

**THE VINEYARDS IN NAPA COUNTY;
BEING THE REPORT OF E. C. PRIBER,
COMMISSIONER FOR
THE NAPA DISTRICT, TO THE BOARD OF
STATE VITICULTURAL COMMISSIONERS
OF CALIFORNIA**

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The Vineyards in Napa County; Being the Report of E. C. Priber, Commissioner for the Napa District, to the Board of state Viticultural commissioners of California by E. C. Priber

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E. C. PRIBER

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TO THE

BOARD OF STATE VITICULTURAL COMMISSIONERS OF CALIFORNIA.

PUBLISHED BY THE BOARD OF STATE VITICULTURAL
COMMISSIONERS.



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INTRODUCTION.

The present report on the condition of the vineyards of Napa County was undertaken by the Board of State Viticultural Commissioners with a view of ascertaining what decrease in the acreage planted in vines in that county has been caused by the phylloxera in the past two years, as well as to give as much information as possible regarding the success of the various resistant stocks in different soils, etc., and other matters pertaining to viticulture in the county of interest to grape growers, wine makers, and wine merchants.

In 1890, when the last census was made, Napa County reported 18,229 acres planted in vines. The present report shows 16,651½ acres. It will thus be seen that the decrease has been very considerable.

The phylloxera is reported to have reached a point about three miles above St. Helena, and it can be but a question of a short time until the Calistoga vineyards suffer as have those of the lower valley.

At present there are 507 vineyards reported in Napa County, and of these 244, or nearly half, report the existence of phylloxera. This will give an idea of what can be expected to occur to the vineyards of the entire valley within a few years. Wherever resistants have not been planted, the death of the vines appears only a question of a short time.

In the tables which follow, the acreage reported as infested by phylloxera is certainly misleading, as is also the reported acreage good for one more crop, the acreage that will be dug up for causes other than phylloxera, and probably the cooperage. It is difficult to secure correct information on such points; vineyardists are loth to give such information, as well as to give information as to stocks of wine on hand.

The reports of wine stocks were given in confidence. The different cellars reported an aggregate of slightly over 5,000,000 gallons of wine in the valley. The stocks of two cellars in Napa had to be estimated, as well as the cooperage in the same, the owners refusing to supply such information.

It is naturally to be expected that in making such a canvass errors will occur. If any are noted, the vineyardists affected will please notify me. There is no disposition to do any one injustice, nor to misrepresent any one. Any corrections sent in will be printed, and distributed, for insertion in this book.

The canvass was made by Mr. A. Warren Robinson, of Napa, under direction of Commissioner E. C. Priber and the Executive Committee of the Board. In this work the following blank was used:

..... COUNTY.
..... DISTRICT IN COUNTY.

Name and address.....
 Total acres in vines.....
 Acres in bearing.....
 Acres in wine grapes.....
 Acres in table grapes.....
 Acres in raisin grapes.....
 Will be replanted, and how many acres.....

Acres at present infested by Phylloxera. { Good for only one crop more..... acres.
 Total..... acres. { Good for more than one crop more..... acres.

Acres planted to Resistanta.....	Riparia..... acres	Which varieties succeed best?
Total..... acres.	Rupestris..... acres	Which varieties have not succeeded?
	Lenoir..... acres	Which varieties succeed best?
	Other varieties..... acres	Which varieties have not succeeded?
Acres planted to Resistanta (same as preceding).....	On Lenoir..... acres	Which varieties succeed best?
Total..... acres	{ Grafted and not bearing..... acres	Which varieties have not succeeded?
	{ Not yet grafted..... acres	Which varieties succeed best?
		Which varieties have not succeeded?

Character of the soil of the vineyard.....
 How is the vineyard situated—low lying, upland, or mountain?.....
 What is exposure to sun and wind?.....
 Which of the European varieties have proved most resistant?.....
 How have the vineyards that have been attacked been handled?.....
 Crop in 1892?.....
 Stock of wine on hand, in gallons?.....

Total quantity of cooperage,gallons. { Oak cooperage.....gallons.
 Remarks: { Red wood cooperage.....gallons.

