

MASTER COPY  
**AGRICULTURAL  
CROP REPORT**



*No. County*

**DAVID T. RAYNER  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER  
• 227 N. First Street •  
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA**

# COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DAVID T. RAYNER

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER AND  
STATE PLANT QUARANTINE OFFICER

227 NORTH FIRST STREET  
SAN JOSE 13, CALIFORNIA

PHONE CYPRESS 5-1050

Mr. W. C. Jacobsen  
State Director of Agriculture  
and  
The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
of Santa Clara County

Gentlemen:

As required by Section 65.5 of the Agricultural Code of the State of California, I herewith submit the 1958 Annual Agricultural Crop Report for Santa Clara County. The report covers the acreage, production and value of all major crops produced in Santa Clara County, including livestock and livestock products, cut flowers, nursery stock, and seed crops.

The figures presented are based on values paid to the producer at the point of production, and in most instances do not include container costs.

It was anticipated that the gross income for 1958 would be several million dollars less than the previous year, due to a decrease in acreage of most crops, and considerable crop loss from excessive rainfall during the fruit setting period, and delayed planting of many other crops. Considerably higher prices paid for many of the commodities resulted in a gross return of \$85,437,000, and only \$1,142,977 less than in 1957.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to the many individuals and organizations for their splendid cooperation by so willingly contributing the information which made the compilation of this report possible.

Yours very truly,

*David T. Rayner*

DAVID T. RAYNER  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

DTR:kb

ANNUAL CROP REPORT

Of The

County of Santa Clara

For the Year Ending  
December 31, 1958

DAVID T. RAYNER  
Agricultural Commissioner

Compiled by  
Assistant Agricultural Commissioner  
T. J. Moniz

\* \* \*

HOWARD W. CAMPEN  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Howard R. Weichert

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District 2

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District 3

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District 5

Richard Olson

Clerk of the Board

FRUIT AND NUTS

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE BEARING	NON-B	PRODUCTION (Tons)	UTILI-ZATION	UNIT VALUE PER TON	TOTAL GROSS FARM VALUE	TOTAL VALUE
Almonds	1958	75	18	13	Dried	\$725.	\$ 9,425.	\$ 9,425.
	1957	78	26	18	"	490.	8,820.	8,820.
Apples	1958	160	16	385	Fresh	75.	28,875.	28,875.
				<u>340</u> 725	Processed	40.	<u>13,600.</u>	<u>42,475.</u>
1957		156	28	495	Fresh	70.	34,650.	34,650.
				<u>390</u> 885	Processed	42.50	<u>16,575.</u>	<u>51,225.</u>
Apricots	1958	12,466	519	1,100	Fresh	190.	209,000.	209,000.
				23,500	Processed	150.	3,525,000.	3,525,000.
				4,750	Dried-950 Tons	1,240.	1,178,000.	1,178,000.
				<u>4,500</u> <u>33,850</u>	By Products*	130	<u>585,000.</u>	<u>5,497,000.</u>
1957		12,690	667	1,200	Fresh	225.	270,000.	270,000.
				32,650	Processed	90.	2,938,500.	2,938,500.
				22,200	Dried-3700 Tons	760.	2,812,000.	2,812,000.
				<u>3,400</u> <u>59,450</u>	By Products**	70.	<u>238,000.</u>	<u>6,258,500.</u>
Avocados	1958	3		9	Fresh	375.	3,375.	3,375.
	1957	2		5.75	"	400.	2,340.	2,340.
Cherries	1958	3,289	864	2,480	"	470.	1,165,600.	1,165,600.
				2,500	Processed	400.	1,000,000.	1,000,000.
				425	Barreled	340.	144,500.	144,500.
				<u>520</u> <u>5,925</u>	By Products*	250.	<u>130,000.</u>	<u>2,440,100.</u>
1957		3,130	1,064	5,400	Fresh	370.	1,998,000.	1,998,000.
				5,150	Processed	280.	1,442,000.	1,442,000.
				780	Barreled	240.	187,200.	187,200.
				<u>600</u> <u>11,930</u>	By Products**	220.	<u>132,000.</u>	<u>3,759,200.</u>

