

# 1997 California Prune Acreage Survey

Released: May 11, 1998  
12:00 P.M. PDT



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE

## RESULTS

The 1997 California acreage survey results indicate **100,796 total acres of prunes**. Of this total, **79,458 were bearing** and **21,338 were non-bearing**. The **French varieties accounted for 98 percent** of the total acreage. **Sutter County** shows the largest acreage planted to prunes with **25 percent of the total acreage**, followed by **Butte County** with **14 percent** and **Yuba County** with **12 percent**.

The Prune Acreage Survey is part of a larger combined fruit acreage survey. All growers with almond or walnut acreage were surveyed on a bi-annual basis with half the counties in the State surveyed each year. Grape and prune growers in all counties were surveyed. For these four crops, more than 32,000 parcel records were mailed to about 15,000 growers. Overall, 82 percent of the parcels were completed. In addition, about 550 new parcels were added. The new parcels are the result of list building efforts using County Agricultural Commissioners' acreage updates and acreage reported through the California Department of Pesticide Regulations. For the prune acreage, 3,926 parcels were mailed and approximately 87 percent were completed representing about 95 percent of the acres. Of the total parcels sent, 48 percent were returned by mail, 27 percent by telephone, and 12 percent by personal interview. The current data from our data base are carried forward for the 13 percent not responding.

The attached summary tables show results of the acreage survey. These data are for dissemination to the prune industry and other interested parties. Only State and county totals have been published; individual reports remain confidential.

## OBJECTIVES

The California Agricultural Statistics Service (CASS) conducted an acreage survey to provide the current acreage, variety, and year of plant data.

## PROCEDURES

Acreage survey preparation was a cooperative effort between the grape, almond, walnut, and prune industries. In the past, the Prune Acreage Survey was designed to operate on a two-year rotational basis with approximately half the prune growers contacted each year. Starting this year, all prune growers were contacted.

CASS maintains a fruit data base, which serves as the main source for questionnaire mailing. Growers on this data base were sent a questionnaire with previously reported crop, variety, trees, acreage, and planting information preprinted. Recipients were asked to update the information. The CASS' data base also was compared to the California Department of Pesticide Regulations (DPR) pesticide use permit list and some industry lists. Growers not included in CASS's data base were sent a blank questionnaire and asked to provide specific information on their respective grape, almond, walnut, and/or prune acreage.

Acreage questionnaires were mailed on December 26, 1997. Respondents were given about six weeks to return a response via mail. CASS personnel then conducted telephone follow-ups on non-respondents. Field personnel made personal visits to large growers and those CASS could not contact by mail or telephone. Survey data received on or before April 28, 1998 was edited and included in the final summary. Final analysis and summary work was completed on May 4, 1998.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A special thanks goes to the many prune farm operators and owners who provided information on their operations. The support was outstanding, and we appreciate the time spent completing questionnaires. Likewise, thanks to the Prune Marketing Committee for providing funding and support of this special acreage update survey.

JIM TIPPETT  
State Statistician

DWAINE NELSON  
Deputy State Statistician

GARY NELSON - SCOT RUMBURG  
Agricultural Statisticians  
Fruit and Nut Group -- (916) 498-5177

Comments or questions should be directed to:

California Agricultural Statistics Service (CASS)  
P.O. Box 1258, Sacramento, CA 95812  
(916) 498-5177/(FAX) 498-5186

