



2006 California Prune Acreage Report

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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RESULTS

California's 2006 prune (dried plum) acreage is estimated at 72,500 acres, down 3 percent from 2005. Of the total acres, 65,000 were bearing and 7,500 were non-bearing. French prunes remained the dominant variety in California, accounting for 97 percent of the State's reported acreage.

- ▶ It is extremely difficult for USDA, NASS to detect growers that are planting prunes for the first time.
- ▶ The detailed data reflects tree removals from more than 4,000 acres during the past 12 months. Of this number, some acreage was harvested in 2006 prior to being pulled out, and that acreage has already been removed from the detailed data.

Prune (Dried Plum) Bearing and Non-Bearing Acreage ^{1/}

Year	Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
1998	83,000	26,000	109,000
1999	83,000	22,000	105,000
2000	86,000	15,000	101,000
2001	86,000	11,000	97,000
2002	74,000	9,000	83,000
2003	72,000	8,000	80,000
2004	70,000	N/A	N/A
2005	67,000	7,500	74,500
2006	65,000	7,500	72,500

^{1/} Reported data with an allowance for incompleteness.

Sutter County remained the leader for prune acreage in California, with more than twice the bearing acreage of any other county. Sutter accounts for 29 percent of California's reported prune acreage. Butte, Yuba, and Tehama counties were number two, three, and four, respectively, for prune acreage. These four counties combined account for 68 percent of the State's reported prune acreage.

OBJECTIVES

The California Field Office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) conducts an acreage survey of California prune growers. The purpose of this survey is to provide annual prune acreage with information on new plantings and removals. It is a continuation of a long series of industry-funded prune acreage surveys

Users are cautioned that this report consists of two parts:

- ▶ Estimated prune acreage -- bearing, non-bearing, and total. Estimated prune acreage appears in the table above.
- ▶ Detailed data by variety, year planted, and county -- as voluntarily reported by prune growers and maintained in the NASS data base. Detailed data are on pages 2 and 3.

With perfect information, the estimated prune acreage and the detailed data would be the same. However, differences exist for the following reasons:

- ▶ A voluntary survey of approximately 900 prune growers is unlikely to ever attain 100 percent completeness.

PROCEDURES

The major source of the prune detailed data was a questionnaire mailed to all prune growers included on the NASS data base. The mailing was made in late September 2006 to approximately 900 prune growers. The questionnaire contained previously reported crop, variety, and acreage information preprinted. Producers were asked to update the information with new plantings, removals, and any other corrections; new growers were mailed a blank questionnaire. Growers were given six weeks to respond by mail. A telephone follow-up was then undertaken. Field personnel visited large growers who did not respond by mail or telephone.

To arrive at the estimated prune acreage, the NASS prune acreage data base was compared with pesticide application data maintained by County Agricultural Commissioners and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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2006 PRUNE (DRIED PLUM) ACREAGE BY COUNTY, BY YEAR PLANTED a/

County	1994 and Earlier	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Acres Standing in 2006 b/		
														Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
Amador	11	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	13
Butte	6,995	697	224	183	105	160	374	116	337	274	278	178	71	8,738	1,255	9,992
Colusa	888	96	5	136	61	47	0	280	0	0	0	20	4	1,233	304	1,537
Fresno	1,722	672	451	32	23	4	7	148	41	0	11	0	0	2,910	200	3,110
Glenn	4,520	675	412	201	147	65	39	112	124	29	0	38	12	6,058	315	6,373
Kern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	17	17
Kings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	14	14
Madera	1,031	246	41	0	0	0	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	1,327	6	1,333
Merced	1,387	64	277	0	6	0	12	0	0	38	0	0	0	1,746	38	1,783
Napa	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	9
Placer	206	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	206	0	206
Santa Clara	76	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	86	0	86
Santa Cruz	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	15
Shasta	53	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	57	0	57
Solano	1,065	39	78	5	4	27	5	4	0	0	17	0	0	1,223	21	1,244
Sonoma	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	40
Stanislaus	11	8	8	8	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	0	36
Sutter	14,976	813	716	448	234	372	391	313	648	758	187	208	166	17,950	2,279	20,229
Tehama	6,177	657	331	126	153	149	81	166	81	47	22	59	256	7,674	630	8,304
Tulare	2,736	577	149	128	153	111	102	70	45	155	39	92	101	3,955	502	4,457
Yolo	1,412	40	45	23	2	14	5	32	141	26	0	4	3	1,541	207	1,748
Yuba	6,451	233	641	424	164	319	277	182	228	180	94	69	29	8,510	782	9,292
State Total	49,780	4,816	3,377	1,722	1,052	1,270	1,307	1,428	1,662	1,507	663	668	643	63,324	6,570	69,894

a/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

b/ Non-bearing includes plantings for 2001-2006.

