



ANNUAL REPORT 2013

DIVISION OF INSPECTION SERVICES



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

DIVISION OF INSPECTION SERVICES 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	6-11
Mission Statement	7
Our Core Values	8
Message from the Director	9
Farm to Fork Office.....	10
DIVISION BRANCHES	12-13
Division Branch Descriptions.....	13
BRANCH HIGHLIGHTS	14-23
Promote and Protect.....	16
Maximize Resources.....	20
Education and Engagement	22
Customer Service	23
Invest in Employee Development	23
OVERVIEW OF BRANCHES	24-68
Center for Analytical Chemistry (CAC)	26-43
Branch Summary	27
Food Safety Laboratory	28
Pesticide Residue Laboratories	30
USDA Pesticide Data Program.....	36
Environmental Monitoring Section.....	48
Feed and Fertilizer Section.....	40
Additional CDFA Programs.....	42
Feed, Fertilizer, and Livestock Drugs and Regulatory Services	44-57
Branch Summary	45
Feed and Livestock Drugs Inspection Program.....	46
SAFE Feed Animal Education Program	49
Fertilizing Materials Inspection Program	50

Organic Input Materials 51
Fertilizer Sampling and Inspection 53
Fertilizer Research and Education Program..... 55

Inspection and Compliance 58-68
Branch Summary 59
Shipping Point Inspection Program..... 60
Standardization Program 64
Avocado Inspection Program 65
Direct Marketing 66
Citrus Program 67
California State Organic Program 68

PHONE DIRECTORY 69-70

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 71

2013 RETIREMENTS 72



INTRODUCTION

OUR MISSION

*TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES THAT SUPPORT AND
CONTRIBUTE TO A SAFE, ABUNDANT, AND QUALITY FOOD
SUPPLY, ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND AGRICULTURE
PRACTICES, AND AN EQUITABLE MARKETPLACE FOR
CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURE.*

CDFA Core Values

- Integrity:** We are truthful, trustworthy and operate in a fair and ethical manner.
- Transparency:** We conduct all operations in an open manner.
- Accountability:** We are responsible to ourselves and others for our actions and decisions.
- Thoughtful
Communication:** We listen and share information openly and honestly with the goal of mutual understanding.
- Respect:** We treat everyone with courtesy, dignity, and consideration.
- Creativity:** We believe in fostering a creative environment.
- Balance:** We strive to maintain effective partnerships so that our decisions are fair to all our stakeholders.
- Diversity:** We are committed to maintaining a diverse workforce.

A Message from the Director

I can't believe it is already time to write this message for another Annual Report. Seems like just a couple of months ago I was writing last year's message about the one constant in life being change; 2013 proved that once again.

While many complain that government moves too slowly, and to be honest, it often does, and perhaps by design. This past year has seen many changes in how and what Inspection Services is and does. Had I not been here to personally see the transformation, I would never believe this is the same division that I first came to work for in 1975.

Maybe it's just me, but the pace of all of this is speeding up, almost daily it seems. But I don't think it is just my perception. Everything about the world is speeding up and getting smaller. At any moment, by using a couple of thumbs and 140 characters, thousands...if not millions of people can instantaneously know exactly

what someone is experiencing on the other side of the world. That's small... that's fast!

While I would never compare the speed in which Inspection Services moves to Twitter, I do know we are much more nimble and adaptable than ever before. But those are the expectations of those we serve, and deservedly so.

The credit for this nimbleness and adaptability, which is shown in the report, goes to all of the individuals that work here. They don't just accept this reality but embrace it. The various generations that populate the work place each have a role and without any one, would not be as effective. However, I must say I am thankful for the generations that really understand technology and how it transforms us. I like to think that we more "senior members" help keep things grounded, but that may just be wishful thinking.



Rick S. Jensen

So, enjoy reading the Annual Report and the various highlights. For many programs and projects, 2013 proved to be a period of building on strategies put in place in 2012. For others, 2013 was the launching pad for brand new initiatives. It appears that 2014 is the year we see some major initiatives started in 2012/2013 come to fruition. But of course, there will always be something new as well.

Office of Farm to Fork

Overview

CDFA's Office of Farm to Fork is committed to helping all Californians access healthy and nutritious California-grown food. The Office connects individual consumers, school districts, and others directly with California's farmers and ranchers, and provides information resources.

The Office was formed as a collaboration with the Health in All Policies Task Force, the California Department of Education, and the California Department of Public Health, as well as local partners and community groups. These partnerships have strengthened local food systems, increased connections between local farmers and consumers – including institutional consumers such as schools and food banks – and increased the availability of healthy and nutritious food for low-income Californians. In addition to developing nutrition education resources and working with local school districts, the

Office of Farm to Fork has plans to work with county fairgrounds and other community hubs to develop aggregation and distribution centers to make more locally grown food available in an effort to spur consumer, institution, and community feeding programs.

The mission of the Office has become more profound in light of the state's current drought. Increased access points, creative land usage, and expanding availability of resources are all a means to increase food security among individuals and regions that face the greatest challenges. Similarly, improving healthy school environments and market accessibility to fresh fruits and vegetables is just as important to a lasting change within the diversity of our food system.

Farm to Fork Website

The Office of Farm to Fork launched its

website, www.cafarmtofork.com, which highlights innovative farm to fork programs, provides seasonal and regional fruit and vegetable information (complete with recipes), and hosts the Farm to Fork Blog "Tales from the Field." The website is being expanded to include additional resources for farmers, consumers, schools, and community groups.

Farm to School

The Office Farm to Fork is working on a number of projects to support Farm to School programs in California. In addition, to compiling and creating resources regarding food safety in schools, and career and technical education pathways in agriculture and culinary arts, the Office has worked closely with Pittsburg Unified School District to create a model for a school district buyers' collaborative in Contra

Costa County. The Office has facilitated connections among the school food service directors in Contra Costa County and has conducted a needs assessment to determine the variety and amount of local produce the combined school districts would like to purchase. Farm to Fork staff has worked with local farmers to determine supply and create a system for the school districts to buy food from local farmers to include in their school meal programs. After this system is piloted in Contra Costa and Ventura counties, the Office will make this model and supporting tools available to school districts throughout California.



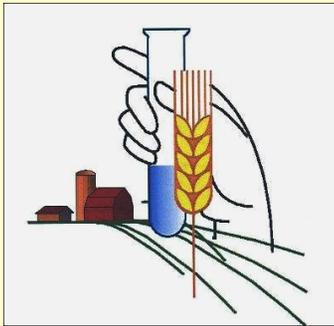


DIVISION BRANCHES

Division Branch Descriptions

Center for Analytical Chemistry

The Center for Analytical Chemistry (CAC) is a state-of-the-art chemistry laboratory with facilities located in Sacramento and Anaheim, California. Their mission is to provide impartial, timely, accurate, and cost effective analytical services. The Center consists of two main sections -Food Safety and Environmental Safety.



Feed, Fertilizer, and Livestock Drugs Regulatory Services

The Feed, Fertilizer, and Livestock Drugs Regulatory Services Branch (FFLDRS) is designed to provide Californians with an abundant supply of clean and wholesome food and fiber. FFLDRS works to ensure that all feed, fertilizing materials, and livestock drugs sold in California are safe, effective, and meet the manufacturers' quality and quantity guarantees. FFLDRS also has a crucial role in the protection of the State's environment by regulating the manufacture and labeling of the fertilizing materials used in agriculture.



Inspection and Compliance

The Inspection and Compliance Branch (I&C) oversees the fair and orderly marketing of agricultural commodities in California. The six main programs of the branch are designed to protect producers, packers, shippers, and processors while ensuring the quality and integrity of both fresh and processed fruits and vegetables offered to California's consumers.





DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

Division Highlights

Throughout 2013, the division branches have made huge strides in improving our service to California's agriculture industry, as well as its citizens. The Center for Analytical Chemistry, the Feed, Fertilizer, and Livestock Drugs Regulatory Services branch, and the Inspection and Compliance branch have all worked tirelessly to ensure our department's mission, goals, and values are not only met, but exceeded. This section is intended to highlight their achievements in five main focus areas:

Promote and Protect

Maximize Resources

Education and Engagement

Customer Service

Invest in Employee Development



Promote and Protect

Division Administration

SNAP-Ed and Fair Projects

In 2013, the Inspection Services Division continued the process to secure Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) funds for projects at various county fairs, via a contract with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). By the second year into the two-year process, fairs had submitted 23 proposals requesting over 3 million dollars in funding.

Throughout the first half of 2013, CDFA received proposals from various fairs that were reviewed and sent to the USDA/Food Nutrition Services (FNS) for final approval. Of the many proposals, five were selected by USDA/FNS for total funding of \$672,950.

The variety of projects helps demonstrate the diversity of fairs and their uses. The fairs used their creative

side as well as their event planning skills to create SNAP-Ed projects that are fun for the whole family. The projects included:

- Redwood Acres (9th District Agricultural Association) used the SNAP-Ed funds to create a community garden and hold year-round educational classes on “Plant, Prepare and Preserve.”
- Calaveras County Fair & Jumping Frog Jubilee (39th District Agricultural Association), added a nutrition education component to their annual Ag Day.
- Sacramento County Fair (52nd District Agricultural Association), entered Wheelbarrow gardens in the fair which were planted and grown in 176 classrooms in Sacramento County. The Wheelbarrow garden program included nutrition education curriculum as well as agricultural curriculum.

- The Marin County Fair received funding to support the Healthy Fare, showcasing healthy food choices at the fair. “Health Ambassadors” performed outreach before and during the fair to spread the word, and the “Make Your World” Pavilion held cooking and gardening demonstrations.
- San Mateo County Fair highlighted crops that are leaders in their county (artichokes, brussel sprouts, english peas, fava beans, and leeks), and created a vegetable character that humanizes and makes vegetables kid friendly. It held cooking demonstrations, provided opportunities for families to take a healthy eating pledge, and supplied material needed for classrooms to grow their own garden.



Center of Analytical Chemistry

New Equipment & Expanded Methodology

The primary role of the laboratories at the Center for Analytical Chemistry (CAC) is to provide testing to government agencies that work to protect the nation's food supply, the consumers, and the environment. The CAC supports enforcement activities and research programs of agencies including the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) and other programs within CDFA such as the State Organic program, and the Feed Fertilizer and Livestock Drugs Regulatory program. For the third consecutive year, the Food Safety (FS) laboratories at the CAC received funding from the Specialty Crop Block Grant and purchased sophisticated instruments that allow the program the ability to broaden its monitoring capability, shorten assay time and produce quality results. As the food

supply increasingly comes from all corners of the world, the FS laboratories at the CAC recognize the importance of continuously expanding the scope of its activities to monitor for agro-chemicals used domestically and overseas as well to maintain program's effectiveness and relevance. The FS team developed a new analytical screen that can detect a class of acid herbicides and added more than 100 new pesticides to the existing screens. Since the implementation of these new types of instruments, the FS program has increased its detection potential by more than 70%. The method expansion was necessary for the program to remain pertinent in the food safety surveillance arena as a major portion of our foods comes from foreign countries where agricultural practices are different from those in the U.S. Data from the State Residue Monitoring program within the CAC highlight the fact that the majority of tolerance violations come from imported produce. In 2013, data provided by the FS laboratory helped California

Department of Public Health release a health warning against eating pesticide-tainted imported cacti. The laboratory also provides data to emphasize the safety of California agriculture products.

Inspection and Compliance

Organic Program

As part of its continued commitment to ensuring consumers are receiving organic agricultural products that meet state and federal organic standards, the CDFA State Organic Program (SOP) increased surveillance of organic farming operations through a one hundred percent increase in surveillance residue (random) sampling of agricultural commodities for residues of unallowable substances. This random sampling is conducted at crop production fields, certified farmers' markets, storage facilities, packing plants, and retail stores. Additionally, over 700 inspections of organic agricultural operations were completed as part of SOP surveillance activities.

Avocado Program

Avocado Inspection Program began discussions with the Avocado Inspection Committee to update Regulations to be compliant with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). The concern being what is referred to as “windfall fruit” caused by extreme winds. (Under the current regulations this fruit is allowed to be packed if maturity standards are met.) FSMA Dropped Fruit Section 112.114 would prohibit the distribution of produce that drops to the ground before harvest (dropped produce) unless it is exempt under section 112.2(b).

Discussions began in September 2012 to change the Regulations for “Standard Pack” since Recycled Plastic Containers (RPCs) are being required by many customers as the pack of choice. This will have an impact on inspection procedures and have brought up a discussion and study on size requirements. Inspections would change

from more weight test to more size counts being taken in order to certify the fruit meets requirements.

Shipping Point Inspection

The Inspection and Compliance Branch oversees the fair and orderly marketing of agricultural commodities in California. Programs within the branch are designed to protect producers, packers, shippers, and processors while ensuring the quality of both fresh and processed fruits and vegetables offered to California’s consumers. All program activities are supported by fees and assessments paid by the state’s agricultural industry.

The Shipping Point Inspection Program provides third-party grading and certification services to California’s fruit, nut, and vegetables industries. This industry-funded program provides a nationally and internationally recognized grading and certification service to producers, packers, shippers, and processors. In this way, the program maintains a structure for the orderly and

fair marketing of agricultural commodities in California.

The Shipping Point Inspection Program also provides food safety auditing services to growers and handlers through a number of audit schemes including;

- Good Agricultural Practices/Good Handling Practices (USDA GAP/GHP)
- USDA Harmonized
- Leafy Green Marketing Agreement (LGMA)
- California Cantaloupe Advisory Board (CCAB)

As part of our efforts to meet the needs of the agriculture industry the Shipping Point Inspection Program is seeking accreditation as a Certifying Body by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) through ISO 65. This accreditation provides assurance that the inspection program carries out our audit certification in accordance with requirements defined in international standards. The accreditation will also provide

opportunities in the future to offer Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) audits.

Shipping Point Inspection has participated in the FDA listening sessions regarding implementation of the FSMA. The goal of FSMA is to shift the focus from responding to food safety issues to ensuring minimum safety standards are in place to prevent food safety outbreaks.

Feed, Fertilizer, and Livestock Drug Regulatory Services

Program Reorganization

In an effort to enhance feed safety inspections and compliance, the Feed Inspection Program reorganized operations by taking a three (3) pronged approach to its operations. This approach includes:

- Process Verification
- Enforcement and Compliance
- Outreach/Education/Training

Feed safety continues to be the program's primary focus and reorganizing operations allows the program to remain effective without increasing program costs.

Process Verification Inspections will be performed first on high risk firms identified by the program. This multi-point inspection, based on current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP's), will identify and immediately correct areas of non-compliance with state and federal feed producing regulations. Corrective action measures will be strictly enforced by the program using means at their disposal to gain compliance.

Field staff will continue its targeted and random feed sampling with its focus on food and feed safety; label compliance issues will also be enforced.

Outreach, education, and training have proven effective in gaining compliance and the program has increased efforts to provide industry with process specific training. Compliance through cooperation, maintaining an open line of communication, and being available to provide assistance to industry where needed and is strongly encouraged by the program.

Feed Technical Advisory Sub-Committee

Due to an increase in the availability of undefined feed by-products from the food industry, a Technical Advisory Sub-committee (TASC) was created by the program to determine which products may be safe to use as a feed ingredient. TASC is made up of state, industry, and university personnel that will review food by-product safety and efficacy, and scientific data to determine if the ingredient is safe. TASC will provide the program with a full report indicating if the product is safe to use, the rate at which it may be used, and which class and species of animals it may be fed to.