**1997 PRUNE ACREAGE BY COUNTY, BY YEAR PLANTED**

County	1985 & Earlier	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	Acres Standing in 1997 a/		
														Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
AMADOR	21.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	6.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	23.8	8.0	31.8
BUTTE	9,727.7	63.9	140.8	41.3	291.9	463.7	500.8	462.0	819.0	1,096.1	392.9	196.6	96.4	11,230.1	3,063.0	14,293.1
COLUSA	2,383.7	41.0	38.3	95.2	117.6	91.7	30.8	39.3	44.1	13.9	135.9	39.2	58.2	2,798.3	330.6	3,128.9
FRESNO	1,293.8	0.0	147.6	99.8	204.6	262.2	271.0	291.8	808.1	442.1	327.1	440.7	1.8	2,279.0	2,311.6	4,590.6
GLENN	7,216.6	36.2	41.3	128.3	53.9	155.0	505.7	46.5	626.5	596.0	591.9	78.3	88.7	8,137.0	2,027.9	10,164.9
KERN	101.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	78.1	68.5	73.2	0.0	101.6	219.8	321.4
KINGS	22.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.1	0.0	22.1
LAKE	35.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35.0	0.0	35.0
LOS ANGELES	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2
MADERA	664.7	0.0	0.0	37.9	45.0	148.5	18.7	42.0	0.0	518.9	373.8	11.6	0.0	914.8	946.3	1,861.1
MENDOCINO	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.5
MERCED	1,609.5	174.5	45.7	92.8	83.9	16.8	68.4	28.0	38.9	344.2	98.9	157.7	10.0	2,091.6	677.7	2,769.3
NAPA	12.3	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	27.3	0.0	27.3
PLACER	392.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	392.4	0.0	392.4
RIVERSIDE	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
SACRAMENTO	24.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.1	0.0	24.1
SAN BENITO	48.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	48.8	0.0	48.8
SAN JOAQUIN	119.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	119.8	0.0	119.8
SAN LUIS OBISPO	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4
SANTA CLARA	372.9	0.0	4.4	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	15.4	381.2	15.6	396.8
SANTA CRUZ	15.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.7	0.0	15.7
SHASTA	217.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	165.9	0.0	0.0	217.5	165.9	383.4
SOLANO	1,495.4	15.0	7.5	16.3	16.8	11.0	16.8	125.5	26.8	191.8	40.3	106.1	2.3	1,578.8	492.8	2,071.6
SONOMA	413.4	7.9	1.5	0.9	0.0	4.4	7.3	0.6	5.0	1.1	19.8	0.0	0.2	435.4	26.7	462.1
STANISLAUS	79.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.2	7.5	7.5	85.8	23.2	109.0
SUTTER	17,042.3	290.1	526.9	411.1	439.7	492.0	724.8	898.4	853.4	1,834.6	811.0	329.2	191.3	19,926.9	4,917.9	24,844.8
TEHAMA	8,326.0	165.4	70.7	129.2	164.8	209.1	285.7	243.8	221.7	603.2	571.1	292.3	77.4	9,350.9	2,009.5	11,360.4
TULARE	5,373.1	105.0	79.4	142.0	196.6	59.6	91.4	159.5	526.4	841.7	538.4	113.0	38.2	6,047.1	2,217.2	8,264.3
YOLO	1,911.8	41.6	25.2	47.7	1.0	69.7	132.0	37.6	46.5	162.9	30.2	26.5	23.1	2,229.0	326.8	2,555.8
YUBA	9,538.6	234.6	189.6	129.6	203.1	278.3	368.5	329.5	319.1	346.4	280.8	175.0	107.2	10,942.3	1,558.0	12,500.3
STATE TOTAL	68,461.3	1,190.2	1,318.9	1,376.0	1,824.8	2,262.2	3,024.1	2,704.5	4,335.5	7,077.2	4,288.8	2,214.8	717.7	79,457.5	21,338.5	100,796.0

a/ Non-bearing includes plantings for 1992-97.

**PRUNE ACREAGE AS OF 1997 -- VARIETIES AND AGE GROUPS -- STATE SUMMARY ACREAGE PLANTED DURING YEARS SHOWN AND STANDING IN 1997**

Variety	1985 & Earlier	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	Acres Standing in 1997 a/		
														Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
BURTON	60.9	0.0	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	67.4	0.0	67.4
FRENCH	65,975.4	1,126.6	1,284.4	1,362.9	1,648.9	2,235.5	2,991.5	2,626.4	4,221.5	6,827.5	4,204.4	2,080.7	649.9	76,625.2	20,610.4	97,235.6
FRENCH EARLY GRANS	307.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	78.6	0.0	307.8	78.6	386.4
FRENCH IMPROVED	898.5	46.9	0.0	10.0	53.8	0.0	10.0	39.7	65.1	153.7	22.8	11.6	0.0	1,019.2	292.9	1,312.1
FRIEDMAN	308.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	313.1	0.0	313.1
IMPERIAL	190.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.8	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	203.8	0.2	204.0
MOYER	129.0	16.7	20.5	3.1	92.3	15.0	17.3	38.4	30.9	60.8	44.5	41.0	59.3	293.9	274.9	568.8
VICTOR LG	384.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	384.3	0.0	384.3
707	23.0	0.0	6.0	0.0	22.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	51.0	0.0	51.0
ALL OTHERS	184.2	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	5.8	0.3	0.0	18.0	35.0	17.1	2.9	8.5	191.8	81.5	273.3
CROP TOTAL	68,461.3	1,190.2	1,318.9	1,376.0	1,824.8	2,262.2	3,024.1	2,704.5	4,335.5	7,077.2	4,288.8	2,214.8	717.7	79,457.5	21,338.5	100,796.0

a/ Non-bearing includes plantings for 1992-97.

