



Cooperative Extension University of California Riverside County

# DESERT AG-NOTES

82-675 Highway 111, Rm. 118 Indio, CA 92201

APRIL 2005



In this issue: Agricultural Commissioners' Office Reports for 1994-2003.....Coachella Valley Farmers Meeting Schedule...Specialty and Organic Crops Seminar

<i>Condensed from the Agricultural Commissioner's Office 1994-2003 Acreage &amp; Agricultural Reports.</i>											
Crop	Container	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994
<b>Artichokes</b>	23 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		671	798	843	862	1,320	547	350	342	278	n/r
Per Acre		754	594	1,029	773	903	892	906	836	888	n/r
Total		505,934	474,012	867,447	666,326	1,191,960	487,924	317,100	285,912	246,864	n/r
<b>Asparagus</b>	30 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	100	100	100	130	172
Per Acre		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	102	110	86	118	110
Total		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	10,200	11,000	8,600	15,340	18,920
<b>Beans-Green</b>	28 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		845	456	416	530	946	962	762	1,683	1,075	868
Per Acre		488	369	292	363	745	218	150	233	403	202
Total		4,122,360	168,264	121,472	192,390	704,770	209,716	114,300	392,139	433,225	175,336
<b>Broccoli</b>	23 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		1,926	1,701	1,726	2,215	1,943	1,745	1,577	2,545	2,041	1,815
Per Acre		595	590	587	740	720	701	743	658	594	724
Total		1,145,970	1,003,590	1,013,162	1,639,100	1,398,960	1,223,245	1,171,711	1,674,610	1,212,354	1,314,060
<b>Cabbage</b>	50 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		25	92	54	127	see	n/r	187	240	325	543
Per Acre		800	586	915	584	misc.	n/r	612	535	564	409
Total		20,000	53,912	49,410	74,186	crops	n/r	114,444	128,400	183,300	222,087
<b>Carrots</b>	48 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		1,641	2,371	3,453	2,908	2,245	2,860	2,318	1,390	1,026	1,293
Per Acre		810	750	579	833	892	753	784	594	925	750
Total		1,329,210	1,778,250	1,999,287	2,422,364	2,002,540	2,153,580	1,817,312	825,660	949,050	969,750



<b>Crop</b>	<b>Container</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1994</b>
<b>Lettuce-Head</b>	50 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
Per Acre		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
Total		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
<b>Lettuce-Loose Leaf</b>	22 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		2,214	2,338	2,731	2,998	2,540	2,252	2,109	2,152	2,353	1,859
Per Acre		948	1,073	867	893	894	908	823	753	894	771
Total		2,098,872	2,508,674	2,367,777	2,677,214	2,270,760	2,044,816	1,735,707	1,620,456	2,103,582	1,433,289
<b>Romaine</b>	35 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		2,025	1,686	1,412	1,927	1,540	1,126	1,055	1,077	1,570	1,240
Per Acre		829	905	911	895	880	908	778	798	790	714
Total		1,678,725	1,525,830	1,286,332	1,724,665	1,355,200	1,022,408	820,790	859,446	1,240,300	885,360
<b>Melons-Cantalope</b>	40 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		729	408	822	1,056	2,502	1,850	1,871	943	n/r	n/r
Per Acre		714	821	825	800	800	862	750	759	n/r	n/r
Total		520,506	334,968	678,150	844,800	2,001,600	1,594,700	1,403,250	715,737	n/r	n/r
<b>Casaba</b>	33 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
Per Acre		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
Total		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
<b>Crenshaw</b>	30 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
Per Acre		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
Total		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
<b>Honeydew</b>	29 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	185	242	215	n/r	n/r
Per Acre		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	1,200	560	1,184	n/r	n/r
Total		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	222,000	135,520	254,560	n/r	n/r
<b>Mixed Melons</b>	33 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	58	50	25	n/r	375	193
Per Acre		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	879	623	1,050	n/r	543	814
Total		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	50,982	31,150	26,250	n/r	203,625	157,102

