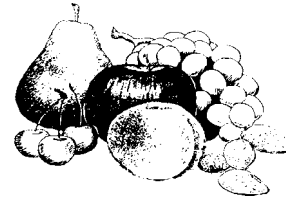


California Fruit & Nut Review



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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

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FLORIDA CITRUS

Temperatures during the month were above normal in all areas of Florida's citrus belt. On some days, a lot of groves recorded temperatures in the upper 80's. Rainfall was just about average with some citrus counties showing above the normal range for the first month of the year. Around the middle of January, Palm Beach County was hit by a tropical storm that dumped five or more inches on some of the agricultural acreage, however due to the dry conditions that prevailed at the time the soil absorbed the abundant moisture. The warm tropical weather started a lot of the citrus trees growing and pushing out pinhead bloom buds, which are very vulnerable to frost or freezing weather. Very little open bloom is showing at this time. Harvesting crews have been very active during the month moving all types of early and mid-season fruit to both the processors and the fresh fruit packing houses.

JANUARY CROP COMMENTS

Growers were busy with normal winter cultural activities during January such as weed control, fertilizing, dormant spraying, pruning, and shredding brush. By the end of the month, fruit buds in almond trees were swelling as bloom neared. After the late December freeze in the San Joaquin Valley, citrus growers in early January adopted a "wait and see" attitude for their crop prospects. By the end of the month, some Navel oranges were picked for fresh use, but many had to go to juice. Lemons in the freeze area were virtually all lost, but the grapefruit survived. Valencia oranges are still green with picking not scheduled until spring. Growers will see then how much is pickable. Citrus growers in Southern California did not suffer any freeze damage and were active picking their fruit.

CALIFORNIA CITRUS CROPS FORECAST MONTHS, 1998-99 CROP SEASON

CROPS	SEPT.	OCT.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY.	JUNE	JULY
Grapefruit		X		X			X			X
Lemons		X		X			X			X
Oranges, Navel	<u>1/</u>			X			X			X
Oranges, Valencia		X		X			X			X
Tangerines		X		X			X			

1/ Navel Objective Measurement tentative release September 10, 1999.

CALIFORNIA NON CITRUS CROPS FORECAST MONTHS, 1999 CROP SEASON

CROPS	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPT.	OCT.	END OF YEAR
Apples				X			X
Apricots		X	X				X
Avocados							X
Cherries		X					X
Dates							X
Figs							X
Grapes, Raisin			X	<u>1/</u>			X
Grapes, Table			X	X			X
Grapes, Wine			X	X			X
Kiwifruit							X
Nectarines							X
Olives				<u>2/</u>			X
Peaches, Clingstone		X	X				X
Peaches, Freestone		X	X				X
Pears, Bartlett		X		X			X
Pears, Other				X			X
Plums							X
Prunes		<u>3/</u>					X
Almonds	X	<u>4/</u>					X
Pecans					X		X
Pistachios				<u>5/</u>			X
Walnuts					<u>6/</u>		X

1/ Raisin Objective Measurement released August 12, 1999.

2/ Olive Probability Survey released August 12, 1999.

3/ Prune Probability Survey released June 4, 1999.

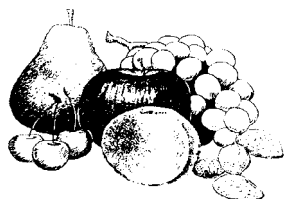
4/ Almond Objective Measurement tentative release June 25, 1999.

5/ Pistachio Objective Measurement tentative release August 27, 1999.

6/ Walnut Objective Measurement tentative release September 3, 1999.

CALIFORNIA NUTS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, PRICE, AND VALUE, 1997-98

Crop	Year	Acreage		Production		Value of Utilized Production	
		Bearing	Non-Bearing	Per Bearing Acre	Total	Grower Return	Total Value
				<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Dollars/Pound</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
Almonds, Shelled	1997	442,000	N/A	1,720.00	759.0	1.56	1,160,640
	1998	454,000	N/A	1,150.00	520.0	1.80	898,200
Pistachios, In-Shell	1997	65,400	N/A	2,750.00	180.0	1.13	203,400
	1998	65,900	N/A	2,850.00	188.0	0.99	186,120
Pecans, In-Shell	1997	2,600	N/A	1,154.00	3.0	1.32	3,960
	1998	2,600	N/A	692.00	1.8	1.32	2,376
				<i>Tons</i>	<i>Thousand Tons</i>	<i>Dollars/Ton</i>	
Walnuts, In-Shell	1997	193,000	N/A	1.39	269.0	1,430.00	384,670
	1998	193,000	N/A	1.18	227.0	N/A	N/A