**1997 FRENCH PRUNE ACREAGE BY COUNTY**

County	1985 & Earlier	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	Acres Standing in 1997 a/		
														Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
AMADOR	21.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	6.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	23.8	8.0	31.8
BUTTE	9,467.6	63.9	139.3	41.3	237.2	463.7	500.8	430.0	811.0	1,061.0	392.9	192.6	96.4	10,913.8	2,983.9	13,897.7
COLUSA	2,381.9	41.0	38.3	95.2	117.6	91.7	30.8	39.3	44.1	13.9	135.9	39.2	8.4	2,796.5	280.8	3,077.3
FRESNO	1,135.6	0.0	135.0	99.8	204.6	262.2	271.0	291.8	808.1	442.1	327.1	440.7	1.8	2,108.2	2,311.6	4,419.8
GLENN	7,166.6	36.2	41.3	128.3	53.9	155.0	505.7	46.5	608.5	561.0	578.9	78.3	83.5	8,087.0	1,956.7	10,043.7
KERN	101.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	78.1	68.5	73.2	0.0	101.6	219.8	321.4
KINGS	22.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.1	0.0	22.1
LAKE	35.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35.0	0.0	35.0
LOS ANGELES	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2
MADERA	664.7	0.0	0.0	37.9	45.0	148.5	18.7	42.0	0.0	518.9	373.8	11.6	0.0	914.8	946.3	1,861.1
MENDOCINO	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4
MERCED	1,545.5	174.5	45.7	92.8	83.9	16.8	68.4	28.0	38.9	344.2	98.9	157.7	10.0	2,027.6	677.7	2,705.3
NAPA	11.3	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.3	0.0	26.3
PLACER	392.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	392.4	0.0	392.4
SACRAMENTO	24.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.1	0.0	24.1
SAN BENITO	35.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35.4	0.0	35.4
SAN JOAQUIN	119.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	119.8	0.0	119.8
SAN LUIS OBISPO	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2
SANTA CLARA	366.4	0.0	4.4	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.4	374.7	15.4	390.1
SANTA CRUZ	15.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.5	0.0	15.5
SHASTA	217.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	165.9	0.0	217.5	165.9	383.4
SOLANO	1,493.4	15.0	7.5	16.3	16.8	10.8	16.5	125.5	26.8	191.8	40.3	106.1	2.3	1,576.3	492.8	2,069.1
SONOMA	413.3	7.9	1.5	0.9	0.0	4.4	7.3	0.6	5.0	1.1	19.8	0.0	0.2	435.3	26.7	462.0
STANISLAUS	79.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.2	7.5	7.5	85.8	23.2	109.0
SUTTER	16,881.4	290.1	526.9	411.1	431.9	486.1	713.5	898.4	853.4	1,834.6	811.0	309.4	191.3	19,741.0	4,898.1	24,639.1
TEHAMA	8,280.5	165.4	70.7	129.2	164.8	209.1	285.7	243.8	221.7	603.2	571.1	292.3	76.7	9,305.4	2,008.8	11,314.2
TULARE	5,283.6	102.4	59.0	138.9	137.0	40.5	85.4	153.1	525.2	822.8	489.8	92.9	33.2	5,846.8	2,117.0	7,963.8
YOLO	1,895.6	27.5	25.2	47.7	1.0	69.7	132.0	37.6	40.9	156.1	30.2	26.5	16.0	2,198.7	307.3	2,506.0
YUBA	9,436.7	234.6	189.6	129.6	203.1	277.0	368.5	329.5	303.0	346.4	280.8	175.0	107.2	10,839.1	1,541.9	12,381.0
STATE TOTAL	67,489.8	1,173.5	1,284.4	1,372.9	1,702.7	2,235.5	3,006.5	2,666.1	4,286.6	6,981.2	4,227.2	2,170.9	649.9	78,265.3	20,981.9	99,247.2

ω a/ Includes acreage for French, French Early Grans, French Improved, and Friedman varieties.

**1997 OTHER PRUNE ACREAGE BY COUNTY**

County	1985 & Earlier	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	Acres Standing in 1997 a/		
														Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
BUTTE	260.1	0.0	1.5	0.0	54.7	0.0	0.0	32.0	8.0	35.1	0.0	4.0	0.0	316.3	79.1	395.4
COLUSA	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	49.8	1.8	49.8	51.6
FRESNO	158.2	0.0	12.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	170.8	0.0	170.8
GLENN	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.0	35.0	13.0	0.0	5.2	50.0	71.2	121.2
MENDOCINO	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
MERCED	64.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	64.0	0.0	64.0
NAPA	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0
RIVERSIDE	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
SAN BENITO	13.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.4	0.0	13.4
SAN LUIS OBISPO	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2
SANTA CLARA	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.5	0.2	6.7
SANTA CRUZ	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2
SOLANO	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.0	2.5
SONOMA	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
SUTTER	160.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.8	5.9	11.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.8	0.0	185.9	19.8	205.7
TEHAMA	45.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	45.5	0.7	46.2
TULARE	89.5	2.6	20.4	3.1	59.6	19.1	6.0	6.4	1.2	18.9	48.6	20.1	5.0	200.3	100.2	300.5
YOLO	16.2	14.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6	6.8	0.0	0.0	7.1	30.3	19.5	49.8
YUBA	101.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.0	16.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	103.2	16.1	119.3
STATE TOTAL	971.5	16.7	34.5	3.1	122.1	26.7	17.6	38.4	48.9	96.0	61.6	43.9	67.8	1,192.2	356.6	1,548.8

a/ Includes acreage of Burton, German, Imperial, Italian/Fellenberg, Miro, Moyer, Punian, Ross, Sergeant/Robe De Sergeant, Sierra Sweet, Sugar, Victor LG, 29-C, and 707 varieties.

# California Prune Acreage 1985 - 1997

Thousands