Maximize Resources

Inspection and Compliance

Organic Program

The CDFA State Organic Program (SOP) implemented improvements to its web-based, online database by automating its registration system providing farmers the ability to register and make payments quickly and easily online. The improved database allows authorized users, including county staff and certifying agents, to input and view complaints, inspection and sampling reports, non-compliances, and other notifications.

The system also enables the SOP to collect and provide detailed, organic agricultural statistics. Additionally, authorized users can view and download a variety of agricultural resources/references online. The database system can be accessed via any device that has wireless internet capability, allowing information to be collected and input into the database in “real time.” This enhances the SOP’s ability to perform

enforcement activities, by making the most current data readily available for investigations.

Certified Farmers Market

Database Development

The Certified Farmer’s Market (CFM) working group is in the process of developing a new database that will meet the growing demands and complexities of program administration. Currently, the to-be document has been developed and will map the course for the database development.

Cross County Enforcement

The cross county CFM enforcement pilot project began in 2013 and will be completed on June 30, 2014. It is anticipated that it will be successful in identifying potential fraud in the CFMs. This project has provided an improved model for cross county enforcement, communication, and tracking of fraudulent activities.

Certified Farmers Market

Noncompliance Listing

A web-based notice of noncompliance list was recently reformatted into a searchable file. This allows easier user access to find information which helps in enforcement issues. Updated noncompliance lists can be found on the CDFA website at: <http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/i & c/cfm.html>

Shipping Point Inspection

Shipping Point Inspection continues to work with industry groups to provide timely information for handlers and buyers regarding food safety audits performed under Leafy Green Marketing Agreement (LGMA) handlers. A database has been developed that allows growers, handlers and buyers to access the results of food safety audits which reduces delays in moving the commodities through the food delivery chain. Compliance officers receive current

information regarding audits and are able to quickly approve the audit or order corrective actions which will help in reducing food safety risks.

Feed, Fertilizer, and Livestock Drugs Regulatory Services

FREP Online Database

The term “nutrient management” is nothing new to a farmer, but it has enjoyed a definite increase in usage among government agencies recently. This is largely due to discussions about nitrate contamination in the water supply, but also due to the general advancement of technology and research that give farmers new tools to precisely tailor their fertilizer inputs. CDFA’s credentials are well recognized on issues surrounding fertilizer use and management because of the department’s Fertilizer Research and Education Program (FREP), a long-term partnership with the University of California, California State University and other entities. FREP has launched a searchable, web-based database of all

completed FREP research projects. This database serves to disseminate FREP research findings and is an easily accessible, understandable, and convenient way for growers and crop advisors to learn about and implement the findings. Phase I of the project, completed in July 2012, summarized all completed projects and entered them into the database, available online at <http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/frep/Default.aspx>. Additional summaries will be added as current and future studies are completed. Phase II includes the creation of crop fertilization guidelines, based in part on nitrate sensitivities, of a given agricultural area or region. The first guidelines will focus on crops in the nitrate sensitive regions of the Tulare Lake Basin and the Salinas Valley. Guidelines for ten crops (cotton, almonds, processing tomatoes, broccoli, lettuce, wheat, corn, rice, walnuts and grapes) have been completed and are available online. A second group of five crops are being developed including:

cauliflower, strawberries, oranges, pistachios, and barley. Phase II is anticipated to conclude in mid-2015. The fertilizer guidelines are available at: <http://apps.cdca.ca.gov/frep/docs/Guidelines.html>.



Education and Engagement

Division Administration

FSMA Listening Sessions

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) hosted two listening sessions on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) regarding Proposed Fresh Produce, and Preventive Control Rules. The Proposed Fresh Produce Rule was presented on April 9, 2013 in Tulare, California and both the Proposed Fresh Produce and Preventive Control Rules were presented in Woodland, California on April 11, 2013. The purpose of these listening sessions was to provide industry an overview of the proposed rules, solicit comments, respond to questions, and inform the public about the rulemaking process. These listening sessions were sponsored by the California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF); California Farm Bureau Federation (CFBF); Community Alliance with Family Farmers

(CAFF); and, Western Growers Association (WGA).

Inspection and Compliance

Direct Marketing Program

Assembly Bill (AB) 996 would have allowed for additional marketing methods to be considered Certified Farmers' Markets. Several registration programs containing different fee schedules ranging from \$.50 to \$1.00 would have been administered by CDFA and allowed CDFA to contract funding back to the counties for services rendered. Direct Marketing misrepresentation would have become a misdemeanor offense or subject to civil penalties. It would have allowed anyone to register as a direct marketing producer and self-certify that they were following good agricultural practices, which would have allowed exemptions from size, standard pack, container, and

labeling requirements. AB 996 was not passed out of the legislature, being referred back to the Chief Clerk of the Assembly.



Customer Service

Inspection and Compliance

Assembly Bill 224

Assembly Bill 224 was signed in to law last October and provided a direct marketing opportunity for community-supported agriculture (CSA). In January the Inspection and Compliance Branch created

and began implementation of the required registration component of the law. The producer registration allows growers to become an “approved source” by the California Department of Public Health which is a requirement for all food under their jurisdiction.



Invest in Employee Development

Division Administration

Succession Planning

In an effort to take steps toward investing in employee development, Inspection Services initiated the steps to create their own Succession Plan. In the fall of 2013, Inspection Services began gathering information and statistics, and assessing the needs of the Division. Simultaneously, ground work was laid to assemble a workgroup to draft a succession plan. The workgroup would consist of a cross

section of staff from all branches, representing various classifications and varying lengths of employment at CDFA. The workgroup with their diverse experience, would draft a plan to be used as a tool for the Divisions’ succession planning.





OVERVIEW OF BRANCHES

Center for Analytical Chemistry

Pages

26-43

***Feed, Fertilizer, and Livestock Drugs Regulatory
Services***

Pages

44-57

Inspection and Compliance

Pages

60-70



CENTER FOR ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY

Branch Summary

The Center for Analytical Chemistry (CAC) is a state-of-the-art chemistry laboratory with facilities located in Sacramento and Anaheim, California. The Center consists of two main sections: Food Safety and Environmental Safety. The Center also has an independent Quality Assurance unit that is responsible for the Center's Quality Management System. The CAC is ISO-17025:2005 accredited by the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) organization (fulfilling the General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories).

The mission of the CAC is to provide impartial, timely, accurate, and cost effective analytical services. To establish and

maintain the highest possible quality of our services, our staff regularly receive training from experts in the fields of chemical analysis. In addition, the CAC also keeps abreast of issues that affect our clients' missions to ensure the program's relevance.

Each year, the CAC hosts many meetings and workshops, and receives visitors from not only California, but also from across the country and around the world. These events and visits provide opportunities for our staff to share their expertise and

exchange ideas with colleagues, as well as learn from the experts of the analytical chemistry world. Staff

members are also invited to speak at local colleges.

Our philosophy embraces the belief that an organization is only as strong as its individual members. Our employees are valued for their input. We strive to foster a spirit of continuous learning and cooperation and the idea of excellence in service. Our on-going goals include: continually improving data quality and system efficiency; strengthening our collaboration efforts and involvement with other food safety organizations; enhancing infrastructure; and, attaining clients' complete satisfaction. These goals align with our mission of providing high quality and cost effective analytical services.



Food Safety Laboratory

The primary role of the Food Safety (FS) Laboratory at the CAC is to provide testing to local, state, and federal agencies that work to protect the nation's food supply. The program consists of Pesticide Residue (PR) and USDA-Pesticide Data Program (PDP). Besides its contract work, the FS laboratories voluntarily participate in the Food Emergency Response Network (FERN). FERN is a national organization comprised of governmental food-testing laboratories that respond to emergencies involving biological, chemical, or radiological contamination of food.

The FS laboratories continue to expand their scope of analytical methods to maintain program relevance. This year, the FS team worked hard to develop a new analytical screen that can detect a class of acid herbicides and added more than 50 new chemicals to the existing screens. The method expansion was necessary for the State Residue

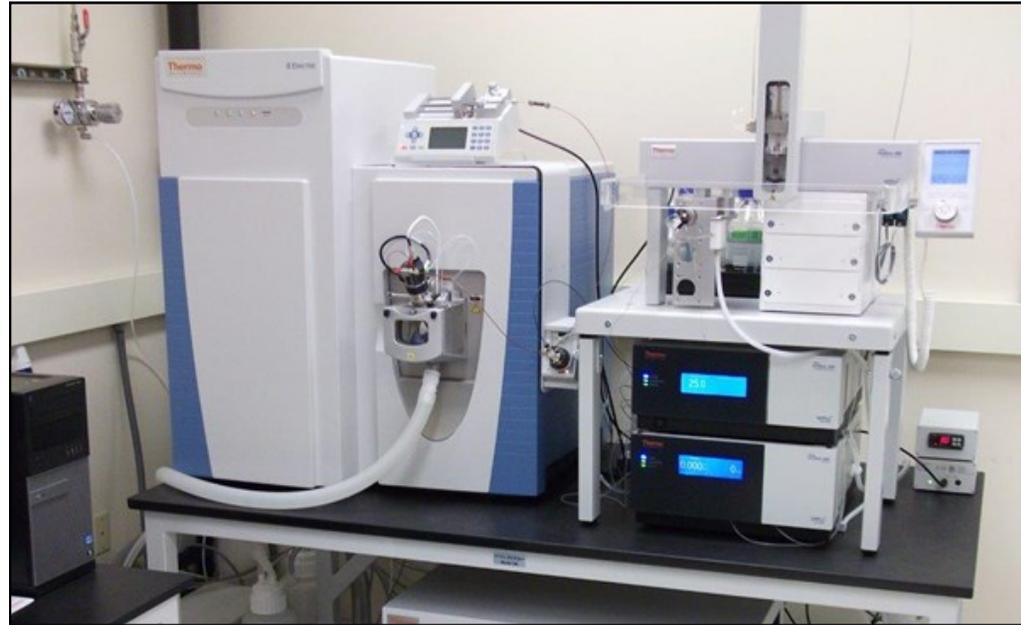
Monitoring (SRM) program to remain pertinent in the food safety surveillance arena. As the agriculture industry moves away from conventional pesticides and adopts reduced risk pesticides, laboratories must have the ability to monitor for these newly registered chemicals. Another reason for the need to expand the screening capability is to detect chemical contaminants in imported foods, a majority of which come from foreign countries from foreign countries that have agricultural practices that are different from those in the U.S. Data from the SRM program highlights the fact that the majority of tolerance violations come from imported produce.

The highlight of this year is the Specialty Crop Block grant award of \$315,000 that the Pesticide Residue laboratory received. The grant's funds were used to purchase an instrument that could detect 30% more analytes per test, increase work throughput, provide faster sample

turnaround time, and improve data quality. The immediate beneficiaries of the grant are California consumers because they can be assured the food supply is being monitored for harmful pesticides. As a testimony to the important work, data provided by SRM laboratories helped California Department of Public Health release a health warning against eating pesticide-tainted, imported cacti late this year. Furthermore, presumptive tolerance violation data from FS laboratories also help enforcement agencies focus their surveillance work.

Future plans are to use emerging technologies to further expand the analytical capability for detecting and quantifying a broad range of pesticides. The lab continues to collaborate with government laboratories that work to protect the global food supply. This year the FS section purchased a High Resolution Mass Spectrometer, and the Q

-Exactive Liquid Chromatograph MS/MS, which can potentially increase the number of targeted analytes in a single method to over 500. It also allows additional screening of non-targeted analytes for detection of potential pesticide misuse. The lab was asked by FDA to participate in an international collaborative study using the Q-Exactive scheduled to begin in 2014. This study will provide networking among government agencies and try to harmonize the analytical methodology. The immediate benefit for the lab is having a spectral library database of more than 600 pesticides provided by FDA. This library would save a tremendous amount of time with method development. The additional benefit in working with other international partners is the exchange of ideas with other experts in the field which helps improve system quality and remain relevant.



The Q-Exactive High Resolution LC-MS/MS instrument acquired by the FS section during 2013.

Pesticide Residue Laboratories

The Pesticide Residue (PR) laboratories, in the Food Safety section of CAC, provide agrochemical analyses on food and environmental samples to support California's growers and County Agricultural Commissioners, as well as several state and federal regulatory agencies.

The PR Laboratories provide analytical support to the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) for its mandates to perform comprehensive pesticide risk assessment and to promote effective enforcement of state and federal pesticide regulations. Through the State Residue Monitoring (SRM) program, laboratories analyze pesticide residues in fresh produce to ensure industry's compliance with the tolerance standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Samples for the PR labs arrive from all California counties, as well as the global market. The PR laboratories also

perform analytical testing for California's County Agricultural Commissioners in their investigative programs. These include the monitoring of field workers for pesticide exposure, investigations of pesticide drift incidents and illnesses related to the misuse of pesticides.

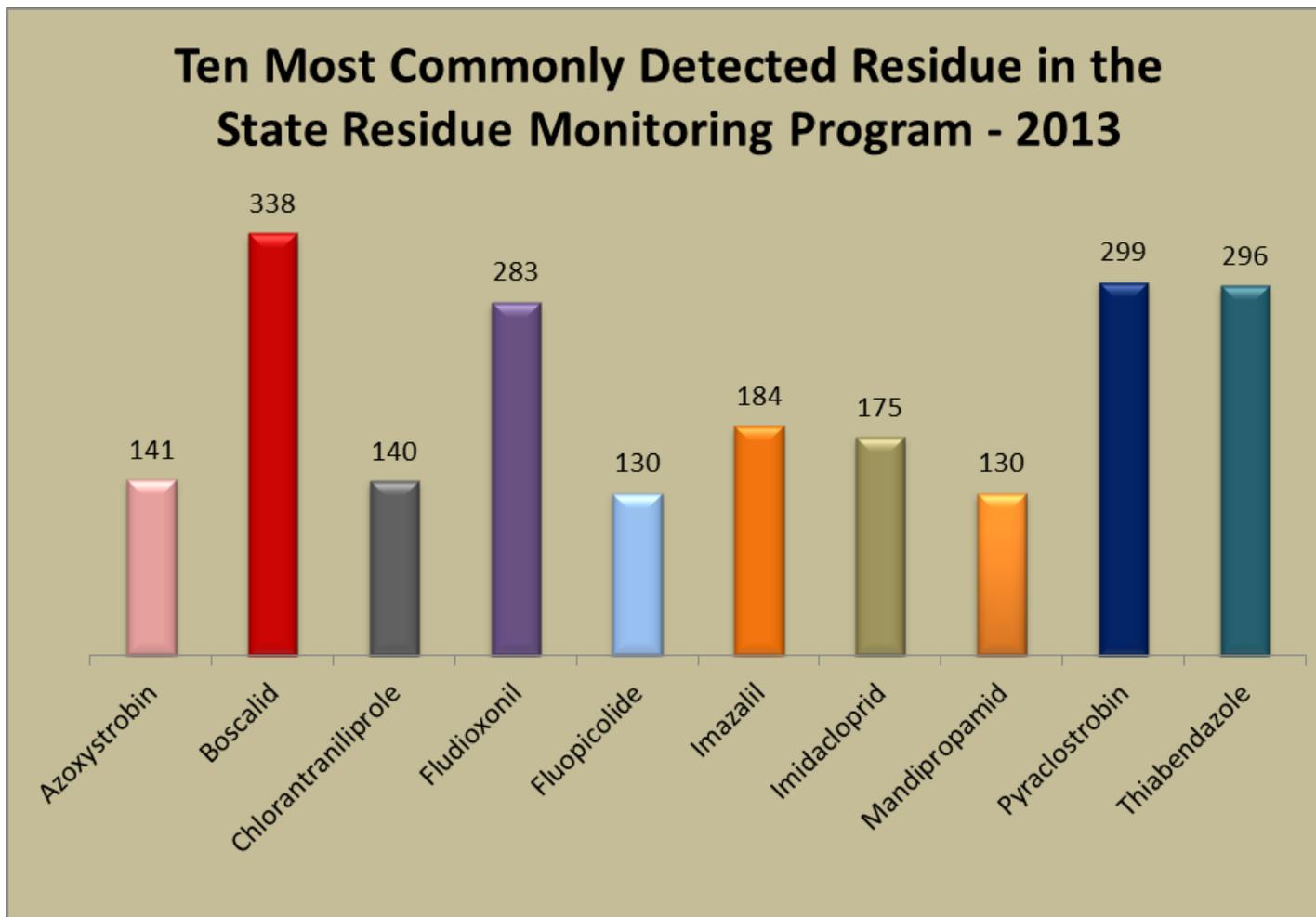
SRM data provided by the PR laboratories consistently demonstrate that our food supply is among the safest in the world. As the industry has moved away from the conventional organochlorines and organophosphates toward reduced risk alternatives, detection has increased substantially as illustrated by the Ten Most Commonly Detected Residue in the SRM graph (page 31). The majority of these residues are on EPA's list of Reduced Risk/Organophosphates Alternatives for Conventional Pesticides. Reduced risk pesticides are ones which have lower toxicity on human or non-target

organism (such as birds and fish) and lower potential for environmental contamination. Among the commodities tested in the SRM program, oranges, strawberries, spinach, peaches and grapes have the most number of detected residues as illustrated by the Commodities with the Most Incurs graph.

