

2026 STATEWIDE AVOCADO
ACREAGE & CONDITION ANALYSIS

Prepared for
California Avocado Commission

Prepared by

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October 2026



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Spatial land use information is essential for the California Avocado Commission to make informed decisions for budgeting and marketing of crops. Accurate and timely land use information is the foundation of these analyses and is vital to the decision-making process.

Increased availability of digital satellite imagery, aerial photography and new analytical tools make remote sensing land use surveys possible at the grove scale. These technologies allow accurate, large-scale crop and land use identification to be performed at time increments as desired and make highly accurate and comprehensive statewide avocado mapping possible.

Growers, industry, regulators, government agencies, and commodity groups also benefit from spatial data related to crop type, location, condition, and density. These data are key components for management of environmental resources and proximity to sensitive areas including water quality, air quality, and disease or pest vectors.

For 2026, the total planted avocado acreage in California was 55,522 acres.



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INTRODUCTION

Accurate acreage information is critically important to the work of the California Avocado Commission (CAC). Acreage drives a multitude of activities that range from yield forecasting to member data tracking and budgeting. In response to this need for information, Land IQ was contracted by CAC to develop a comprehensive and accurate statewide spatial land use database of avocado groves and condition on a grove scale using remote sensing, statistical, and temporal analysis methods.





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FORECASTING METHODS

Land IQ integrated crop production knowledge with multiple satellite and aerial image resources to conduct remote sensing land use analysis at the grove scale. The mapping approach employs advanced spatial statistical analysis to determine prediction probabilities and inform QA/QC efforts. A rigorous QA/QC and photo interpretive analysis is employed to improve predictions on all lower confidence groves. In addition, these groves are also back-checked with the CAC industry representatives.

Individual avocado polygon boundaries (areas of homogeneous crop types representing true cropped area rather than legal parcel boundaries) are used so that each independent avocado polygon could be analyzed independently and assigned a condition class. The results represent the true cropped area and not legal or other less detailed boundaries that may be available elsewhere.

The condition legend was developed by CAC and is summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. Avocado Condition Description

Condition	Description
Producing	Groves that are greater than 4 years old.
Topped/Stumped	Groves that have been topped and/or stumped and not producing.
New/Young	Groves that are 4 years old or younger.
Abandoned	Groves previously identified as avocados that do not return to healthy growth statistics as represented by spectral data.



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Data Collection

Satellite data resources were used for the classification. Avocado boundaries from 2025 avocado mapping were used as a base layer for 2026. Multiple Landsat 8 images were used for the initial crop classification. Imagery from the Landsat 8 satellite is free of charge, available every 16 days, and used for temporal analysis throughout the growing season. Following analysis with Landsat 8 images, various sources of localized high resolution imagery were used to further evaluate groves for condition, age, and boundary updates. Data provided by Maxar is higher resolution but requires a paid subscription.





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Analysis

The Land IQ avocado mapping unit is a grove-scale layer focused on avocado polygons equal to or greater than 0.5 acres across the state. 20,005 delineated polygons were classified using multiple image sources and dates. The images are used as the base layer data, in which classification algorithms are applied for crop identification.

Classified groves with a lower confidence level are carefully reviewed by assessing image resources using photo interpretation methods. Results are also cross-validated with ancillary data sources such as the coinciding USDA Crop Data Layer, county agricultural surveys and county crop reports to assess and evaluate significant differences.

The geospatial database is attributed with avocado polygon size in acres, relevant county, and the appropriate condition category per the CAC legend (Table 1). Table 2 summarizes the database attributes associated with the final mapping product and their definitions.

Table 2. Definition of Database Fields

Avocado Polygon Attribute	Description
Acres	Area of the avocado polygon
County	Indicates the county that the centroid of each avocado polygon resides in
Crop 2026	Crop classification type for the year 2026
Modified By	Name of person who last modified the record
Date Data Refers To	Date the data refers to
Last Modified Date	Date record was last modified
Condition	Describes condition of the avocado polygon
Year Planted	Year the grove was planted or stumped
Comments	Any user-provided comments
Source	Original source of the boundary and attribute information



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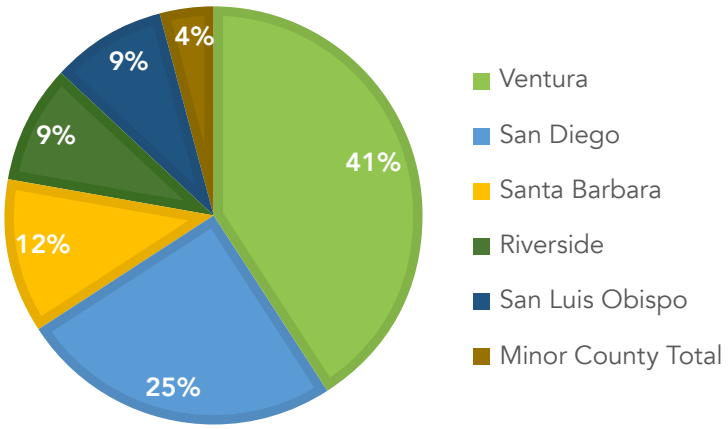
Numeric Results

The avocado acreage classification for the 2026 year totaled 20,005 avocado fields and 55,522 planted acres. The five main avocado growing counties are Ventura, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Riverside, and San Luis Obispo. Small acreages were also present in Orange, San Bernardino, Monterey, Tulare, Los Angeles, Sacramento, Fresno, Kern, Santa Cruz, Sonoma and Stanislaus Counties. Statewide avocado acreages by county are summarized in Table 3 and Figure 1.