In tabulating the returns thus obtained, the county was divided into five districts: First, in and around Napa; second, farther up, from Yountville to Rutherford; third, in and about St. Helena; fourth, Chiles and Conn Valleys; and fifth, in and about Calistoga.

The recapitulation of the total is as follows:

NAPA COUNTY.

Total number of vineyards.....	507.										
Vineyards reporting phylloxera.....	244.										
Total acres in vines.....	16,651½ acres.										
Acres in bearing.....	14,240½ acres.										
Will replant this season.....	406½ acres.										
Will be dug up for causes other than phylloxera.....	184 acres.										
Infested by phylloxera.....	2,246 acres.										
Same good for but one crop more.....	756 acres.										
Planted to Resistants, 2,007½ acres, as follows:	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Riparia.....</td> <td>1,638½ acres.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lenoir.....</td> <td>245½ acres.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rupestris.....</td> <td>19 acres.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Californica.....</td> <td>35 acres.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Festivals.....</td> <td>9 acres.</td> </tr> </table>	Riparia.....	1,638½ acres.	Lenoir.....	245½ acres.	Rupestris.....	19 acres.	Californica.....	35 acres.	Festivals.....	9 acres.
Riparia.....	1,638½ acres.										
Lenoir.....	245½ acres.										
Rupestris.....	19 acres.										
Californica.....	35 acres.										
Festivals.....	9 acres.										
Planted to Resistants (same as above), 2,007½ acres	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Grafted and in bearing.....</td> <td>842½ acres.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grafted and not bearing.....</td> <td>591 acres.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not yet grafted.....</td> <td>573½ acres.</td> </tr> </table>	Grafted and in bearing.....	842½ acres.	Grafted and not bearing.....	591 acres.	Not yet grafted.....	573½ acres.				
Grafted and in bearing.....	842½ acres.										
Grafted and not bearing.....	591 acres.										
Not yet grafted.....	573½ acres.										
Crop, 1892.....	27,083 tons.										
Cooperage, 12,989,000 gallons.....	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Oak.....</td> <td>3,632,500 gallons.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Redwood.....</td> <td>9,326,500 gallons.</td> </tr> </table>	Oak.....	3,632,500 gallons.	Redwood.....	9,326,500 gallons.						
Oak.....	3,632,500 gallons.										
Redwood.....	9,326,500 gallons.										

The recapitulation of the different districts in the county is as follows:

NAPA DISTRICT.

Total number of vineyards, 91.
 Vineyards reporting phylloxera, 63.
 Total acres in vines, 3,638.
 Acres in bearing, 2,715.
 Will replant this season, 103 acres.
 Will be dug up other than for phylloxera, 75 acres.
 Infested by phylloxera, 455 acres; of which 154 will bear but one crop more.
 Planted to resistants, 1,157 acres; of which 1,000 acres are in Riparia, 189 Lenoir, and 19 Rupestris.
 Planted to resistants (same as above), 1,157 acres; of which 515½ are grafted and bearing, 451½ are grafted and not bearing, and 190 not yet grafted.
 Crop 1892, 3,579 tons.
 Cooperage, 3,101,000 gallons; of which 606,000 is oak and 2,595,000 redwood.

YOUNTVILLE DISTRICT.

Total number of vineyards, 81.
 Vineyards reporting phylloxera, 64.
 Total acres in vines, 2,766.
 Acres in bearing, 2,054.
 Will replant this season, 142 acres.
 Will be dug up for reasons other than phylloxera, 75 acres.
 Infested by phylloxera, 701 acres; of which 281 will bear but one crop more.
 Planted to resistants, 497 acres; of which 431 acres are in Riparia, 31 acres in Lenoir, and 35 acres in Californica.
 Planted to resistants (same as above), 497 acres; of which 206 are grafted and bearing, 64 grafted but not bearing, and 227 not yet grafted.
 Crop 1892, 4,605 tons.
 Cooperage, 2,489,000 gallons; of which 411,000 is oak and 2,078,000 redwood.

ST. HELENA DISTRICT.

