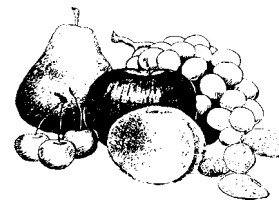


California Fruit & Nut Review



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CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
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APRIL CROP COMMENTS

Growers were active in their orchards and vineyards throughout April with normal cultural activities. The warmer, drier weather helped speed the maturity of stone fruit crops. Activities included the application of herbicides and fungicides. By late April, growers were thinning apples, apricots, plums, nectarines, and peaches. Vineyards were treated for powdery mildew. The Navel orange harvest was near completion by the end of April with more than 90 percent of the crop

picked. Valencia orange picking gathered momentum during the month with most of the fruit going to export. Around 10 percent has been picked. Quality has been reported as very good. The lemon harvest was active in the San Joaquin Valley and south coast areas. Quality and volume were reported as good. Grapefruit picking was still active in the desert area, but slowing down. Quality was reported as very good. Tangerine picking was near the end.

FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent Change	Next Crop Update
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998		
NUT CROPS	- Acres -		- Pounds -		- 1,000 Pounds -			
Almonds (Shelled)	410,000	425,000	1,850	1,294	757,000	550,000	-27	June 30, 1998
Pecans	2,500	---	920	---	2,300	---		Sept. 11, 1998
Pistachio (In-Shell)	---	---	---	---	136,600	---		
Marketable In-Shell	---	---	---	---	41,400	---		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	180,000	---		
Total	65,400	---	2,750	---	180,000	---		Aug. 29, 1998
Walnuts (In-Shell)	170,000	---	1.58	---	269.0	---		July 10, 1998
FRUIT CROPS	- Acres -		- Tons -		- 1,000 Tons -			
Apples	38,500	---	12.70	---	487.5	---		Aug. 12, 1998
Apricots	20,400	---	6.47	---	132.0	---		June 12, 1998
Cherries	13,700	---	3.59	---	49.2	---		June 12, 1998
Grapes, Raisin	268,000	---	10.25	---	2,746.0	---		July 10, 1998
Grapes, Table	75,000	---	10.00	---	750.0	---		July 10, 1998
Grapes, Wine	325,000	---	8.31	---	2,700.0	---		July 10, 1998
Grapes, All	668,000	---	9.28	---	6,196.0	---		July 10, 1998
Olives	33,700	---	3.09	---	104.0	---		Aug. 12, 1998
Peaches, Clingstone	31,000	---	18.50	---	574.0	---		June 12, 1998
Peaches, Freestone	35,200	---	10.50	---	369.5	---		June 12, 1998
Pears, Bartlett	18,800	---	15.00	---	282.0	---		June 12, 1998
Pears, Other	4,800	---	6.25	---	30.0	---		Aug. 12, 1998
Prunes (Dried Weight)	81,200	---	2.61	---	212.0	---		June 4, 1998
BERRIES	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998		
Strawberries	22,600	24,300	590	515	13,334	12,515	-6	Dec. 11, 1998
CITRUS CROP ^{1/}	1996-97	1997-98	1996-97	1997-98	1996-97	1997-98		
Grapefruit	18,600	18,600	882	968	16,400	18,000	10	July 10, 1998
Lemons	46,500	47,300	860	930	40,000	44,000	10	July 10, 1998
Oranges, Navel	124,000	125,000	646	704	80,000	88,000	10	July 10, 1998
Oranges, Valencia	75,000	75,000	640	800	48,000	60,000	25	July 10, 1998
Tangerines ^{2/}	8,700	8,800	598	545	5,200	4,800	-8	July 10, 1998

^{1/} Grapefruit - 33.5 lbs. per carton, Lemons - 38.0 lbs. per carton, Oranges - 37.5 lbs. per carton, Tangerines - 37.5 lbs. per carton.

^{2/} Includes tangelos, tangerines and tangors.