Table 3. Summary of 2026 Statewide Avocado Acreage by County

Five County	Acres	Number of Fields	Minor County	Acres	Number of Fields
Ventura	22,849	7,338	Orange	904	389
San Diego	13,810	6,139	San Bernardino	604	192
Santa Barbara	6,787	2,060	Monterey	355	76
Riverside	5,114	2,703	Tulare	79	32
San Luis Obispo	4,928	1,033	Sacramento	31	10
			Los Angeles	28	19
			Fresno	17	8
			Stanislaus	9	1
			Santa Cruz	3	3
			Kern	3	1
			Sonoma	1	1
Five County Total	**53,488**	**19,273**	**Minor County Total**	**2,034**	**732**
Overall Total: 55,522 Classified Acres / 20,005 Fields					

Figure 1.
Summary of 2026 Statewide Avocado Acreage by County





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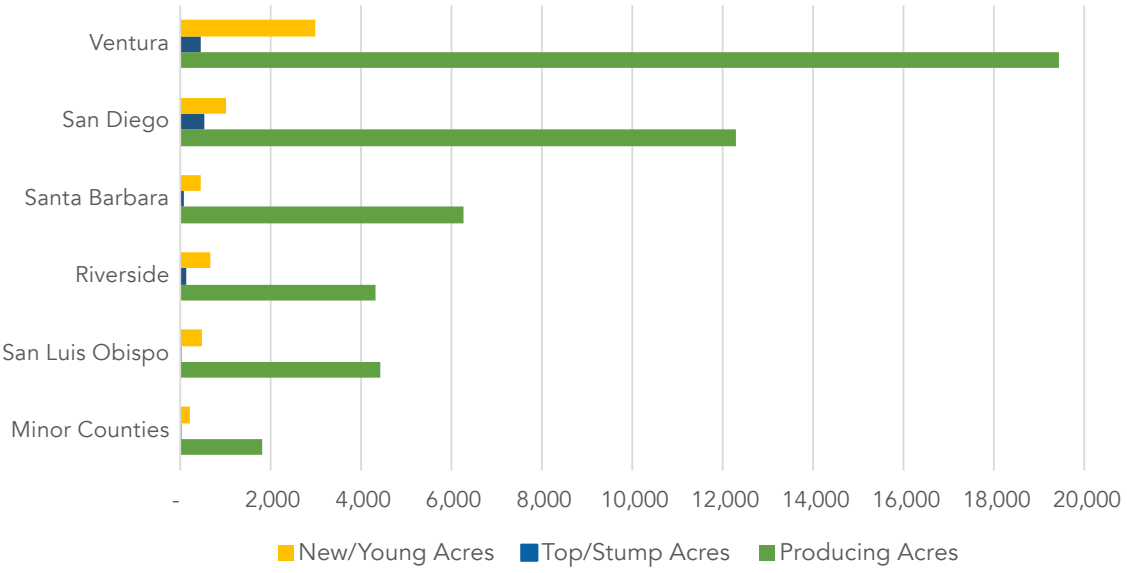
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Acreage by county and condition for the five main growing areas are summarized in Table 4 and Figures 2 and 3.

Table 4. Summary of 2026 Statewide Avocado Acreage by Condition

County	Producing Acres	Top/Stump Acres	New/Young Acres	Planted Acres
Ventura	19,416	449	2,983	22,849
San Diego	12,274	524	1,013	13,810
Santa Barbara	6,275	69	443	6,787
Riverside	4,324	126	664	5,114
San Luis Obispo	4,428	29	471	4,928
Five County Total	**46,718**	**1,197**	**5,573**	**53,488**
Minor Counties	1,800	20	213	2,034
Total	**48,518**	**1,218**	**5,787**	**55,522**

Figure 2. 2026 Avocado Acreage by Condition and County





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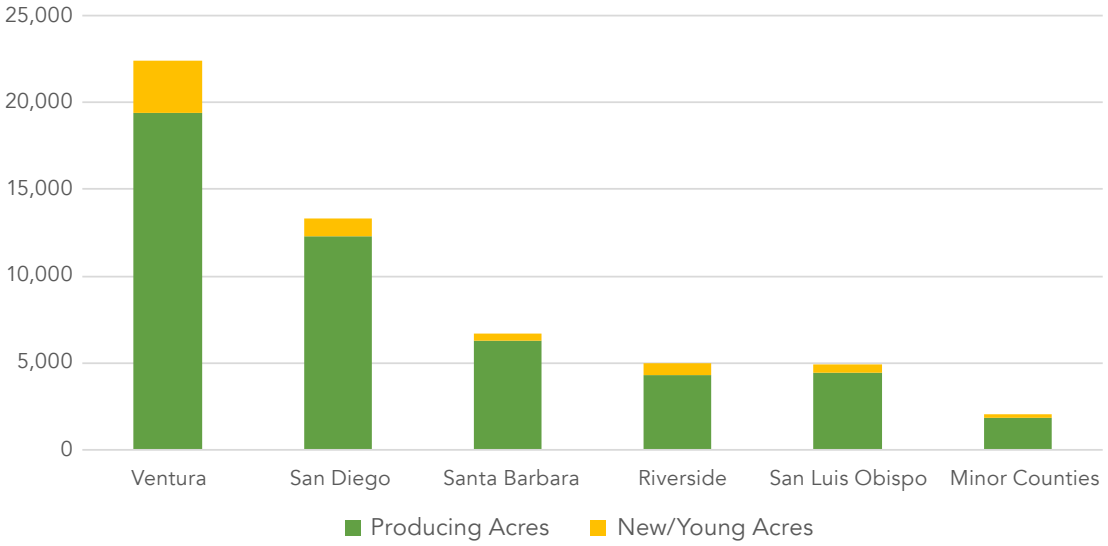
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Figure 3. 2026 Avocado Acreage of Producing and New/Young Acreage by County







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In addition to acreage and condition summaries, a spatial analysis was completed to determine acreage by other jurisdictional boundaries including zip code. Acreage by zip code is summarized in Table 5.