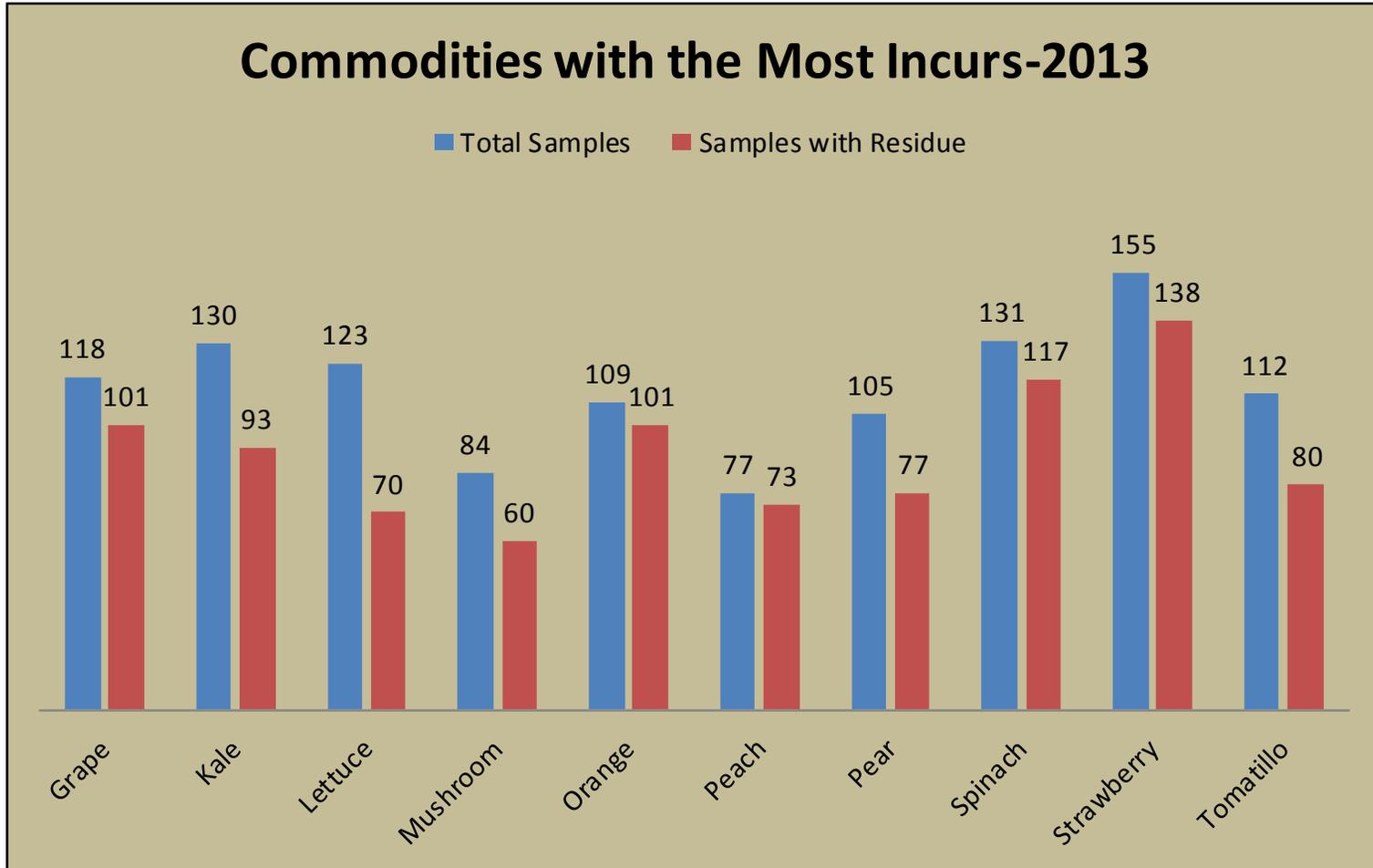
Additionally, in 2013 SRM data from the Anaheim PR laboratory demonstrated most "No Tolerance Established" (NTE) violations (98%) resulted from imported produce.



Ten Most Commonly Detected Residue in the State Residue Monitoring Program - 2013

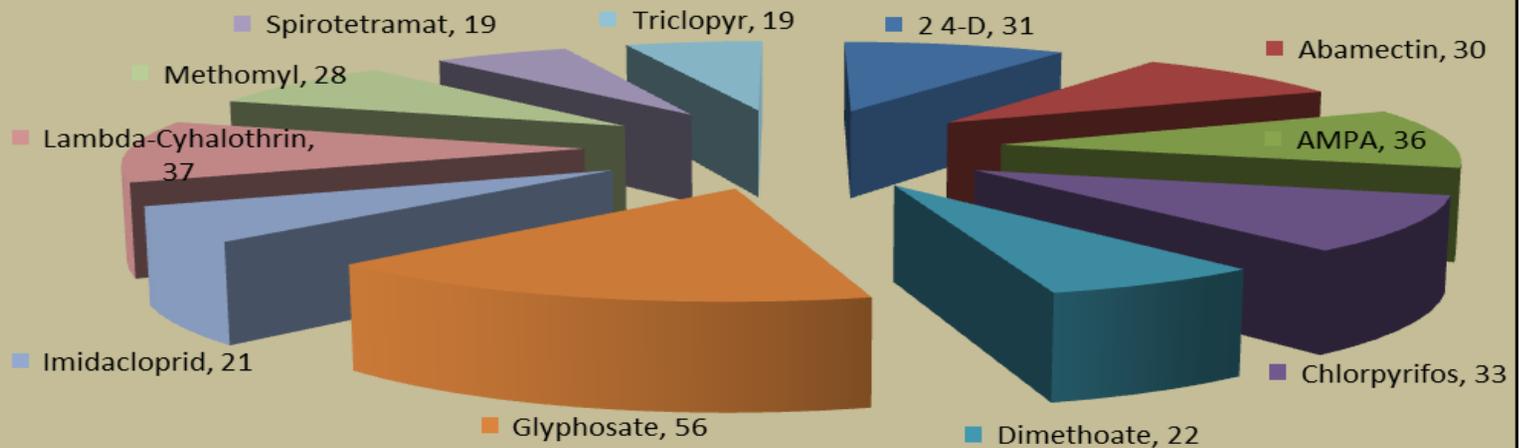


Ten Most Commonly Detected Residue in the State Residue Monitoring Program-2013: The majority of these residues are on EPA's list of Reduced Risk/Organophosphates Alternatives for Conventional Pesticides.



Commodities with the Most Incurs 2013: Strawberries, spinach, peaches, and grapes have the most number of detected pesticide residues.

Ten Most Requested Analyses in the County Investigative Program 2013



Numbers represent requests from the Counties

Ten Most Requested Analyses in the County Investigative Program 2013: The most requested analysis was Glyphosate (Round-Up) a herbicide, corresponding with the most common material sent to the lab, foliage.

USDA Pesticide Data Program

California has been one of many participating states in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Pesticide Data Program (PDP) since 1991 and was one of the first states to join this program. PDP has evolved from a cursory survey of a few commodities to being the primary source for real-world pesticide residue data, which is essential for the dietary exposure component of risk assessments performed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (USDA-PDP 2009 report). Unlike enforcement programs such as the SRM program, PDP provides pesticide residue data for washed, ready-to-eat produce from representative nationwide sampling over significant time periods. PDP's data is also used by other governmental agencies and the agricultural community to better understand the relationship of pesticide residues to agricultural practices, to improve integrated pest management practices, and to provide

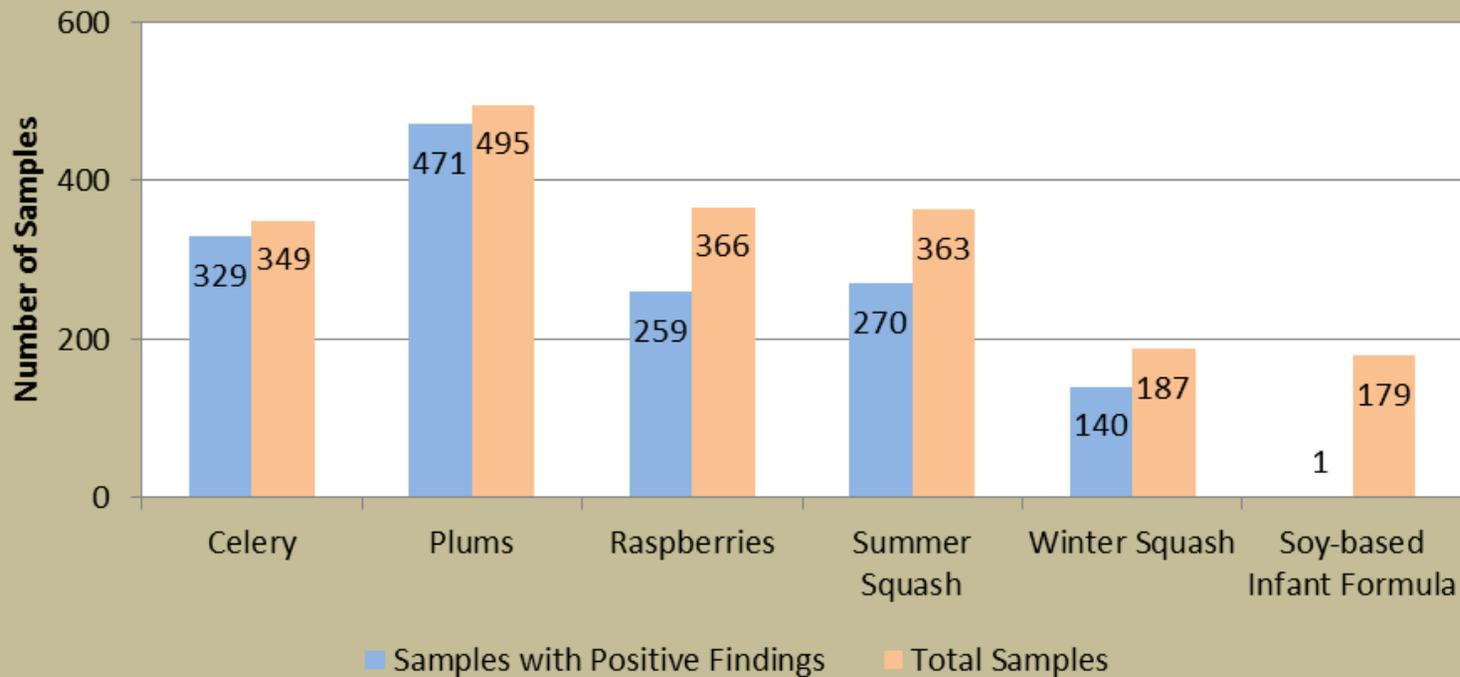
information to support the export of U.S. commodities. Additionally, presumptive tolerance violation (PTV) data are released to FDA for use in directing its sampling plan based on which commodities have the most violations.

More than 1,900 samples were analyzed in the first three quarters of the year. Each sample was screened for more than 330 different pesticides and metabolites. See the chart highlighting the samples by commodity (page 37), along with the number of samples with incurred residues. Also see the table on Most Common Pesticide Detected per PDP commodity (page 38) and the graph of the 15 Most Frequently Detected Pesticide in PDP commodities (page 39). The majority of these pesticides are on the EPA's list of reduced risk alternatives for conventional pesticides. Reduced risk pesticides have lower toxicity on human or non-target organism (such as birds and

fish) and lower potential for environmental contamination.



Samples with Positive Findings for Pesticides Compared with Total Samples Received for PDP-USDA Commodities



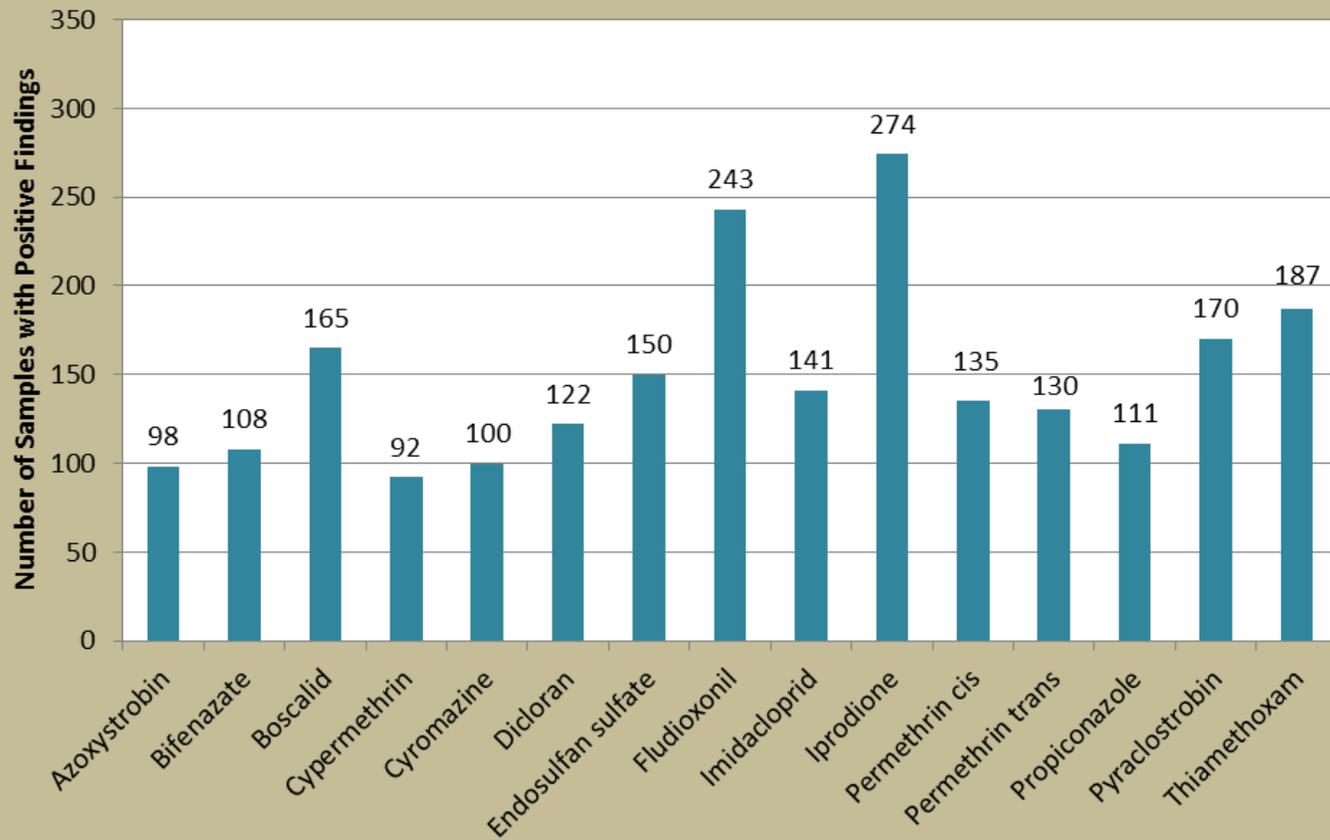
Samples with Positive Findings for Pesticides Compared with Total Samples Received for PDP-USDA Commodities: Plums and celery had the highest number of samples with positive findings.