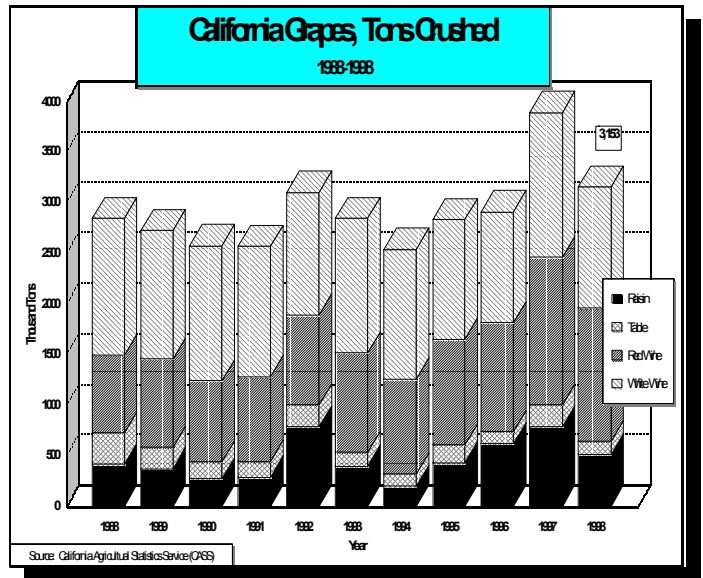
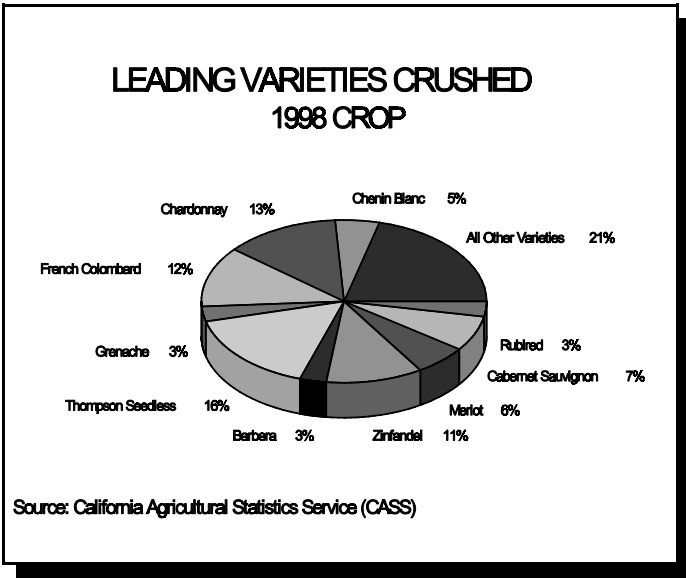