Table 5. Summary of 2026 Statewide Avocado Acreage by Zip Code

Ventura	
Zip Code	Producing Acres
90265	4
91320	1
91360	35
91361	5
93001	1,495
93003	224
93004	145
93010	260
93012	1,248
93013	34
93015	3,116
93021	2,202
93022	2
93023	943
93030	37
93033	228
93036	103
93040	526
93060	4,892
93065	120
93066	3,797

San Diego	
Zip Code	Producing Acres
91935	4
92003	580
92019	4
92021	272
92025	302
92026	807
92027	1,368
92028	3,240
92029	13
92040	5
92055	-
92057	257
92059	98
92061	1,291
92064	225
92065	164
92069	225
92078	45
92082	2,892
92084	483

Santa Barbara	
Zip Code	Producing Acres
93013	2,040
93101	2
93103	40
93105	294
93108	134
93109	13
93110	25
93111	537
93117	2,957
93436	75
93454	49
93455	109

Riverside	
Zip Code	Producing Acres
92028	25
92220	3
92503	94
92504	97
92506	3
92507	7
92508	19
92521	11
92530	4
92543	2
92544	13
92557	12
92562	144
92570	7
92583	9
92590	3,713
92592	86
92595	20
92881	17
92882	16
92883	21

San Luis Obispo	
Zip Code	Producing Acres
93401	248
93402	15
93405	169
93420	589
93428	218
93430	362
93442	584
93444	600
93445	1
93452	18
93454	1,580
93465	44



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Orange

Zip Code	Producing Acres
92602	592
92610	47
92618	63
92620	13
92624	0
92675	102
92694	0
92705	2
92782	7
92887	1

San Bernardino

Zip Code	Producing Acres
91709	17
91784	7
92313	13
92346	6
92359	127
92373	70
92374	336
92407	4

Monterey

Zip Code	Producing Acres
93907	3
93908	5
93960	266
95012	1
95076	7

Tulare

Zip Code	Producing Acres
93221	1
93235	1
93244	4
93247	3
93257	11
93286	17
93292	9
93631	4
93647	-

Sacramento

Zip Code	Producing Acres
95615	9
95690	8

Los Angeles

Zip Code	Producing Acres
90265	11
90274	4
90631	5
91301	0
91711	1
91768	4

Fresno

Zip Code	Producing Acres
93609	1
93648	2
93654	2
93662	1
93706	0
93725	7

Stanislaus

Zip Code	Producing Acres
95363	-

Santa Cruz

Zip Code	Producing Acres
95076	2

Kern

Zip Code	Producing Acres
93215	3
93308	-

Sonoma

Zip Code	Producing Acres
95476	1



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In 2026, a separate analysis was performed to determine the year the grove was either planted or stumped. Table 6 shows the acreage that was either planted or stumped within that year. Table 7 and Figure 4 show the age as a percentage of planted acreage.

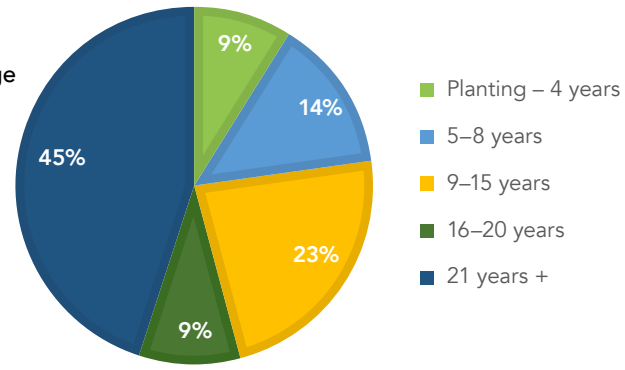
Table 6. 2026 Planted Avocado Acreage by Year Planted or Stumped

Year Planted	Planted Acres	Year Planted	Planted Acres	Year Planted	Planted Acres	Year Planted	Planted Acres
1984	12,637	1995	107	2006	954	2017	1,178
1985	10	1996	155	2007	1,369	2018	1,664
1986	38	1997	98	2008	834	2019	1,733
1987	121	1998	241	2009	1,103	2020	1,625
1988	27	1999	759	2010	898	2021	2,428
1989	32	2000	343	2011	1,026	2022	2,263
1990	490	2001	926	2012	1,069	2023	1,769
1991	175	2002	2,358	2013	2,303	2024	1,344
1992	157	2003	1,468	2014	1,838	2025	1,053
1993	134	2004	2,033	2015	1,527	2026	572
1994	467	2005	1,172	2016	3,024		

Table 7. 2026 Age as a Percentage of Planted Acreage

Age	Acreage	Percentage of Planted Acres
Planting–4 years	4,739	8.5%
5–8 years	8,049	14.5%
9–15 years	12,604	22.7%
16–20 years	5,230	9.4%
21 years +	24,901	44.8%