\*Includes strained foods, jam, nectar, juice and frozen

FRUITS AND NUTS CONTINUED

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE BEARING	NON-B	PRODUCTION (Tons)	UTILI-ZATION	UNIT VALUE PER TON	TOTAL GROSS FARM VALUE	TOTAL VALUE
Citrus	1958	33	-	180	Fresh	\$ 235.	\$ 42,300.	\$ 42,300.
	1957	33	-	165	"	240.	39,600.	39,600.
Grapes	1958	4,630	30	16,200	Processed	56.	907,200.	907,200.
	1957	4,709	47	16,500	"	50.	825,000.	825,000.
Peaches-Free. Cling	1958	113	10	1,020	Fresh	80.	81,600.	123,850.
		$\frac{91}{204}$	$\frac{1}{11}$	$\frac{650}{1,670}$	" and Processed	65.	<u>42,250.</u>	
Free.	1957	114	13	1,050	"	75.	78,750.	128,000.
		$\frac{89}{203}$	$\frac{5}{18}$	$\frac{800}{1,850}$	"	62.	<u>49,600.</u>	
Pears	1958	6,675	390	3,350	"	85.	284,750.	5,638,650.
				$\frac{62,300}{2,550}$	Processed By Products*	83.	5,170,900.	
				$\frac{350}{68,550}$	Dried-50 Tons	600.	<u>30,000.</u>	
Plums	1957	6,711	483	8,725	Fresh	65.	567,125.	4,563,125.
				$\frac{66,000}{4,200}$	Processed By Products*	58.	3,828,000.	
				$\frac{78,925}{380}$		40.	<u>168,000.</u>	
Prickly Pears	1958	104	5	320	Fresh	207.	66,240.	68,060.
					"	190.	66,500.	
				$\frac{30}{380}$	Processed	52.	<u>1,560.</u>	
1957	60	60	-	238	"	162.75	38,750.	38,750.

\*Includes strained foods, jam, nectar, juice and frozen

FRUITS AND NUTS CONTINUED

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE BEARING	NON-BEARING	PRODUCTION (Tons)	UTILIZATION	UNIT VALUE PER TON	TOTAL GROSS FARM VALUE	TOTAL VALUE
Prunes-French Imperial	1958	32,273	2,035	46,950	Dried	\$340.	\$15,959,000.	\$16,998,200.
		1,155	20	930	"	560.	520,800.	
		1,810	13	15	Fresh	360.	5,400.	
Sugar		<u>35,238</u>	<u>2,068</u>	<u>48,845</u>	Dried	540.	<u>513,000.</u>	
French Imperial Sugar	1957	33,034	2,489	70,150	"	172.	12,065,800.	13,073,300.
		1,150	30	1,450	"	310.	449,500.	
		1,818	26	1,800	"	310.	<u>558,000.</u>	
Sugar		<u>36,002</u>	<u>2,545</u>	<u>73,400</u>				
Walnuts	1958	8,176	660	4,850	"	420.	2,037,000.	2,037,000.
	1957	8,267	847	4,300	"	540.	2,322,000.	
TOTALS	1958	71,113	4,600					\$33,850,671.
	1957	72,150	5,730					\$31,137,920.

