs:** Nursery    **Quar:** Quarantine



## *Acknowledgments*

A special word of thanks to all that assisted in creating this edition of the crop report. Inspector Cynthia Werner for her photographs and articles and Scott Hunter for cover design. Inspectors Mahmood Waseeq, Gevork Arakelian, Tom Herrera, Adan Herrera, Erineo Ada, Michael Sium, Miguel Gonzalez, Adrian Zavala, Gary Mork, and Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer Jim Wisemen who assisted in gathering and compiling the statistics. Administrative Assistant Karen Wong who generated the completed statistical report and layout, Elizabeth Lopez for her technical support. Thanks to Richard G. Sokulsky, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer for supervising this year's report.



For a copy of this crop report, visit our web site at:  
<http://acwm.co.la.ca.us>



Century old Blum Barn in the shadow of the scorched tree

## Hope Springs Eternal

The growers of Los Angeles County agriculture are no strangers to the forces of nature - fires, floods, freezes, and landslides. Here is the story of the Blum Ranch, located in the Antelope Valley, which met with the force of fire and lived to reap the rewards of hard work and hope. The fire ravaged the surrounding valley and lilac fields, scorched the perimeter of the orchard, yet the house and barn in the middle of it all were spared. Then came the rains, swelling the river below the ranch and carving new streams through the orchard. Inspector Cindy Werner visited the ranch just after the fire storm and again during the height of the spring bloom. The photographs tell the story of survival and renewal. Peaches bloom out of blackened stumps, lilacs resprout out of the ashen ground, and grasses and wild flowers blanket the once barren hillside.

*This article is an excerpt from the Antelope Valley Press Edition, August 5, 2004  
"The Night They Saved the Ranch," written by Nicole Jacob, Valley Press Staff Writer*



Elizabeth and Ray Billet in the north orchard in spring

"Elizabeth Billet cast a worried eye toward black billows of smoke as she sat in a car packed full of old family photos and heirlooms. A wildfire, the biggest she had ever seen in her 68 years in Acton, was sweeping through powder-keg-dry brush and rapidly approaching a historic ranch that had been in her family for generations.

Fire crews were scrambling to slow the fire and dig in before it consumed any structures. After igniting just after 1:30 p.m., the Crown Fire, as it became known, had exploded to 7,000 acres in about four hours. All residents in Aliso Canyon, where Elizabeth's Blum Ranch is, were advised to evacuate. The fire was burning fast and hot, and authorities did not want civilians anywhere near its path.

Firefighters took one look at the nearly 100-year-old wooden barn, its planks bone dry and aged, and knew they were in for a battle. "The wood was so old, all you had to do was look at that barn wrong and it would start on fire," said Captain Joaquin Gaeta, Kern County Fire Department. As the firefighters set to work, Ray Billet and his crew did what they could. "We were just trying to do any good you could do" Ray said. "We wet down all the bins; we were just trying to get things wet." They used an agricultural sprayer to spread water as quickly as possible. As the wind-driven flames approached, the struggle continued... "You didn't have time to be scared," Ray said.

Nine days after July 20, 2004 - the night they saved the ranch - Ray Billet walked through a scorched peach orchard on the ranch he has tended for 50 years. It was a hot day, and Ray, 70, was wearing suspenders over his shirt with sleeves rolled up. The blaze had spared the Billet's historic ranch house and barn, thanks in no small part to efforts of fire crews stationed there. But not all the orchards could be saved. About four acres of lilac fields were destroyed, along with about 450 damaged or destroyed peach and pear trees... "We don't know what's gonna happen," Ray said. "They might send out shoots, but we don't know if these trees will produce a crop again."

The Blum Ranch has been a mainstay in Acton for more than 110 years. It began with Elizabeth's grandfather, George Blum, who first came to the United States in 1880 from Switzerland. He married and settled in Acton in 1891. The Blums turned the land into a farm and kept bees while raising six children. In 1912, they began work on the ranch house, with George Blum cutting the stones for it himself. Elizabeth's father continued the farming tradition, and eventually Elizabeth and her high school sweetheart, Ray, took over."

Even though over 450 trees and 15,000 feet of drip line were lost that day, hope was not. The trees have "reBLUMed" and soon will continue "the sweetest story every told at the Blum Ranch."



Views of Aliso Valley and the north orchard

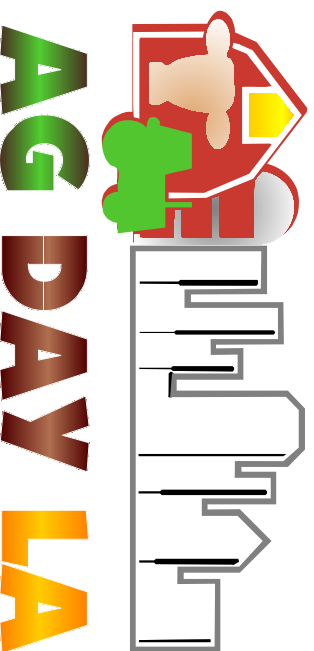


Blackened stump with new growth



View of the ranch house and south orchard in bloom

Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner/  
Weights & Measures Department  
12300 Lower Azusa Road  
Arcadia CA 91006-5872



Los Angeles County Foundation Members

Farm Bureau

48<sup>th</sup> Agricultural District

California Women for Agriculture

Agricultural Commissioner/Weights & Measures

AG DAY LA is a special event designed to educate students about our state's agricultural industry, whose production is greater than any other state in the U.S. The Foundation Members are firmly committed to agricultural education. With enhanced understanding of agricultural processes, students will be better equipped to deal with crucial issues of nutrition, environmental and resource management, and to understand the value of agriculture in California and its critical role in our state's economy.