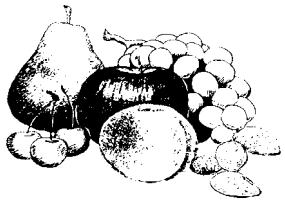
California Fruit & Nut Review



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CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

MAY CROP COMMENTS

Thinning of stone fruit was completed. The harvest of early varieties of cherries, peaches, nectarines, apricots, and plums started in the southern San Joaquin Valley and moved north during the month.

Most crops were a week to ten days ahead of previous years. Grape leaves were pulled and vines suckered. Avocadoes, olives, and pecans completed bloom. A rain late in the month had little effect on the cherry or apricot harvests. High winds broke some heavily set almond branches. Picking of grapefruit in the desert area was winding down. The grapefruit harvest in other areas was gaining momentum with good to excellent quality reported. Lemon volume picked to date is ahead of previous years. Current picking is slow in the south coast area. Navel orange picking is virtually over. A high percentage of Valencia oranges currently being picked are going to export. Both export and domestic Valencias have good to excellent quality.

FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent Change	Next Crop Update
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997		
NUT CROPS	- Acres -		- Pounds -		- 1,000 Pounds -			
Almonds (Shelled)	410,000	420,000	1,240	1,690	510,000	710,000	39	June 27, 1997
Pecans	2,700	---	593	---	1,600	---		Sept. 11, 1997
Pistachio (In-Shell)								
Marketable In-Shell	---	---	---	---	81,000	---		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	25,000	---		
Total	64,100	---	1,650		106,000	---		Aug. 29, 1997
			- Tons -		- 1,000 Tons -			
Walnuts (In-Shell)	169,000	---	1.23	---	208.0	---		July 11, 1997
FRUIT CROPS	- Acres -		- Tons -		- 1,000 Tons -			
Apples	34,000	---	13.20		450.0	---		Aug. 12, 1997
Apricots	19,900	20,400	3.82	6.13	76.0	125.0	64	July 11. 1997
Cherries	12,900	13,700	1.91	2.55	24.6	35.0	42	January 1998
Grapes, Raisin 1/	270,000	---	8.15	---	2,200.0	---		July 11, 1997
Grapes, Table	76,000	---	9.21	---	700.0	---		July 11, 1997
Grapes, Wine	305,000	---	6.89	---	2,100.0	---		July 11, 1997
Grapes, All 1/	651,000	---	7.68	---	5,000.0	---		July 11, 1997
Olives	33,700	---	4.93	---	166.0	---		Aug. 12, 1997
Peaches, Clingstone	31,000	31,000	17.60	17.70	546.5	550.0	1	July 11, 1997
Peaches, Freestone	33,000	35,200	9.59	10.40	316.5	365.0	15	July 11, 1997
Pears, Bartlett	19,100	18,800	15.00	16.00	287.0	300.0	5	Aug. 12, 1997
Pears, Other	4,800	---	6.25	---	30.0	---		Aug. 12, 1997
Prunes (Dried Weight)	80,200	81,200	2.74	2.65	220.0	215.0	-2	January 1998
BERRIES	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997		
	- Acres -		- Cwt. -		- 1,000 Cwt. -			
Strawberries	25,200	22,600	540	560	13,608	12,656	-7	Dec. 11, 1997
CITRUS CROP 2/	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97		
	- Acres -		- Cartons -		- 1,000 Cartons -			
Grapefruit, All 3/	18,800	18,800	862	851	16,200	18,400	14	July 11. 1997
Lemons	46,300	46,300	908	950	42,000	44,000	5	July 11, 1997
Oranges, Navel	121,000	125,000	628	592	76,000	86,000	13	July 11, 1997
Oranges, Valencia	75,000	74,000	746	703	56,000	56,000	NC	July 11, 1997
Tangerines 4/	8,700	8,700	598	598	5,200	5,800	12	July 11, 1997

1/ The following acreage was enrolled in the Raisin Industry Diversion Program (RID) in the year specified: 1996, zero acres.
2/ Grapefruit - 33.5 lbs. per carton, Lemons - 38.0 lbs. per carton, Oranges - 37.5 lbs. per carton, Tangerines - 37.5 lbs. per carton.
3/ Desert and Other Area Grapefruit forecasts combined to All Grapefruit beginning in 1995-96.
4/ Includes tangelos, tangerines and tangors.

APRICOTS: The 1997 apricot forecast is at 125 thousand tons. This is up approximately 64 percent from the 1996 crop of 76.0 thousand tons and up approximately 131 percent from the 1995 crop of 54.0 thousand tons. Bearing acres are estimated at 20,400. A good fruit set resulted from high winter chilling hours and a warm mild spring. The crop is 7-10 days ahead of last year's crop.