CALIFORNIA NON-CITRUS FRUITS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, PRICE AND VALUE, 1997-98

Crop	Year	Acreage		Production		Value of Utilized Production	
		Bearing	Non-Bearing	Per Bearing Acre	Total	Price Per Ton	Total Value
				<i>Tons</i>	<i>Thousand Tons</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
Apples	1997	38,500	N/A	12.50	481.0	338.00	162,655
	1998	37,600	N/A	10.65	400.0	332.00	133,150
Apricots	1997	20,000	N/A	6.60	132.0	308.00	37,673
	1998	19,500	N/A	5.79	113.0	311.00	31,895
Avocados	96-97	59,900	N/A	2.79	167.0	1,560.00	260,162
	97-98	59,900	N/A	2.57	154.0	1,710.00	263,473
Sweet Cherries	1997	17,000	N/A	2.89	49.2	1,290.00	63,375
	1998	17,500	N/A	0.88	15.4	1,560.00	23,978
Dates	1997	4,800	N/A	4.38	21.0	1,100.00	23,100
	1998	4,900	N/A	4.53	22.2	1,130.00	25,086
Figs	1997	16,400	N/A	3.51	57.5	265.00	15,209
	1998	16,600	N/A	2.42	40.2	241.00	9,687
Grapes, All	1997	725,000	N/A	9.17	6,648.0	434.00	2,882,760
	1998	753,000	N/A	6.73	5,065.0	448.00	2,269,910
Raisin Type	1997	270,000	N/A	10.68	2,883.0	262.00	756,405
	1998	270,000	N/A	7.26	1,960.0	276.00	541,840
Table Type	1997	81,000	N/A	10.19	825.0	448.00	369,420
	1998	83,000	N/A	7.29	605.0	484.00	292,920
Wine Type	1997	374,000	N/A	7.86	2,940.0	598.00	1,756,935
	1998	400,000	N/A	6.25	2,500.0	574.00	1,435,150
Kiwifruit	1997	5,300	N/A	6.60	35.0	518.00	16,483
	1998	5,300	N/A	6.53	34.6	N/A	N/A
Nectarines	1997	36,000	N/A	7.33	264.0	375.00	98,895
	1998	36,500	N/A	6.30	230.0	472.00	108,502
Olives	1997	35,300	N/A	2.95	104.0	642.00	66,801
	1998	35,300	N/A	2.55	90.0	448.00	40,346
Peaches, All ^{1/}	1997	66,200	N/A	14.30	943.5	253.00	232,937
	1998	66,500	N/A	13.17	875.8	260.00	225,988
Clingstone ^{2/}	1997	31,000	N/A	18.50	574.0	260.00	143,000
	1998	30,400	N/A	17.15	522.1	220.00	113,377
Freestone	1997	35,200	N/A	10.50	369.5	244.00	89,937
	1998	36,100	N/A	9.80	353.7	318.00	112,611
Pears, All	1997	20,000	N/A	15.60	312.0	273.00	85,184
	1998	19,300	N/A	14.90	288.0	270.00	77,632
Bartlett	1997	15,600	N/A	18.10	282.0	263.00	74,054
	1998	15,000	N/A	17.20	258.0	250.00	64,552
Other Than Bartlett	1997	4,400	N/A	6.82	30.0	371.00	11,130
	1998	4,300	N/A	6.98	30.0	436.00	13,080
Plums	1997	42,000	N/A	5.86	246.0	312.00	76,825
	1998	42,000	N/A	4.45	187.0	529.00	98,858
Prunes, Dried Basis	1997	82,000	N/A	2.61	214.0	798.00	163,590
	1998	81,000	N/A	1.33	108.0	N/A	N/A

^{1/} All peach price is weighted average of Freestone price and Clingstone grower return by utilized production. See footnote ^{2/}.

^{2/} The price published is the grower return and used to calculate value using utilized production.



PRELIMINARY GRAPE CRUSH REPORT

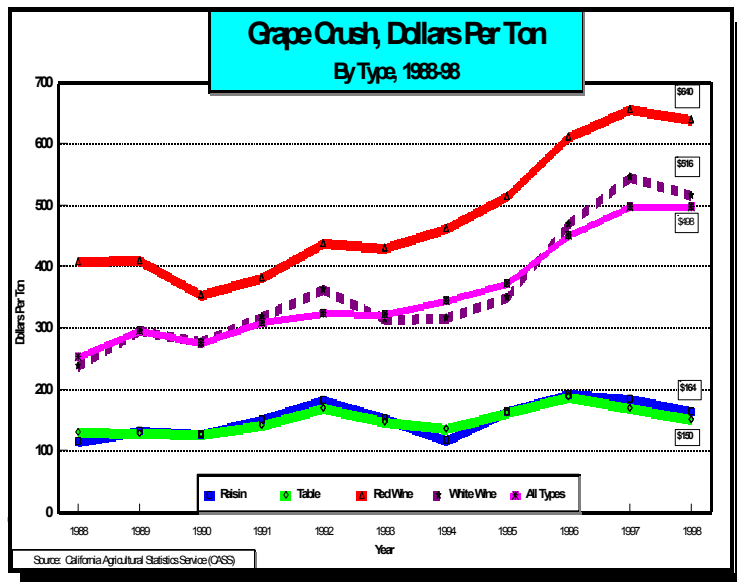
The 1998 crush totaled 3,152,654 tons, down approximately 19 percent from the 1997 record high crush of 3,891,403 tons. Red wine varieties accounted for the largest share of all grapes crushed, at 1,321,877 tons, down 10 percent from 1997. The 1998 white wine variety crush totaled 1,189,265 tons, down 17 percent from 1997. Tons crushed for raisin type varieties totaled 506,095, down 36 percent from 1997, while tons crushed for table type varieties totaled 135,417, down 36 percent from 1997. (See chart below.)

