



2020 ANNUAL AGRICULTURE REPORT

THE CROP REPORT COVERS THE REPORTING PERIOD FROM JANUARY 2019 – DECEMBER 2019
Crop production on Coachella Valley land is irrigated with Colorado River water.

- **\$596,307,211** Value of this year's production
- **64,340** Total acreage irrigation includes double cropping and irrigated but not harvested
- **\$9,268** Average gross value per acre

Financial figures are rounded to the nearest dollar. Crop categories established by the Bureau of Reclamation.

* Does not include planted and irrigated but non-bearing acreage.

⁽¹⁾ Yield is in animal units per month (AUM).



A MESSAGE FROM OUR

GENERAL MANAGER

Coachella Valley Water District's (CVWD) relationship with area farmers stretches back to the very beginnings of the district's foundation more than 100 years ago. That is when residents realized they needed to secure and protect water rights for the valley, allowing CVWD to maintain the integrity of the local groundwater basin through importing Colorado River water.

The productive farmlands of the eastern Coachella Valley have some of the highest per acre crop yields in the world. Together, farming and tourism propel the economy of the Coachella Valley, thanks to the water resources that CVWD works to protect.

CVWD has created this new publication, CVWD's Annual Agriculture Report, as a newsletter for CVWD canal water customers, including famers, agricultural businesses, and agricultural groups. We have moved the annual crop report, provided in the past in our Annual Review and Water Quality Report, here to provide more prominence and timeliness and have included short articles about our work protecting our sources of water for farmers, residents, and visitors alike.

Please let us know what you would like to see on an ongoing basis in this publication.

We welcome your feedback at publicinfo@cvwd.org.

Thank you,

Jim Barrett

YourWater
is our promise.

	ACREAGE*	YIELD IN TONS	VALUE /ACRE	TOTAL VALUE
FRUIT	21,754	1,369,750	\$11,771	\$256,058,678
Dates	8,769	2,385	\$10,690	\$93,737,102
Figs	138	8	\$4,296	\$592,881
Grapefruit	427	4,393	\$10,893	\$4,651,490
Grapes	5,965	31,953	\$15,475	\$92,309,568
Lemons - Limes	4,575	53,024	\$7,930	\$36,279,750
Mangoes	117	556	\$57,000	\$6,669,000
Olives	86	473	\$7,205	\$619,630
Oranges - Tangerines	1,146	802,200	\$15,050	\$17,247,300
Peaches	16	83	\$15,112	\$241,787
Strawberries	15	135	\$30,000	\$450,000
Melons - Watermelon	423	465,300	\$7,183	\$3,038,409
Misc. Fruit	77	9,240	\$2,880	\$221,760

VEGETABLES	25,997	939,593	\$9,287	\$241,424,447
Artichoke	848	7,021	\$10,656	\$9,036,288
Bell Peppers	4,250	95,625	\$16,500	\$70,125,000
Bokchoy	98	2,282	\$5,940	\$582,150
Broccoli	1,148	10,496	\$7,441	\$8,542,498
Cabbage	616	17,402	\$5,514	\$3,396,870
Carrots	4,495	211,265	\$6,959	\$31,279,896
Cauliflower	1,479	9,729	\$7,442	\$11,006,304
Celery	830	38,819	\$8,528	\$7,078,016
Chili Peppers	104	1,952	\$16,313	\$1,696,556
Eggplant	197	2,561	\$21,463	\$4,228,211
Green Beans	858	3,724	\$11,966	\$10,266,828
Kale	418	9,363	\$6,432	\$2,688,576
Lettuce	3,236	65,521	\$9,568	\$30,963,310
Okra	640	4,800	\$9,488	\$6,072,000
Onions - Green	352	1,786	\$699	\$246,013
Oriental Vegetables	1,664	24,461	\$8,400	\$13,977,600
Parsley	79	5,884	\$22,344	\$1,765,176
Potatoes	591	514	\$4,270	\$2,523,546
Radishes	73	2,188	\$6,989	\$510,200
Spices	1,073	110	\$3,723	\$3,994,779
Spinach	546	8,681	\$13,261	\$7,240,288
Squash	309	247,200	\$6,000	\$1,854,000
Sugar Beets	97	116,400	\$6,840	\$663,480
Sweet Corn	1,699	17,202	\$5,166	\$8,777,034
Tomatoes	253	4,731	\$10,285	\$2,602,105
Turnip	44	29,876	\$6,994	\$307,723