Figure 4.
Age as a Percentage of Planted Acres





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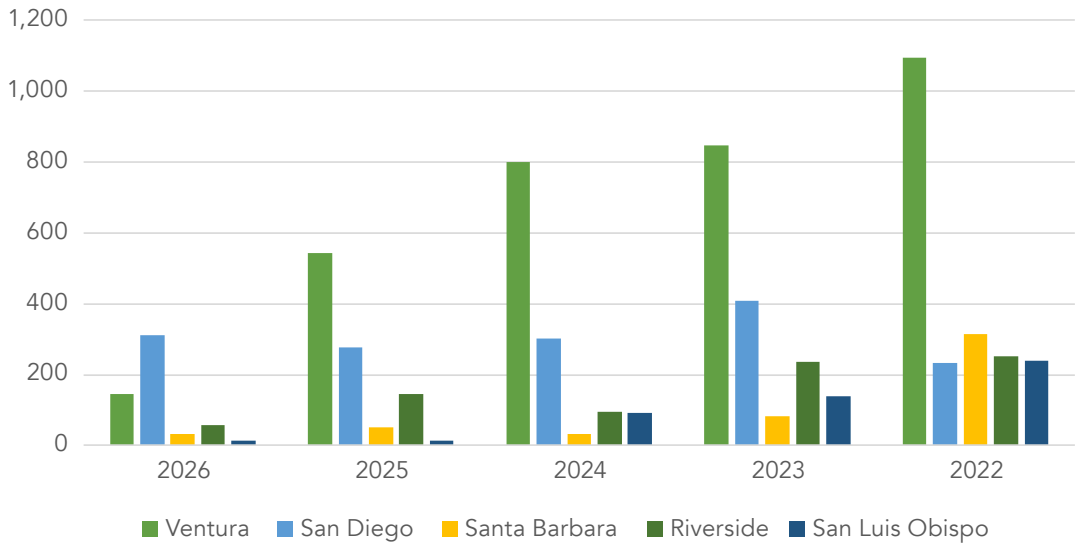
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Table 8 and Figure 5 detail the acreage with a planting year within the last five years. This includes both newly established groves and older orchards that have been recently stumped, as the stumping process resets a grove's recorded planting year. The spatial analysis can only be performed once new groves have reached a certain canopy size. Thus, the acres reported for 2025 and 2026 are only those that have been visually confirmed through ground truthing efforts.

Table 8. New Acres by County and Planting Year

County	2026	2025	2024	2023	2022
Ventura	146	544	800	846	1,096
San Diego	312	276	304	410	235
Santa Barbara	32	52	31	81	315
Riverside	57	146	94	238	253
San Luis Obispo	14	15	92	141	238

Figure 5. Young Avocado Acreage by Planting Year





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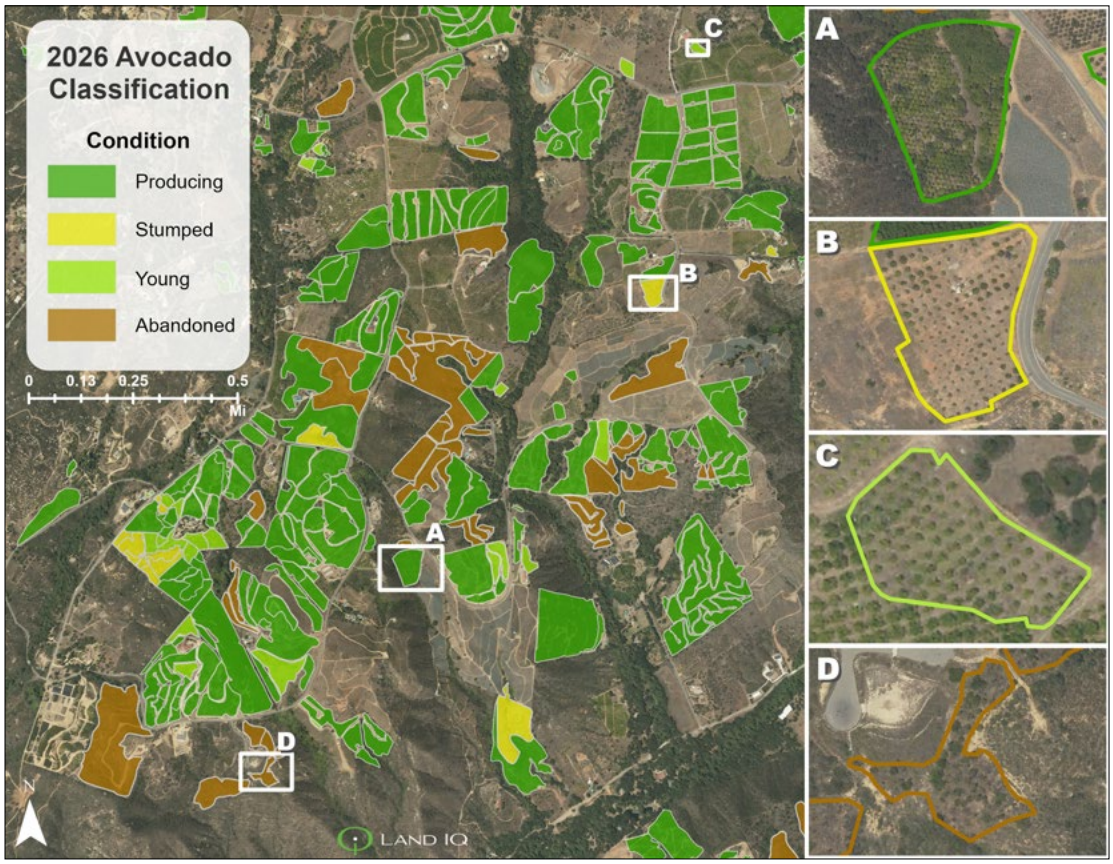
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A series of maps are provided to demonstrate the avocado classification results. Figures 6 through 11 show the avocado acreage and condition classification example as well as maps of the five CAC districts.