BUSHERRIES AND STRAWBERRIES

CROPS	BEARING		ACREAGE		NON-B	PRODUCTION (Tons)	UTILI- ZATION	UNIT VALUE (Ton)	GROSS FARM VALUE 1958	1958	1957	TOTALS
	1957	1958	1957	1958								
Blackberries	20	20	-	-	-	40 90 <u>130</u>	Fresh Processed	\$200. 180.	\$ 8,000. <u>16,200.</u>	\$ 24,200.	\$ 36,210.	
Boysenberries	4	7	3	-	-	25	Fresh	220.	5,500.	5,500.	7,000.	
Loganberries	6	4	-	-	-	20	Fresh	200.	4,000.	4,000.	10,800.	
Ollalieberries	10	10	-	3	-	45 35 <u>80</u>	Fresh Processed	200. 180.	9,000. 6,300.	15,300.	18,970.	
Raspberries	95	115	62	24	-	575 10 <u>585</u>	Fresh Processed	560. 340.	322,000. <u>3,400.</u>	325,400.	323,400.	
Strawberries	3,137	2,780	391	450	-	6,460 <u>13,700</u> 20,160	Fresh Processed	340. 230.	2,196,400. <u>3,151,000.</u>	5,347,400.	8,356,980.	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3,272</b>	<b>2,636</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>427</b>						<b>\$5,721,800.</b>	<b>\$8,753,360.</b>	

VEGETABLE CROPS

CROPS	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION (Tons) Per Acre	UTILI- ZATION	UNIT VALUE PER TON	TOTAL GROSS	TOTAL
						FARM VALUE	VALUE
Anise	1958	90	12.	Fresh	\$ 50.	\$ 54,000.	\$ 54,000.
	1957	100	12.	"	50.	60,000.	60,000.
Beans, Snap	1958	35	5.5	"	152.	29,336.	1,186,338.
		<u>1,275</u> 1,310	7.5	Processed	121.	<u>1,157,002.</u>	
1957	40	6.	240	Fresh	140.	33,600.	1,404,464.
	<u>1,360</u> 1,400	8.25	<u>11,220</u> 11,460	Processed	122.	<u>1,370,864.</u>	
Beans, Lima	1958	1,400	1.5	"	150.	315,000.	315,000.
	1957	3,755	1.25	"	160.	755,042.	755,042.
Broccoli	1958	900	2.5	"	140.	315,000.	315,000.
	1957	2,650	2.	"	135.	715,500.	715,500.
Cabbage	1958	260	12.	Fresh	40.	124,800.	124,800.
Carrots	1958	20	3.	Fresh	60.	3,600.	26,910.
		<u>45</u> 65	28.	Processed	18.50	<u>23,310.</u>	
1957	70	30.	2,100	"	20.	42,000.	42,000.
Cauliflower	1958	60	4.	Fresh	110.	26,400.	448,675.
		<u>950</u> 1,010	3.5	<u>3,325</u> 3,565	Processed	127.	
1957	980	3.	2,940	"	130.	382,200.	382,200.
Celery	1958	760	20.	Fresh	40.	608,000.	624,000.
		<u>12</u> 772	20.	<u>240</u> 15,440	Processed	70.	
1957	1,025	22.5	23,062	Fresh	40.	922,500.	922,500.



VEGETABLE CROPS CONTINUED

CROPS	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION (Tons) Per Acre	UTILI- ZATION	UNIT VALUE PER TON	TOTAL GROSS FARM VALUE	TOTAL VALUE
Corn, Sweet	1958	465	5.	2,325	Fresh	\$ 65.	\$ 151,125.
	1957	450	5.25	2,363	"	52.50	129,935.
Cucumbers	1958	110	7.5	825	"	60.	49,500.
		620	9.	5,580	Processed	65.	362,700.
		<u>730</u>		<u>6,405</u>			<u>412,200.</u>
	1957	685	10.5	7,192	"	62.	445,904.
Dill	1958	5	10.	50	"	45.	2,250.
	1957	7	10.	70	"	40.	2,800.
Endive	1958	165	5.	825	Fresh	75.	61,875.
	1957	80	6.	480	"	80.	38,400.
Garlic	1958	1,020	4.	4,080	Dry	220.	897,600.
	1957	927	4.35	3,986	"	210.	837,081.
Lettuce, Head Leaf	1958	2,060	7.5	15,450	Fresh	47.50	733,875.
		245	6.	1,470	"	80.	<u>117,600.</u>
				<u>16,920</u>			851,475.
Mustard Greens	1957	1,650	7.75	12,600	"	48.	607,200.
		115	4.5	517	"	100.	<u>51,750.</u>
	1958	160	5.	800	"	160.	128,000.
Onions	1958	235	20.	4,700	Dry	50.	235,000.
	1957	180	21.25	3,825	"	30.	114,750.
	1958	90	5.	450	Green	125.	56,250.
Peas, Fall	1958	100	3.	300	Fresh	130.	39,000.
	1957	360	2.25	810	"	88.	71,725.