2013 List of PDP Commodities and the Most Commonly Detected Pesticides

PDP Commodities	Pesticide Detected	EPA Tolerance
Celery	Permethrin	5 ppm
Plums	Iprodione	20 ppm
Raspberries	Bifenazate	5 ppm
Summer Squash	Endosulfan Sulfate	1 ppm
Winter Squash	Imidacloprid	0.5 ppm
Soy-based Infant Formula	MGK-264 (N-Octyl bicycloheptene dicarboximide)	5 ppm

2013 List of PDP Commodities and the Most Commonly Detected Pesticides: All findings in this chart are below the EPA's tolerance limits listed in the right column.

Top 15 Most Frequently Detected Pesticides in USDA-PDP Commodities



Top 15 Most Frequently Detected Pesticides in USDA-PDP Commodities: The majority of these pesticides are on the EPA's list of Reduced Risk Alternatives for Conventional Pesticides and below the EPA's tolerances.

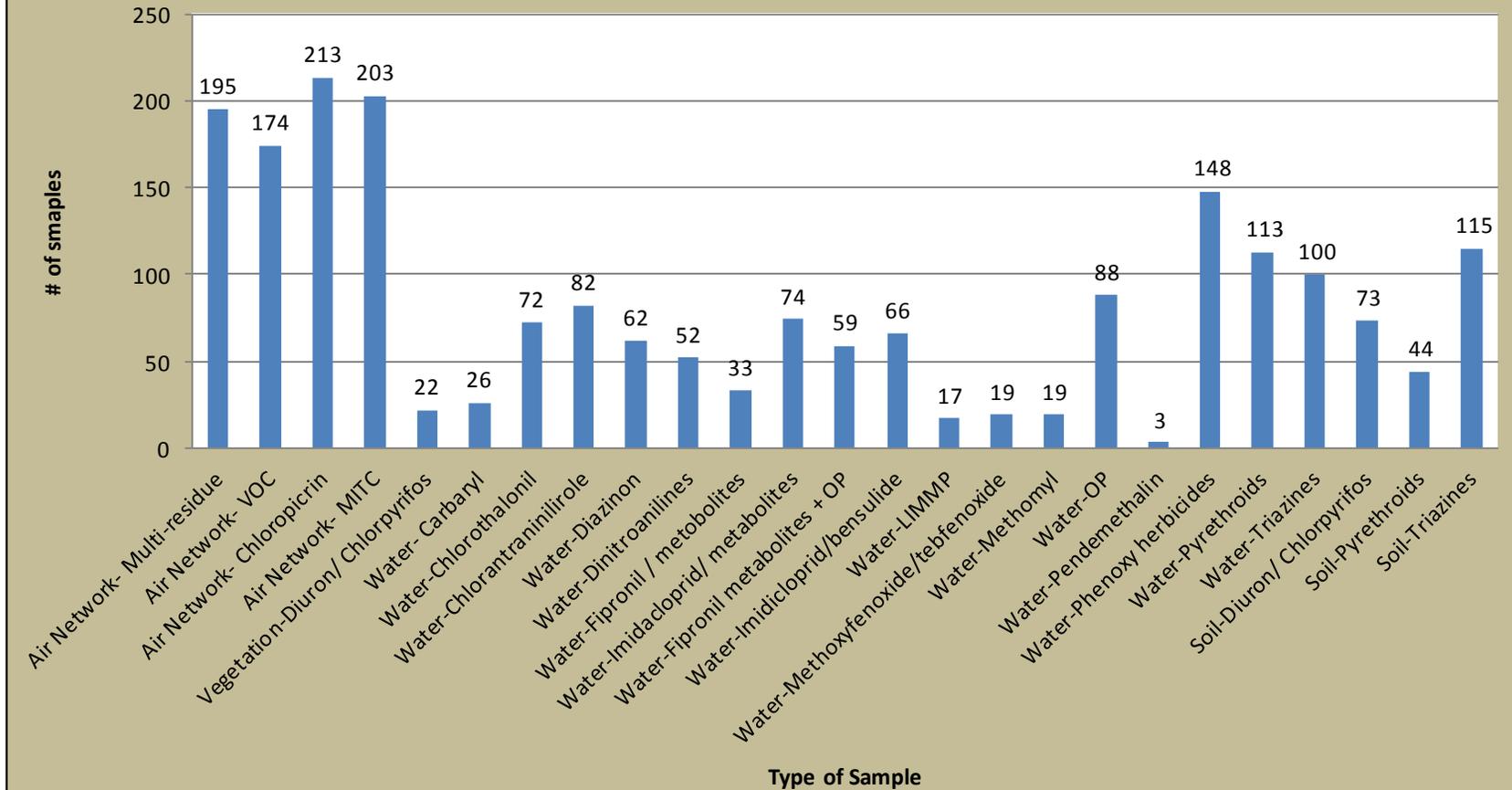
Environmental Monitoring Section

The Environmental Monitoring (EMON) section provides analytical testing to monitor the environmental fate of pesticides and their metabolites in all matrices, other than food. As the chart 2,072 EMON Samples Tested shows, a variety of both pesticide screens and single analyte assays are performed. The wide range of sample matrices includes air sampling tubes and filters, ground and surface water, soil and sediments, foliage, and swabs. In addition, the EMON section performs testing of air and water samples to monitor the amounts of pesticides potentially contributing to air quality problems from volatile organic compounds (VOCs), surface water, and ground water contamination issues under an interagency agreement with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR).

The EMON section was requested to develop a screening method for monitoring 129 pesticides listed on Proposition 65, Title 3, California Code of Regulations, Section 6800 (a) to assist with CDPR's regulatory activities. Method development for this project was initiated in March and is continuing into 2014. Methods were also developed and validated for chlorantraniliprole, chloropicrin, metalaxyl, and an organophosphorus method was modified from a phosphorus detector to a mass spectral detector on a gas chromatograph. All of these methods have reporting levels between 0.01 and 0.05 parts per billion (ppb).



2,072 EMON Samples Tested (Includes quality control samples)



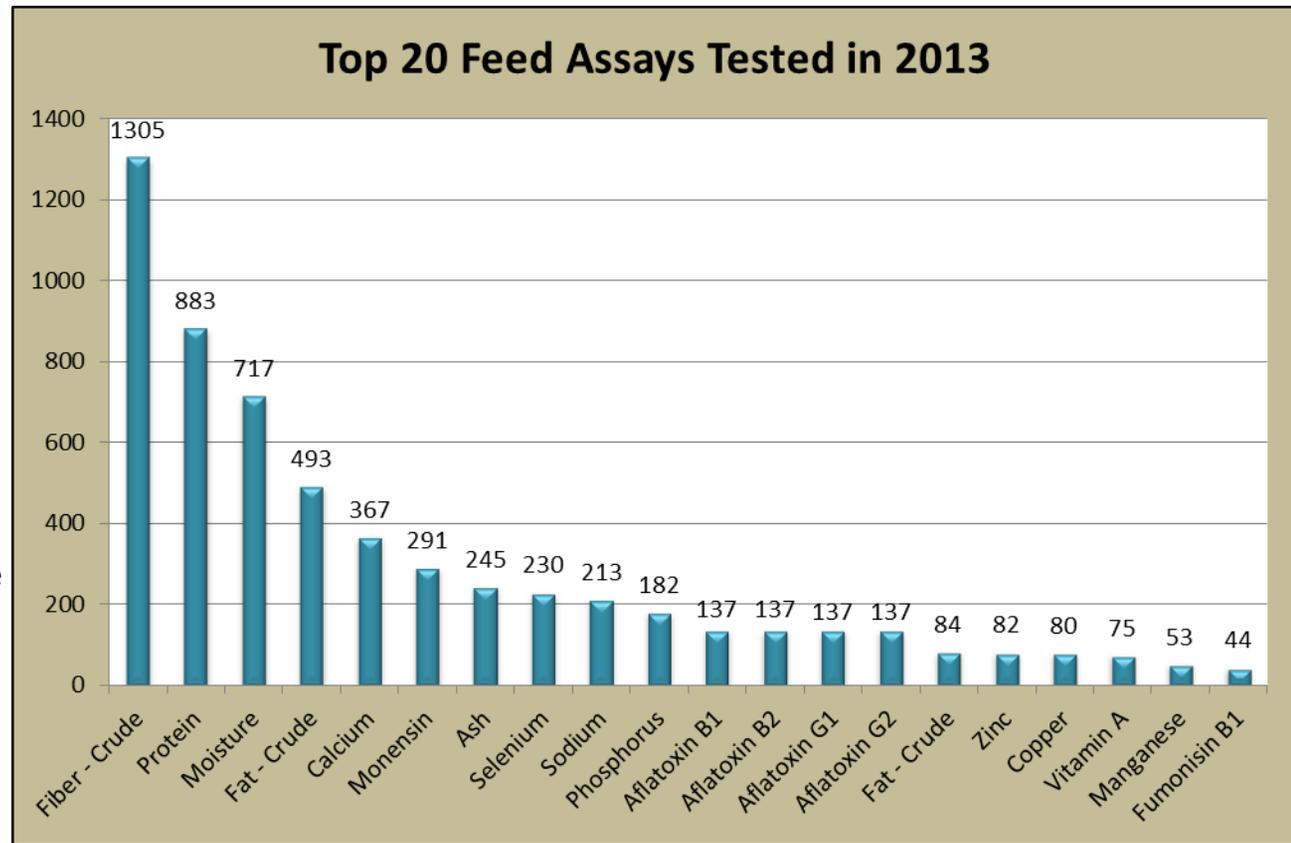
2,072 EMON Samples Tested (Includes quality control samples): This includes a range of sample matrices; charcoal and glass fiber filters for testing air, ground and surface water, soil and sediments, foliage, and swabs. These results display the variety of pesticides and samples matrices tested to obtain these numbers.

Feed and Fertilizer Section

Feed Laboratory

The Feed laboratory provides chemical analyses for the Feed, Fertilizer, and Livestock Drugs, Regulatory Services Branch (FFLDRS). The analyses performed are microscopy, minerals, proximates, drugs, vitamins, and mycotoxins in animal feeds following laws and regulations governing the feed industry.

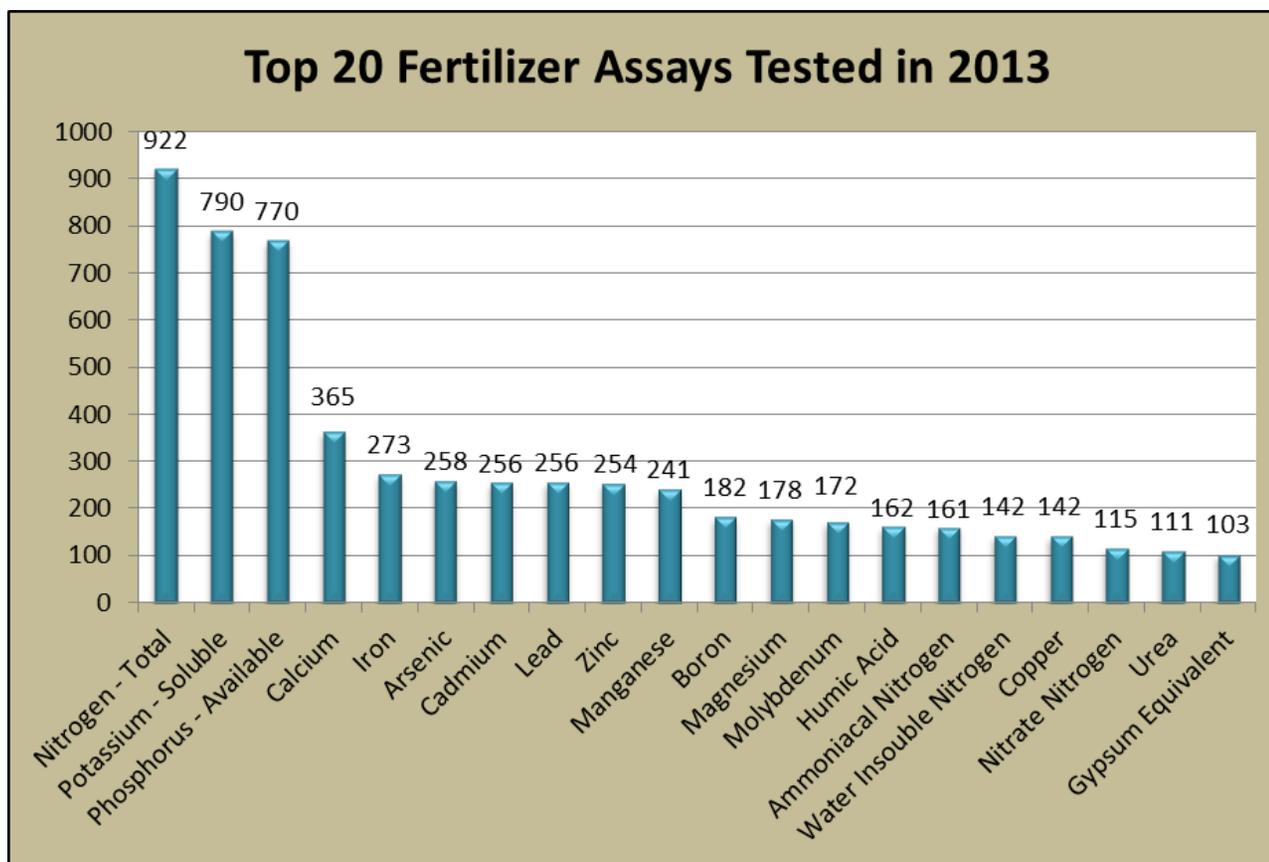
Regulatory actions can and have been taken based on laboratory findings.