Figure 6. Example of 2026 Avocado Classification Conditions





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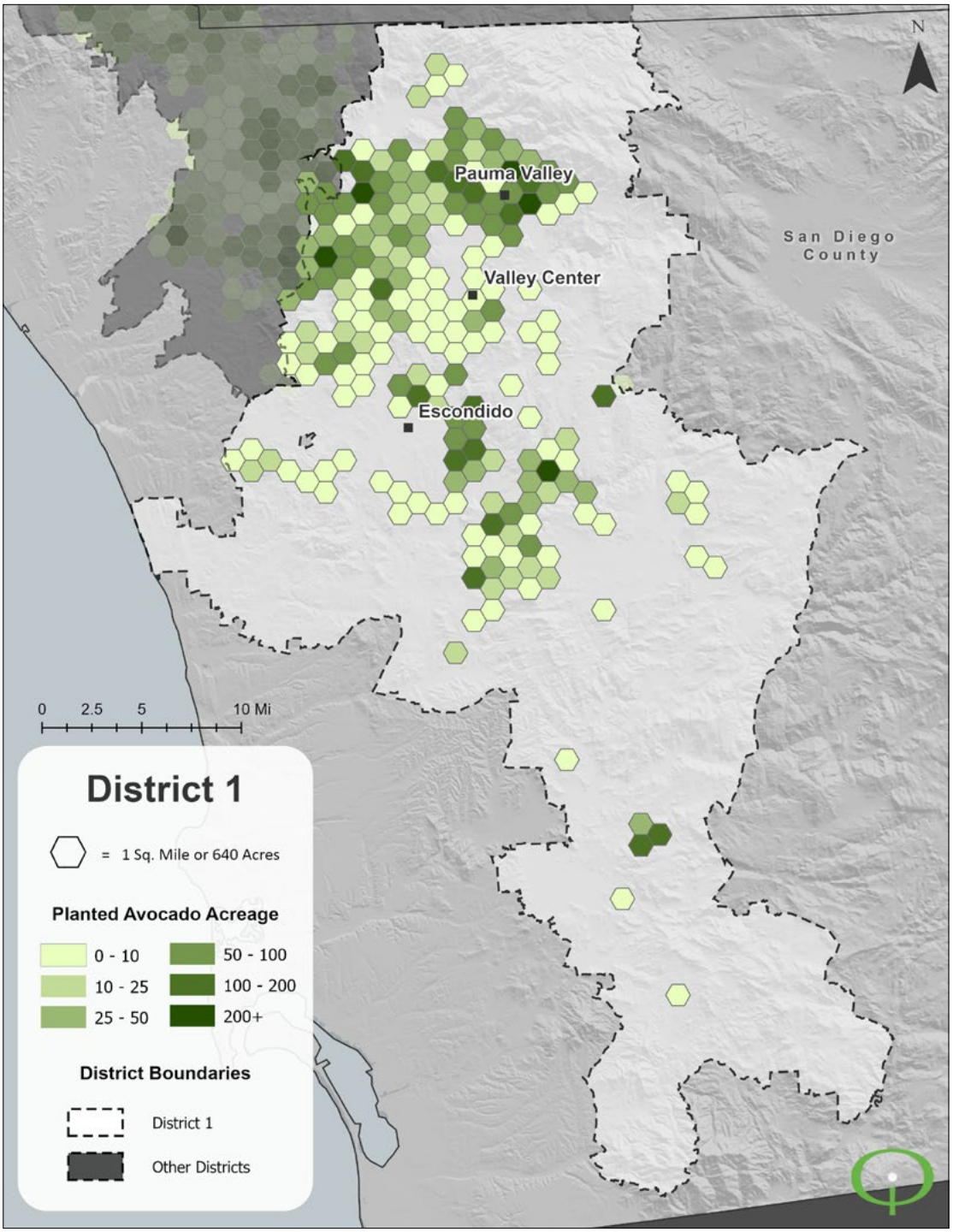
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Figure 7. 2026 Avocado Planted Polygons in CAC District 1





