

Agriculture in the Sacramento Region Trends and Prospects

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Agriculture is a billion dollar industry and the major land use in the Lower Sacramento Valley. A new tool is available for those who want to be informed on land-use and agricultural issues in this region. This report provides a detailed, statistical portrait of agriculture in the six-county Sacramento region, and of the economic and policy trends that are shaping its future.

The report concentrates on El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties. For the region as a whole and for each county, the report describes commodities and farm production values, farm commodity exports, trends in farmland conversion and land uses, and farmland protection policies. Information is drawn from a variety of sources—including county agricultural commissioners, UC researchers, and the state's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. Also summarized are the comments of panelists presented during a February 2000 workshop. This program was sponsored by the Center and the Green Valley Initiative, a coalition of business, agricultural and environmental interests concerned with open space conservation. Those quoted include scientists, economists, resource agency managers, and farmers and ranchers.

The future of agriculture in the Sacramento region—in particular, the ongoing prosperity of farms and ranches—will be shaped by trends in land use, markets and technology. This report is a valuable information resource on these topics

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