VEGETABLE CROPS CONTINUED

CROPS	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UTILI- ZATION	UNIT VALUE PER TON	TOTAL GROSS FARM VALUE	TOTAL VALUE
			Per Acre	Total				
Peppers, Bell	1958	625	9.	5,625	Fresh	\$ 80.	\$ 450,000.	\$ 450,000.
	1957	215	8.	1,720	"	50.	86,000.	86,000.
Chili & Wax	1958	30	8.	240	Processed	140.	33,600.	33,600.
	1957	50	8.5	425	"	135.	57,375.	57,375.
Romaine	1958	150	6.	900	Fresh	60.	54,000.	54,000.
Spinach	1958	130	5.	650	"	80.	52,000.	110,725.
		435	6.	2,610	Processed	22.50	58,725.	
		<u>505</u>		<u>3,260</u>				
Squash	1957	630	6.75	4,252	"	23.	97,796.	97,796.
Tomatoes, Pole Cannery	1958	60	8.	480	Fresh	90.	43,200.	143,200.
		165	40.	6,600	"	85.	561,000.	
		<u>3,920</u> <u>4,085</u>	22.	<u>86,240</u> <u>92,840</u>	Processed	22.50	<u>1,940,400.</u>	
Pole Cannery	1957	150	42.5	6,375	Fresh	105.	669,375.	1,951,875.
		<u>2,850</u> <u>3,000</u>	20.	<u>57,000</u> <u>63,375</u>	Processed	22.50	<u>1,282,500.</u>	
Other Misc. Truck Crops	1958	2,200		Income Per Acre		520.	1,144,000.	1,144,000.
	1957	2,500	"	"		650.	1,625,000.	1,625,000.
Mushrooms, Fresh	1958	145,000 Sq. Ft.	(2 Lbs per Sq. Ft.)	290,000 Lbs.		.50 Lb.	145,000.	145,000.
	1957	141,300 "	"	268,470 "		.48 "	128,865.	128,865.
TOTALS	1958	18,830					\$10,411,423.	\$10,411,423.
	1957	20,849					\$10,528,162.	\$10,528,162.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

PRODUCE	NUMBER OF HEAD	AVERAGE WEIGHT - POUNDS	PRODUCTION (POUNDS)	UNIT VALUE (PER POUND)	TOTALS	
					1958	1957
GROSS FARM VALUES						
<b>MILK (18,000 Cows)</b>						
Grade A - Market - Butterfat			6,100,000	\$ 1.25	\$ 7,625,000.	\$ 7,625,000.
Grade B - Manufacturing			233,000	.90	209,700.	211,500.
					<u>7,834,700.</u>	<u>7,836,500.</u>
<b>LIVESTOCK</b>						
Cows	9,950	1,150	11,142,500	.20	2,288,500.	1,690,500.
Steers	20,650	950	19,617,500	.25	4,904,375.	4,000,000.
Heifers	5,250	850	4,462,500	.23	1,026,375.	891,000.
Calves, Weaners	4,600	430	1,978,000	.27	534,060.	304,000.
Calves, Veal	11,000	200	2,200,000	.28	616,000.	359,100.
Bulls, Slaughter	150	1,500	225,000	.25	56,250.	None Reported
Bulls, Breeding	400	-	-	600. Each	240,000.	64,000.
Swine	12,600	235	2,961,000	.22	651,420.	748,125.
Lambs	2,000	90	180,000	.23	41,400.	36,100.
Ewes	400	-	-	5.00 Each	2,000.	2,000.
Wool			20,000	.37*	7,400.	10,835.
<b>TOTALS</b>					\$18,201,780.	\$15,878,160.