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Container</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1994</b>
<b>Watermelon</b>	tons										
Total Harvested Acreage		928	1,069	904	1,446	1,722	1,793	1,625	1,385	1,502	1,043
Per Acre		20	32	37	36	33	21	31	24	21.59	26
Total		18,560	34,208	33,448	52,056	56,826	37,653	50,375	33,517	32,428	27,462
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	* 28 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		937	966	740	700	2,028	626	261	706	780	982
Per Acre		424	477	375	224	554	543	517	889	200	493
Total		397,288	460,782	277,500	156,800	1,123,512	339,918	134,937	627,634	156,000	484,126
<b>Okra</b>	20 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		73	160	120	250	100	120	93	120	226	120
Per Acre		397	800	600	443	800	1,000	900	132	1,000	1,150
Total		28,981	128,000	72,000	110,750	80,000	120,000	83,700	15,840	226,000	138,000
<b>Onion-Dry</b>	50 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		n/r	418	362	277	337	436	435	460	854	668
Per Acre		n/r	1,155	1,119	904	855	1,219	1,281	832	915	1,017
Total		n/r	482,790	405,078	250,408	288,135	531,484	557,235	382,720	781,410	679,356
<b>Oriental Vegetables</b>	28 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		222	213	327	307	428	315	270	57	51	103
Per Acre		2,099	1,445	780	884	3,583	979	370	1,200	782	644
Total		465,978	307,785	255,060	271,388	1,533,524	308,385	99,900	68,400	39,882	66,332
<b>Parsley</b>	28 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	44	43	61
Per Acre		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	2,525	1,321	922
Total		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	111,100	56,803	56,242
<b>Pepper-Bell</b>	30 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		2,714	2,368	3,187	2,657	2,487	1,975	2,175	1,800	1,519	1,435
Per Acre		1,132	1,263	1,233	1,448	1,217	1,341	1,107	1,460	1,549	1,307
Total		3,072,248	2,990,784	3,929,571	3,847,336	3,026,679	2,648,475	2,407,725	2,628,000	2,352,931	1,875,545
<b>Chili Pepper</b>	10 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		n/r	n/r	n/r	see	see	50	50	200	154	155
Per Acre		n/r	n/r	n/r	misc.	misc.	1,351	786	741	1774	2,137
Total		n/r	n/r	n/r	crops	crops	67,550	39,300	148,200	273,196	331,235

Crop	Container	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994
<b>Potatoes-Fall</b>	100 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
Per Acre		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
Total		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
<b>Potatoes-Spring</b>	100 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		548	802	765	1,110	660	529	617	644	859	1,025
Per Acre		262	265	260	626	360	196	275	235	265	300
Total		143,576	212,530	198,900	694,860	237,600	103,684	169,675	151,340	227,635	307,500
<b>Radishes</b>	35 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		97	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
Per Acre		707	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
Total		68,579	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
<b>Spices</b>	28 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		n/r	n/r	n/r	see	see	n/r	n/r	300	n/r	n/r
Per Acre		n/r	n/r	n/r	misc.	misc.	n/r	n/r	63	n/r	n/r
Total		n/r	n/r	n/r	crops	crops	n/r	n/r	18,990	n/r	n/r
<b>Spinach</b>	30 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		575	1,124	1,053	848	954	597	362	446	263	546
Per Acre		1,091	1,100	946	963	875	1,088	799	1,066	761	720
Total		627,325	1,236,400	996,138	816,624	834,750	649,536	289,238	475,436	200,143	393,120
<b>Squash-Summer</b>	28 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		148	257	170	221	203	650	558	625	648	665
Per Acre		526	818	881	771	1,016	940	474	575	929	474
Total		77,848	210,226	149,770	170,391	206,248	611,000	264,492	359,375	601,992	315,210
<b>Squash-Winter</b>	40 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	16	124
Per Acre		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	504	792
Total		n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r	8,064	98,208
<b>Strawberries</b>											
Total Harvested Acreage		287	214								
Per Acre		1,453	1,522								
Total		417,011	325,708								
<b>Tomatoes-Market</b>	20 lbs.										
Total Harvested Acreage		249	281	396	50	199	440	434	183	451	197
Per Acre		1,697	1,458	2,023	1,200	1,149	1,368	2,253	2,250	1,230	1,200
Total		422,553	409,698	801,108	60,000	228,651	601,920	977,802	411,750	554,730	236,400
*Includes cabbage, herbs, peppers-chili, and spices. This report is an attempt to document agricultural production, it is only a guide.											



