Ventura County agriculture by the numbers

Total crop value (2014): $2.1 billion
Ranking among California counties in value of crop production: 10th
Among U.S. counties: 11th
Average gross value per acre: $23,000
Real increase in per-acre value since 1998: 50%
Irrigated cropland: 91,218 acres
Urbanized land: 105,461
Acres converted from farmland to urban uses 1992-2012: 8,772
Number of farms: 2,150
Average size: 131 acres
Statewide average: 328 acres
National average: 434 acres
Ventura County median: 12 acres
Percentage smaller than 50 acres: 78%
Orchard crops: 39,600 acres
Berries, vegetables: 56,500 acres
Top 5 crops in gross value (2014):
   No. 1: Strawberries, $628 million, 11,630 acres
   No. 2: Lemons, $269 million, 14,926 acres
   No. 3: Raspberries, $241 million, 4,629 acres
   No. 4: Nursery stock, $181 million, 6,550 acres (field access), 11 million sq. ft. (greenhouses)
   No. 5: Celery, $152 million, 11,003 acres
Crop acreage by watershed

Santa Clara River

- Strawberry: 68%
- Berry: 16%
- Row Crop: 6%
- Orchard: 6%
- Nursery: 2%
- Flower: 3%
- Sod: 2%
- Other: 3%

29,900 Irrigated Acres

Oxnard Plain

- Strawberry: 65%
- Berry: 22%
- Row Crop: 3%
- Orchard: 2%
- Nursery: 4%
- Flower: 4%
- Sod: 3%
- Other: 2%

4,300 Irrigated Acres
Crop acreage by watershed

Calleguas Creek

Ventura River

45,600 Irrigated Acres

4,000 Irrigated Acres
Ventura County water by the numbers

Water supply and demand*

Average annual Ventura County water use: 445,310 acre-feet** (AF)
Agricultural water use: 255,325 AF (57%)
Urban: 189,984 AF (43%)
Total supplied by groundwater: 281,550 AF (63%)
Total supplied by local surface water: 36,726 AF (8%)
Total supplied by imported state water: 111,283 AF (25%)
Total supplied by recycled water: 15,751 AF (4%)
Percentage of agricultural water use derived from local groundwater: 85%

*Source: “County of Ventura 2013 Water Supply and Demand,” Ventura County Watershed Protection District, January 2015

** An acre-foot is 325,900 gallons, the average annual consumption of two Southern California households. Year-round vegetable production requires 4-5 AF per acre per year. Strawberries grown for the main January-June harvest season require 3-4 AF per acre. Citrus requires 2-4 AF per acre per year, depending on tree size, and avocados require 2-5 AF.