PRUNE (DRIED PLUM) ACREAGE AS OF 2006 -- FRENCH VARIETIES AND AGE GROUPS -- STATE SUMMARY ACREAGE PLANTED DURING YEARS SHOWN AND STANDING IN 2006 a/

Variety	1994 and Earlier	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Acres Standing in 2006 b/		
														Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
French	48,765	4,694	3,243	1,599	989	1,243	1,228	1,161	1,307	1,349	601	560	597	61,761	5,575	67,336
French Early Grans	69	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	69	0	69
French Improved	415	22	12	15	0	2	0	6	0	0	0	18	0	465	24	489
State Total	49,249	4,716	3,255	1,614	989	1,244	1,228	1,167	1,307	1,349	601	578	597	62,295	5,599	67,894

a/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

b/ Non-bearing includes plantings for 2001-2006.

2006 FRENCH PRUNE (DRIED PLUM) ACREAGE BY COUNTY a/

County	1994 and Earlier	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Acres Standing in 2006 b/		
														Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
Amador	11	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	13
Butte	6,844	690	185	183	105	160	374	107	246	234	278	168	59	8,540	1,092	9,632
Colusa	877	96	5	111	61	47	0	280	0	0	0	20	4	1,197	304	1,501
Fresno	1,711	642	451	20	22	0	0	0	37	0	0	0	0	2,845	37	2,882
Glenn	4,502	660	412	196	147	65	39	112	113	10	0	0	9	6,020	244	6,264
Kings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	2
Madera	1,031	246	41	0	0	0	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	1,327	6	1,333
Merced	1,387	64	277	0	6	0	12	0	0	38	0	0	0	1,746	38	1,783
Napa	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	9
Placer	206	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	206	0	206
Santa Clara	76	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	86	0	86
Santa Cruz	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	15
Shasta	53	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	57	0	57
Solano	1,065	39	78	5	4	27	5	4	0	0	17	0	0	1,223	21	1,244
Sonoma	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	40
Stanislaus	11	8	8	8	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	0	36
Sutter	14,856	813	693	415	234	372	391	268	624	743	187	196	166	17,775	2,182	19,957
Tehama	6,127	657	331	126	153	149	81	166	56	47	22	59	238	7,623	587	8,210
Tulare	2,652	530	109	94	90	104	30	31	0	72	0	62	101	3,608	266	3,875
Yolo	1,412	40	45	23	2	0	5	32	40	26	0	4	3	1,527	106	1,632
Yuba	6,367	233	620	424	164	319	277	162	192	180	94	69	17	8,405	714	9,119
State Total	49,249	4,716	3,255	1,614	989	1,244	1,228	1,167	1,307	1,349	601	578	597	62,295	5,599	67,894

a/ Varieties include French, French Improved, and French Early Grans. Totals may not add due to rounding.

b/ Non-bearing includes plantings for 2001-2006.

2006 OTHER PRUNE (DRIED PLUM) ACREAGE BY COUNTY a/

County	1994 and Earlier	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Acres Standing in 2006 b/		
														Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
Butte	151	8	39	0	0	0	0	9	92	40	0	10	12	198	163	361
Colusa	11	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	0	36
Fresno	12	30	0	12	1	4	7	148	4	0	11	0	0	66	163	229
Glenn	18	15	0	5	0	0	0	0	11	19	0	38	4	38	71	109
Kern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	17	17
Kings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	12	12
Sutter	120	0	23	33	0	0	0	44	24	16	0	13	0	176	97	273
Tehama	51	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	18	51	43	94
Tulare	84	47	40	34	63	7	72	39	45	83	39	30	0	346	236	582
Yolo	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	101	0	0	0	0	14	101	115
Yuba	85	0	21	0	0	0	0	20	36	0	0	0	12	106	68	174
State Total	531	100	122	109	64	25	79	261	355	158	63	90	46	1,030	971	2,001

a/ Totals may not add due to rounding. Includes acreage of Burton, Friedman, German, Imperial, Italian/Fellenberg, Miro, Moyer, Punian, Ross, Sergeant/Robe De Sergeant, Sierra Sweet, Sugar, Victor LG, 29-C, and 707 varieties.

b/ Non-bearing includes plantings for 2001-2006.