



California Fruit & Nut Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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JUNE CROP COMMENTS

California grape vines formed bunches while irrigation in orchards and vineyards continued due to the dry conditions. Grape producers managed irrigation closely given the water shortage. Sulfur dusting and thinning of bunches on table grapes was ongoing. Stone fruit and pomegranate growers irrigated and sprayed to control weeds, diseases, and insects. Thinning of stone fruit was still taking place in some areas. The stone fruits harvested during June included cherries, apricots, apriums, peaches, plums, pluots, Flavorella plumcots, and nectarines. Spring blackberry, blueberry, boysenberry, raspberry, and

strawberry harvests continued. Pomegranate and persimmon bloom was winding down. Figs were harvested in Merced County. Olive bloom was ending and trees were forming fruit. Olive growers evaluated fruit set. Irrigation in nut groves continued due to dry conditions and walnuts were treated for codling moth. Limb breakage was observed on some walnut trees due to the heavy set. Almonds also showed a heavy set. Almonds were sprayed for hull split and treated for mites.

Citrus growers worked to control diseases, insects, and weeds. Groves were irrigated and foliar nutrients were applied. Some growers treated groves for thrips. Fruit drop occurred as a result of the recent high temperatures. Some citrus growers planted new trees. Navel orange harvest was winding down and quality was good, though more fruit was destined for the processing market. Valencia oranges, lemons, and grapefruit were also harvested.

FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent Change	Next Crop Update
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008		
NUT CROPS	<i>Acres</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>1,000 Pounds</i>			
Almonds (Shelled) 1/	615,000	660,000	2,260	2,270	1,390,000	1,500,000	8	January 2009 October 10, 2008
Pecans 1/	3,100	---	1,420	---	4,400	---		
Pistachio (In-Shell) 1/	---	---	---	---	333,000	---		
Marketable In-Shell	---	---	---	---	83,000	---		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	416,000	---		
Total	114,000	---	3,650	---	416,000	---		January 2009
			<i>Tons</i>		<i>1,000 Tons</i>			
Walnuts (In-Shell) 1/ 2/	218,000	---	1.49	---	325.0	---		Sept. 4, 2008
FRUIT CROPS								
Apples 1/	20,500	---	8.40	---	172.5	---		August 12, 2008
Apricots	13,800	13,400	5.87	6.12	81.0	82.0	1	January 2009
Cherries 3/	30,000	30,000	2.83	2.87	85.0	86.0	1	January 2009
Grapes, Raisin 1/ 4/	227,000	227,000	9.40	9.03	2,133.0	2,050.0	-4	August 12, 2008
Grapes, Table 1/	82,000	82,000	9.65	9.76	791.0	800.0	1	August 12, 2008
Grapes, Wine 1/	480,000	480,000	6.85	6.67	3,287.0	3,200.0	-3	August 12, 2008
Grapes, All 1/ 4/	789,000	789,000	7.87	7.67	6,211.0	6,050.0	-3	August 12, 2008
Olives	31,000	---	4.27	---	132.5	---		August 12, 2008
Peaches, Clingstone 3/	26,500	25,300	19.00	15.00	503.0	380.0	-24	January 2009
Peaches, Freestone 1/ 3/	36,000	36,000	12.40	11.90	446.0	430.0	-4	January 2009
Pears, Bartlett 3/	12,000	12,000	16.80	14.60	201.0	175.0	-13	August 12, 2008
Pears, Other	4,000	---	10.50	---	42.0	---		August 12, 2008
Prunes (Dried Weight) 3/	65,000	65,000	1.28	1.85	83.0	120.0	45	January 2009
BERRIES			<i>Cwt.</i>		<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>			
Strawberries 5/	35,500	36,700	605	600	21,540	22,020	2	October 12, 2008
CITRUS CROPS 6/	2006-07	2007-08	2006-07	2007-08	2006-07	2007-08		
			<i>Cartons</i>		<i>1,000 Cartons</i>			
Grapefruit	11,500	11,000	957	1,018	11,000	11,200	2	Sept. 20, 2008
Lemons	45,000	44,000	822	795	37,000	35,000	-5	Sept. 20, 2008
Oranges, Navel 3/ 7/	136,000	137,000	507	723	69,000	99,000	43	Sept. 12, 2008
Oranges, Valencia 3/	43,000	43,000	535	744	23,000	32,000	39	Sept. 20, 2008
Tangerines 8/	16,000	18,000	438	633	7,000	11,400	63	Sept. 20, 2008