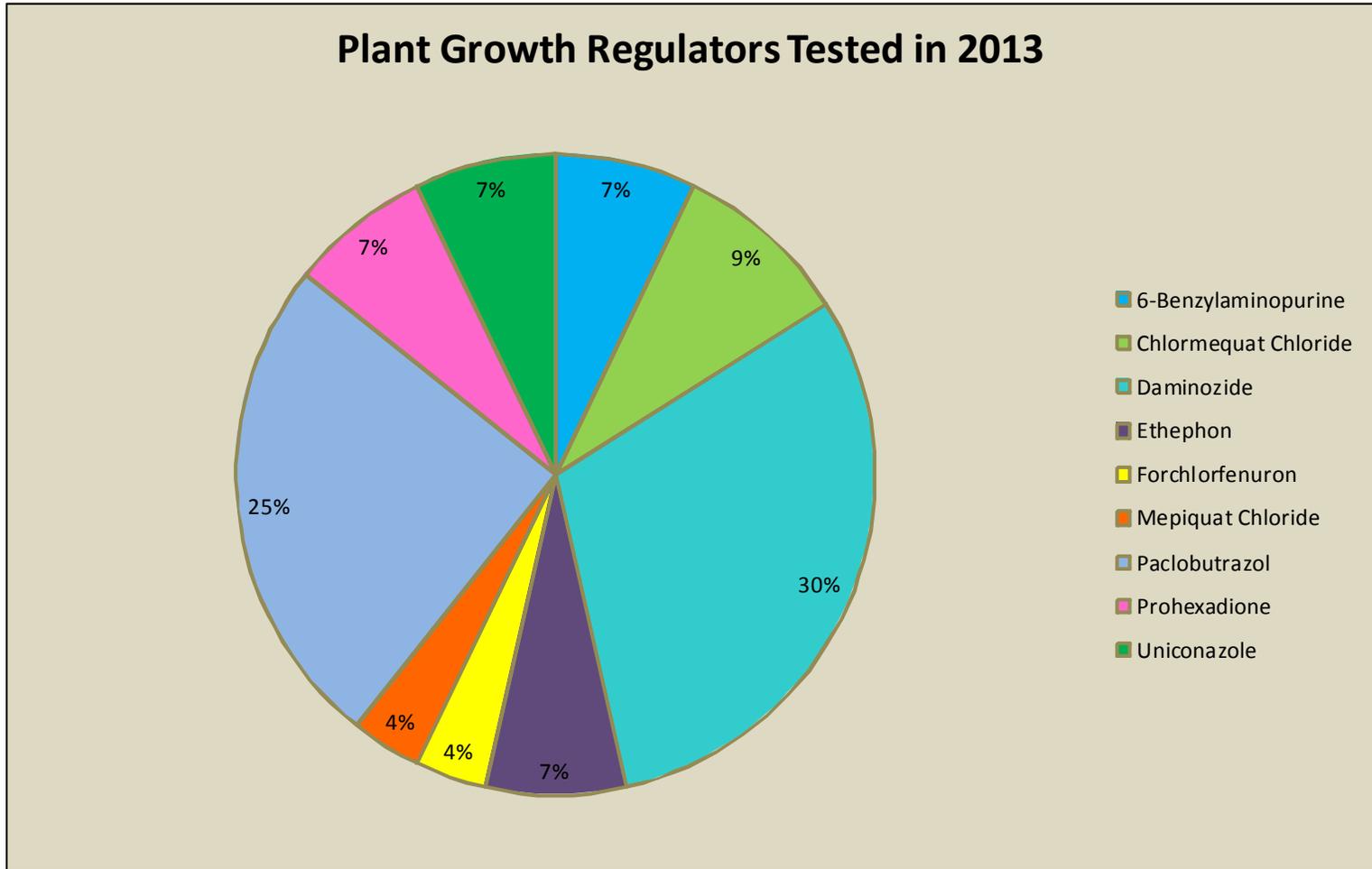


Fertilizer Laboratory

The Fertilizer laboratory provides chemical analyses for the Feed, Fertilizer, and Livestock Drugs Regulatory Services Branch (FFLDRS). Analyses include the three major plant nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium), secondary and micronutrients (i.e. calcium, iron, magnesium, zinc, etc.) and anions (i.e. nitrates, chlorides, sulfates, chlorates, etc.), heavy metals (i.e. lead, arsenic, selenium, etc.), plant growth regulators, and the analysis of “organic” fertilizers for label compliance.

Regulatory actions can and have been taken based on laboratory findings.





Plant Growth Regulators Tested in 2013: Daminozide and Paclobutrazol were the most frequently tested. The lab tested 56 products for the presence of these plant growth regulators. This graph depicts the percentages of the compounds found in products that should have not been there.

Additional CDFA Programs

Monitoring of chemicals introduced to the environment must be performed for all eradication programs per state and federal laws and regulations. All measurements for this testing are in parts per billion (ppb) and parts per trillion (ppt) for the highest levels of public and environmental safety.

The Environmental Safety Lab (ESL) provides analytical support to CDFA's Integrated Pest Control Program (IPC), Pest Detection and Emergency Projects (PD/EP), and the Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW). The ESL is accredited to test water samples during the treatment season for aquatic weeds following the National Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements. The ESL provided analytical testing for over 770

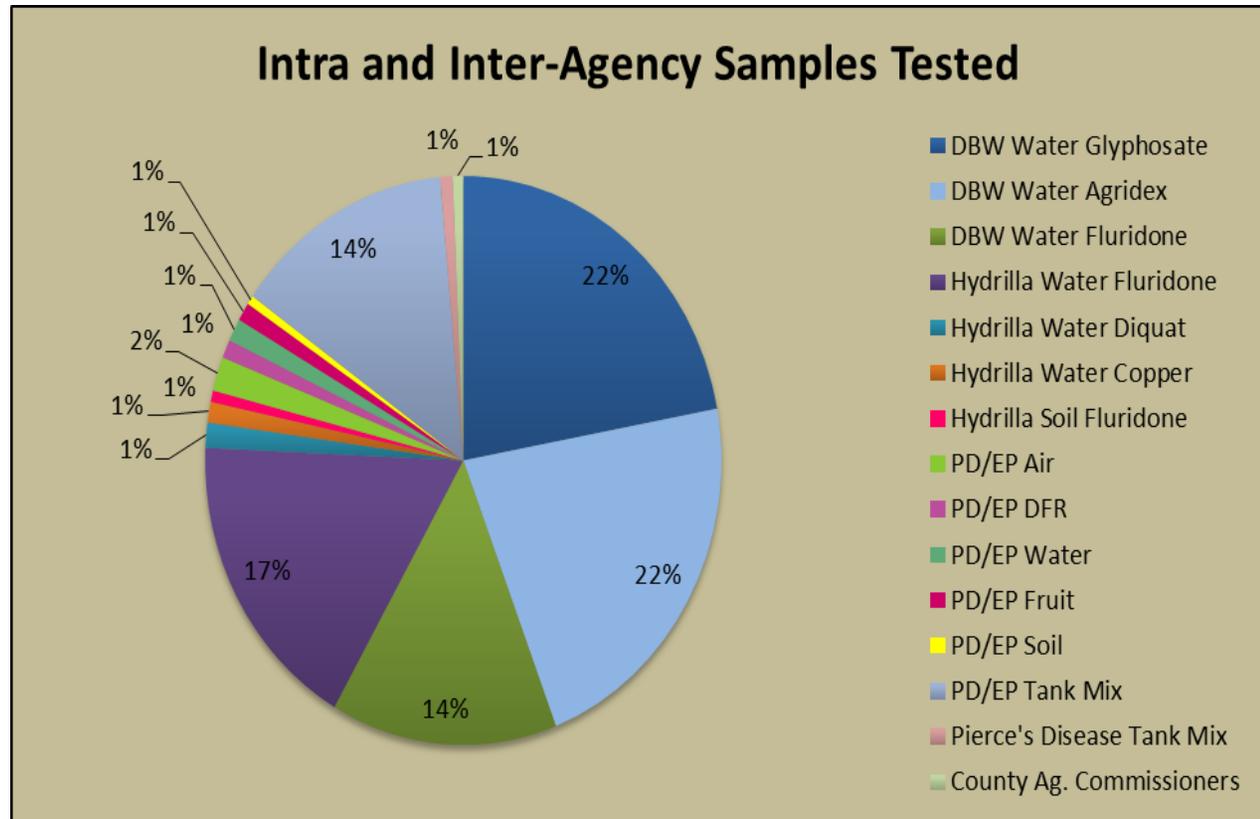
samples of several types of herbicides and pesticides for the programs (see pie chart below).

Integrated Pest Control (IPC):

- Hydrilla Eradication Program
- Vertebrate Pest Research

Pest Detection and Emergency Projects (PD/EP):

- Asian Citrus Psyllid
- Japanese Beetle
- Light Brown Apple Moth





FEED, FERTILIZER, & LIVESTOCK DRUG REGULATORY SERVICES

Branch Summary

The Feed, Fertilizer, and Livestock Drugs Regulatory Services (FFLDRS) Branch is designed to provide Californians with an abundant supply of clean and wholesome food and fiber. FFLDRS works to ensure that all feed, fertilizing materials, and livestock drugs sold in California are safe, effective, and meet the manufacturers' quality and quantity guarantees. FFLDRS also plays a crucial role in the protection of the State's environment by regulating the manufacture and labeling of fertilizing materials used in agriculture.

Our branch supports California's agricultural industries through a wide range of programs.

The Commercial Feed and Livestock Drug Inspection Programs are responsible for the enforcement of state law and regulations covering the labeling, manufacture, distribution, and use of commercial livestock feed and drugs in

California. Inspection and testing programs help prevent toxins and contaminants from entering the food chain.

The industry-funded Safe Animal Feed and Education (SAFE) Program works to improve the safety of commercial livestock feed by fostering a cooperative relationship with the livestock industry. Outreach and education activities of the SAFE Program promote voluntary compliance with the State's laws and regulations that apply to animal feed.

The Commercial Fertilizing Materials Inspection Program is responsible for regulating the manufacture and distribution of fertilizing materials in California, as well as the registration of fertilizing material package labels. Effective January of 2010, Assembly Bill 856 implemented a new

program to review Organic Input Material (OIM), used for organic food and crop production, in the Fertilizing Materials Inspection Program.

The Fertilizer Research and Education Program (FREP) funds research to advance agronomic practices for fertilizing materials that maximize efficiency while protecting the environment. FREP also disseminates fertilizer educational materials and information to ensure that California growers have access to the latest information and guidelines.



Feed and Livestock Drugs Inspection Program

The Feed and Livestock Drug Inspection Program (FLDIP) is responsible for the enforcement of state law and regulations pertinent to the manufacturing, distribution and labeling of commercial livestock feed in California, while preventing adulterated feed from being consumed by livestock and poultry. Additionally, the program maintains registration of livestock drugs, their proper use and safe handling procedures. The Feed and Livestock Drugs Programs are industry funded. Feed and Livestock Drug Inspectors and Special Investigators located throughout the state conduct routine sampling and inspections; quality assurance inspections of manufacturing facilities; respond to consumer complaints; and, enforce the feed laws and regulations.

Another primary focus of the inspection program is feed safety. Analyses are run for mycotoxins such as aflatoxins,

medication residues, heavy metals, pesticides, toxic minerals, and mammalian protein that is prohibited under the BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy) regulations.

The Livestock Drug Program regulates over-the-counter livestock drugs. A Livestock Drug Registration Certificate must be obtained for each over-the-counter livestock drug before it is offered for sale in California. Livestock drug labels are also reviewed for regulatory compliance. The labeling requirements identify route, dosage, and withdrawal information to eliminate any drug residue in food products derived from livestock animals. Each location that offers restricted livestock drugs for sale must hold a license with the State of California and maintain records of drug sales.

Enhanced communication efforts between the Feed and Livestock Drugs Program and other CDFA branches, such as Animal Health and Food Safety Services (AHFSS), and Meat and Poultry Inspection, have enhanced intra-agency efforts to maximize the effectiveness of food safety measures. The FLDIP also contracts with the U.S. FDA each year to perform BSE and tissue residue investigations. The tissue residue investigations stem from the improper use and administration of livestock drugs.



Feed and Livestock Drugs Inspection Program Restructured

At the December 19, 2012 Feed Inspection Advisory Board (FIAB) meeting, the Board formed a Technical Working Group to explore the future direction of the Feed and Livestock Drugs Inspection Program. The working group was asked to review the Food and Drug Administration Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) livestock feed regulations new and unconventional feed ingredients; medicated feed; livestock drugs; the program's collaboration with the FDA; reevaluating the program's capacity; and, ways to improve program operations to benefit the State and regulated industry.

On April 30, 2013 the FIAB approved the following Technical Working Group recommendations:

- **Staffing levels for field operations:** 1 field supervisor, 5 special; Investigators, and 5 inspector
- **Program sampling focus:** 1,200 samples; primary focus feed/food

safety, and secondary focus on label compliance;

- Program explore possibility to divert secondary samples to outside lab sources.
- Incorporate Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP)-like language (consistent with the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA)) into the Food and Agricultural Code.
- Change fee structure for Livestock Drugs licensing and registration for cost recovery purposes.

The Program made additional program changes to better serve the public and the feed industry. Feed inspectors now perform process verification audits at livestock feed production facilities, and feed investigators handle enforcement and compliance issues. Investigators and inspectors routinely collect feed samples. Outreach and education, as well as training activities are performed by Safe Animal Feed Education (SAFE) Program personnel along with inspectors and

investigators.

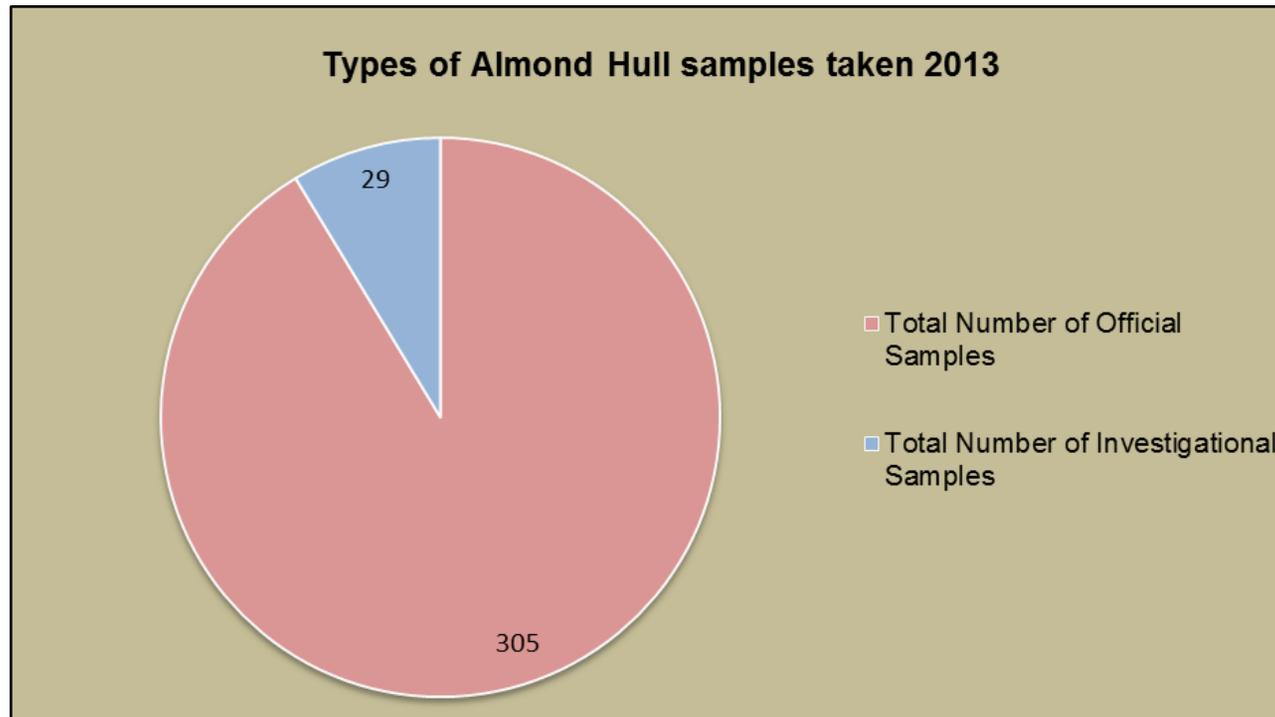
Compliance Policy for Almond Hulls

In May 2013, the Program instituted a "zero-tolerance" policy on almond hull and shell violations. This was necessary due to the high violation rate (over 60%) of crude fiber on over one-hundred official samples of almond hulls and shells from the 2012 crop year.

