



what

# ***California Agriculture***

means to  
**YOU**

*farming in the Golden  
State means **DOLLARS**  
in Your Pocket!*



# What California Agriculture Means to YOU!

## IF YOU ARE A MANUFACTURER

The handling, processing and marketing of California's farm products contribute over \$9 billion annually to the State's economy.

Over 400 million cartons and 40 million wooden boxes are manufactured yearly for packing California produce, as well as 1.3 billion glass jars and enough tinplate to make 5 billion cans. Over a million miles of food labels are printed each year in California.

California farmers have invested more capital per full-time employee than industry in general.

## IF YOU ARE A FARM WORKER

California farm wage rates are now the highest in the continental United States, and have been running nearly 50% above the national average. California farmers have been paying over \$1½ billion annually to hired workers.

Farm labor camps provided in the agricultural areas of this State are among the finest in the nation.

California has extended coverage to its farm workers of 9 of 10 major protective labor laws listed by the U. S. Department of Labor. No other state has more than 6 of these laws covering farm workers, and most states have 2 or less.

## IF YOU WORK IN THE TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY

More than \$1½ billion are spent annually for shipping California farm products.

California farm products account for nearly 1/3 of the total tonnage of railroad shipments in the State; and 1/2 of all truck tonnage.

Nearly half of the value of water-borne exports from California ports is attributable to agriculture. California exports over \$1½ billion worth of agricultural products each year, about 18 cents of every dollar of California agricultural income being earned from export.

## IF YOU ARE A MERCHANT

California farmers and hired farm workers spend nearly \$3.5 billion a year.

California farmers spend over \$100 million a year on gasoline and other petroleum products. About 1.5 million tons of fertilizer and minerals are used annually by farmers in California, at a cost of over \$100 million.

## IF YOU ARE A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL

California farmers in 1964 paid \$207.6 million in taxes on their farm property.

While only about 5% of persons gainfully employed in California are engaged in agriculture as such, farming is responsible, directly or indirectly, for one of every three jobs in the State.

For every 10 Californians employed in agriculture, 26 are employed in closely related industries such as processing, canning, preserving, packaging, transporting, storing and selling of agricultural products. These industries in turn generate still more jobs in a multiplicity of fields. Most of these jobs are in urban areas.

## IF YOU ARE AN AIRCRAFT WORKER

Nearly 1,300 aircraft are engaged in farm work in California.

Almost two-thirds of the California crop acreage is treated one or more times by aircraft each year.

Agricultural aircraft annually consume millions of gallons of high-grade gasoline.

For every pilot engaged in farm activities, 9 other persons are employed in ground support work.

## IF YOU ARE IN FINANCE

California financial institutions loaned \$734 million to California farmers in a recent year, including \$560 million in production loans and \$174 million in farm mortgages.

## IF YOU WORK FOR A PUBLIC UTILITY

Annually, pumping and irrigation systems on California farms use more than enough electricity to supply the cities of San Francisco and Sacramento combined for one year.

The average California farmer uses 74,000 kilowatt-hours in a year, which is over seven times the national average per farmer and far above the average household use of 3,800 kilowatt-hours.

## IF YOU WORK IN THE FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY

The food and kindred products industry group has an annual payroll that ranks third among California manufacturing industries, being exceeded only by transportation equipment and by electrical machinery and equipment.

California has nearly 3,000 manufacturing plants for processing food and kindred products.

California packs and processes far more vegetables, fruits and nuts than any other state; in fact it provides a third of the nation's canned vegetables and over half the canned fruits and nuts.

California is second only to Iowa in the slaughtering of meat animals.

## IF YOU ARE IN THE AUTOMOBILE OR EQUIPMENT BUSINESS

Approximately one in every seven motor trucks in California is used on a farm.

Investments in machinery, implements and motor equipment by California farmers are estimated at over \$1 billion. The average farmer in the State has over \$50,000 invested in equipment.

California farmers spend over \$200 million annually for farm machinery and parts, and over \$20 million for labor on repairs to farm equipment.

California farmers spend over \$100 million a year for machine hire.

## IF YOU ARE A CONSUMER IN CALIFORNIA

Like the average person, you will eat over three quarters of a ton of food each year. Because you live in California you get FRESH fruits and vegetables the year round. You have the widest variety of fresh fruits, vegetables, grains, nuts, and meats of any state in the nation—in fact, the world. Most of the things you eat have their origin in California soil or coastal waters.

Back in 1940, the average California farmer produced enough food and fiber to supply 10 people. By the 1960's, due to increased mechanization and improved farming practices, he was producing enough for 25 people. During that same time, the portion of the average wage-earner's dollar spent for food dropped from 40 cents to 20 cents.

## DO YOU KNOW THAT

- California has the highest gross farm income of any state in the nation, or about \$3.8 billion annually. Gross income per farm is well over 3 times the national average.
- Cattle is California's No. 1 agricultural commodity in dollar value, dairy products being second.
- California has roughly 3% of the nation's farms and farm acreage, yet accounts for nearly 10% of U. S. farm income—and produces about 25% of the nation's table food.



# *The **FARMER** helps keep the wheels of industry turning—*

The Farmer Uses:

EQUIPMENT

LAND & BUILDINGS

LABOR

FERTILIZER

INSECTICIDES

CAPITAL

CARS-TRUCKS

TRACTORS

ELECTRIC POWER

IRRIGATION WATER



This Means Business For:

TEXTILE

FOOD  
PROCESSING

OIL & GAS  
PRODUCTION

STEEL

TRANSPORTATION

CLOTH &  
CLOTHING

BOXES &  
CONTAINERS

PETROLEUM  
REFINING

MINING &  
SMELTING

TRUCKS &  
TRAINS

SHOEMAKER  
& TAILOR

CARPENTER &  
LUMBERMAN

GAS STATION  
OPERATOR

MINER &  
ARTISAN

SALESMEN &  
MECHANICS

- Cotton is California's No. 1 crop in dollar value, and the State ranks third nationally in cotton production.
- In 1964 the size of the average California farm was estimated at 407 acres, moderately above the U. S. average of 333 acres. Average investment in land and buildings per farm, however, was \$199,800, over 4 times the U. S. average of \$47,950.
- Agriculture contributes directly and indirectly over \$15 billion a year to the State's economy. Most of this flows into the cities, where it provides hundreds of thousands of jobs in commerce and industry.
- California produces over 200 commercial crops and farm commodities, far more than any other state. California leads all states in the production of 41 of these and ranks second in 9 others.
- About 1/12 of California's land area is under cultivation. This land accounts for over 90% of the entire nation's production of almonds, apricots, artichokes, brussels sprouts, dates, figs, garlic, grapes, ladino clover seed, lemons, nectarines, olives, persimmons, plums, pomegranates, and walnuts. In addition, it produces over 50% of the nation's avocados, broccoli, boysenberries and youngberries, cantaloups, cauliflower, celery, honeydew melons, lettuce, peaches, pears, prunes, Sudan grass seed, and tomatoes.
- One out of six turkeys in the U. S. is produced in California, and one out of eight chicken eggs.
- California is one of the three top ranking cattle feeding states in the nation.
- California ranks highest among all states in milk production per cow.
- Eight of the top 10 agricultural counties in the U. S., ranked by value of all farm products sold, are in California.

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