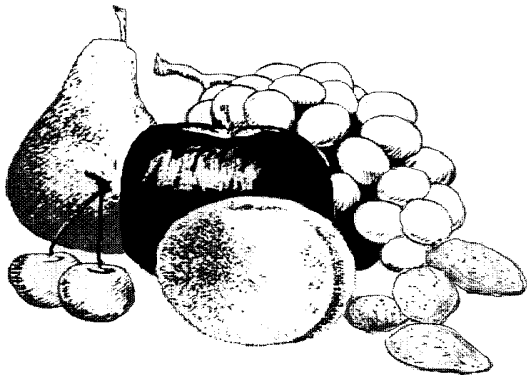
SWEET CHERRIES: The 1997 California sweet cherry crop is forecast at 35.0 thousand tons, up 42 percent from last year's crop. Bearing acreage is estimated at 13,700 acres. The yield calculates to 2.6 tons per acre. Good weather from bloom to maturity has resulted in a near normal yield. Occasional light showers have resulted in little damage to overall quality. Harvest to date is approximately 90 percent complete.

FREESTONE PEACHES: The 1997 California Freestone peach crop is forecast at 365 thousand tons, up 15 percent from last year's crop. Bearing acreage is estimated at 35,200 acres. The yield calculates to 10.4 tons per acre.

CLINGSTONE PEACHES: The 1997 California Clingstone peach crop is forecast at 550 thousand tons, up 1 percent from last year's crop. Bearing acreage is estimated at 31,000 acres. The yield calculates to 17.7 tons per acre. Good weather to date has resulted in a normal yield. Harvest should begin in the next two weeks.

BARTLETT PEARS: The forecast of the 1997 Bartlett pear crop in California is 300 thousand tons, up 5 percent from last year. Bearing acres are estimated to be 18,800 acres. The Bartlett pear growing areas have enjoyed good spring weather and growing conditions. Quality and size are reported good with early maturity.

PRUNES: The 1997 California prune production forecast is 215 thousand tons, down 2.3 percent from the 1996 crop. Bearing acreage is estimated at 81,200 acres. The yield calculates to 2.7 tons per acre. Weather was favorable during the critical pollination period. Growers indicated they are expecting a near normal crop.



FRUIT PRODUCTION
1995, 1996, and 1997 Forecast for Selected States and U.S.

Crop & State	1995	1996	Forecast 1997
		- - - Tons - - -	
APRICOTS			
California	54,000	76,000	125,000
CHERRIES (Sweet)			
California	19,800	24,600	35,000
Oregon	38,000	32,000	43,000
Washington	75,000	69,000	85,000
Total 1/	132,800	125,600	163,000
PEACHES			
California Total	683,500	863,000	915,000
Freestone	251,000	316,500	365,000
Clingstone 2/	432,500	546,500	550,000
Georgia	80,000	5,000	80,000
South Carolina	107,500	1,500	75,000
Total	871,000	869,500	1,070,000
PEARS (BARTLETT)			
California	247,000	287,000	300,000
Oregon	70,000	45,000	75,000
Washington	180,000	105,000	190,000
Total	497,000	437,000	565,000
PRUNES (DRIED WEIGHT)			
California	181,000	220,000	215,000

1/ Forecast for Idaho, Michigan, Montana, New York, Pennsylvania, and Utah will be released on June 27, 1996.
2/ California Clingstone is over the scale tonnage and includes culls and cannery diversions.

FLORIDA CITRUS

Most of Florida's citrus groves were in good condition at the end of May. The east and west coast areas received above average rainfall during the month, while most of the other areas were a little below normal. An abundance of new growth is on trees of all ages in well cared for groves. New crop fruit is making good progress as most trees have stopped dropping the little green fruit that the trees can't carry for next season. The Valencia oranges remaining for harvest are in good condition with excellent pounds solids and juice content. Grapefruit movement, during May was the most active in recent years. Limited grapefruit harvest continues. Honey tangerines were picked through the month with harvest nearly complete at this time. Caretakers were very active in May cutting crops, completing post bloom removal.

Harvest of all oranges through the end of May is almost 215 million boxes. Valencias utilized through May totaled 80.7 million boxes. Movement of all grapefruit is at 54.5 million boxes. Seedy grapefruit harvest totals 875 thousand boxes. Utilization of all seedless grapefruit is at 53.7 million boxes through the end of May. White seedless grapefruit movement totals 23.3 million. Colored seedless grapefruit are at 30.4 million boxes through the last of May. All tangerine harvest is virtually complete with 6.39 million boxes picked. Temple movement is near the end for the year with 2.38 million boxes harvested through May. Tangelo harvest is over for the season with 3.91 million boxes.