This policy had an immediate effect as illustrated in the 2013 almond hull sample summary as seen on the following page. This summary shows a reduced ratio of violations to the number of samples obtained.



Almond Hull Sample Results for 2013	
Total Number of Samples	334
Total Number of Official Samples	305
Total Number of Investigational Samples	29
Total Number of Violations	83



Types of Almond Hull samples taken 2013: Official Samples are from routine, follow-up, or complaints where staff was able to obtain product directly from a production facility or a delivery vehicle. Investigational Samples are from consumer complaints and were obtained after delivery.

SAFE Animal Feed Education Program

The Safe Animal Feed Education (SAFE) Program established in 2005 is entirely industry-funded. The program was developed in collaboration with the commercial feed industry to promote a cooperative relationship to help ensure the safety of animal feed in California.

The SAFE Program consists of two components:

1. Outreach and Education: SAFE Program staff work with the California feed industry in assuring proper use and handling of medicated feed, and concentrated feed supplements, as well as informing industry of new state and federal regulations affecting the feed industry, specifically the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA).

2. Comprehensive Voluntary Feed Quality Assurance Audits: Staff conducts a 385 point voluntary feed quality assurance audit. The review of operations include:

- Evaluation of manufacturing practices;
- Quality assurance protocols;
- Process controls;
- Ingredient storage;

- Record keeping;
- Product labeling; and,
- Compliance with law and regulations.

SAFE Program staff develops High Violator Firm reports on firms with violation rates over 30% from official samples obtained. SAFE Program staff work closely with these firms to develop a strategic plan on how to lower the violation rate and gain regulatory compliance.

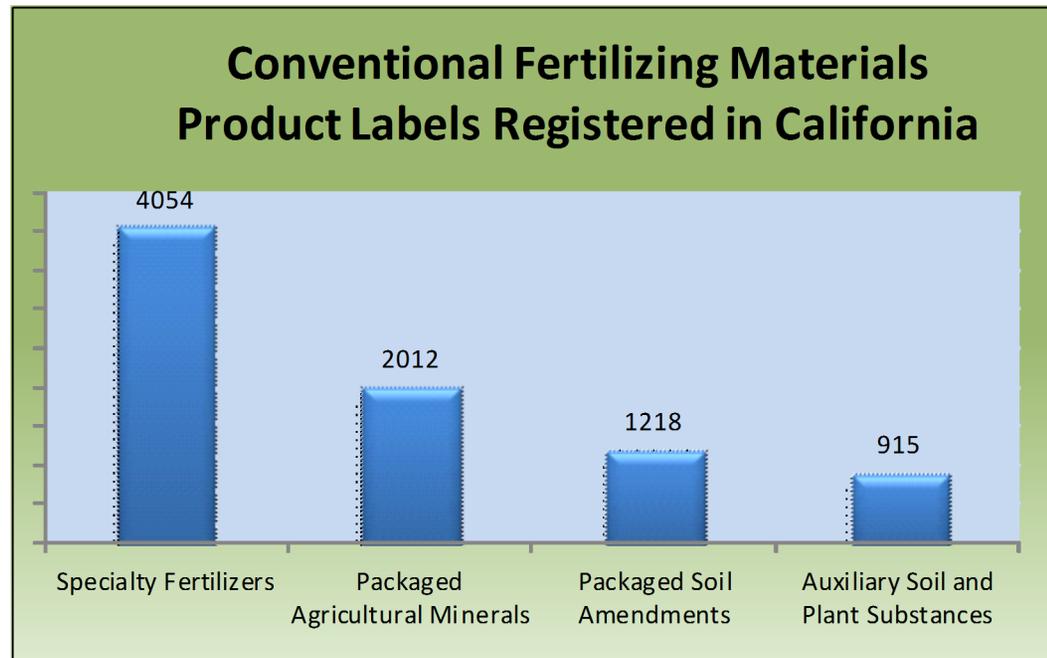


Fertilizing Materials Inspection Program

The Fertilizing Materials Inspection Program (FMIP) is responsible for regulating the manufacture, distribution, and sale of fertilizing materials in California. Fertilizing materials are sold and distributed with a product label containing information about the product, such as the grade and analysis. The FMIP is responsible for reviewing, as well as registering product labels and ensuring fertilizing materials meet the standards guaranteed by the manufacturer. The program ensures that consumers receive fertilizing materials that meet the manufacturer's label guarantees. Producers of packaged fertilizing materials that are less than 110 lbs (agricultural minerals, auxiliary soil and plant substances, commercial fertilizers, soil amendments, specialty fertilizers, and organic input materials) are statutorily mandated to register with the FMIP, and all manufacturers and distributors of fertilizing materials are

required to obtain a license from the program over the two year registration cycle prior to engaging in any fertilizer-related activities from January 2012 to December 2013.

At the end of 2013, a total of 8,209 labels were approved by the program. This encompassed labels reviewed and approved



Conventional Fertilizing Materials Product Labels Registered in California: In 2013, nearly half of the conventional fertilizing materials registered in California were specialty fertilizers, with smaller amounts registered as other classifications of fertilizing materials.

Organic Input Material

In 2010, Assembly Bill (AB) 856 was introduced in response to CDFA's investigation of an organic fertilizer manufacturer that was adulterating a liquid fertilizer with an unapproved ingredient. In consultation with the Fertilizer Inspection Advisory Board (FIAB), CDFA reviewed the incident and identified gaps in its authority to regulate organic input materials (OIM) used for organic crop and food production. AB 856 addressed industry concerns about fertilizing materials used in the production of organic food and crops. The main goal of AB 856 was to ensure the integrity and composition of OIM that are used for organic food and crop production in California. This new law fills gaps in CDFA's authority to regulate fertilizing materials used for organic food and crop production. It provides CDFA with enhanced enforcement authority to achieve regulatory compliance. In 2013, CDFA performed OIM inspection audits at 151

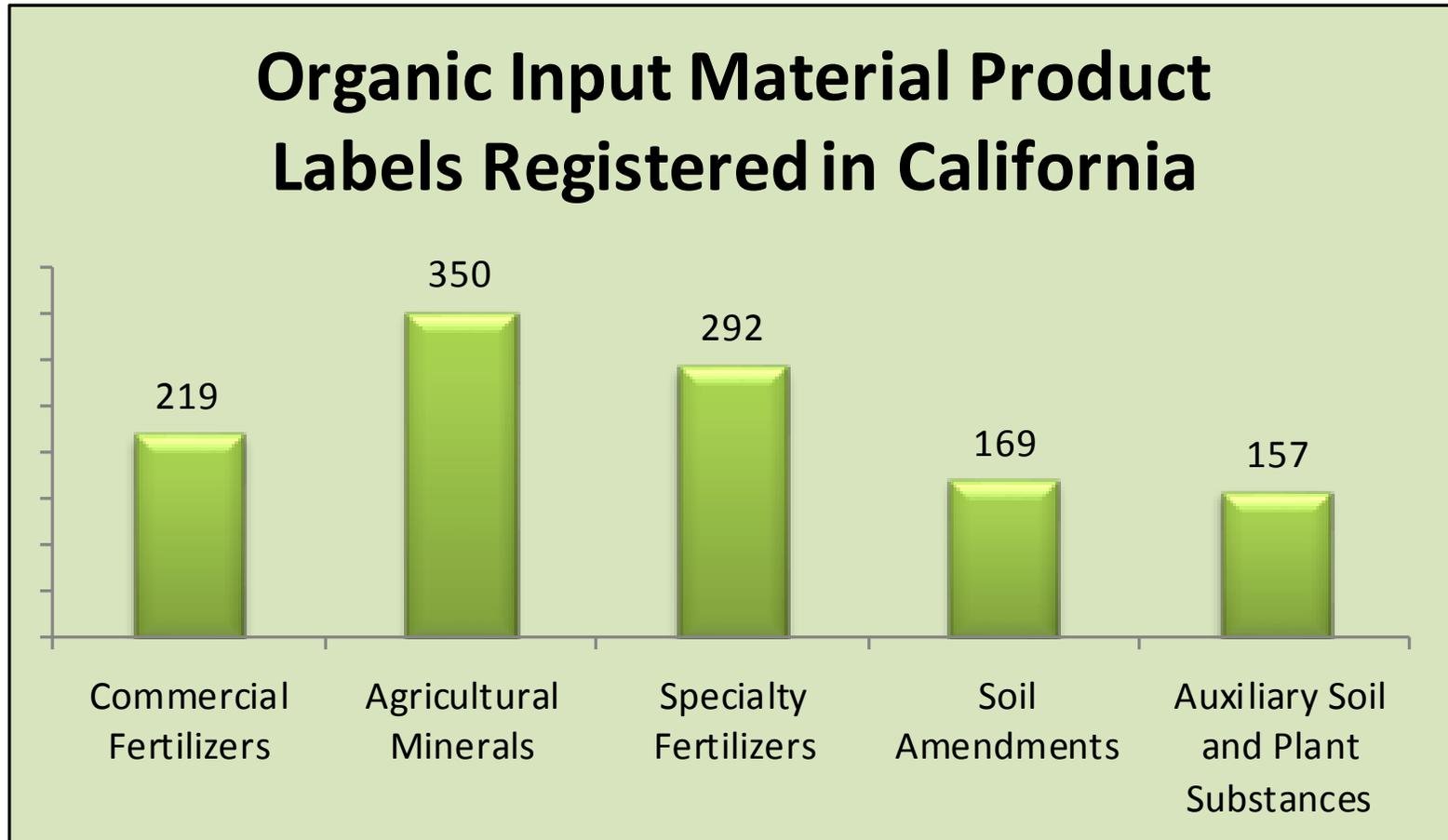
locations in California.

The FMIP staff reviews both conventional fertilizer labels and OIM labels used for organic food and crop production. OIM requires review by FMIP registration staff for compliance with the National Organic Program (NOP) Standards. Registrants are required to provide the following supporting documents:

- Complete formula of material (both active and inactive ingredients);
- Complete description of the manufacturing process for each ingredient;

- Complete description of the final product;
- Intended use of the product;
- Supplier of ingredients;
- Alternate formulation;
- Third-party formulated ingredients; and,
- Any additional information supporting compliance with the NOP standards.





Organic Input Material Product Labels Registered in California: Fertilizing materials registered as Organic Input Material in California are classified in five categories.

Fertilizer Sampling and Inspection

The Fertilizing Materials Inspection Program (FMIP) has been mandated by the California State Legislature to inspect and sample fertilizer products, and to verify that label nutrient guaranteed analyses are met and products do not contain excessive levels of non-nutritive metals. The majority of samples obtained are selected by specific factors, not at random. The risk factor criteria includes: noncompliant labeling, unregistered products, products from unlicensed manufacturers, lab analysis history, or products new to the marketplace. In 2013, CDFA collected 1,043 fertilizing materials samples for laboratory analysis.

In addition to regular sampling of fertilizing materials, the FMIP's field staff also:

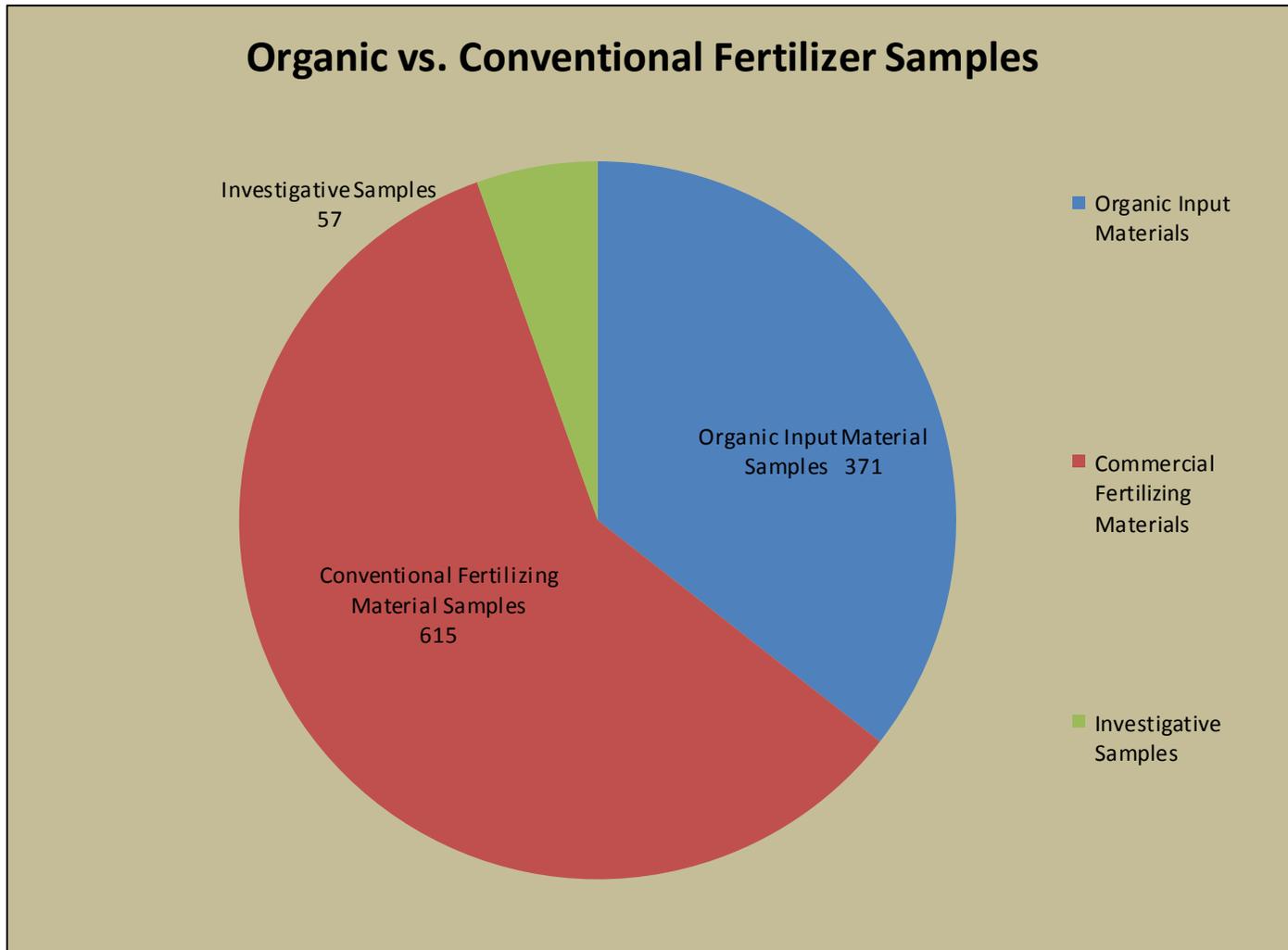
- Verify manufacturer licensing and product registration;
- Communicate and coordinate with registration staff regarding manufacture licensing and fertilizing material labeling;
- Ensure labeling compliance;

- Perform fertilizing material facilities inspections;
- Sample fertilizing materials and request test for guarantees on label;
- Review test results and issue violation notices (if any);
- Work with manufacturer to correct any deficiencies/problems in product guarantees;
- Respond to industry and consumer complaints;
- Conduct investigations of alleged fertilizer-based violations;
- Examine heavy metal analysis and remediate products with excessive levels;
- Educate the industry on licensing, registration and labeling requirements;
- Ensure labeling compliance; and,
- Quarantine non-compliant products and issue citations using regulatory authority.

