



January 3rd, 2024

To: Orange County Agri-businesses

Subject: 2023 Annual Crop Report

In 2022, Orange County's agricultural commodities were valued at \$86.4 million dollars, but how is this value determined? Every year the Orange County Agricultural Commissioner's Office sends out our Crop Report Survey, enclosed in this letter, to growers, farmers, nurseries, livestock owners, beekeepers, micro farms, and agribusinesses like you to help us understand the variety and value of agricultural commodities grown right here in Orange County. We then use your responses to create our Annual Crop Report.

The Annual Crop Report, required by Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, is critical as it helps provide reliable data to researchers, educators, and policymakers. This data has been used for disaster declarations, insurance estimations, farm loan programs, and public education and outreach about the importance of agriculture to our local economy, so full reporting is a benefit to all county producers. Your input is very important and your response to the survey is greatly appreciated!

We rely on the support of producers like you in completing the 2023 Orange County Crop Report Survey to create an accurate and useful report. This report reflects the gross value of production and does not reflect net proceeds. The information you provide in this survey is kept strictly confidential and will not be made available to any other agency. Your data will be aggregated with others to protect individual producer information and will be used solely to compile this report. The accuracy of our report is directly dependent on the figures we receive from our local agricultural producers.

If you are interested in viewing the 2022 Orange County Crop Report, we invite you to visit our website <u>OCERAC.OCPublicWorks.com</u> or scan the QR code at the bottom of this page.

The Crop Report Survey responses are due by <u>February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024</u>, and can be submitted by using the enclosed return envelope, faxed to (714) 921-2713, or emailed to <u>OC.Commissioner@ocpw.ocgov.com</u>. <u>Please only report agricultural commodities produced within Orange County.</u>

Thank you for time and we hope you choose to participate!

Sincerely,

Jose A. Arriaga Orange County Agricultural Commissioner/ Sealer of Weights and Measures

