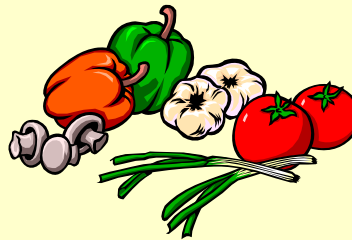


Indigenous SE Asian Specialty Crops in Fresno County



Richard Molinar

Small Farms and Specialty Crops

UC Cooperative Extension

Fresno

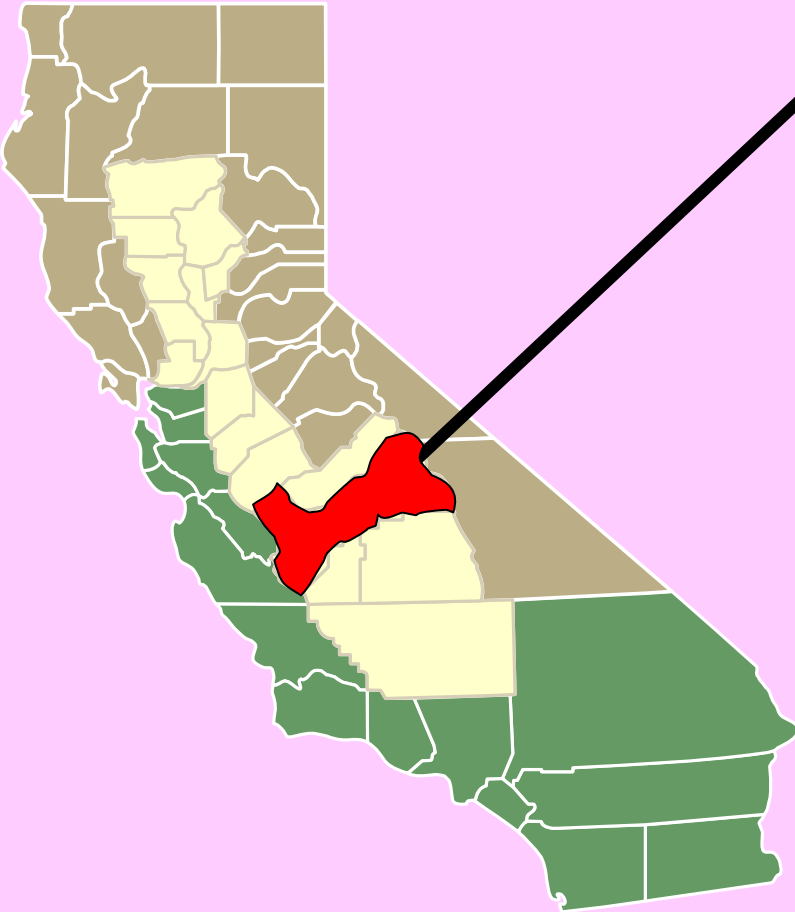


Thailand – Chiang Mai



Fresno County

SE Asian Specialty Crops







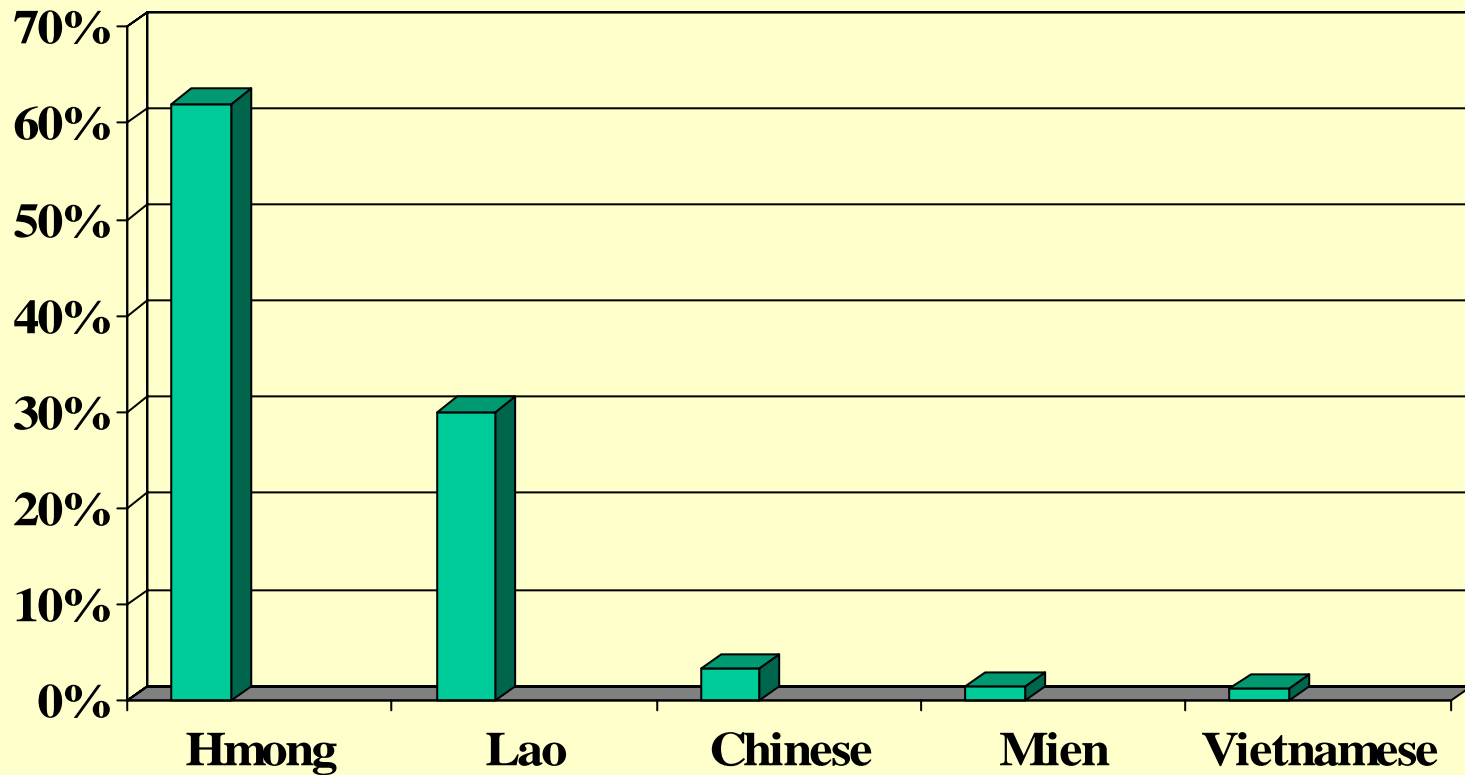








SE Asian Vegetable Farmers in Fresno -1,300 Laotian



Lemongrass, *Cymbopogon citratus*

Monocotyledoneae – Gramineae

stir fry or tea, tender perennial, 10-month crop



Multiplier Onions, *Allium fistulosum* Monocotyledoneae – Amaryllidaceae

milder than bunching onions, perennial



Jujube, *Ziziphus jujube* Rhamnaceae Family

Chinese date (fresh or dried), medicinal, small trees, no pests



Okra leaf, *Corchorus olitorius*

Tillaceae Family

Mucilaginous consistency like okra, edible shoot tips



Ceylon (Malabar) Spinach, *Basella alba/rubra* Basellaceae Family

Succulent mature leaves in soups and stews



Water Spinach, *Ipomoea aquatica*

Convolvulaceae Family

hollow stems, aquatic tender perennial



Thai Pepper, *Capsicum annuum*

Solanaceae Family

Considered some of the hottest peppers



Eggplant, *Solanum melongena* / *torvum* / *integrifolium*

Solanaceae Family

Many different kinds – Thai, Hmong, Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Italian, bitter, bunching



? QUIZ ?

Solanaceae Family

bitter, cultivated, and used in soups with meat, in stores



Methi, *Trigonella foenum-graecum*

Leguminosae (Fabaceae Family)

(fenugreek) an herb or spice. East Indian



