

**California Department of Conservation  
FARMLAND MAPPING AND MONITORING PROGRAM**

**2012 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** Alameda

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** Farl Grundy

**IMAGE DATA USED:**

Source: National Agriculture Imagery Program, USDA
Acquisition date: Summer 2012
Data description: True color mosaic, 1 meter resolution
Coverage gaps: None
Additional imagery used: None

**WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:**

*The following entities and individuals provided information used to conduct 2012 mapping.*

Local Review Comments (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2010 maps)
None
Personal Contacts
None
Websites Used for Reference
Google Streetview, Google Maps: <a href="http://maps.google.com">http://maps.google.com</a> <a href="http://calbricks.netfirms.com/brick.calpressed.html">http://calbricks.netfirms.com/brick.calpressed.html</a>
GIS Data Used for Reference
California City Boundary Layer Alameda County Base Map

**2010-2012 CHANGE SUMMARY:**

*Changes made during the map update are summarized by type and location. Particular attention is paid to large or unusual changes and their estimated acreages. Please note that land use type, size of land use unit, soil quality, and Farmland of Local Importance definition (if any) determines the final Important Farmland (IFL) category. [See definitions](#) at bottom of table.*

<b>Conversions to Urban Land</b>	
Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land	2 changes
Irrigated farmland conversion to urban land was not very common for this update, although approximately 9 acres of new “Signature Homes” were constructed in the city of Livermore, north of Tesla Road and east of Buena Vista Avenue. Other changes were the result of improved boundary delineation.	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	42 changes
<p>Land use changes in this category were attributed to the construction of new homes and commercial properties and projects throughout the county.</p> <p><b>The City of Dublin</b> received new homes; ~111 acres “Positano”, ~23 acres “The Summit at Schaefer Ranch”, ~13 acres “Sonata”, and ~11 acres “Silvera Ranch”. Also in the City of Dublin; ~42 acres for Kolb Elementary School and Fallon Sports Park, along with ~48 acres for new commercial buildings located at I-580 and Fallon Road.</p> <p><b>The City of Livermore</b> added ~63 acres to the Vasco Road Landfill, ~36 acres for the Livermore Premium Outlets, ~15 acres added for a new stadium at Las Positas College and ~5 acres for adjacent solar facility. New homes included ~17 acres “Montage” and ~10 acres “Arroyo Crossing”. The Mariposa Energy Project, a 200 MW natural gas facility, was also completed north west of Livermore and directly east of Mountain House.</p> <p><b>The City of Pleasanton</b> converted land use included ~15 acres of new homes at “The Village at Ironwood”, and ~14 acres for the Pleasanton Gateway Shopping Center.</p> <p><b>The City of Hayward</b> furthered development with ~12 acres of new homes at the “Stonebrae Community”, and ~63 acres between the “Bridgeport Community” and an adjacent Costco commercial building.</p> <p><b>The City of Fremont</b> put in ~7 acres of new homes at “Mission Estates”, ~30 acres of new commercial buildings, and ~6 acres were added to the “Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant” just West of Fremont.</p> <p><b>The City of Oakland</b> added ~12 acres of solar panels at Merritt College, ~3 acres for an Amphitheatre West of Hwy 13, and a new air control tower to the Oakland airport.</p>	
<b>Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization</b>	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	9 changes
The largest of these changes occurred south of Pleasanton, east of I-680, and south of Niles Canyon Road. Approximately 181 acres had been tracked for three update cycles and upon field check was found to be fallow with no signs of irrigation. Second, approximately 48 acres east of the Mountain House Community was tracked for three update cycles and visual evidence shows that it too remains fallow. Another 46 acres just north of Mountain House was also tracked for four update cycles and proven fallow following a field check. Just south of Livermore, 45 acres south of Tesla Rd. and west of Mines Rd. proved fallow following a field check. The remaining changes were due to improved digital imagery and the update of boundaries.	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	3 changes
Just south of Livermore and south of Tesla Rd., east of Mines Rd., the conversion of 6 acres to Other Land included equipment storage and a water treatment pond. Another 3	

acres south of Tesla Rd. and east of Greenville Rd. was converted due to farmsteads and other agriculture related buildings.

### Conversions to Irrigated Farmland

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland

7 changes

The majority of the changes in this category came as a result of the addition of vineyards. South of Livermore, south of Tesla Rd., and west of Mines Rd., a field check verified the addition of 13 acres of vineyard. In the City of Pleasanton, south of Vineyard Ave. a field check gave evidence to the addition of 4 acres of vineyards surrounding a housing community. Just east of Livermore the “Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association” added approximately 2 acres of vineyards. 5 acres of vineyards were also added just south of Livermore, north and south of Marina Ave., and west of Wente Street, south west of Livermore, south of Tesla Rd., the “Boa Ventura de Caires Winery” added 4 acres of vineyards.

### Unusual Changes

(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2012 update.)

In this update there were 3 notable unusual changes. First there were approximately 87 acres of land previously categorized under urban use, which after at least 3 update cycles continues to show no signs of construction and were therefore converted back into their appropriate classification. Secondly, 32 acres previously thought to be under construction has now been shown to be the Hayward Regional Shoreline East Bay Regional Park District’s “San Lorenzo Trail”. Lastly, in north Fremont just south of Niles Canyon Road, 28 acres of formally urban land has been reverted back to non-irrigated usage. This was the former site of the “California Pressed Brick Company”, which has been closed and tracked abandoned for at least three update cycles.

<http://calbricks.netfirms.com/brick.calpressed.html>

### Areas of Concern for Future Updates

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2014 update, and reasons.)

Field check revealed a large number of technology companies moving into the South Bay area near Milpitas and Fremont, watch for changes from heavy industrial to technology and office space.

### Definitions:

**Irrigated Farmland** includes most irrigated crops grown in California. When combined with soil data, these farmed areas become the Important Farmland (IFL) categories of Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance & Unique Farmland. Because of the nature of the IFL definitions, some irrigated uses, such as irrigated pastures or nurseries, may not be eligible for all three IFL categories.

**Nonirrigated land uses** include grazing areas, land used for dryland crop farming, and formerly irrigated land that has been left idle for three or more update cycles.

These uses are frequently incorporated into county Farmland of Local Importance definitions.

**Other Land** includes a variety of miscellaneous uses, such as low density rural residential development, mining areas, vacant areas and nonagricultural vegetation. Confined animal agriculture facilities are mapped as Other Land unless incorporated into a county Farmland of Local Importance definition.

**Urban Land** includes residential, industrial, recreational, infrastructure and institutional uses.

For more on map categories, including Farmland of Local Importance definitions, visit the [FMMP web site](#).

#### **LABOR ESTIMATE:**

*Time estimates for conducting the 2012 update.*

Image interpretation, start date: February 2, 2014
Image interpretation, number of days: 3
Ground truth dates: February 14, 2014
Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 3

Further information on the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program can be found at:  
<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp/Pages/Index.aspx>