1/ Revised 2007 data.
 2/ Walnut Objective Measurement Report released September 4 at 12:00 p.m. PDT.
 3/ Estimate for current year carried forward from previous forecast.
 4/ Raisin Grape Objective Measurement Report released August 12 at 5:30 a.m. PDT.
 5/ Includes fresh market and processing.
 6/ Grapefruit -- 33.5 lbs. per carton; Lemons -- 38.0 lbs. per carton; Oranges -- 37.5 lbs. per carton; Tangerines -- 37.5 lbs. per carton.
 7/ Navel Orange Objective Measurement Report will be released September 12 at 5:30 a.m. PDT.
 8/ Includes tangelos, tangerines, and tangors.

NON-CITRUS FRUIT

Apricots - California's apricot production is forecast at 82.0 thousand tons, down 6 percent from the June forecast, but up 1 percent from the 2007 crop. Bearing acres are estimated to be 13.4 thousand. Nearly perfect weather during bloom raised hopes of record yields. A late frost in April dashed those expectations for some growers, while many others were unscathed. Quality is very good, but sizing expectations were not met for many in the San Joaquin Valley. Harvest began on time in mid-May and continued into early July.

Grapes - The California all grape forecast on 789 thousand bearing acres is 6.05 million tons, down 3 percent from last year's crop. Specifically, the wine grape forecast on 480 thousand bearing acres is 3.20 million tons, down 3 percent from last season. The expected table grape production on 82.0 thousand acres is 800 thousand tons, 1 percent higher than 2007, while the raisin grape production on 227 thousand bearing acres is forecast at 2.05 million tons, a decrease of 4 percent from last year's crop. The 2008 California grape crop is shaping up to be an average crop despite frost damage that occurred when unusually cold temperatures hit California during the middle of April. Bunch counts were reported to be good and comparable to last year. Crop development was about six to ten days behind normal. Lack of water was also a concern for many growers in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Raisin and table-type grapes for fresh use continued to be harvested in the Coachella Valley in early July.

Peaches - The 2008 California Freestone peach crop forecast is 430 thousand tons, unchanged from the June forecast, but 4 percent below the 2007 crop. Bearing acres are estimated at 36.0 thousand. California experienced an adequate number of chilling hours, thus benefiting the Freestone crop. Weather during the bloom period was very accommodating, although cooler spring temperatures slowed maturity. The crop is reported to be of excellent quality, with good sizes. Harvest continued during July with the July Flame, Sierra Rich, Ice Princess, Rich Lady, and Galaxy varieties. The 2008 California Clingstone peach crop forecast is 380 thousand tons, unchanged from the June forecast, but 24 percent lower than the 2007 crop. Bearing acres are estimated at 25.3 thousand. California experienced an adequate number of chilling hours, thus benefiting the Clingstone crop. Weather during the bloom period was also favorable. However, unusually cold temperatures on April 19 and 20 have resulted in significant frost damage to the crop. The largest impact of the frost damage is in the northern growing areas, with some growers reporting 100 percent damage. There were also a large number of growers with loss in the Modesto area. However, fruit in the southern growing areas was not affected. During June, growers thinned and irrigated their orchards and took measures to control weeds, disease, and insects. The 2008 peach harvest began in Kingsburg on June 18, four days later than last year. Quality was reported to be very good for these initial deliveries.

FRUIT PRODUCTION FORECAST, BY STATE AND U.S.