ALMOND, WALNUT, AND PRUNE ACREAGE RESULTS

The 1997 California acreage survey results indicate a record 472,053 total acres of almonds. Of this total, 409,094 were bearing and 62,959 were non-bearing. The Nonpareil variety accounted for the majority of almond acreage planted at 44 percent of the total acreage. The next most common variety was Carmel at 18 percent of total acreage. Kern County shows the largest acreage planted to almonds with 19 percent of the total acreage, followed by Merced County with 17 percent, and Stanislaus County with 16 percent.

The 1997 California acreage survey results indicate 198,119 total acres of walnuts. Of this total, 177,206 were bearing and 20,913 were non-bearing. The Hartley variety accounted for 27 percent of

the total acreage. Survey results show an increase in plantings of the Chandler variety which accounted for 64 percent of non-bearing acreage. San Joaquin County shows the largest acreage planted to walnuts with 15 percent of the total acreage, followed by Tulare County with 13 percent and Stanislaus County with 11 percent.

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.

ALMOND, WALNUT, AND PRUNE ACREAGE BY COUNTY

County	ALMONDS			WALNUTS			PRUNES		
	Acres Standing in 1997 <u>a/</u>			Acres Standing in 1997 <u>b/</u>			Acres Standing in 1997 <u>c/</u>		
	Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total	Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total	Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
Alameda	0.0	0.0	0.0	94.4	0.0	94.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Amador	0.0	0.0	0.0	563.6	29.9	593.5	23.8	8.0	31.8
Butte	30,349.8	5,918.9	36,268.7	17,108.1	1,903.0	19,011.1	11,230.1	3,063.0	14,293.1
Calaveras	56.9	0.0	56.9	716.4	17.8	734.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Colusa	13,255.9	590.9	13,846.8	4,640.5	139.0	4,779.5	2,798.3	330.6	3,128.9
Contra Costa	55.7	0.4	56.1	1,034.6	68.9	1,103.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
El Dorado	0.0	0.0	0.0	260.2	0.9	261.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fresno	44,279.7	6,128.2	50,407.9	3,089.0	417.9	3,506.9	2,279.0	2,311.6	4,590.6
Glenn	16,638.3	3,286.1	19,924.4	6,020.8	1,585.0	7,605.8	8,137.0	2,027.9	10,164.9
Kern	72,670.0	15,591.1	88,261.1	1,440.2	17.5	1,457.7	101.6	219.8	321.4
Kings	2,146.7	140.7	2,287.4	5,450.1	1,137.3	6,587.4	22.1	0.0	22.1
Lake	1.4	0.0	1.4	6,364.0	93.9	6,457.9	35.0	0.0	35.0
Los Angeles	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2
Madera	35,241.3	4,094.5	39,335.8	967.7	63.1	1,030.8	914.8	946.3	1,861.1
Marin	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.3	0.0	13.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mendocino	0.0	0.0	0.0	83.5	2.9	86.4	0.5	0.0	0.5
Merced	70,826.7	8,430.5	79,257.2	5,325.4	673.1	5,998.5	2,091.6	677.7	2,769.3
Monterey	0.0	0.0	0.0	327.3	0.4	327.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Napa	0.0	0.0	0.0	192.1	29.4	221.5	27.3	0.0	27.3
Nevada	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Orange	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Placer	50.1	0.0	50.1	1,551.8	0.0	1,551.8	392.4	0.0	392.4
Riverside	9.3	0.0	9.3	39.2	0.0	39.2	0.1	0.0	0.1
Sacramento	110.3	0.0	110.3	117.1	1.7	118.8	24.1	0.0	24.1
San Benito	0.6	0.0	0.6	2,739.1	135.0	2,874.1	48.8	0.0	48.8
San Bernardino	34.9	0.0	34.9	2.9	0.0	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
San Diego	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.9	0.0	19.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
San Joaquin	30,588.4	4,444.2	35,032.6	27,143.3	3,327.1	30,470.4	119.8	0.0	119.8
San Luis Obispo	2,767.6	0.4	2,768.0	2,822.5	113.0	2,935.5	0.4	0.0	0.4
San Mateo	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Santa Barbara	0.0	0.0	0.0	753.4	13.2	766.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Santa Clara	0.2	0.0	0.2	563.0	24.0	587.0	381.2	15.6	396.8
Santa Cruz	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.0	2.5	15.7	0.0	15.7
Shasta	3.3	0.0	3.3	937.9	36.3	974.2	217.5	165.9	383.4
Solano	834.8	179.6	1,014.4	4,199.4	687.6	4,887.0	1,578.8	492.8	2,071.6
Sonoma	0.0	13.8	13.8	224.5	19.5	244.0	435.4	26.7	462.1
Stanislaus	65,765.8	10,206.5	75,972.3	19,346.0	2,986.3	22,332.3	85.8	23.2	109.0
Sutter	3,368.5	316.0	3,684.5	14,316.0	1,723.9	16,039.9	19,926.9	4,917.9	24,844.8
Tehama	5,690.8	735.1	6,425.9	11,390.8	1,124.8	12,515.6	9,350.9	2,009.5	11,360.4
Tulare	8,652.0	1,913.1	10,565.1	22,451.1	3,044.2	25,495.3	6,047.1	2,217.2	8,264.3
Tuolumne	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ventura	0.0	0.0	0.0	249.7	0.0	249.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Yolo	4,644.4	796.9	5,441.3	8,044.1	944.7	8,988.8	2,229.0	326.8	2,555.8
Yuba	1,050.0	171.6	1,221.6	6,595.3	552.1	7,147.4	10,942.3	1,558.0	12,500.3
State Total	409,094.4	62,958.5	472,052.9	177,206.1	20,913.4	198,119.5	79,457.5	21,338.5	100,796.0