*UNIVERSITY of CALIFORNIA*  
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*COOPERATIVE EXTENSION • RIVERSIDE COUNTY*

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**2005 Coachella Valley Farmers Educational Meetings**

USDA Service Center, 82-901 Bliss Street Indio, California

Noon to 1:00 p.m. **(Unless stated otherwise)**

- FEB. 2 Soil Symposium: see program flyer for details.
- MARCH 2 Myths and Reality of Rocket Fueled Lettuce: Putting the Perchlorate Issue into Perspective: Dr. Charles Sanchez, Soil and Water Research Scientist, University of Arizona and Nutsedge Management Trials in Lettuce: Jose Aguiar, UCCE Riverside County
- April 6: Specialty Citrus: Dr. Peggy Mauk, UCCE Riverside County.
- May 11: Irrigation/Salinity Management Seminar. Program details posted in near future.
- JUNE 1 Landscape/Golf Course Program: Mike Henry, UCCE Farm Advisor, Catherine M. Grieve, USDA Salinity Laboratory, Riverside.
- JULY 6 Vegetable Weed and Disease Control: Steve Fenimore, Extension Specialist and Jose Aguiar, UCCE Riverside County

Our cooperators at the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (CVMVCD) will make a short educational presentation at the beginning of each meeting.

Raul Alvarado, Soil Conservationist will also make a short presentation on the EQIP Program at each meeting. Lunch is provided courtesy of CVRCD and CVMVCD.

In cooperation with the USDA-NRCS Indio,  
Coachella Valley Resource Conservation District (CVRCD),  
University of California Cooperative Extension Riverside County,  
Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (CVMVCD)

For more information contact:  
Jose Aguiar, Farm Advisor  
(760) 863-7949



**Program subject to change**  
CE credit requested where appropriate

**April 20, 2005**

**Inland Empire Center for Entrepreneurship  
53-990 Enterprise Way, Coachella, California**

- 8:00 - 8:30 Registration
- 8:30 - 9:00 **Coachella Valley Economic Development for Small Businesses**  
Jeff Hayes, Executive Director, Desert Alliance for Community Empowerment
- 9:00 - 9:30 **The Coachella Business Incubator: Computer and Resources Lab Assistance for Business Planning**, Robert Thompson, Satellite Manger, Empowerment Zone Small Business Development Center
- 9:30 - 10:00 **Coordinating a Farmers Market**, Speaker to be announced
- 10:00 - 10:15 Break and the Coachella Business Incubator Computer lab Tour
- 10:15 - 10:45 **Managing a Cooperative: Interfacing Growers with Coop. Management**, Dan Hecko, Gold Crown Macadamia Assoc.
- 10:45 - 11:15 **Challenges and Opportunities in Sourcing and Marketing New & Specialty Crops**, Robert Schuller, Melissa's Specialty Produce
- 11:15 - 12:00 **New Specialty Crops for California**, Richard Molinar, Small farms, vegetable crops, organic farming, Fresno County

**P.M.**

- 12:00 - 1:00 **Pests and Organic Production**, Dr. Milton McGiffen, UCCE Specialist, Vegetable Crops
- 1:00 **Lunch and Tour of the Coachella Business Incubator Computer Lab**

**Program Organizers:**

Eta Takele, UCCE Area Farm Mgt. & Economics Advisor Tel. 951-683-6491 Ext. 243, Fax: 951-788-2615 e-mail: ettakele@ucdavis.edu	Peggy Mauk, UCCE Subtropical Horticulture Advisor Tel. 951-683-6491 Ext. 221, Fax: 951-788-2615 e-mail: pamauk@ucdavis.edu
Jose Aguiar, UCCE Vegetable Crops and Small farms Advisor Tel. (760)863-8293, Fax: 760-775-0600 e-mail: jlaguiar@ucdavis.edu	Joe Elizondo, CSUSB Director, Center for Entrepreneurship Tel: 760-398-4827 Fax: 760-398-5272 jelizo@csusb.edu

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University of California, County of Riverside, and the United States Department of Agriculture cooperating

**Specialty and Organic Crops Seminar Registration**

To help us plan for lunch and computer demonstration, we would appreciate your cooperation to register before April 18, 2005. Please call by April 18 if you need Spanish translation.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**To register, mail or fax completed form to:**

Wendy Smith, UCCE  
82-675 Highway 111, Room 118  
Indio, CA 92201-5635  
Tel. (760)863-8293 Fax: 760-775-0600  
E-mail: [ceindio@ucdavis.edu](mailto:ceindio@ucdavis.edu)



**Meeting place is handicap accessible**

**U.C. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**  
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