\*Does not include Wool Incentive Payment.

POULTRY AND RABBITS

PRODUCT	NUMBER SOLD	AVERAGE WEIGHT (Pounds)	PRODUCTION (Pounds)	UNIT VALUE (Per Pound)	TOTALS	
					1958	GROSS FARM VALUE 1957
Laying Hens	808,000		484,800 Cases Eggs	\$10.50 Cs.	\$5,090,400.	\$4,838,000.
Heavy Fryers	1,460,000	3.25	4,745,000	.17	806,650.	862,875.
Broilers	326,000	1.75	570,500	.18	102,690.	121,275.
Cull Hens						
Leghorns	350,000	3.50	1,225,000	.09	110,250.	150,360.
Heavy Breeds	45,000	5.00	225,000	.12	27,000.	40,950.
Baby Chicks					Not Reported	885,000.
Turkeys						
Toms	500	27.00	13,500	.19	2,565.	97,929.
Hens	500	16.00	8,000	.20	1,600.	56,616.
Squabs	45,000	1.00	45,000	1.00	45,000.	47,500.
Rabbits						
Fryers	3,540	4.00	14,160	.25	3,540.	10,000.
Stewers	270	8.50	2,295	.10	229.	298.
Laboratory Animals	500	5.00	2,500	.30	750.	945.
				TOTALS	\$6,190,674.	\$7,111,748.

APIARY PRODUCTS

Honey	105,000 lbs.	@ .125 lb.	\$13,125.	\$14,400.
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FIELD CROPS

CROPS	ACRES	AV. YIELD PER ACRE (Tons)	TOTAL PRODUCTION (Tons)	UNIT VALUE PER TON	GROSS TO PRODUCERS	
					1958	1957
Alfalfa	1,700	5	8,500	\$ 30.	\$ 255,000.	\$ 229,000.
Grain Hay	9,000	1	9,000	25.	225,000.	237,500.
Volunteer Hay	2,400	3/4	1,800	18.	32,400.	26,250.
Permanent Pasture	4,100	Value Per Acre		125.	512,500.	625,000.
Improved Pasture	5,133	" "	" "	25.	128,325.	Not Reported
Range Pasture	225,000	" "	" "	2.50	562,500.	" "
Barley	3,600	3/4	2,700	42.	113,400.	92,250.
Oats	100	1/2	50	45.	2,250.	6,160.
Wheat	132	3/4	99	65.	6,435.	4,575.
Sugar Beets*	3,964	18	71,352	12.	856,224.	1,127,080.
*Sugar Act Payment Not Included						
TOTALS					\$2,694,034.	\$2,348,315.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS  
(This Total Not Included  
in Agricultural Income)

Sugar Beets (Sugar Act Payment)	\$146,544.
A. C. P. (Agricultural Conservation Program)	79,637.
Wool Incentive Payment	1,765.
Soil Bank (Acreage Reserve)	1,144.
TOTAL	
	\$229,090.