Crop and State	2006	2007	2008
	Tons		
APRICOTS			
California	39,000	81,000	82,000
Utah	280	260	340
Washington	5,200	7,200	4,500
U.S. TOTAL	44,480	88,460	86,840
CHERRIES, SWEET			
California 1/	42,100	85,000	86,000
Michigan	20,000	27,300	25,000
Oregon	55,100	35,000	35,000
Washington	168,000	170,000	100,000
Other States 2/	8,960	6,370	3,580
U.S. TOTAL	294,160	323,670	249,580
PEACHES			
California			
Freestone	353,000	446,000	430,000
Clingstone	359,000	503,000	380,000
Georgia	41,000	13,000	35,000
Michigan	18,900	20,500	16,000
New Jersey	34,000	32,000	34,000
Pennsylvania	21,600	19,400	23,000
South Carolina	60,000	12,500	55,000
Washington	23,000	18,500	17,000
Other States 3/	99,620	63,840	107,150
U.S. TOTAL	1,010,120	1,128,740	1,097,150

CITRUS FRUIT

Grapefruit - The 2007-2008 California grapefruit forecast is 11.2 million cartons, up 12 percent from the April forecast, and up 2 percent from last season. The Star Ruby variety grapefruit harvest continued with over half of the crop picked as of the end of June. Harvest of the Star Ruby variety is expected to continue through late July.

Lemons - The 2007-2008 California lemon forecast is 35.0 million cartons, up 3 percent from the April forecast, but down 5 percent from last season's crop. Harvest continues in the south coastal areas. Some south coast growers had been delaying harvest to make gains on growth. As a result, supplies were tight for some time. Demand remains strong and growers are now harvesting to keep up with demand. Fruit is of good quality.

Oranges - The 2007-2008 California Navel orange forecast is 99.0 million cartons, unchanged from the April forecast, but up 43 percent from the 2006-2007 production. The California Navel orange season has come to a close. Harvest continued through the end of June with more picking than usual for that time of the season. Growers had an excellent year. Yield and quality were good to excellent. The Valencia orange forecast is 32.0 million cartons, unchanged from the April forecast, but up 39 percent from last season's crop. The Valencia season got off to an early but slow start, with the bulk of early picking going to the export market. As the Navel season came to a close, more demand shifted to Valentinas. Picking for domestic sales has subsequently been on the rise. Fruit has been of good quality.

CITRUS FRUIT PRODUCTION FORECAST, BY STATE AND U.S.

Crop and State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
	1,000 Cartons		
ORANGES: 1/			
California, All	122,000	92,000	131,000
Navel & Misc.	94,000	69,000	99,000
Valencia	28,000	23,000	32,000
Florida	295,400	258,000	339,400
Texas	3,200	3,960	3,480
Arizona	900	600	760
U.S. TOTAL	421,500	354,560	474,640
GRAPEFRUIT: 2/			
California, All	12,000	11,000	11,200
Florida	38,600	54,400	53,200
Texas	10,400	14,200	12,200
Arizona	200	200	200
U.S. TOTAL	61,200	79,800	76,800
LEMONS: 3/			
California	44,000	37,000	35,000
Arizona	7,600	5,000	3,000
U.S. TOTAL	51,600	42,000	38,000
TANGERINES: 4/			
California 5/	7,200	7,000	11,400
Florida	11,000	9,200	11,000
Arizona 5/	1,100	600	800
U.S. TOTAL	19,300	16,800	23,200

- 1/ ORANGES: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 37.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 45 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs. Small quantities of tangerines included in Texas.
- 2/ GRAPEFRUIT: Arizona, 1 carton=32 lbs.; California, 1 carton = 33.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 40 lbs.
- 3/ LEMONS: All, 1 carton = 38 lbs.
- 4/ TANGERINES: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 37.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 47.5 lbs.
- 5/ Includes tangelos, tangerines, and tangors.