FORAGE	2,340	19,720	\$791	\$1,851,409
Corn	45	12,052	\$6,302	\$283,579
Hay - Alfalfa	852	7,668	\$1,620	\$1,380,240
Pasture ⁽¹⁾	21		\$130	\$2,730
Pasture-Permanent ⁽¹⁾	1,422		\$130	\$184,860

FISH FARM	265	1,662	\$32,459	\$8,601,595
DUCK POND	775	4	\$67	\$51,828
GOLF COURSE	6,024	54,818	\$9,191	\$55,366,584
POLO FIELD	510	4,641	\$9,191	\$4,687,410
TURF GRASS	1,111	10,110	\$9,191	\$10,211,201
NURSERY-Plants	179		\$14,340	\$2,566,860
NURSERY-Trees	1,080		\$14,340	\$15,487,200

2019 CROP REPORT

NEWS

from CVWD



Thomas E. Levy Groundwater Replenishment Ponds

New federal report shows increasing groundwater levels in the Coachella Valley

A new report by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) shows that efforts by CVWD to replenish local aquifers in the Coachella Valley have been effective, leading to stable land surface elevations in most of the Coachella Valley. Areas with land subsidence identified in prior studies are now stable, uplifting, or experiencing substantial slowing of subsidence. CVWD partners with Coachella Water Authority, Desert Water Agency, Indio Water Authority, and Mission Springs Water District to manage groundwater in the Coachella Valley.

The USGS report identified three initiatives by CVWD that have been most effective in improving groundwater conditions in some of the historically most overdrafted areas of the valley. The initiatives are providing Colorado River water through the Mid-Valley Pipeline project since 2009 to reduce groundwater pumping; budget-based, tiered water rates in place since 2009 that have contributed to conservation; and aquifer replenishment at the Thomas E. Levy Groundwater Replenishment Facility since 2009. To help reduce groundwater pumping, in 1949 CVWD began importing water from the Colorado River via the Coachella branch of the All American Canal.

To collect data for the study, Global Positioning System (GPS) surveying and interferometric synthetic aperture radar (InSAR) methods were used to analyze the vertical land-surface changes in the Coachella Valley. The study found that water levels in wells throughout the valley showed longer-term stability or rising groundwater levels since about 2010. These results mark a reversal in trends of groundwater-level declines during the preceding decades.

The full report, Detection and Measurement of Land Subsidence and Uplift Using Global Positioning System Surveys and Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar, Coachella Valley, California, 2010 – 17, can be viewed at pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/sir20205093

CVWD uses grants to help disadvantaged communities

CVWD is using grant money to fund three projects that will bring safe, reliable domestic water and fire protection to two Disadvantaged Communities and one elementary school in the Eastern Coachella Valley.

Water system consolidation grants were awarded April 29, 2020 by California State Water Resources Control Board as part of the Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resiliency Drinking Water Program.

The Oasis Gardens Mobile Home Park project will connect approximately 160 mobile homes to CVWD's system. The project will install a 125-foot long pipeline, a backflow device and a fire hydrant to provide fire protection service to the community. The Thermal Mutual project will allow 38 residential properties linked to a failing 50-year-old well to instead be connected with approximately 2,000 feet of 8-inch pipeline in the streets. The Westside Elementary School project will install an offsite 1,350-foot pipeline for improved water supply reliability and fire flow.

CVWD founded a Disadvantaged Communities Infrastructure Task Force in 2017 to assist communities in the Eastern Valley in receiving grant funding for important infrastructure projects. The Infrastructure Task Force is comprised of representatives from local disadvantaged communities, government agencies, and non-profit organizations committed to working on short-term and long-term solutions to ensure that all regional disadvantaged communities benefit.



Construction begins at Westside Elementary School



Coachella Canal

Farmers turn to technology to use water efficiently

A recent Associated Press report that ran in multiple news outlets noted that researchers across the Southwest are experimenting with drones and other technology to help manage their use of Colorado River water in as efficient a manner as possible.

The news service turned to CVWD's Water Management Supervisor Don Ackley for insight on the technology trend.

"It's like almost every month somebody's coming up with something here and there," he told the AP. "You almost can't keep up with it."

The full Associated Press report is here:

apnews.com/article/dc5a78bd41a146b79dd430e2f0522096