The laws that govern the FMIP require the program to maintain and publish an annual

report on the distribution of fertilizing materials within the state. The program publishes the tonnage distribution report in the state every six months: http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/Fertilizer_Tonnage.html

The FMIP established a Material Review Program for OIMs with staff that quickly mastered organic standards and input materials issues. OIM program scientists have completed the review of over one thousand OIM product labels. The program conducted OIM-focused workshops for manufacturers and distributors, and program staff presented information to stakeholders at several conferences. The purpose of the outreach activities was to educate stakeholders about the state laws and regulations, including the provisions of OIM law and the regular functions of the program.



Organic vs. Conventional Fertilizer Samples: This pie chart shows Organic Input Material, Conventional Material, and Investigative samples in comparison to each other.

Fertilizer Research and Education Program

The Fertilizer Research and Education Program (FREP) funds and facilitates research to advance the environmentally safe and agronomically sound use and handling of fertilizing materials. FREP serves farmers and other users of fertilizing materials, agricultural service professionals, university extension personnel, public agencies, agricultural consultants, and other members of the public. One of FREP's key goals is to ensure that research results generated by the program are distributed to and used by farmers and the fertilizer industry.

The Technical Advisory Subcommittee (TASC) of the Fertilizer Inspection Advisory Board (FIAB) serves as an expert scientific panel on matters concerning plant nutrition and environmental effects related to fertilizing materials use. TASC assists in setting FREP's annual research priorities, evaluates research proposals, and makes recommendations to the FIAB and Secretary on project funding. Members of the TASC include growers, fertilizer industry professionals, state government scientists, and university

extension and research personnel.

Funding for FREP comes from a mil assessment and is not to exceed 1 mil (\$0.001) per dollar of sales for all sales of fertilizer materials. The current assessment is at a 1 mil (\$0.001), which equates to approximately two million dollars annually. The mil assessment is paid by any fertilizer licensee whose name appears on the product label and who sells or distributes packaged or bulk fertilizing materials in California. This assessment provides funding for the following three priority areas:

1. Technical education for users of fertilizer materials in the development and implementation of nutrient management projects that result in more agronomically sound uses of fertilizer materials and minimize the environmental impacts of fertilizer use, including, but not limited to, nitrates in groundwater and emissions of greenhouse gases resulting from fertilizer use.
2. Research to improve nutrient

management practices resulting in more agronomically sound uses of fertilizer materials and to minimize the environmental impacts of fertilizer use, including, but not limited to, nitrates in groundwater and emissions of greenhouse gases resulting from fertilizer use.

3. Outreach to increase awareness of more agronomically sound use of fertilizer products to reduce the environmental impacts resulting from the overuse or inefficient use of fertilizing materials.

An overview of FREP's 2013 accomplishments in each priority area includes:

Technical Education

Nitrogen Management Training Program for Certified Crop Advisor Program

The Nitrogen Management Training Program is a joint effort between FREP, the California Certified Crop Advisor Program (CA-CCA) and UC Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC-ANR) to develop and implement a voluntary nitrogen management curriculum specifically targeted for California Certified Crop

Advisors (CCAs). The goal of the program is to facilitate CCA's understanding of sound nitrogen management practices and increase their ability to make informed recommendations to growers; thereby, improving environmental performance relative to nitrogen management for crop production. Developed and finalized in 2013 by subject matter experts, the curriculum addresses the management of nitrates from plant nutrients to reduce unintentional emissions in waters throughout the state. Five courses will be offered from January through March 2014 in the Central Valley and the Central Coast.

FREP Database and Crop Fertilization Guidelines

Since 2011, FREP has been working collaboratively with the UC Davis Department of Land, Air and Water Resources (UCD LAWR) to develop a searchable database of FREP Research projects and a series of interactive fertilization guidelines for major crops grown in California. The database aims to make the wealth of information contained in FREP research projects readily available, easily understandable, and

convenient for growers to implement. The guidelines are a synthesis of peer reviewed journal articles and research reports with the goal of facilitating awareness of crop nutrient demands while reducing the impact of nutrients to air and water. In 2013, several recently completed projects were added to the database and guidelines for cotton, almonds, processing tomatoes, lettuce, wheat, corn, rice, and grapevines were created.

Research

Since 1990, FREP has funded over 160 research and education projects. These projects have conducted at various locations throughout the State and have ranged widely in scientific discipline and agricultural commodity. The two primary areas of study, nutrient testing and irrigation/fertigation, account for over fifty percent of the projects funded to date. The distribution of projects across the various agricultural commodities is more evenly distributed. Vegetable crop projects have received the most funding, while field, fruit, and multiple crop projects have all been funded in nearly equal proportion.

Each year, FREP and TASC work together to determine specific research priorities for the annual Request for Proposals. In 2013, the following research priorities were identified:

- **Demonstrating Agronomically Sound Uses of Fertilizing Materials at the Field Scale:** Demonstrate results from basic experimental research trials (prior FREP research, etc.) with organic and conventional fertilizers at the field scale.
- **Managing Agricultural Nitrogen:** Research the agronomically sound use of nitrogen fertilizing materials including: Minimizing nitrate movement below the root zone; Minimizing nitrous oxide emissions related to fertilizer use; Evaluating strategies to increase crop Nitrogen use efficiency.
- **Developing Best Management Practices (BMPs):** Development of nutrient BMPs and educational materials for agriculture and urban landscapes.

- **Education and Outreach:** Development of educational materials to increase awareness of agronomically sound use of fertilizing materials. Extension efforts to implement best management practices.

A total of 48 concept proposals were received in response to the 2013 solicitation. Ten of these proposals were advanced to the second round of competition. Of the ten full proposals received, three were ultimately approved for funding by the CDFA Secretary. Work on these projects will begin in January 2014.

In January 2013, work began on the two projects selected in FREP’s first-ever Special Request for Proposals (RFP). The purpose of this Special RFP was to specifically address the issue of nitrates in groundwater in environmentally sensitive areas of California. The Special RFP called for proposals focusing on research that utilized the “pump and fertilize” method in concert with nitrogen budget worksheets to show proof-of-concept.

Outreach

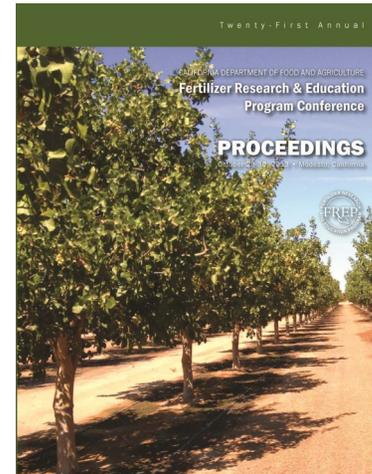
Annual Conference

The 2013 FREP conference broke last year’s record, with over 280 farmers, certified crop advisors, regulators, and fertilizer industry representatives in attendance. Each year, the FREP conference features a diverse panel of speakers who share their perspectives on a variety of topics including new advances in research, and key issues facing the fertilizer industry. In an effort to appeal to a wide audience, presentations consist of a well-balanced mix of general and technical information, current research data, and practical applications. The annual conference exemplifies FREP’s ongoing commitment to provide education and outreach to the agricultural community.

Nitrogen Tracking and Reporting Task Force

In 2013, the Nitrogen Tracking and Reporting Task Force was convened by CDFA Secretary Karen Ross in cooperation with the State Water Resources Control Board to recommend an appropriate nitrogen tracking and reporting system for agriculture in nitrate high-risk areas. The Task Force is comprised of 28 people

representing agriculture; the environmental and environmental justice communities; local, regional and state governments; and, both of California’s university systems (the University of California and California State University). Efforts were made to ensure that Central Valley and Central Coast interests were well-represented based on the fact that those regions are at the forefront of addressing nitrates in groundwater. The efforts of the Task Force, CDFA and the State Water Resources Control Board are part of a multi-pronged effort by the Brown Administration to achieve a balance with nutrient management that remains productive and efficient for the food supply and also protects groundwater.





INSPECTION & COMPLIANCE

Branch Summary

The Inspection and Compliance Branch oversees the fair and orderly marketing of agricultural commodities in California. The six main programs of the branch are designed to protect producers, packers, shippers, and processors while ensuring the quality of both fresh and processed fruits and vegetables offered to California's consumers.

The Shipping Point Inspection Program (SPI) provides third-party grading and certification services to California's fruit, nut, and vegetable industries. This industry-funded program provides a nationally and internationally recognized grading and certification service to producers, packers, shippers, and processors. In this way, the program maintains a structure for the orderly and fair marketing of agricultural commodities in California.

The Standardization Program enforces the

laws and regulations governing minimum standards for maturity, quality, size, and packaging for more than thirty major agricultural commodities.

The Direct Marketing Program (formerly named the California Farmers' Market (CFM) Program) provides opportunities for certified producers to directly market their agricultural products at certified farmers markets (CFMs) throughout the state. The Direct Marketing Program permits the sale of produce directly to the public without disruption of the normal flow of commercial wholesaling.

The California State Organic Program (SOP) is responsible for registering organic operations in California; there has been a steady increase in the number of operations registered in the Program. The SOP also enforces state and federal statutes and regulations governing the production, handling, labeling, and sale of

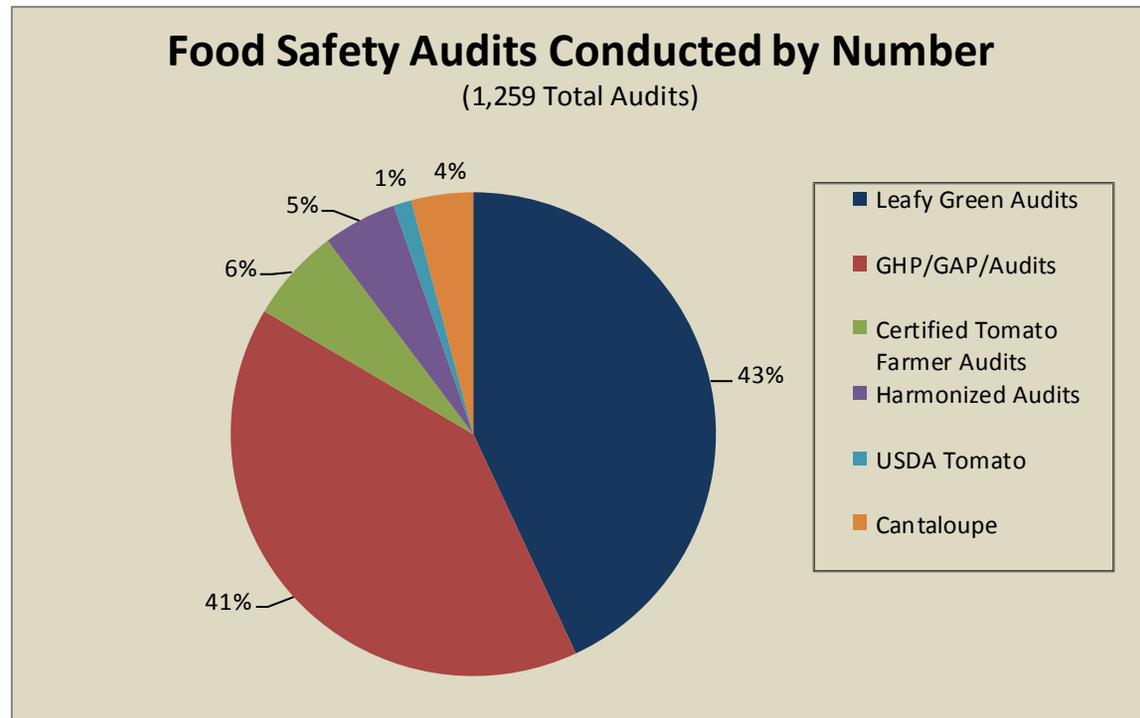
agricultural products labeled as organic. The SOP facilitates the sale of organic products within the State of California through spot inspections, investigations, and sampling. Sufficient regulatory control ensures that organic agricultural products are produced, handled, labeled, and sold in compliance with the provisions of the California Organic Products Act of 2003, Federal Organic Foods Production Act of 1990, National Organic Program regulations, and other state regulations.

The California Citrus Program and the Avocado Inspection Program are responsible for the enforcement of standards for size, weight, maturity, and other requirements for their respective commodities. Their goal is to protect both the industry and consumers by providing uniform inspections to ensure that all products comply with minimum standards of quality.

Shipping Point Inspection Program

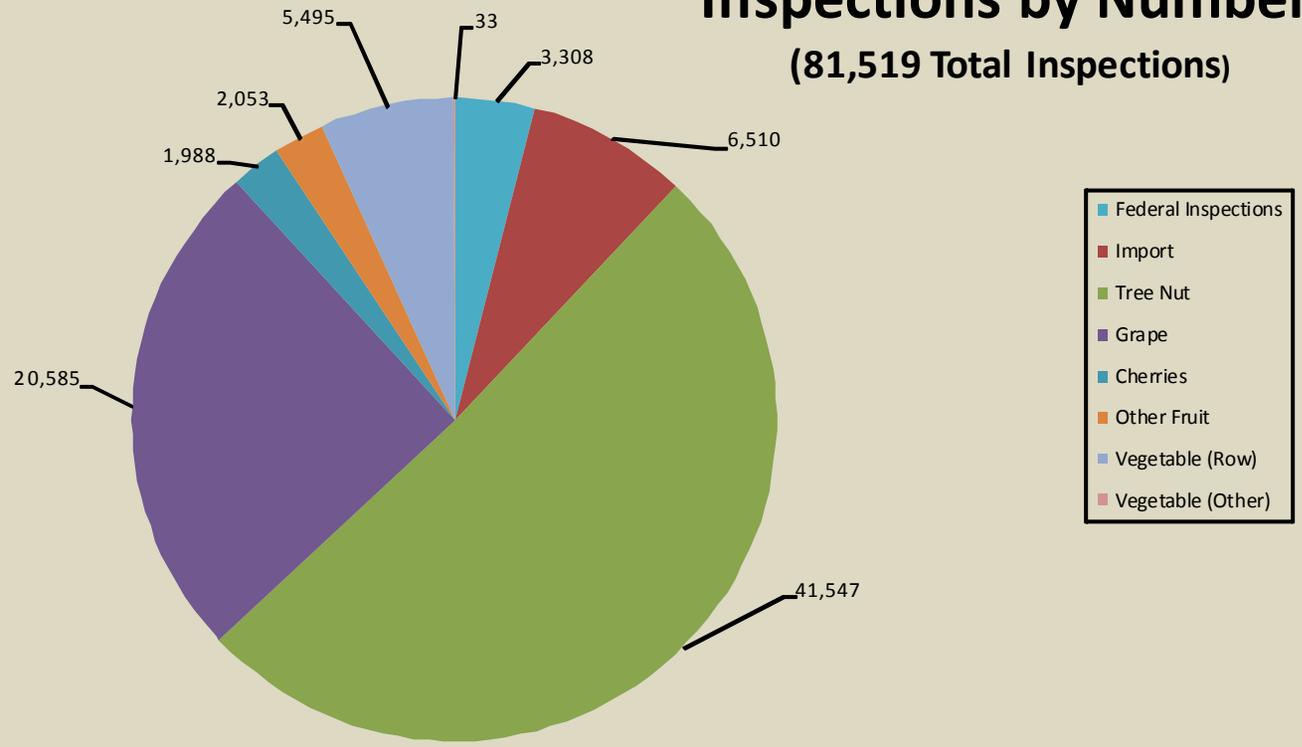
The Shipping Point Inspection (SPI) Program provides optional third-party grading, certification service, and food safety verification audits to the fruit, nut, and vegetable industries throughout California. A Federal-State Cooperative Agreement with the USDA authorizes CDFA inspectors to use federal grade standards for fresh produce and to issue federal-state inspection certificates that are nationally and internationally recognized.