CUT FLOWERS

PRODUCT	PRODUCING AREA		UNIT VALUE	GROSS VALUE	TOTALS	
	1957	1958			1957	1958
Asters 24 Growers	99 Acres		\$3,800.	\$ 376,200.	\$ 376,200.	\$ 301,500.
Carnations 27 Growers	Glasshouses - 618,000 Sq. Ft. Plastic Houses - 763,000 " " Cloth Houses - 232,000 " "	.98 per Sq. Ft. .86 " " " .51 " " "	605,640. 656,180. <u>118,320.</u>		1,380,140.	1,276,140.
Chrysanthemums 107 Growers	Glasshouses - 195 Rooms Plastic Houses - 2,930 " Cloth Houses - 8,145 "	800. per Room 800. " " 215. " "	156,000. 2,344,000. <u>1,751,175.</u>		4,251,175.	3,308,800.
Roses 3 Growers	Glasshouses - 245,200 Sq. Ft.	1.27 per Sq. Ft.	311,404.		311,404.	331,650.
Miscellaneous			84,000.		84,000.	75,000.
			TOTALS	\$6,402,919.	\$6,402,919.	\$5,293,090.
<u>NURSERY STOCK</u>						
Grown and Sold - 343 Nurseries			TOTAL	\$1,750,000.	\$1,750,000.	\$4,325,000.*
<u>SEED STOCK</u>						
Miscellaneous Vegetable Seed 688 Acres Produced	632,620 Lbs. @ .28 per pound			\$ 177,133.	\$ 177,133.	\$ 264,077.
Miscellaneous Flower Seed 44 Acres Produced	19,867 Lbs. @ \$1.18 per pound			23,443.	23,443.	13,630.
			TOTALS	\$ 200,576.	\$ 200,576.	\$ 277,707.

\*Extreme variation of the 1957 value and the 1958 value of nursery stock grown and sold is due to reporting income value of wholesale and retail sales of nursery stock in past years.

RECAPITULATION

VALUATION

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>
FRUITS AND NUTS	\$33,850,671.	\$31,137,920.
STRAWBERRIES AND BUSHBERRIES	5,721,800.	8,753,360.
VEGETABLES	10,411,423.	10,528,162.
LIVESTOCK	18,201,780.	15,878,160.
POULTRY AND RABBITS	6,190,674.	7,111,745.
APIARY	13,125.	14,400.
FIELD CROPS	2,694,034.	2,348,315.
CUT FLOWERS	6,402,919.	5,293,090.
NURSERY STOCK	1,750,000.	4,325,000.
SEED STOCK	200,576.	277,707.
TOTALS	<u>\$85,437,002.</u>	<u>\$84,667,859.</u>
		\$86,579,979.*

\* The total agricultural valuation as reported for 1957 was \$86,579,979, which included products and U. S. Government payments that are not included in this 1958 report.

COMPARATIVE FIGURES INCLUDING REPORTED ACREAGES  
FOR FRUIT, NUT, BERRY, AND VEGETABLE CROPS

OF  
AGRICULTURAL VALUES FOR FIFTEEN YEARS

YEAR	BEARING ACRES FRUITS, NUTS, BERRIES	FRUIT VEGETABLE AND NUT CROPS ACREAGE	VEGETABLE CROPS	ANIMAL INDUSTRIES	FIELD CROPS U.S. PAYMENTS AND BEES	NURSERY STOCKS CUT FLOWERS AND SEED	TOTALS	
1944	101,039	\$37,092,685	24,477	\$ 8,009,264	\$12,909,953	\$2,049,270	\$1,000,000	\$61,061,172
1945	100,770	39,870,475	16,573	6,788,581	14,947,712	2,574,203	1,075,000	65,255,971
1946	101,030	50,686,450	24,278	9,172,768	18,891,315	2,490,886	1,423,034	82,664,453
1947	99,203	31,361,198	25,155	10,788,258	24,409,614	1,276,797	1,500,592	69,336,459
1948	99,198	33,684,737	26,209	9,534,275	26,958,422	1,874,671	1,527,700	73,579,805
1949	96,971	26,933,350	26,707	9,625,597	25,119,084	1,396,661	3,338,867	66,413,561
1950	86,015	42,328,015	26,277	8,851,610	27,885,899	1,190,124	3,883,165	84,138,813
1951	85,062	40,004,504	27,195	10,162,437	28,650,066	1,213,009	3,448,135	83,478,151
1952	83,937	35,767,367	28,237	11,587,016	31,208,224	2,376,861	5,089,395	86,028,863
1953	82,174	46,145,673	22,259	9,707,947	30,012,034	2,294,318	5,998,845	94,158,817
1954	80,884	44,835,821	18,736	9,750,862	24,310,666	1,920,938	7,554,467	88,372,754
1955	77,826	54,855,280	22,310	9,790,014	25,828,198	2,332,508	8,111,102	100,917,102
1956	75,984	51,621,955	25,746	12,252,637	23,475,422	2,270,102	8,648,229	98,268,345
1957	75,428	40,073,580	20,849	10,528,162	23,489,908	2,592,532	9,895,797	86,579,979
1958	74,385	39,572,471	18,830	10,411,423	24,392,454	2,707,159*	8,353,495	85,437,002