California grape growers received prices in 1998 that were generally below the record 1997 prices. Average prices for the 1998 crop were as follows: red wine grapes, \$639.64, down 2 percent from 1997; white wine grapes, \$515.90, down 5 percent; and raisin grapes, \$164.09, down 11 percent. These price levels have not been adjusted for inflation.

Thompson Seedless, a raisin grape variety, continued to account for the largest percentage of crush volume, 16 percent. Chardonnay again accounted for 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 \$1,903.25 per ton, up 11 percent from 1997. District 3 (Sonoma and Marin counties) received the second highest return of \$1,732.44, up 10 percent from 1997. Of the grapes grown Statewide, the top five varieties receiving the highest average price were all wine grape varieties. Petit Verdot received the highest average price of \$2,108.16 per ton. Tannat received the second highest average price of \$1,917.23 ¹/_{per ton} followed by Teroldego with \$1,828.90 ¹/_{per ton}, Freisa at \$1,650.00 ¹/_{per ton} and Pinot Noir at \$1,627.41 per ton. The 1998 Chardonnay price of \$1,083.06 was down 7 percent from 1997, while the 1998 Cabernet Sauvignon price of \$1,179.94 was down slightly from 1997. The 1998 average price for Zinfandel grapes dropped to \$458.39, 9 percent lower than 1997, and 44 percent lower than the 1988 high average price of \$817.48.

¹/ These purchases involved less than 100 tons.



**CITRUS FRUIT PRODUCTION
1996-97, 1997-98 And 1998-99 Forecast, By State and U.S.**

Crop & State	1996-97	1997-98	Forecast 1998-99
ORANGES: 1/	--- 1,000 Cartons ---		
California, All	128,000	148,000	76,000
Navel & Misc.	80,000	88,000	38,000
Valencia	48,000	60,000	38,000
Florida	452,400	488,000	388,000
Texas	2,840	3,050	2,880
Arizona	2,000	2,000	2,000
ALL U.S. ORANGES	585,240	641,050	468,880
GRAPEFRUIT: 2/			
California	16,400	18,000	16,000
Florida	111,600	99,100	100,000
Texas	10,600	9,600	10,000
Arizona	1,800	1,600	1,400
ALL U.S. GRAPEFRUIT	140,400	128,300	127,400
LEMONS: 3/			
California	45,200	44,000	36,000
Arizona	5,200	5,200	6,400
ALL U.S. LEMONS	50,400	49,200	42,400
TANGERINES: 4/			
California 5/	5,200	4,800	3,200
Florida	12,600	10,400	9,200
Arizona	1,100	1,200	1,400
ALL U.S. TANGERINES	18,900	16,400	13,800

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

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

3/ LEMONS: All, 1 carton = 38 lbs.

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

5/ Includes tangelos, tangerines, and tangors.

The 1998 **PRELIMINARY CALIFORNIA GRAPE CRUSH REPORT** is now available to GRAPE GROWERS free of charge. All others may obtain a copy by calling the California Agricultural Statistics Service at (916) 498-5177 or by writing to P.O. Box 1258, Sacramento, CA 95812. Please enclose a check for \$10.00 -- made payable to the Cashier, Department of Food and Agriculture.



The 1998 **FINAL GRAPE CRUSH REPORT** will be available on March 10, 1999 to GRAPE GROWERS free of charge. All others may obtain a copy (book or diskette) by calling the California Agricultural Statistics Service at (916) 498-5177 or by writing to P.O. Box 1258, Sacramento, CA 95812. Please enclose a check for \$10.00 (book) or \$20.00 (diskette) -- made payable to the Cashier, Department of Food and Agriculture. When ordering a diskette (3.5), please specify file format (WordPerfect 8, Spreadsheet, or DOS Text) on the order.

Both the **PRELIMINARY AND FINAL GRAPE CRUSH REPORTS** will be available on the Internet at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ca> under CASS Publications.