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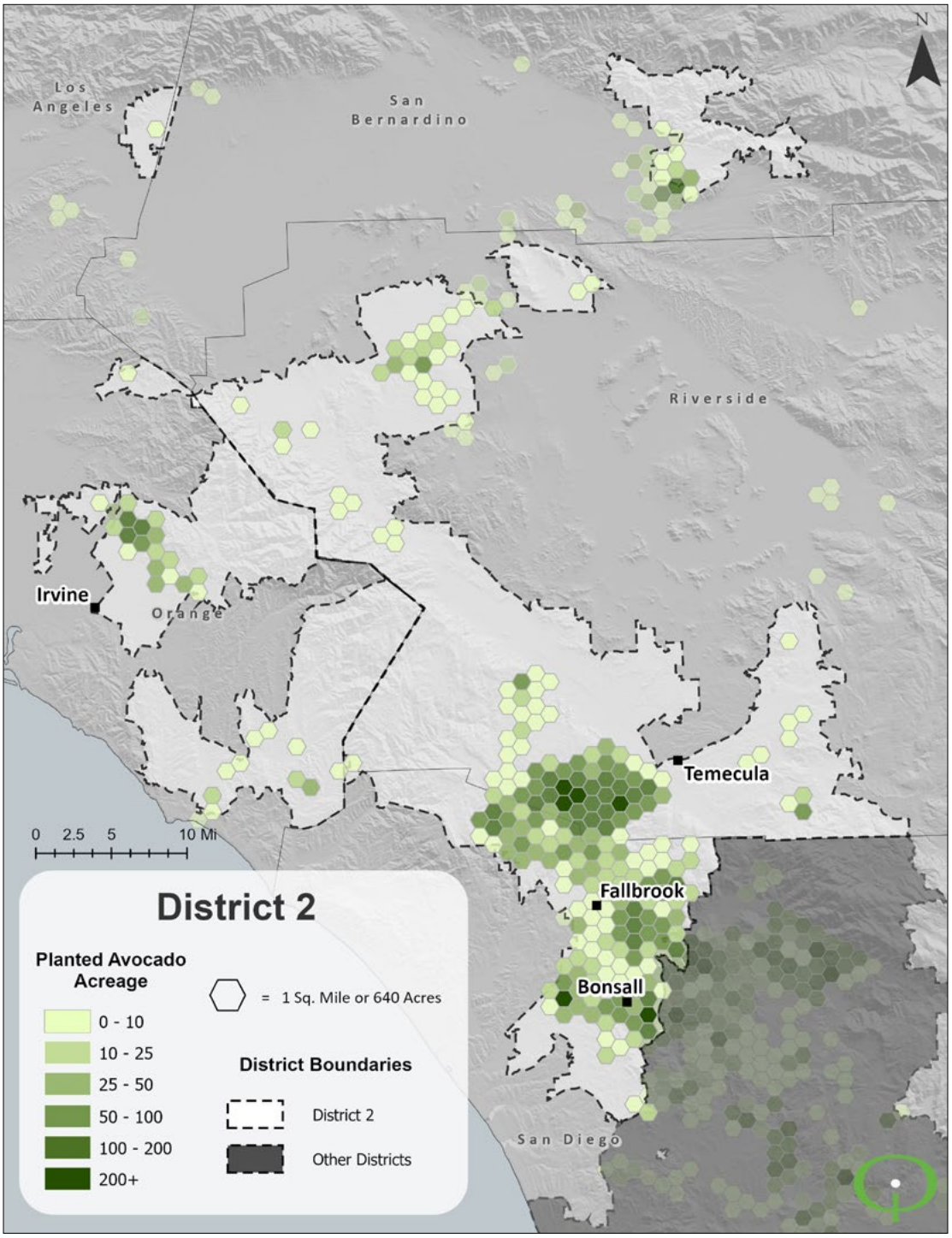
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Figure 8. 2026 Avocado Planted Polygons in CAC District 2





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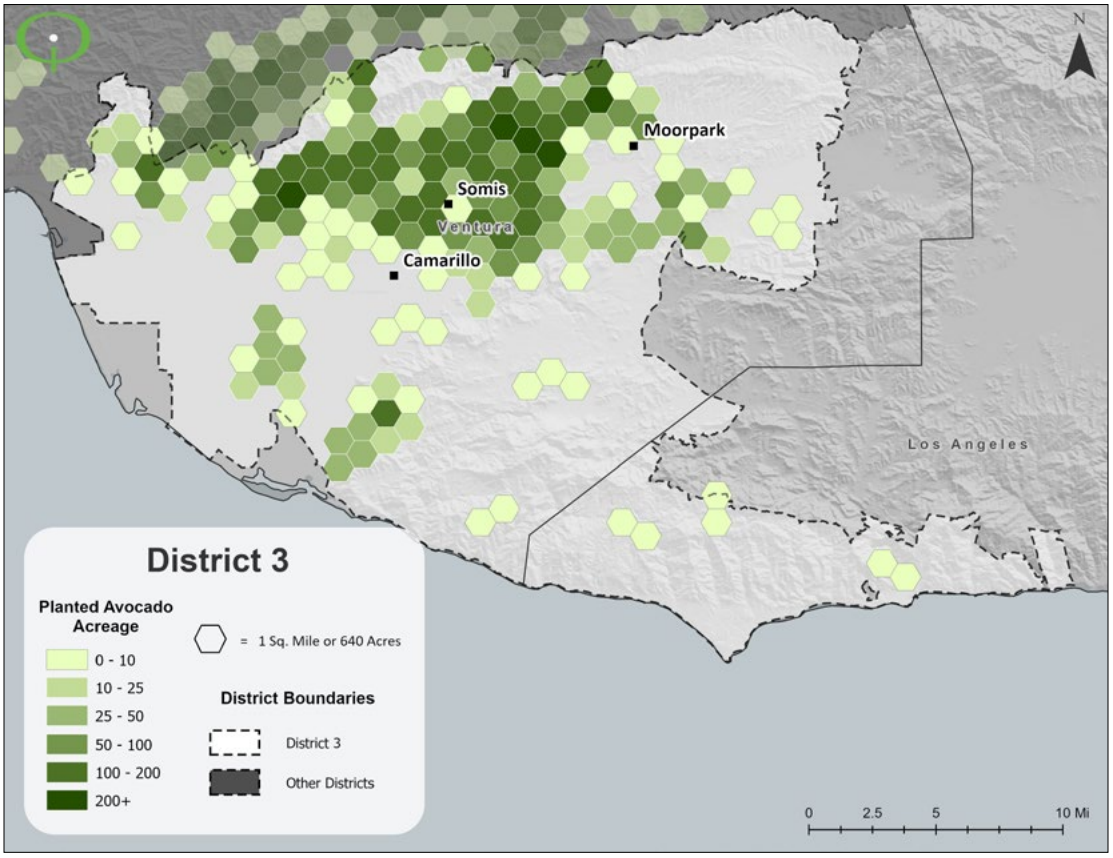
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Figure 9. 2026 Avocado Planted Polygons in CAC District 3