In addition, food safety services are offered to growers and handlers of agricultural products. Federal-State Inspection Services personnel review participating companies' facilities, agronomic practices, and documentation to determine whether Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and Good Handling Practices (GHPs) are maintained. SPI continues to provide an increasing number of Food Safety audits and is in the process of expanding its services to meet the needs of growers and handlers throughout California.

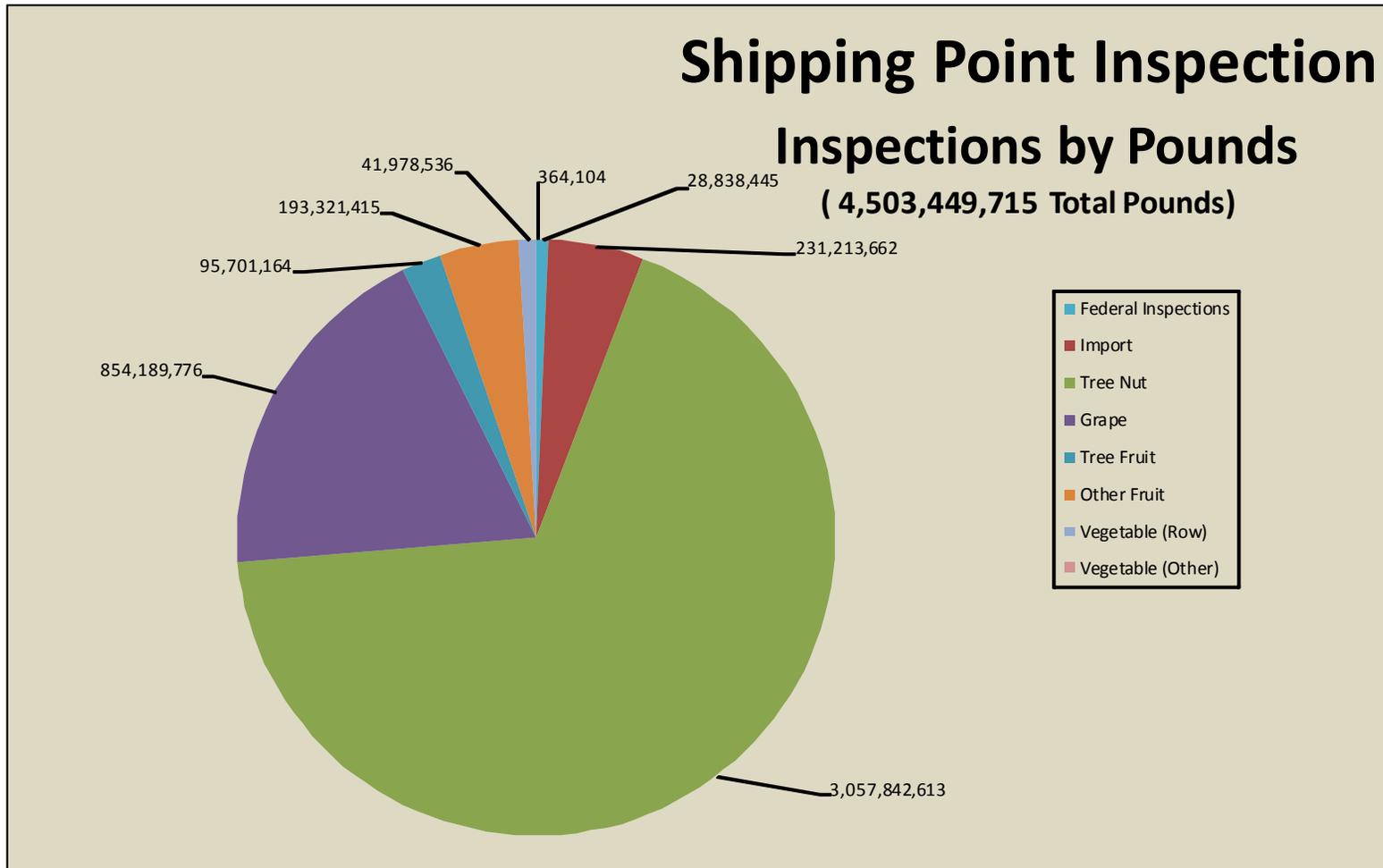


Food Safety Audits Conducted by Number: The information in the chart above reflects the number of Food Safety audits conducted by the Shipping Point Inspection program. During these inspections auditors typically review records, water test results, and food safety procedures. In today's food market, many retailers, buyers and processors require food safety audits in order to assure that safely produced and handled produce makes it to the marketplace.

Shipping Point Inspection Inspections by Numbers (81,519 Total Inspections)



Shipping Point Inspection Inspections by Number: SPI performs inspection on a number of commodities as part of Federal and State Marketing Orders. Services performed include grading, dispositions and evaluation of the commodity to the applicants specifications.

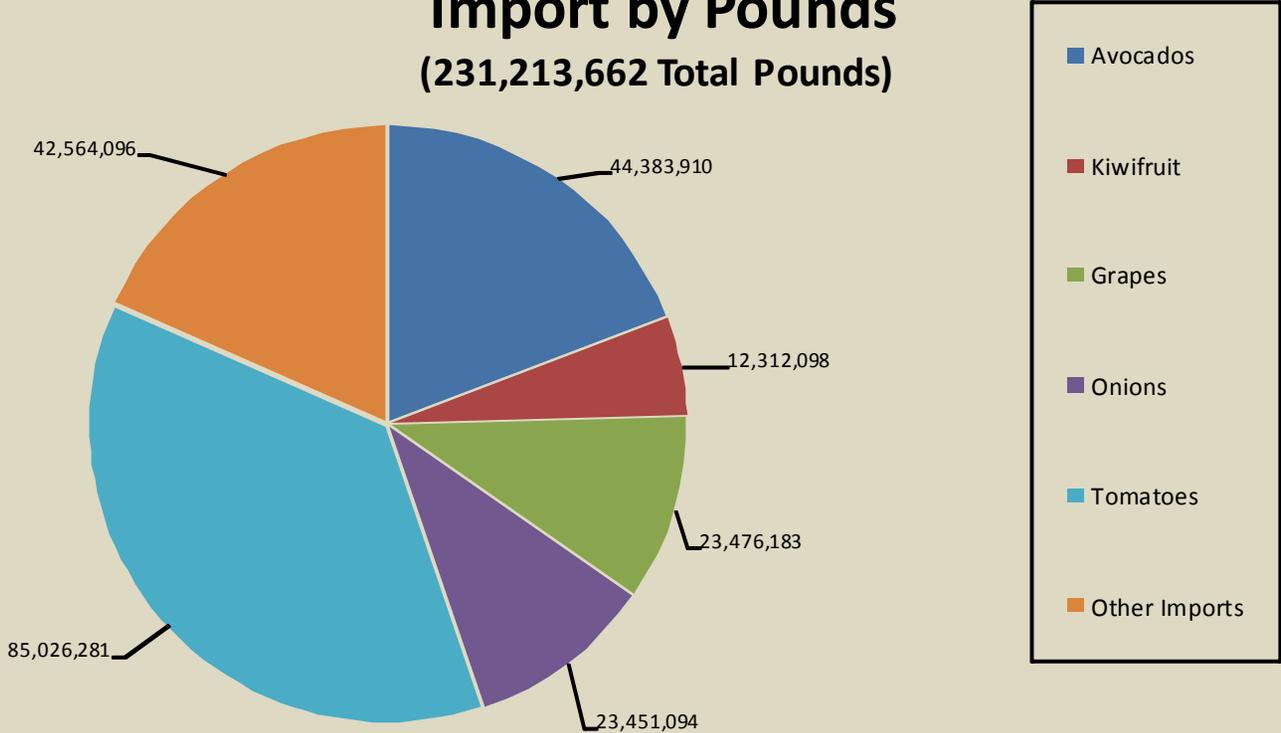


Shipping Point Inspection Inspections by Pounds: The work performed by SPI has an impact on buyers as well as growers. Growers rely on accurate inspections to ensure they are paid a fair price the commodities they produce. Buyers want to provide their customers with the highest quality product available at a fair price. SPI provides services to both the grower and the buyer as a neutral third party.

Shipping Point Inspection

Import by Pounds

(231,213,662 Total Pounds)



Shipping Point Inspection Import by Pounds: SPI conducts inspections on incoming commodities that are part of Federal Market Orders and International Trade Agreements.

Standardization Program

Standardization statutes establish minimum standards for maturity, quality, size, standard container and pack, and container markings. The Standardization Program ensures enforcement of quality standards, container, labeling, sizing, and maturity requirements at packing, storage, field distribution centers, certified farmers markets, and port of entry facilities. The Standardization Program provides a regulatory framework to assist industry efforts to increase consumer confidence in the food supply. Standardization inspections take place in fields, packinghouses, wholesale markets, retail distribution centers, retail outlets, and highway inspections stations. Standardization program personnel and counties performed inspections at the following locations last year: Long Beach Port in Los Angeles County; Port Hueneme in Ventura County; Otay Mesa and Calexico border crossings; wholesale facilities; field packing operations; farm

stands; certified farmers' markets; flea markets; and, swap meets located throughout the state.

Trends and Issues

The Standardization Advisory Committee approved additional county agreements increasing the number of counties receiving funds directly from the Standardization Program. County Agricultural Commissioner's and their staff continue to educate the industry at a variety of venues about the laws and regulations that pertain to fresh fruit and vegetables produced in California. Special emphasis was directed to the importance of compliance with the labeling requirements and how these laws relate to food safety. Enforcement activities were increased at roadside stands and various other retail venues to ensure protection to California consumers from sub-standard produce and to assist the

industry in maintaining an equitable marketplace.

Accomplishments

The Standardization Program hired provisional staff to assist in the development of over 25 new commodity training presentations. Training presentations along with several inspection videos will be available via a link on the program's webpage. Online seasonal licensing exams will also be available for county personnel by request.

The standardization database development made great progress and the initial phase was completed. Programming and coding efforts continue. The standardization database is scheduled to be available for use by the industry in the fall of 2014.

Avocado Inspection Program

The Avocado Inspection Program ensures enforcement of quality standards, container, labeling, sizing, weight, maturity, and proof of ownership requirements. Quality standard checks are taken at packing, storage, field distribution centers, and port of entry facilities. The goal is to protect the industry and consumers by providing uniform inspection to ensure that all avocados comply with minimum standards.



Avocado Inspection Program			
(January 1-December 31, 2013)			
Inspection Type	Number of Test	Non-Compliances	Cartons Rejected
Weight Test	47,439	222	24,492
Size/Count Test	6,450	28	1,743
Maturity Test	183	24	1064
*491,459,981 Pounds Packed and Certified			

Direct Marketing

The Direct Marketing Program is responsible for enforcing the statutes governing certified farmers markets (CFMs) and produce sold at or near the point of production. Standardization Program exemptions are provided to producers for minimum size, labeling, and standard containers. These exemptions allow the sale of produce directly to the public without disrupting the normal flow of commercial wholesaling. The Direct Marketing Program provides opportunities for certified producers to directly market their agricultural products at approximately 800 CFMs throughout the state and enables producers, non-profit organizations, and local government agencies to operate CFMs in both rural and urban areas.

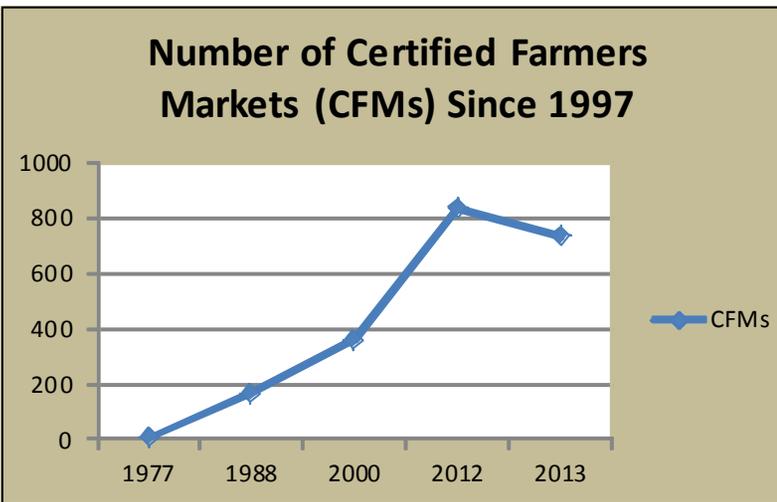
Traditionally, direct marketing opportunities were available through certified farmers markets and farm stands. However, as interest in local food movements has increased, additional direct marketing

opportunities have flourished with the increasing popularity of community supported agriculture (CSAs), community and school gardens, in addition to similar models.

In 2013, the CFM program provided Direct Marketing training to County staff at several locations throughout the state. This training provided resources and

information on applications for CFMs, and Certified Producer Certificates, clarification on regulatory language, and insight into what County staff should be looking for when inspecting CFMs.

The Direct Marketing Program continues to review integral legislative actions and their effects on the program and industry.



Number of Certified Farmers Markets (CFMs) Since 1977: This graph displays the number of Certified Farmers Markets operating throughout California on an annual basis. Data is taken from the number of CFM certificates authorized and issued by the Counties.

Citrus Program

Overview

The Citrus Program is responsible for protecting the industry and general public from substandard products and ensuring that the established minimum maturity and quality standards are met. In addition, the Citrus Program is responsible for providing industry members with current and accurate data regarding the state's citrus acreage and citrus crop information.

Trends and Issues

Navel orange maturity testing under the California Standard had a successful second season. County officials performing orange maturity testing reported minimal rejections on lots failing the California Standard.

Accomplishments

Over 20 million containers of citrus were inspected by county and state personnel for maturity and quality standards.



California State Organic Program

The State Organic Program (SOP) is responsible for enforcing the federal Organic Food Production Act of 1990 as amended; National Organic Program regulations [Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations §205 et seq.]; the California Organic Products Act of 2003 [Food and Agricultural Code §46000 et seq.]; and Title 3, §1391 et seq. of the California Code of Regulations. These laws and regulations protect consumers, producers, handlers, processors, and retailers by establishing standards under which agricultural products and food may be labeled and/or sold as “organic.” California is the only state in the Union with a proactive enforcement program providing the following: market surveillance, and residue sampling; a spot inspection program for producers, handlers, and retail operations; a network of county agricultural commissioners with contracts to carry out state enforcement activities; and, a registration program serving as a

mechanism to identify companies engaged in organic production, handling, and marketing.

The SOP implemented a web based, organic database system to improve the registration process by automating and consolidating registration, complaints, inspections, sampling, and noncompliance's. This system also allows the SOP to collect and provide detailed, organic agricultural statistics. Additionally, the SOP distributes funds to certified organic operations through the Organic Certification Cost Share Program, which reimburses operations for a portion of their certification costs.



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Inspection Services 2013 Annual Report

- 70 -

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Division of Inspection Services

2013 Annual Report

Compiled by: Fiona L. Mattson

A photograph of a pumpkin patch in a grove of trees. The ground is covered with many orange pumpkins of various sizes, scattered across a green lawn. In the background, there are rows of bare trees, suggesting an orchard or grove. The sky is clear and blue.

The Division of Inspection Services recognizes with gratitude these Staff Members
who retired in 2013:

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FOOD & AGRICULTURE