

California Fruit & Nut Review



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STATISTICS SERVICE

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Fruit and Nut Production	1
Berry Production	2
Final Grape Crush Summary	3
California and U.S. Citrus	4

Pruning, spraying, and tying vines were among the cultural activities delayed. The last week of February brought sunshine, with bees and growers able to resume their orchard work. Citrus volume harvest was delayed due to the rainy weather in the first three weeks of February, but picked up during the last clear week. Approximately one-half of the Navel orange crop had been picked by the end of the month. Good quality was reported, but growers were concerned about rind breakdown and brown rot. New crop Valencia orange picking began in the desert area. Lemon harvest was active in all districts with good quality reported, but brown rot and wind scar were problems. Grapefruit and tangerine picking was active when the weather allowed with good quality reported.

FEBRUARY CROP COMMENTS

Very windy and wet weather during the first three weeks of February wreaked havoc for growers. Almond and early variety stone fruit trees were in bloom, but the bees had difficulty pollinating. Many growers could not enter their groves due to the extremely wet soil.

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) 1/	405,000	420,000	1,260	1,790	510,000	750,000	47	May 11, 1998
Pecans	2,500	2,500	520	920	1,300	2,300	77	Sept 11, 1998
Pistachio (In-Shell)								
Marketable In-Shell	---	---	---		85,000	137,000		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---		20,000	43,000		
Total	64,300	65,400	1,630	2,750	105,000	180,000	71	Aug 28, 1998
Walnuts (In-Shell)	169,000	170,000	1.23	1.58	208.0	269.0	29	July 10, 1998
FRUIT CROPS	- Acres -		- Tons -		- 1,000 Tons -			
Apples	38,000	38,500	12.50	12.70	475.0	487.5	3	Aug 12, 1998
Apricots	20,200	20,400	3.76	6.47	76.0	132.0	74	June 12, 1998
Cherries	13,100	13,700	1.88	3.59	24.6	49.2	100	June 12, 1998
Grapes, Raisin	270,000	268,000	8.12	10.25	2,192.0	2,746.0	25	July 10, 1998
Grapes, Table	74,500	75,000	7.95	10.00	592.0	750.0	27	July 10, 1998
Grapes, Wine	311,000	325,000	7.15	8.31	2,225.0	2,700.0	21	July 10, 1998
Grapes, All	655,500	668,000	7.64	9.28	5,009.0	6,196.0	24	July 10, 1998
Olives	33,700	33,700	4.93	3.09	166.0	104.0	-37	Aug 12, 1998
Peaches, Clingstone	31,000	31,000	17.60	18.50	546.5	574.0	5	June 12, 1998
Peaches, Freestone	34,300	35,200	9.85	10.50	337.0	369.5	10	June 12, 1998
Pears, Bartlett	18,900	18,800	15.20	15.00	287.0	282.0	-2	June 12, 1998
Pears, Other	4,800	4,800	6.25	6.25	30.0	30.0	NC	Aug 12, 1998
Prunes (Dried Weight)	80,200	81,200	2.78	2.61	223.0	212.0	-5	June 4, 1998
BERRIES	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997		
	- Acres -		- Cwt. -		- 1,000 Cwt. -			
Strawberries	25,200	22,600	540	590	13,608	13,334	-7	April 9, 1998
CITRUS CROPS 2/	1996-97	1997-98	1996-97	1997-98	1996-97	1997-98		
	- Acres -		- Cartons -		- 1,000 Cartons -			
Grapefruit	18,600	18,600	882	968	16,400	18,000	10	April 9, 1998
Lemons	46,500	47,300	860	930	40,000	44,000	10	April 9, 1998
Oranges, Navel	124,000	125,000	646	704	80,000	88,000	10	April 9, 1998
Oranges, Valencia	75,000	75,000	746	800	56,000	60,000	7	April 9, 1998
Tangerines 3/	8,700	8,800	598	545	5,200	4,800	-8	April 9, 1998

1/ Almond forecast released May 11 at 12:00 PM.

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/ Includes tangelos, tangerines and tangors.