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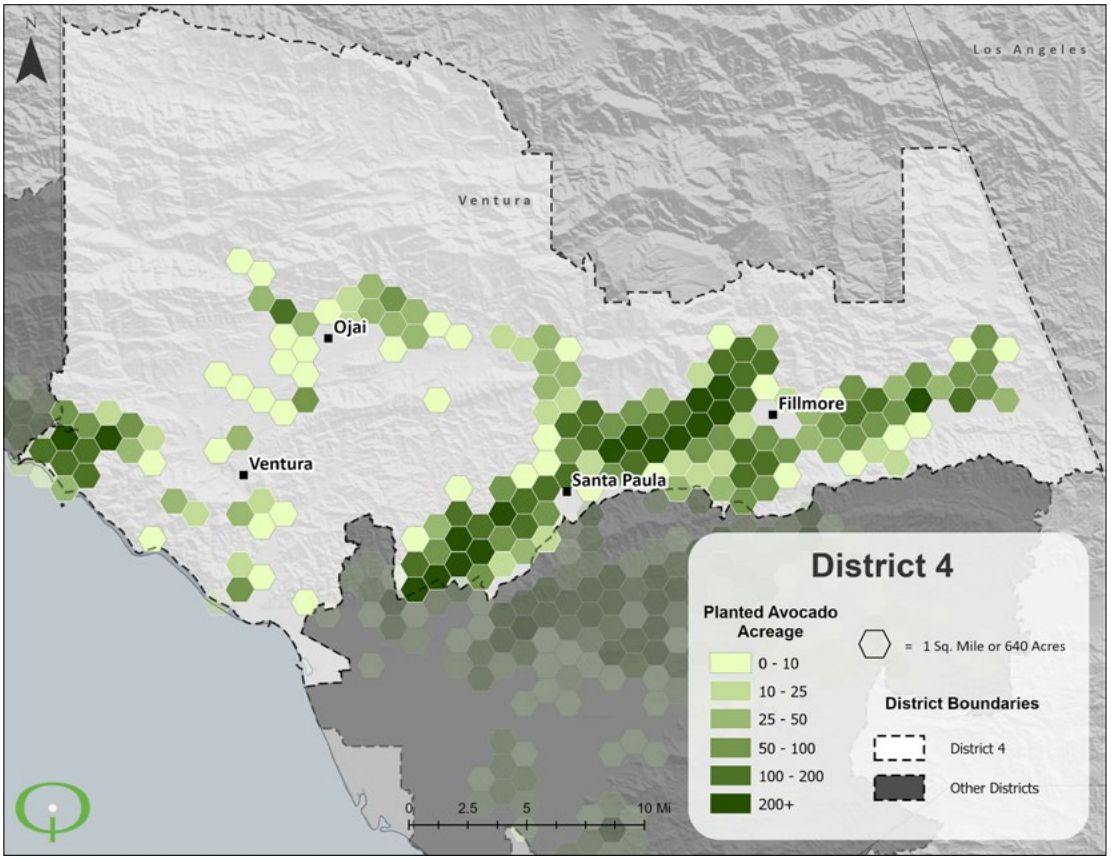
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Figure 10. 2026 Avocado Planted Polygons in CAC District 4