- 1/ Forecast carried forward from Crop Production Report released June 10, 2008.
- 2/ Includes ID, MT NY, and UT. The first estimate for 2008 sweet cherries in MT will be published in the January 2009 Non-citrus Fruits and Nuts 2008 Preliminary Summary.
- 3/ Includes AL, AR, CO, CT, ID, IL, KY, LA, MA, MD, MO, NC, NY, OH, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, VA, and WV. For TN: No significant commercial production is expected in 2007 due to freeze damage.

FLORIDA CITRUS

Temperatures throughout the month followed seasonal patterns, reaching the upper 80s to lower 90s with some days reaching into the mid 90s. Afternoon and evening rainfall was prevalent in all areas, benefitting fruit growth and trees with new foliage. During a few of the wettest periods, reported rainfall amounts reached up to 2 inches in a single day.

Weekly utilization of oranges held up at over three million boxes up to the last week of the month. Grapefruit harvest was relatively over at the beginning of the month, with small amounts of colored grapefruit trickling in each week. Overall, the crop looked good, as growers planned for and assessed next season's crop.

The new fruit for next season ranged from golf-ball sized oranges to baseball sized grapefruit, typical for this time of year. Production activities included spraying, mowing, hedging and topping, brush removal, and resetting. Many growers pushed trees with greening, while some applied preventive treatments. Some growers combined efforts and applied psyllid control aerially.



CALIFORNIA ALMOND OBJECTIVE MEASUREMENT FORECAST, 2008

California's 2008 almond production is forecast at a record 1.50 billion meat pounds, up 3 percent from May's subjective forecast and 8 percent above last year's crop. The forecast is based on 660 thousand bearing acres. Production for the Nonpareil variety is forecast at 538 million meat pounds, 3 percent above last year's deliveries. The Nonpareil variety represents 36 percent of California's total almond production.

The California 2008 almond set is very strong, and a record high yield per acre and production is forecast. This year's bloom arrived three weeks later than normal, but was nearly perfect. It progressed quickly, lasting only 10 days as opposed to the average three weeks. Overlapping bloom between varieties was outstanding, resulting in good cross-pollination, and there was an adequate supply of bees to pollinate the crop. Almond tree limbs in many locations are bowing under the weight of the heavy crop.

TABLE 1: COMPARISON OF NUT ESTIMATES AND ORCHARDS SAMPLED BY DISTRICT AND VARIETY, JUNE OBJECTIVE MEASUREMENT SURVEY COUNTS, 2003-2008

District and Variety	2003		2004		2005		2006		2007		2008	
	Nuts Per Tree	Orchards Sampled	Nuts Per Tree	Orchards Sampled	Nuts Per Tree	Orchards Sampled	Nuts Per Tree	Orchards Sampled	Nuts Per Tree	Orchards Sampled	Nuts Per Tree	Orchards Sampled
ALL DISTRICTS (All Varieties)	7,002	777	7,162	749	5,461	838	6,723	834	7,413	865	7,452	816
BY DISTRICTS												
<u>District I</u> Sacramento Valley	7,648	149	6,527	131	6,326	142	6,888	151	7,758	135	8,157	112
<u>District II</u> San Joaquin Valley	6,849	628	7,290	618	5,262	696	6,710	683	7,350	730	7,340	704
BY VARIETIES												
Butte	8,904	110	8,788	112	7,471	112	7,624	110	7,866	109	8,038	106
California Types 1/ Carmel 2/ Mission	6,815	183	6,665	172	5,275	262	5,945	268	7,633	285	7,458	273
Nonpareil	6,727	97	6,380	90	4,698	144	5,415	149	7,159	161	7,259	149
Padre	8,055	28	6,719	26	6,410	19	6,667	21	7,391	16	8,901	12
	6,110	358	6,676	335	4,650	347	6,848	340	7,067	370	7,079	344
	9,729	57	9,414	54	7,127	52	7,801	52	8,000	59	9,195	57

1/ For survey purposes, the California classification includes the following varieties: Aldrich, Ballico, Carmel, Davey, Fritz, Harvey, Le Grand, Mono, Monterey, Norman, Price Cluster, Ruby, Tokoyo and Yosemite.

2/ Carmel variety is also included in California Types.