

WHEN the Rancho Santa Fe, San Diego county, was opened up for country estates about seven years ago, the interest in horticultural development seemed to center mostly on avocado plantings. True, it was stated that there was a considerable area in the 9,000-acre grant which would be adaptable to citrus planting. But nevertheless, the plantings were then mostly of the quicker growing and fascinating avocado.

Today, however, there seems to be decided shift over toward citrus on the Rancho horticultural holdings. And with good reason. It is conservatively predict-

Rancho Santa Fe To Ship 70 Cars of Citrus This Season

Number of acres.....	646.77
	Lemons
Two years.....	2,844
Three years.....	2,468
Four years.....	5,658
Five years.....	5,183
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Total number of trees.....	16,153
Number of acres	190

W. L. McCulloch, who has been connected with citrus growing in southern California practically since he came west years ago, and who cares for about 750 acres of plantings on the Rancho Santa Fe, escorted the writer over the entire property late in May. Mr. McCulloch spent some time at the citrus experiment station, Riverside, several

bearing age carried some excellent fruit. The lemons had the much-desired green color which commands such a preference in the market. They were smooth of texture and of merchantable size, largely 300's.

The juice of the valencias which we cut and tasted was delicious, and rich in color and flavor.

A crew of pickers from the Escondido Lemon association house was at work picking the fine lemons from the Norman Carmichael orchard when I located him and Mr. McCulloch. A crew of men was also at work taking out certain undesirable types of avocado trees at one



In foreground, five year old valencia orange grove owned by J. B. Parker, Los Angeles business man. This grove produced 666 field boxes of oranges, 50 pounds each, in the fifth year. Note man in foreground, trifle left of center. Photo by Evans Studio, La Jolla.

ed that this season there will be shipped from the Rancho about 50 cars of lemons and 20 cars of valencia oranges.

Late last fall there were on this property, 647 acres of valencia oranges and 190 acres of lemons. Since that time there have been additional plantings and others are going in.

Below is given a record of the actual number of citrus trees planted on the Rancho Santa Fe up to Oct. 23, 1929. It will be seen from this that a large proportion of the valencias are of non-bearing age and many of the lemon trees are not of an age to produce.

Citrus trees on the Rancho:	Valencias
Less than one year	3,757
One year.....	13,561

These figures do not include the 245 acres of interesting new plantings of valencias on the Douglas Fairbanks Rancho, about which more will appear elsewhere.

New plantings have gone in since those figures were made and still others are in contemplation. The proportions are now said to be about 800 acres citrus and 400 acres avocados.

The citrus fruits grown on the Rancho Santa Fe are now handled by the Escondido Lemon association and the Escondido Orange association—both Exchange organizations, whose packing houses are but 14 miles inland from the Rancho. Later, when the Douglas Fairbanks Rancho trees come into production, it is

years ago getting familiar with the handling of citrus, although he had had charge of his father's orchard at Chula Vista. In the April, 1922, issue the *Citrograph* published an article from Mr. McCulloch under the title "The Tree, the Unit of Culture." He was then in charge of pest control on the Chapman Acres citrus in Orange county. Today, Mr. McCulloch is in partnership with W. H. Ballard, doing business under the style of Ballard & McCulloch, in orchard development and operation.

There are two grove operation con-

point in Mr. Carmichael's 40 acres. "We feel that we have an especially fine type of lemon here," said Mr. Carmichael after the introduction. "We believe that the Rancho Santa Fe will produce the green lemons for the summer market. Our climatic condition—just seven miles from the ocean—will help us in this respect. We are not afraid of comparison with other districts. I have 480 lemon trees, and these were planted in 1925. This year I had picked 297 boxes of lemons in February, 624 boxes in March, and will get more than 275 boxes



In the civic center of Rancho Santa Fe. Photo by Padilla Studios.

Two years.....	14,550
Three years.....	10,847
Four years.....	7,364
Five years.....	4,897
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Number of trees.....	54,976

likely that a packing house will be built along the Santa Fe tracks at Solano Beach and that the Rancho Santa Fe association will handle the fruit directly with the San Diego County Fruit Exchange.



Norman Carmichael standing before one of his very productive valencia orange trees.

tractors on the property, the other being R. E. Badger, who himself has a citrus orchard on the property. Mr. Badger has charge of about 400 acres of oranges.

Mr. McCulloch in the major part of a day drove the writer past practically every acre of citrus on the property. As this is scattered widely, it is safe to say that we did not miss any other development either. Most of the citrus orchards looked splendidly. The color was good and the trees appeared vigorous and fine in every way. Those which were of the

in May.

"And the fruit was good!"

Mr. Carmichael also has 22 acres of valencia oranges as well as ten acres of avocados. The balance is in lemons. He also has 10 acres of grapefruit at Yuma, Ariz., not yet in production.

We next visited J. B. Parker's eight-acre tract, Ranald Macdonald's 40 acres of citrus and the 10-acre tract of his sister's; then the orchard of J. B. McCraney, as well as groves of numerous others.

