



CALIFORNIA

Agriculture in California

- Agricultural production in California contributes more than **\$50 billion** to the state's economy, **more than any other state**.
- As of the last USDA Census of Agriculture in 2012, California has approximately **78,000 farms** producing on more than **25.5 million acres** of farmland.
- Of these farms, **95.1% are non-corporate farms** owned by individuals, partners or families.
- The top agricultural commodities produced in California are dairy products, almonds, grapes, and cattle and calves.

Crop Insurance in California

- Over **6 million acres** of cropland were covered by insurance in California in 2016, not including policies for livestock.
- Almost **\$10 billion in ag liability** was protected by crop insurance in California in 2016, including coverage for:
 - Livestock (through the Livestock Gross Margin Dairy or LGM policy),
 - Nurseries,
 - Diversified farms through Whole Farm Revenue protection, and
 - A variety of fruits and vegetables including 33,256 acres of avocados, 28,461 acres of cherries, 24,517 acres of olives and 466,125 acres of wine grapes
- There are **12 companies** and approximately **800 agents** licensed to sell crop insurance in California. Additionally, numerous adjusters evaluate crop insurance claims in California. Each of these sectors represent good-paying jobs and ensure top-notch service to California's 78,000 farms.
- In 2016, more than **\$306 million in indemnities** were paid to California farmers for losses they incurred above and beyond their deductibles, which are on average 25% of the value of the crop. **California farmers paid an estimated \$192 million** for this coverage.

Jim Costa, Democratic U.S. Congressman, California's 16th District

[Farm Policy Facts](#), April 28, 2016

The public needs to understand that growing food is a very risky business, and farmers are price takers, not price makers. Every year, the people who produce our food face numerous risk factors, like weather, high input costs, and the global market, for which they have no control over. With more and more people demanding that rural America produce higher yielding and safer products at lower prices, we need to utilize every tool available in our toolbox, like crop insurance, to help those who sacrifice every day to produce the food and fiber we consume.

Todd Snider, California crop insurance agent and Director, Kern County Farm Bureau

[The Bakersfield Californian](#), November 3, 2015

This drought has been historic and is about as stubborn as a drought can be. But farmers are hardworking, honest and smart businessmen and women who have armed themselves with the best tools possible to weather this storm. And crop insurance has ensured that California's central valley will remain America's fruit and vegetable garden for generations to come.

Lorraine Greco, California Board, U.S. Rice Producers Association

[Agri-Pulse](#), March 23, 2016

Crop insurance is something we purchase each year to manage this risk and we only receive an indemnity when we suffer a verifiable loss. Even then, it doesn't make us whole, but it does soften the blow from a bad year.

It's important to have this kind of safety net in place for all farmers, all across the country. And, I am always alarmed by the calls in Washington to cut what remains of the farm safety net, especially from those who have no idea what it takes to grow food and fiber. We need risk management tools now more than ever to help us overcome unpredictable weather events.

Additionally, we need policy in place to combat unfair practices with our foreign competitors like China and Thailand whose support for their rice growers far exceeds that of the United States and actually violates agreements under the World Trade Organization (WTO).