a/ Non-bearing includes plantings for 1995-97.

b/ Non-bearing includes plantings of the following: Chandler, Chico, Howard, Tulare (1994-97); 50-55, 59-124, 4946, Amigo, Ashley, Bardoni, Cisco, Earhorn, Grove, Gustine, Honeycutt, Houston, Jensen, Lompoc, Marchetti, Nuggett, Payne, Pedro, Serr, Sunland, Tehama, Trinta, UCD 67-13, Vina, Westside (1993-97); Franquette, Franquette Scharsch, Mayette, Placentia, Poe, Willsons/Willsons Wonder, Woodland (1991-97); all other varieties not specified (1992-97).

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

GRAPE ACREAGE INCREASED

California's 1997 total grape acreage is reported at a record 768,903 acres. This number is up 24,117 acres from the 1996 total of 744,786 acres. Raisin type variety grapes totaled 274,563 acres, down 2,086 acres from the previous year. Raisin type varieties account for 35.7 percent of the total grape acreage. Table type grapes totaled 89,579, up 1,592 acres. Table type grapes represent 11.7 percent of the total grape acreage. Wine type grapes totaled 403,800 acres, up 25,197 acres. Wine type grapes represent 52.5 percent of the State's grape acreage. The rootstock total is 961 acres, approximately 0.1 percent of the grape acreage total.

The total California acreage planted to grapes in 1997 is 28,682 acres. This figure is 5,204 acres below the revised 1996 planted acreage. Because of a time lag in receiving information on new plantings, these 1997 numbers will be revised next year.

A comprehensive report, providing detailed data by county and variety, will be released at the end of the month.

Bearing acreage of red wine type grapes increased by 14,877 acres, while white wine bearing acres increased 2,260 acres. The largest wine bearing acreage increases occurred in Chardonnay, Merlot, and Zinfandel. Decreased bearing acreage included the Chenin Blanc and Sauvignon Blanc varieties.

Table type grape bearing acreage increased 2,105 acres. Redglobe and Red Crimson were among the varieties with the largest increase in acreage, while Flame Tokay and Emperor decreased the most.



