

century. In 1910 the first concerted effort at land settlement was made. This colony formed the basis of the present community and has left its mark on the present land pattern.

The tenure pattern just after 1910 included a number of small units in a colony, a number of homesteaded tracts, a considerable acreage in large holdings, and, apparently, some moderately large holdings. Intensive farming was rare, with permanent planting first being attempted.

Arvin's development during the 1920's and early 1930's was not rapid, but from about 1935 to the present time there has been a great increase in the acreage of land under cultivation. This development has mostly been in field crops and alfalfa, with cotton and potatoes the principal crops grown. There has been a continuous development of vines and tree fruits also. Table 2 shows the shipments of fruit and vegetables from 1921 to 1943. While tree fruit increased by about 50 percent and grapes doubled during the last 10 years, the shipment of vegetables (mostly potatoes) increased tenfold.

TABLE 2.—*Shipment of fruits and vegetables from Arvin, 1921-43*

Year	Cars shipped				
	Tree fruit	Grapes	Vegetables	Unspecified	Total
	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars
1921	47	4	31		35
1922	78	25	205		277
1923		134	194		408
1924		705	191		896
1925	17½	1,505	47		1,569½
1926	24	1,222½	160		1,406½
1927	42½	1,174	213	128½	1,558
1928	95	1,213	42	122½	1,472½
1929		1,663½		143½	1,797
1930	128½	1,500	275		1,904
1931	156½	1,260½	112	156	1,694
1932	219	1,595	210	162	2,186
1933	191	1,492½	17	113	1,812½
1934	251	1,619½	123	191½	2,185
1935	160	1,904	57	44	2,165
1936	292½	2,520½		149	2,962
1937	338½	3,675½	45½	90½	4,150
1938	361	3,035½	410	131	3,937
1939	393	2,491½	592	245	4,313
1940	389½	3,240½	564		4,194
1941	325	2,345½	1,171		3,841½
1942	326½	2,569	1,577	368	4,840½
1943	328	2,898½	2,872	719	8,617½

NOTE.—Carlot shipments are a measure of volume the value of which varies with the class of commodity. They furnish only an approximation of the value or acreage. Neither cotton nor alfalfa is reported. These classes of commodity accounted for 47.5 percent of the irrigated acreage in 1940 and 61 to 63 percent in 1931-32.

SOURCE: Based upon the records in the office of the Kern County Agricultural Commissioner. Truck shipments converted to carlot basis.

The most recent developments have almost universally been in large tracts and on a highly speculative basis, with large investments in pumps and land leveling. The need for deep wells and powerful pumps has inhibited the growth of small operators. To utilize these deep wells fully, joint use must be made of them either by incorporation, partnerships, or cooperative arrangements. There are several such arrangements; some of 20 years' standing are now operating successfully. Such practices are readily feasible, but the need for group action and large capital outlay inhibits their development.