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The most interesting thing about all this was perhaps the frequent comment of Mr. McCulloch's that a year and a half ago, when he took charge he had been somewhat discouraged about a few of the groves. But by due care as to moisture control and the consistent applications of fertilizer, he had brought most of them up to a fine state. In fact, many of them bore fruit of a type which might well be expected of more mature trees.

The treatments varied according to the demands of the particular groves and trees. On many, cover crops of purple vetch and clover were grown. In some cases he cut down on the manure and applied commercial fertilizers. He said that he had been particularly satisfied with the results that he got from 400 lbs. Phos and nitrate of lime on many of the groves under his care. He had held pretty closely to the application of nitrates or nitrogenous fertilizers, feeling that the type of soil chiefly found on the Rancho requires such treatment.

Mr. McCulloch explained how he handles his work crews so that the overhead is kept low. The laborers are chiefly Mexican and they live in a colony near Solano Beach, about five miles distant. The crews leave the camp at 6:30 every morning and are in the field ready for work as early as 7 o'clock. The tractors stay in the field and are taken to the camp only when it is necessary to make repairs. They are even serviced with water, oil and gas in the field, so

This season there has been picked from those 436 trees, 666 field boxes of valencia oranges, 50 pounds to the box. Those trees are but five years old. Last year he took 179 boxes of fruit from them.

Orchard owners residing on Rancho

son, H. W. Whitsitt, Misses F. E. and A. L. Wilson, R. E. Badger, W. A. Bechberger, B. C. Beers, T. L. Carothers, H. D. Anning, F. W. Joers, H. E. Ketchum, H. A. Larrick, B. Le Huray, F. Hammond, C. F. Pease, Joseph Schenck, C. A.

troit attorney, Raymond Zeismer, Mr. Zeismer has one of the choicest locations on the entire property, it seemed to the writer. His place is at the top of a knoll overlooking the entire section. Nothing can ever shut off his view in



Two and three year old citrus grove of Ranald Macdonald with his slightly home place in center background. Photo by Evans Studio, La Jolla.



Orchard of Joseph W. Schenck, motion picture producer; Residences in background; at left, that of Raymond Zeismer; in center, that of Mr. Schenck; at right, that of C. F. Pease. Photo by Evans Studio, La Jolla.

no time is lost.

The men and apparatus are moved from one grove to another without loss of time, and the crew foremen keep track of every operation and the time put on each orchard. The owners pay on the basis of cost, plus a certain per cent. This applies to labor, tractor use and materials applied.

Teams are all fed in the field, blanketed and left out all night, ready for work the next morning just where they will be needed. The 750 acres under Mr. McCulloch's care are handled practically as a unit, no time being lost in transfer of men or tools, the work being practically of the same nature on all the orchards. The owner is saved the cost of time of the men when there is nothing for them to do. There is always something to keep the crews at work in the larger operation, Mr. McCulloch explains.

Special attention has been given to moisture control, and Mr. McCulloch states that in his estimation that is most important of all. He says that he often uses the same irrigation furrows throughout the summer, at least until the weed growth demands another cultivation.

Mr. McCulloch points with pride to the records from the J. B. Parker orchard. This comprises a grove of 436 trees of valencias. These were planted in 1925.



W. L. McCulloch in one of the thrifty valencia groves on the Rancho Santa Fe.

Santa Fe are: C. H. Bristol, R. B. Claggett, H. D. Porter, Norman Carmichael, Raymond Ziesmer, H. Carpenter, L. L. Fox, A. W. Gilbert, Ranald Macdonald, Barton Millard, Glenn Moore, G. W. Megrew, H. J. Parker, G. S. Harris, Ellis Bishop, J. C. Smillie, Glenn W. Tomlin-

Shaffer, E. S. White, R. Millar.

Many of these men are now or have been prominent in business or professional life. Some of them have built fine homes on their estates; others live in modest homes of the Spanish type. A recent comer to the district is a De-

any direction. He says that when he first visited Rancho Santa Fe he was shown this spot. After that nothing else on the entire Rancho would do for Mrs. Zeismer and himself. He bought it and has been very happy in its possession ever since.

There are several very lovely and sightly homes on the property. Among them is the place of Ranald Macdonald. His pretty little home is atop a knoll overlooking the San Dieguito dam and much of the countryside. Mr. and Mrs. Macdonald came from the east and have been city residents. Now they, with their two attractive children, are living the outdoor life as citrus fruit ranchers.

Mr. McCulloch says that there are certain locations on the Rancho which are particularly adaptable for citrus growing. He is frank enough to say that there are others which are not at all suitable. There are still others on the Rancho which no effort will be made to develop.

Of course the story of the Rancho Santa Fe is pretty well known to Californians. The Santa Fe railroad bought this historic old grant just 32 miles north of San Diego and 110 miles from Los Angeles, 20 years ago, for the purpose of raising eucalypti, from which it could make its ties for the railroad's use. Subsequently that idea was abandoned.

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