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### JOHN SNYDER

Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights & Measures

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California Department of Food and Agriculture

The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Riverside County

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It is with great pleasure that I present the 2015 Riverside County Agricultural Production Report. This report is produced in accordance with Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, and summarizes the acreage, production and valuation of Riverside County's agricultural commodities.

This year's report represents a total gross value of **\$1,301,551,000**. Although a decrease of \$60.5 million (4.4%) from the prior year's all-time record, 2015 boasts the third highest valuation in Riverside County history. Our major commodity groups experienced some slight ups and downs in 2015. Citrus, for example, was up 9.8% while Nursery production, on the other hand, fell nearly 9.0%. The Field and Seed commodity group experienced the largest dip (21.6%) due largely to shifting planting priorities in the Palo Verde Valley.

Based on historical models, Riverside County's 2015 agricultural production contributed nearly four billion dollars to the regional economy when indirect and induced economic impacts are considered.

A key factor in Riverside County's agricultural strength is in the diversity of crops produced. This is especially important as producers contend with fluctuating climate and weather patterns. Our 2015 report includes more than 120 different commodities, forty-nine of which have a gross value in excess of \$1,000,000. Despite the multitude of challenges faced by agriculturalists in 2015, Riverside County exported high-quality food and fiber to 60 countries worldwide.

Crop values vary from year to year based on production, market fluctuations and weather. It must be emphasized that this report reflects a gross return only and in no way represents a measure of profit or loss to producers. Growers do not have control over most input costs, such as fuel, fertilizers and packaging, nor can they significantly affect market prices.

This report is our yearly opportunity to recognize the growers, shippers, ranchers and other businesses instrumental to and supportive of agriculture in Riverside County. As such, I would like to extend my thanks to the industry for their continued efforts in providing the vital information that enables the compilation of this report.

Respectfully submitted,

John Snyder  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights and Measures