STRAWBERRIES FOR FRESH MARKET AND PROCESSING

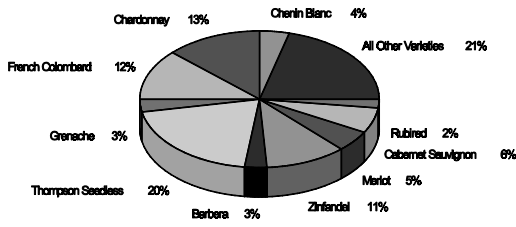
Crop and State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		Price Per Cwt.		Total Value	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	---- Acres ----				- Cwt. -		- 1,000 Cwt. -		- Dollars -		- 1,000 Dollars -	
Arkansas	200	200	170	190	21	71	4	13	75.00	85.00	300	1,105
California	25,200	22,600	25,200	22,600	540	590	13,608	13,334	43.00	51.50	584,860	686,418
Florida	6,000	6,100	6,000	6,100	260	290	1,560	1,769	72.20	82.60	112,632	146,119
Louisiana	850	650	850	650	75	110	64	72	61.00	60.00	3,904	4,320
Michigan	1,700	1,600	1,500	1,500	40	65	60	98	75.20	75.60	4,512	7,411
New Jersey	450	450	450	400	35	45	16	18	68.80	83.30	1,101	1,499
New York	2,200	2,200	2,100	2,100	39	45	82	95	120.00	101.00	9,840	9,595
North Carolina	2,000	1,700	1,800	1,500	90	120	162	180	67.00	70.00	10,854	12,600
Ohio	1,300	1,200	1,000	950	36	36	36	34	89.00	93.00	3,204	3,162
Oregon	6,100	5,500	5,200	5,000	92	100	478	500	47.80	39.50	22,835	19,750
Pennsylvania	1,300	1,200	1,300	1,200	43	46	56	55	97.00	90.00	5,432	4,950
Washington	1,300	1,400	1,300	1,400	81	70	105	98	62.90	49.80	6,605	4,882
Wisconsin	1,300	1,300	1,100	1,100	40	51	44	56	98.00	102.00	4,312	5,712
U.S. Total	49,850	49,900	47,970	44,690	339	365	16,275	16,322	47.30	55.60	770,391	907,523

BERRIES: ACREAGE, YIELD, PRODUCTION, PRICE AND VALUE BY CROP, STATE AND UNITED STATES, 1995-97

Crop, State and Year		Area Harvested	Yield Per Acre ^{1/}	Total Production	Price Per Pound	Total Value of Production
Boysenberries		Acres	Pounds	1,000 Lbs.	Dollars	\$1,000
California	1995	270	6,670	1,800	0.950	1,710
	1996	270	8,890	2,400	0.937	2,248
	1997	270	9,100	2,457	0.667	1,639
Oregon	1995	1,200	3,980	4,780	0.785	3,750
	1996	1,200	4,170	5,000	1.040	5,193
	1997	1,350	5,260	7,100	0.549	3,895
United States	1995	1,470	4,480	6,580	0.830	5,460
	1996	1,470	5,030	7,400	1.010	7,441
	1997	1,620	5,900	9,557	0.579	5,534
Black Raspberries						
Oregon	1995	1,200	2,130	2,700	0.608	1,550
	1996	1,150	1,650	1,900	1.670	3,175
	1997	1,100	1,910	2,100	1.900	4,000
Red Raspberries						
Oregon	1995	4,000	4,630	18,500	0.770	14,250
	1996	3,700	3,920	14,500	0.850	12,326
	1997	3,600	4,860	17,500	0.551	9,645
Washington	1995	5,900	8,900	52,510	0.670	35,182
	1996	6,300	6,500	40,950	0.744	30,459
	1997	8,500	7,000	66,300	0.471	28,020
United States	1995	9,900	7,170	71,010	0.696	49,432
	1996	10,000	5,550	55,450	0.772	42,785
	1997	12,100	6,360	83,800	0.489	37,665
All Raspberries						
California	1995	1,900	8,050	15,300	1.520	23,325
	1996	1,900	7,840	14,900	1.710	25,520
	1997	1,900	10,210	19,400	1.410	27,330

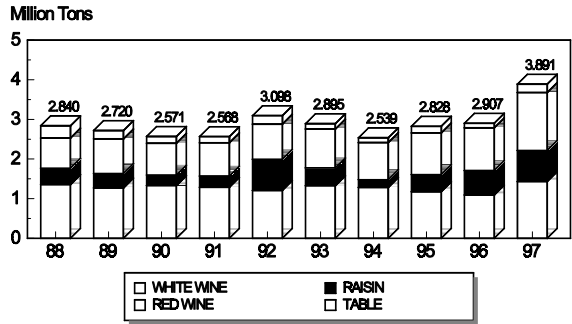
^{1/} Yields based on utilized production.

LEADING VARIETIES CRUSHED 1997 CROP



Source: Grape Crush Report

TOTAL TONS CRUSHED BY TYPE 1988-1997



Source: Grape Crush Report

FINAL GRAPE CRUSH REPORT

The 1997 crush totaled 3,891,403 tons, up approximately 34 percent from the 1996 crush, and up 25 percent more than the previous record-large 1982 of 3,115,531 tons. This year, red wine varieties overtook white wine varieties and account for the largest share of all grapes crushed, at 1,460,764, up 35 percent from 1996. The 1997 white wine variety crush totaled 1,432,557 tons, up 31 percent from 1996. Tons crushed for raisin type varieties totaled 785,671, up 27 percent from 1996, while tons crushed for table type varieties totaled 212,411, up 82 percent from 1996.

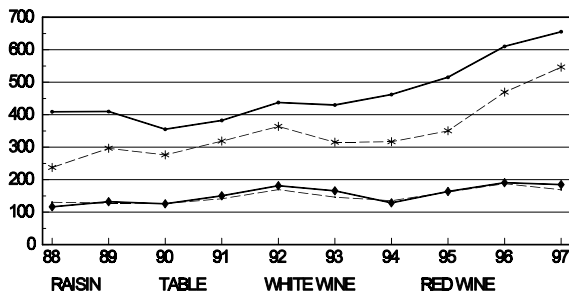
California grape growers received an average price of \$497.56 per ton for grapes crushed in 1997, up 10 percent from the 1996 average price. This makes the 1997 price the highest on record. These price levels were not adjusted for inflation.