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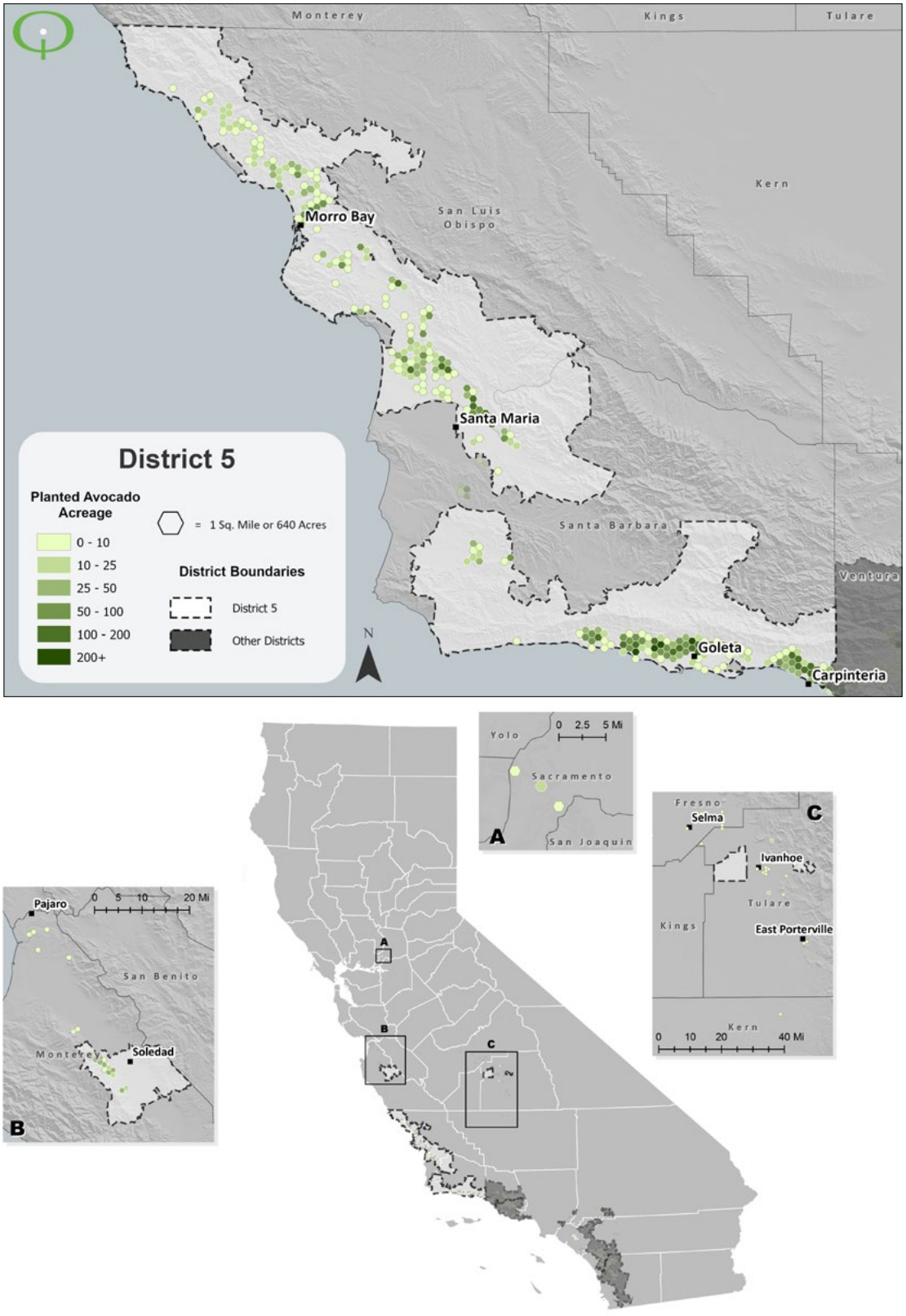
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Figure 11. 2026 Avocado Planted Polygons in CAC District 5





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DATA DELIVERABLES

Data delivered to CAC as a part of the 2026 avocado mapping effort are listed and described in Table 9.

Table 9. Summary of 2026 Avocado Acreage Deliverables

File Name	Description
CAC_2026_Avocados_Districts_Zips	Spatial file of statewide avocado acreage with condition, age, density, zipcode and CAC district delivered through web mapping application.
CAC_2026_Avocado_Acreage_Tables	Tabular data summarizing acreage by county, condition, age, density, zip code and CAC district.
2026_Statewide_Avocado_Mapping	Report

The net change in acreage from 2025 to 2026 is summarized in Table 10.

Table 10. Net Acreage Change from 2025 to 2026 by County

County	Producing	Young	Stumped	Abandoned	Total
Ventura	(747)	1,073	(3)	(58)	264
San Diego	(1,108)	520	2	341	(245)
Santa Barbara	(151)	51	43	(30)	(87)
Riverside	(243)	241	57	9	63
San Luis Obispo	(44)	324	(27)	1	254
Orange	2	7	2	0	11
San Bernardino	(11)	3	0	0	(9)
Monterey	(15)	18	0	0	2
Tulare	(10)	9	4	0	3
Sacramento	15	3	0	9	26
Los Angeles	(3)	13	0	(9)	1
Fresno	2	3	0	0	5
Stanislaus	(0)	9	0	0	9
Santa Cruz	0	1	0	0	1
Kern	0	0	0	0	0
Sonoma	1	0	0	0	1
Total	**(2,312)**	**2,274**	**77**	**263**	**301**



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The change in avocado classification from 2025 to 2026 is summarized in Table 11.

Table 11. Change in California Avocado Acreage Classification from 2025 to 2026

County	2025 Classification	2026 Classification			
		Producing	Top/Stump	New/Young	Abandon
San Diego	Producing	12,207	337	348	393
	Top/Stump	15	171	200	71
	New/Young	32	-	406	7
	Abandon	6	13	7	3,512
	Not Classified	13	3	52	7
Riverside	Producing	4,309	84	129	13
	Top/Stump	-	42	23	2
	New/Young	10	-	413	-
	Abandon	-	-	-	759
	Not Classified	6	-	98	-
Ventura	Producing	19,303	162	627	11
	Top/Stump	3	256	162	8
	New/Young	25	-	1,866	1
	Abandon	37	16	3	397
	Not Classified	50	16	326	1
Santa Barbara	Producing	6,202	38	60	2
	Top/Stump	-	19	7	-
	New/Young	53	-	334	-
	Abandon	4	-	-	274
	Not Classified	17	12	41	-
San Luis Obispo	Producing	4,374	16	69	1
	Top/Stump	1	13	39	-
	New/Young	-	-	146	-
	Abandon	-	-	-	28
	Not Classified	55	-	216	-



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