TABLE 1 - ALL GRAPES: ACREAGE STANDING BY TYPE, BY YEAR PLANTED, CALIFORNIA

Variety	1989 and Earlier	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1997			1996 Total
										Bearing	Non-Bearing ^{1/}	Total	
----- Acres -----													
RAISIN	251,135	3,850	3,197	3,285	4,074	3,835	2,172	1,668	1,347	269,376	5,187	274,563	276,649
TABLE ^{2/}	61,251	3,203	2,808	2,723	2,523	4,020	5,622	5,091	2,338	76,528	13,051	89,579	87,987
WINE	249,621	15,555	11,595	9,943	17,476	24,276	23,708	26,961	24,665	328,466	75,334	403,800	378,603
RED	116,628	8,562	5,922	5,817	11,972	17,199	15,029	17,056	16,567	166,100	48,652	214,752	183,071
WHITE	132,993	6,993	5,673	4,126	5,504	7,077	8,679	9,905	8,098	162,366	26,682	189,048	195,532
GRAPES EXCLUDING ROOTSTOCK	562,007	22,608	17,600	15,951	24,073	32,131	31,502	33,720	28,350	674,370	93,572	767,942	743,239
ROOTSTOCK	95	26	27	4	91	45	175	166	332	0	0	961	1,547
ALL GRAPES	562,102	22,634	17,627	15,955	24,164	32,176	31,677	33,886	28,682	674,370	93,572	768,903	744,786

^{1/} Non-bearing includes plantings for 1995, 1996 and 1997. See footnote ^{2/} below.

^{2/} Table grape variety Flame Seedless begins bearing after two non-bearing years in Riverside County where drip irrigation is used.

To receive the detailed **1997 GRAPE ACREAGE BULLETIN** to be released in June 1998, please inform us by mailing a request to:

CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
P.O. Box 1258
Sacramento, CA 95812

(Include your return address.)

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CALIFORNIA ALMOND PRODUCTION

The initial forecast for 1998 California almond production is 550 million pounds. This is down 27 percent from last year's crop of 757 million pounds. Estimated bearing acreage for 1998 is 425,000. The forecast is based on calls made to a sample of almond growers from April 21-27. Responses were received from 334 growers of which 250 reports were usable. The acreage from the usable reports accounted for 19 percent of the total bearing acreage. A relatively cool, wet, and unseasonable spring hampered pollination for many producers. Growers report a large variation in set with virtually no nuts on some trees and heavy crops on others. Yields are expected to be substantially lower than last year's record crop with large variations from region to region. Because of the cool, wet weather, the crop is currently one to two weeks behind normal.

FLORIDA CITRUS COMMENTS

April was generally a very dry and windy month with only a few days of scattered rains. Growers and caretakers of groves well cared for have been irrigating throughout the month to maintain good tree condition. Bloom lingered through the first two weeks of April in most areas and was completed by the 20th of the month. New growth slowed as the dry conditions persisted in many counties. Some growers have reported abnormal post bloom fruit drop, which is caused by the wetter than normal winter months and lasting into March. Most of the accelerated droppage has been in Navels and Valencias, with some of the other types also affected to lesser degrees. Harvest of Valencia oranges has been very active during the month with most of the fruit going to the processors. Movement of all seedless grapefruit averaged just below 2.00 million boxes per week, until the last week of the month when utilization slipped to an estimated 1.30 million boxes. Caretakers have been very active cutting cover crops, applying herbicides, and post bloom spraying.

CITRUS FRUITS 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	128,000	148,000
Navel & Misc.	76,000	80,000	88,000
Valencia	40,000	48,000	60,000
Florida	406,600	452,400	496,000
Texas	1,880	2,840	3,140
Arizona	3,300	2,000	2,000
ALL U.S. ORANGES	527,780	585,240	649,140
GRAPEFRUIT: 2/			
California	16,200	16,400	18,000
Florida	104,700	111,600	98,000
Texas	9,100	10,600	9,200
Arizona	2,400	1,800	1,600
ALL U.S. GRAPEFRUIT	132,400	140,400	126,800
LEMONS: 3/			
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: 4/			
California 5/	5,200	5,200	4,800
Florida	9,000	12,600	10,500
Arizona	2,000	1,100	1,000
ALL U.S. TANGERINES	16,200	18,900	16,300

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

2/ Arizona, 1 carton=32 lbs.; California, 1 carton = 33.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 40 lbs.

3/ All, 1 carton = 38 lbs.

4/ California and Arizona, 1 carton = 37.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 47.5 lbs.

5/ Includes tangelos, tangerines, and tangors.