Long Beans, *Vigna sesquipedalis*

Leguminosae Family

Asparagus or yardlong beans; dark or light green, mosaic, or red



Snow Peas, *Pisum sativum*

Leguminosae Family

Grown for either edible pod (trellised) or stem tips (untrellised), but not both



Hyacinth bean, *Lablab niger* (*Dolichos lablab*)
Leguminosae Family

immature fruits, poisonous in large quantities uncooked



Bittermelon, *Mormodica charantia*

Cucurbitaceae Family

Trellised for fruit, untrellised for tips, fruits & tips, bitterness (quinine) increases with age, pests?? nema



Snake Gourd, *Trichosanthes anguina*

Cucurbitaceae Family

Flowers are delicately trimmed, fruits turn red if overripe



Sinqua (Luffa), *Luffa actuangula/cylindrica*
Cucurbitaceae Family

Trellised, mature dry *cylindrica* makes luffa scrubber, both make excellent squash



Singua (Luffa), *Luffa actuangula/cylindrica*
mature fruits sold for luffa sponge



Opo, *Lagenaria siceraria* Cucurbitaceae Family

fruits are smooth and hairless, tips also eaten



Moqua, *Benincasa hispida* var. *chiehqua*
Cucurbitaceae Family

fruits are hairy and acquire a white waxy coating when mature, eaten immature



Donqua, *Benincasa hispida*
Cucurbitaceae Family

Chinese wintermelon, up to 30 pounds, untrellised



**Other Crops – daikon, Chinese cabbage, gailon,
Mustard, Choys (bok, you, gai)
Cruciferae Family**



Crops with Potential

Papaya (-salad), sugarcane (fresh, rum), Schuan Pepper, taro, bamboo, edamame, peanuts, pitahaya, water chestnuts, chayote (fruit & tips)