CITRUS FRUIT PRODUCTION
1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 Forecast, by State and U.S.

Crop & State	1994-95	1995-96	Forecast 1996-97
		- 1,000 Cartons -	
ORANGES 1/			
California, All	112,000	132,000	142,000
Navel & Misc.	70,000	76,000	86,000
Valencia	42,000	56,000	56,000
Florida	411,000	406,400	448,400
Texas	2,110	1,880	2,840
Arizona	2,100	3,300	2,600
ALL U.S. ORANGES	527,210	543,580	595,840
GRAPEFRUIT 2/			
California, All	18,600	16,200	18,400
Desert Valley	6,600	---	---
Other Areas	12,000	---	---
Florida	111,400	104,700	118,000
Texas	9,300	9,100	10,600
Arizona	2,800	2,400	2,000
ALL U.S. GRAPEFRUIT	142,100	132,400	149,000
LEMONS 4/			
California	40,000	42,000	44,000
Arizona	7,200	10,200	6,000
ALL U.S. LEMONS	47,200	52,200	50,000
TANGERINES 5/			
California 6/	5,000	5,200	5,800
Florida	7,100	9,000	12,800
Arizona	1,300	2,000	1,300
ALL U.S. TANGERINES	13,400	16,200	19,900

1/ ORANGES: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 37.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 45 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs.
2/ GRAPEFRUIT: Arizona and California, 1 carton=33.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 40 lbs.
3/ Desert and Other Area Grapefruit forecasts combined to All Grapefruit beginning in 1995-96.
4/ LEMONS: All, 1 carton = 38 lbs.
5/ TANGERINES: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 37.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 47.5 lbs.
6/ Includes tangelos, tangerines, and tangors.

TREE NUTS (SHELLED BASIS): PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION, 1975-76 TO DATE

Season 1/	Almonds	Hazelnuts	Pecans	Walnuts	Macadamias	Pistachios	Other 2/	Total 3/
	- - - - - - - - Pounds - - - - - - - -							
1975-76	0.35	0.08	0.39	0.50	0.02	0.03	0.57	1.94
1976-77	0.42	0.07	0.33	0.51	0.02	0.04	0.51	1.91
1977-78	0.45	0.06	0.37	0.48	0.02	0.04	0.28	1.71
1978-79	0.39	0.08	0.39	0.37	0.02	0.04	0.42	1.71
1979-80	0.37	0.04	0.46	0.42	0.03	0.04	0.38	1.74
1980-81	0.42	0.05	0.43	0.50	0.03	0.05	0.32	1.79
1981-82	0.50	0.05	0.45	0.52	0.03	0.04	0.33	1.92
1982-83	0.59	0.07	0.49	0.47	0.04	0.05	0.46	2.16
1983-84	0.58	0.05	0.48	0.52	0.04	0.07	0.52	2.25
1984-85	0.68	0.06	0.54	0.48	0.04	0.11	0.47	2.39
1985-86	0.81	0.07	0.47	0.48	0.05	0.12	0.45	2.45
1986-87	0.53	0.03	0.54	0.49	0.05	0.11	0.47	2.21
1987-88	0.59	0.06	0.54	0.46	0.05	0.09	0.41	2.19
1988-89	0.65	0.07	0.50	0.50	0.05	0.12	0.40	2.29
1989-90	0.62	0.05	0.46	0.45	0.06	0.08	0.51	2.23
1990-91	0.74	0.07	0.49	0.45	0.06	0.11	0.50	2.42
1991-92	0.61	0.06	0.46	0.45	0.05	0.08	0.44	2.16
1992-93	0.59	0.08	0.35	0.47	0.05	0.10	0.58	2.22
1993-94	0.49	0.10	0.53	0.38	0.05	0.13	0.56	2.24
1994-95	0.56	0.07	0.49	0.44	0.06	0.14	0.50	2.25
1995-96 4/	0.50	0.11	0.37	0.36	0.05	0.13	0.34	1.86

1/ Beginning August of first year indicated for walnuts, September for pistachios, and July for all others.
2/ Includes the following nuts: Brazil, pignolias, chestnuts, cashews, and mixed nuts.
3/ Some figures may not add due to rounding.
4/ Preliminary estimates.

SOURCE: Commodity Economics Division, ERS, USDA.