\* U. S. Government payments are not included in this 1958 report.



## FROST SERVICE

Prepared by

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Each year since 1922 the Santa Clara County Department of Agriculture has cooperated with the Fruit-Frost Service of the U. S. Weather Bureau in maintaining a frost warning service for Santa Clara County. The Santa Clara Valley is one of twelve important fruit-producing districts in the far western states where this specialized service is conducted each spring.

Growers' thermometers are collected by the Department each March and checked for accuracy, free of charge, by a representative of the Weather Bureau who is detailed to San Jose for the spring frost season.

Weather Bureau temperature recording instruments, valued at several thousand dollars, are located at approximately twenty representative locations in the county. A minimum thermometer and thermograph are installed at each station, providing an accurate record of the duration of low temperatures, as well as securing valuable information on daytime temperatures.

Minimum temperature forecasts for these stations are broadcast each evening by San Jose radio stations to aid growers in protecting their crops in the most efficient manner against frost damage. In addition, the services of a trained meteorologist are available for advice on frost protection problems.

### Weather Summary of the 1958 Spring Season

The month of February 1958 was one of the wettest and warmest on record, not only in Santa Clara County, but throughout California. The warm weather shortened the period of dormancy for many varieties of fruits and nuts, and the bud and blossom development was about ten days to two weeks earlier than normal. Rainy weather interfered with pollination of the early blossoms, and the application of dormant and pre-blossom sprays was behind schedule. Soil preparation for a variety of field crops was also delayed.

Continued wet weather in March prevented adequate spray coverage although some growers used airplanes for spray applications. This set the stage for serious damage by fungus and bacterial diseases. Daytime temperatures were consistently below normal and the rainy, cloudy weather continued unfavorable for the pollination and development of fruit and nut crops. The bloom and later growth was quite irregular.

Rain and cool weather through the first week in April held orchard work at a standstill and continued to slow the development of fruit and nut crops. After the first week of April, however, the weather conditions improved rapidly and favored the soil preparation, planting and development of field crops.

Warm, sunny, dry weather was an aid in slowing the spread of fungus and bacterial diseases which had already taken a large toll in fruit.

Frost damage this season in Santa Clara County was light and confined to a few unprotected orchards and also to a relatively small acreage of grapes and tomatoes and other tender plants. Most of the frost damage occurred on the mornings of April 24 and 25.

COMPARATIVE DATA FROM THE TEMPERATURE RECORDS  
OF PREVIOUS YEARS IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Year	Number of Cold Nights			Lowest Temperature	Date of Last Frost	Number of Nights of Firing			
	March	April	May			March	April	May	Total
1950	7	2	5	23.0	5/8	6	0	2	8
1951	16	1	0	26.5	4/18	4	0	0	4
1952	5	1	2	27.5	5/5	4	0	2	6
1953	11	8	0	25.9	4/16	6	5	0	11
1954	8	2	0	26.0	5/1	4	0	1	5
1955	11	15	0	24.0	4/28	7	8	0	15
1956	12	5	0	25.0	4/12	6	0	0	6
1957	6	2	0	29.0	4/11	3	1	0	4
1958	6	4	0	28.0	4/26	3	2	0	5