Thompson Seedless, a raisin grape variety, continued to account for the largest percentage of crush volume, 20 percent. Chardonnay replaced French Colombard as the second leading percentage of crush with 13 percent of the total crush. The remaining top ten were all wine varieties.

Grapes produced in District 4 (Napa County) received the highest average price of \$1,716.21 per ton, up 14 percent from 1996. District 3 (Sonoma and Marin counties) received the second highest return of \$1,577.58, up 16 percent from 1996. Of the grapes grown Statewide, the top five varieties receiving the highest average price were all wine grape varieties. Teroldego received the highest average price of \$1,800.00 ^{1/} per ton. Petit Verdot received the second highest average price of \$1,754.86 per ton followed by Rousanne, at \$1,741.70 per ton, Trousseau at \$1,570.93 ^{1/} per ton and Pinot Noir at \$1,540.01 per ton. The 1997 Chardonnay price of \$1,161.07 was up 3 percent from 1996, while the 1997 Cabernet Sauvignon price of \$1,183.85 was up 9 percent from 1996. Reversing its recent upward price trend, the 1997 average price for Zinfandel grapes dropped to \$502.93, 11 percent lower than 1996, and 38 percent lower than the 1988 high average price of \$817.48.

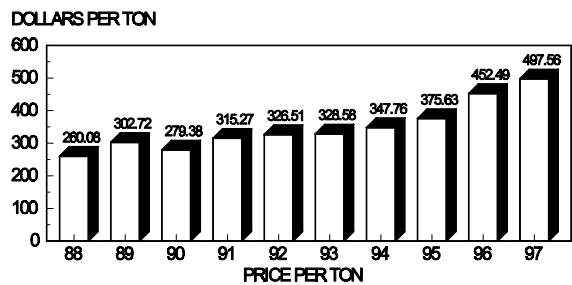
^{1/} These purchases involved less than 100 tons.

GRAPE PRICE PER TON BY TYPE OF GRAPE, 1988-1997



Source: Grape Crush Report

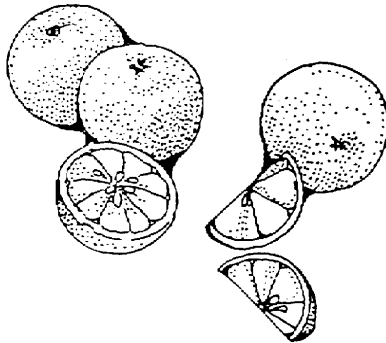
PRICE PAID PER TON GROWER RETURN INCREASES



AVERAGE PRICE FOR ALL VARIETIES
Source: Grape Crush Report

FLORIDA CITRUS COMMENTS

Most of Florida's citrus groves endured a very wet February. Lakes, ponds, and streams are at very high levels because of weekly downpours since November. Virtually all counties in this state's citrus belt have reported new monthly rainfall records for the first two months of the new year. Temperatures during this past month were generally above normal, which were conducive to producing new growth and the beginning stages of bloom. By the end of the month, many young trees had open blooms. The remaining fruits to be harvested are all in very good condition in spite of the wet conditions. Harvest of early and mid-season oranges was very active during February. Movement of all seedless grapefruit was strongest on the lower east coast for both fresh and processed utilization. Temple and Honey tangerine harvest increased in all areas. Tangelo harvest is almost complete. Caretakers have been busy trying to keep grove roads open and free of deep puddles left by the heavy rains.



**CITRUS FRUIT PRODUCTION
1995-96, 1996-97 And 1997-98 Forecast, By State and U.S.**

Crop & State	1995-96	1996-97	Forecast 1997-98
ORANGES: 1/	--- 1,000 Cartons ---		
California, All	116,000	136,000	148,000
Navel & Misc.	76,000	80,000	88,000
Valencia	40,000	56,000	60,000
Florida	406,600	452,400	502,000
Texas	1,880	2,840	3,100
Arizona	3,300	2,000	2,000
ALL U.S. ORANGES	527,780	593,240	655,100
GRAPEFRUIT: 2/			
California, All	16,200	16,400	18,000
Florida	104,700	111,600	100,000
Texas	9,100	10,600	9,200
Arizona	2,400	1,800	1,600
ALL U.S. GRAPEFRUIT	132,400	140,400	128,800
LEMONS: 4/			
California	42,000	40,000	44,000
Arizona	10,200	5,200	5,200
ALL U.S. LEMONS	52,200	45,200	49,200
TANGERINES: 5/			
California 6/	5,200	5,200	4,800
Florida	9,000	12,600	10,000
Arizona	2,000	1,100	1,000
ALL U.S. TANGERINES	16,200	18,900	15,800

- 1/ ORANGES: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 37.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 45 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs.
- 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/ 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.