

**California Department of Conservation  
Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program**

**2000 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** Ventura

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** Michael Kisko

**PHOTOGRAPHY:**

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <i>source:</i>        | Aerial Fotobank   |
| <i>date:</i>          | 1/99  |
| <i>scale:</i>         | 1:42,000  |
| <i>film type:</i>     | Copies of True Color Prints   |
| <i>coverage gaps:</i> | Gaps along extreme northern edge of county, most notably Ojai area. |

**WRITTEN OR ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:** *Please list which local governments, interest groups, or individuals submitted comments on the 1998 maps. Also list all phone and in-person contacts made while conducting the 2000 update.*

➤ *local review comments*

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| <i>cities:</i> | Cities of Camarillo, Fillmore, Simi Valley, and Moorpark |
| <i>county:</i> |  |
| <i>others:</i> |  |

➤ *personal contacts:* Dana Wisehart w/ the United Water Conservation District

[\(dana@unitedwater.org\)](mailto:dana@unitedwater.org)

➤ *websites:*

New Homebuyer's Guide: [www.hbg.com](http://www.hbg.com)  
National Golf Foundation (new golf courses): [www.ngf.org](http://www.ngf.org)  
Simi Valley: [www.simivalley.com](http://www.simivalley.com)  
United Water Conservation District: [www.unitedwater.org/index.shtml](http://www.unitedwater.org/index.shtml)

**1998-2000 CHANGES\*:** *Please summarize the most common changes to the maps. List representative locations (quads) of each type of change encountered. Make sure to list and describe particularly large, unusual or notable changes and give estimates of the acreage involved.*

➤ P, S, U → D

There was a substantial conversion of ag land to urban land this update with 34 conversions taking place countywide. The bulk of these conversions took place on the Oxnard (8), Saticoy (7), Santa Paula (6) and Newbury Peak (6) quads. These

conversions were consistent in that they were mostly seen in the form of new homes or other buildings. Notable exceptions to this were a new Saticoy Self-Storage on the Saticoy quad, the expansion of a golf course on the Santa Paula quad, the addition of the new Sterling Hills Golf Course Community on the Camarillo quad, and two new, small shopping centers on the Oxnard quad adjoining the Ventura County Airport.

➤ L, G, X → D

The urbanization of local, grazing, and other land was the biggest category of conversion this update with a hefty 47 changes taking place. The majority of these conversions took place in the Simi Valley (14) and Thousand Oaks (18) area. Most of these conversions were the result of new home construction. Approximately 120 acres of the Dos Vientos Ranch development was added to the Newbury Peak quad near Thousand Oaks and more development is slated there for the future. Another, 160-acre residential development was also added to the Thousand Oaks quad on the eastern edge of Thousand Oaks. Still another large conversion was seen in the form of the 80-acre Noble Basin Recharge area on the Saticoy quad which is part of the United Water Conservation District Project. Finally, some notable additions to the Simi Valley area included the new Tierra Rajada Golf Course, some industrial buildings including Nortel Networks and Computer Parts, Unlimited, and the Mt. Sinai Memorial Park.

➤ P, S, U → L, G

There were no conversions of ag land to local or grazing land this update in Ventura County. Most of the conversions to grazing land this update came out of urban land in the form of urban boundary adjustments. There was not a lot of fallow farmland in evidence in Ventura County this update and the majority of land that was converted from agriculture seems to have gone into the urban category.

➤ P, S, U → X

There were only 5 conversions of ag land to other land this update. In particular, an area of ranchettes was added on the Santa Paula quad where a residential neighborhood with a large amount of avocado trees was found. The general land use of the area seemed to be residential, with the avocado trees being left over from when the whole area was nothing but agriculture. The trees did not seem to be a source of income to any of the homeowners as much of the fruit was simply dropping on the street. Another conversion of ag land to other land was involved in the correction of the location of an "X" polygon on the Camarillo quad which was actually located one street down from where it had been mapped in the past.

➤ L, G, X → P, S, U

Ag land got a bit of a boost this update as 32 conversions were made from marginal land to ag land. Almost half of these changes (12) were made on the Moorpark quad. Most of these changes were the result of expanding the boundaries of existing agriculture rather than the discovery of new agriculture. This was also the primary cause of the remaining conversions which were distributed pretty evenly throughout the county.

➤ **UNUSUAL:** *Category changes, complications with the Farmland of Local Importance definition, or any other special circumstances in 2000.*

D→P On the Oxnard quad, the addition of two agricultural fields totaling approx. 200 acres adjacent to a gravel pit north of the city of Oxnard.

P→U On the Saticoy quad, a nursery with stock growing in containers was discovered on a polygon previously mapped as "P."

G, L→X On the Moorpark quad, a mine, Grimes Rock, Inc., was added.

G→X On the Simi Valley West quad, Oak Park, which seemed to be a fairly developed park with a lot of open space, was moved from grazing to other land.

**PROBLEM AREAS:** *What locations and map categories need careful checking in 2002? Why?*

The Ojai and northern portion of the county will need to be checked carefully in the 2002 update as I did not have photo coverage of those areas in the 2000 update.

As far as new development is concerned, the Moorpark, Camarillo, Thousand Oaks, and northeastern portion of the City of Oxnard near Highway 101 will be the "hot spots."

**OUT OF DATE BASE MAPS:** *Please list any base maps used for update or publication of this county which are woefully out of date due to extensive new development, road construction, etc.*

The quads which encompass Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks are quite out of date due to new development.

**LABOR ESTIMATE:** *Please estimate the amount of time spent on the following tasks.*

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| <i>photo interpretation, start date:</i>        | December 6, 2000        |
| <i>photo interpretation, number of days:</i>    | 9                       |
| <i>ground truthing dates:</i>                   | December 27, 28, and 29 |
| <i># days for map compilation and clean up:</i> | 8                       |

\* **Note:** P = Prime Farmland; S = Farmland of Statewide Importance; U = Unique Farmland; L = Farmland of Local Importance; G = Grazing Land; D = Urban and Built-up Land; X = Other Land; W = Water Areas; I = Irrigated Farmland; N = Nonirrigated Farmland

*Further information on the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program can be found at:*

[www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp](http://www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp)