



# 2006 California Raisin Grape Overhead Trellis Report

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## RESULTS

California raisin type grapes using the overhead trellis management system totaled 13,618 acres (bearing and non-bearing) during 2006. This amounted to 5.9 percent of the total raisin type grape acreage. The Dovine and Fiesta varieties had the highest percentage of acreage using the overhead trellis system, at 57.4 percent and 39.9 percent, respectively. Approximately 35 percent of the total raisin type acreage planted since 2001 was managed using this system. More than 13 percent of the raisin type acreage in Madera County, and 11.8 percent of Kern County's acreage, were grown using overhead trellises. Only 3.4 percent of Fresno County's acreage was devoted to this system.

Most California raisins are produced by sun drying after laying the bunches on paper trays on terraces between vine rows. The overhead trellis system has led to increased production of dried-on-the-vine raisins, increased machine harvesting, and decreased hand labor use.

## PROCEDURES

The California Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, conducts an annual grape acreage survey. The 2006 Grape Acreage Report, published in April, summarized the latest survey results. At

the request of the raisin industry, an additional question was added to the grape acreage survey form the past two years to gather information on raisin type acreage grown using an overhead trellis system. In addition to the overhead trellis system data, producers were asked to update acreage by variety and year planted. Growers were first contacted by mail with telephone follow-up. Field staff personally visited large growers who did not respond by mail. This report summarizes data for raisin type grapes grown using the overhead trellis system.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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**Raisin Type Grapes: Total Acreage Standing by Variety, California, 2005-2006 <sup>1/</sup>**

Variety	Total Acres		Overhead Trellis Acres		Trellis Percentage of Total	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
Black Corinth <sup>2/</sup>	1,908	1,806	0	0	0.0	0.0
Dovine	656	690	367	396	56.0	57.4
Fiesta	11,689	12,286	4,435	4,901	37.9	39.9
Selma Pete	846	1,248	208	355	24.6	28.4
Sultana	162	126	0	0	0.0	0.0
Thompson Seedless	222,096	214,311	5,257	7,811	2.4	3.6
Other Raisin	804	626	144	156	17.9	24.9
STATE TOTAL	238,161	231,093	10,412	13,618	4.4	5.9

<sup>1/</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

<sup>2/</sup> Also known as Zante Currant.

**Raisin Type Grapes: Total Acreage Standing by County, California, 2005-2006 1/**

County	Total Acres		Overhead Trellis Acres		Trellis Percentage of Total	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
Fresno	152,574	148,463	2,617	4,979	1.7	3.4
Kern	19,026	18,693	2,013	2,199	10.6	11.8
Kings	965	932	71	95	7.4	10.2
Madera	40,358	39,681	4,560	5,325	11.3	13.4
Merced	762	736	0	21	0.0	0.3
Riverside	2,409	2,119	71	71	3.0	3.4
San Bernardino	152	152	0	0	0.0	0.0
San Luis Obispo	305	272	0	0	0.0	0.0
Stanislaus	290	260	0	0	0.0	0.0
Tulare	21,271	19,744	1,079	924	5.1	4.7
Other	50	38	0	4	0.0	10.5
STATE TOTAL	238,161	231,093	10,412	13,618	4.4	5.9

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Raisin Type Grapes: Total Acreage Standing by Year Planted, California, 1998-2006 1/**

Year Planted	Total Acres		Overhead Trellis Acres		Trellis Percentage of Total	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
1998 and Earlier	224,037	215,328	5,906	8,536	2.6	4.0
1999	2,406	2,636	628	775	26.1	29.4
2000	3,428	3,377	857	905	25.0	26.8
2001	1,630	1,573	702	742	43.1	47.2
2002	1,616	1,669	87	90	5.4	5.4
2003	1,970	1,929	1,218	1,198	61.8	62.1
2004	1,196	846	325	263	27.1	31.1
2005	1,879	2,085	690	727	36.7	34.9
2006	NA	1,649	NA	383	NA	22.6
STATE TOTAL	238,161	231,093	10,412	13,618	4.4	5.9

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

NA Not applicable.