Total number of vineyards, 219.
 Vineyards reporting phylloxera, 119.
 Total acres in vines, 7,445½.
 Acres in bearing, 6,784.
 Will replant this season, 108½ acres.
 Will be dug up for causes other than phylloxera, 34 acres.
 Infested by phylloxera, 1,042 acres; of which 335 will bear but one crop more.
 Planted to resistants, 209½ acres; of which 146 acres are in Riparia and 64½ in Lenoir.

Planted to resistants (same as above), 259 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres; of which 85 are grafted and in bearing, 88 $\frac{1}{4}$ grafted but not bearing, and 116 $\frac{1}{4}$ not yet grafted.
Crop of 1892, 12,604 tons.
Cooperage, 6,145,000 gallons; of which 2,275,000 is oak and 3,870,000 redwood.

CHILES AND CONN VALLEYS.

Total number of vineyards, 28.
Vineyards reporting phylloxera, 7.
Total acres in vines, 814.
Acres in bearing, 767 $\frac{1}{4}$.
Will replant this season, 13 acres.
Infested by phylloxera, 46 acres; of which 16 will bear but one crop more.
Planted to resistants, 38 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres; of which 27 $\frac{1}{4}$ are in Riparia, 9 in Estivalis, and 2 in Lenoir.
Planted to resistants (same as above), 38 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres; of which 11 are grafted and in bearing, 17 grafted but not bearing, and 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres not yet grafted.
Crop of 1892, 1,091 tons.
Cooperage, 379,000 gallons; of which 157,500 gallons is oak and 221,500 gallons is redwood.

CALISTOGA DISTRICT.

Total number of vineyards, 88.
Vineyard reporting phylloxera, 1.
Total acres in vines, 2,044.
Acres in bearing, 1,920.
Will replant this season, 40 acres.
Infested by phylloxera, 2 acres.
Planted to resistants, 105 acres; of which 95 are in Riparia and 10 in Lenoir.
Planted to resistants (same as above), 105 acres; of which 75 are grafted and in bearing, and 30 not yet grafted.
Crop of 1892, 3,204 tons.
Cooperage, 675,000 gallons; of which 313,000 is oak and 362,000 is redwood.

WINFIELD SCOTT,
Secretary Board of State Viticultural Commissioners.



REPORT OF E. C. PRIBER COMMISSIONER FOR THE NAPA DISTRICT.

NAPA, December 1, 1892.

To the Board of State Viticultural Commissioners:

GENTLEMEN: I herewith submit the report of A. Warren Robinson, containing remarks on the census of Napa County, and the census obtained by him.

Respectfully,

E. C. PRIBER,
Commissioner for the Napa District.

NAPA, December 1, 1892.

To E. C. PRIBER, Viticultural Commissioner for the Napa District:

DEAR SIR: I beg leave to submit the following viticultural report for Napa County, as per your instructions and formulas furnished.

Every vineyard portion of Napa County has been visited and inspected, and all the information possible gained bearing on viticultural matters, especially anything of interest regarding resistant vines.

Since my last report, two years ago, vineyards in this county have been greatly lessened in number and in area, in many portions of the county. Commencing ten years ago in the lower end of Napa Valley, and supposed to have been brought from Sonoma Valley, the phylloxera has spread almost the entire length of the valley in the direction of the prevailing wind. Two years ago a few vineyards in the Napa District and some in the Yountville District were infested. Since that time it has spread with great rapidity. In many cases vineyards of considerable extent have, in the meantime, almost or wholly disappeared. This will account for the smaller number of vineyards reported this year.

No remedy to prevent the spread of the disease has been discovered. In no vineyards visited, with the exception of one or two, has there been any special treatment, and this explains why answers to the question bearing on this matter do not appear. The exceptions mentioned were where a few vines were treated with sulphate of iron, in the proportion of one pound of the sulphate to ten gallons of water. This was applied, when the ground was wet, to the stocks, with a swab, with beneficial results. How long this benefit will last is a question time alone will solve.

In almost every vineyard visited, where the phylloxera has made any headway, the vines were allowed to stand without treatment, the disease taking its course. When the vines were dead, or nearly so, they were pulled up. Rarely have resistant or other vines been set out in their place. In the last two years very few new vineyards have been