

# California Fruit & Nut Review



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early apple varieties began in late July. Some apple trees were treated for codling moth. Olive trees were maturing well. Bartlett pear harvest began in the Sacramento River Delta area and by month's end approximately one-fourth of the crop had been picked. Asian pear harvest was active in the San Joaquin Valley. Almond tree limbs continued to be supported to bear the heavy nut set. By early August, growers were preparing for harvest. Pistachio trees were treated with fungicides, while walnut orchards were treated for blight. Harvest activity has slowed considerably due to competition in the marketplace from other fruit. Some Valencia oranges and lemons in Southern California were picked. Maturity of new crop Navel oranges was progressing.

## JULY GENERAL COMMENTS

Picking of stone fruits continued throughout July with good quality reported. The harvest of grapes for fresh use was completed in the Coachella Valley and began in the San Joaquin Valley. Perlette, Flame Seedless, and Thompson Seedless are major varieties currently being picked. Recent warm days and cool nights have enhanced the quality for all grapes. Harvest of

## FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent Change	Next 1999 Crop Update
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999		
<b>NUT CROPS</b>	Acres		Pounds		1,000 Pounds			
Almonds (Shelled)	460,000	475,000	1,130	1,600	520,000	830,000	60	January 2000
Pecans	2,600	---	692	---	1,800	---		September 10, 1999
Pistachio (In-Shell)								
Marketable In-Shell	---	---	---	---	138,000	---		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	50,000	---		
Total	65,900	---	2,850	---	188,000	---		September 3, 1999
Walnuts (In-Shell)	193,000	---	1.18	---	227.0	---		September 3, 1999
			Tons		1,000 Tons			
<b>FRUIT CROPS</b>								
Apples	37,000	35,000	11.00	11.80	407.5	412.5	1	January 2000
Apricots	20,000	19,000	5.65	6.58	113.0	125.0	11	January 2000
Cherries	17,500	17,500	0.88	2.86	15.0	50.0	233	January 2000
Grapes, Raisin	275,000	275,000	7.85	8.18	2,158.0	2,250.0	4	October 8, 1999
Grapes, Table	83,000	85,000	7.78	8.82	645.0	750.0	16	October 8, 1999
Grapes, Wine	385,000	410,000	6.68	7.32	2,570.0	2,900.0	13	October 8, 1999
Grapes, All	743,000	770,000	7.23	7.66	5,373.0	5,900.0	10	October 8, 1999
Olives	35,300	35,300	2.55	3.54	90.0	125.0	39	January 2000
Peaches, Clingstone	30,400	29,800	17.19	18.46	522.5	550.0	5	January 2000
Peaches, Freestone	36,100	37,000	9.80	9.32	355.0	345.0	-3	January 2000
Pears, Bartlett	15,000	15,000	17.20	19.00	277.0	285.0	3	January 2000
Pears, Other	4,300	4,300	6.98	6.98	30.0	30.0	N/C	January 2000
Prunes (Dried Weight)	83,000	83,000	1.30	2.17	108.0	180.0	67	January 2000
<b>BERRIES</b>	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999		
			Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.			
Strawberries	24,200	24,700	580	600	14,040	14,820	6	December 10, 1999
<b>CITRUS CROP <sup>1/</sup></b>	1997-98	1998-99	1997-98	1998-99	1997-98	1998-99		
			Cartons		1,000 Cartons			
Grapefruit, All	16,800	16,600	1,072	1,024	18,000	17,000	-6	September 23, 1999
Lemons	48,700	48,500	904	742	44,000	36,000	-18	September 23, 1999
Oranges, Navel	123,000	125,000	716	272	88,000	34,000	-61	September 10, 1999
Oranges, Valencia	73,200	72,000	683	472	50,000	34,000	-32	September 23, 1999
Tangerines <sup>2/</sup>	8,800	8,600	546	395	4,800	3,400	-29	September 23, 1999

<sup>1/</sup> Grapefruit - 33.5 lbs. per carton, Lemons - 38.0 lbs. per carton, Oranges - 37.5 lbs. per carton, Tangerines - 37.5 lbs. per carton.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes tangelos, tangerines and tangors.

**Apples** - Yield for 1999 is forecast to be 23,600 pounds per acre, up 7 percent from last year. Production is forecast at 825 million pounds, 1 percent above 1998. California's cool spring caused harvest of early apple varieties to begin about ten days later than normal. No major disruptions have occurred caused by extreme weather, such as rain, wind, storm, or hail. Thus, growers are expecting an extremely clean crop, with fruit sizes slightly larger than last year.

**Grapes** - Wine type variety grape production for California is forecast at 2.90 million tons, up 13 percent from 1998. The wine grape crop is progressing well with good maturity. Growers are expecting a good quality crop due to recent warm days and cool nights. The table type grape production is expected to total 750,000 tons, up 16 percent from last year. The California raisin type variety grape forecast is 2.25 million tons, up 4 percent from last year.

**Pears** - The forecast of the 1999 Bartlett pear crop in California is 285,000 tons, up 3 percent from 1998. The Bartlett pear harvest is well underway in the Sacramento area with approximately one-fourth of the crop picked. Good quality and fruit size are reported. The production of other pears is expected to be 30,000 tons, unchanged from 1998.

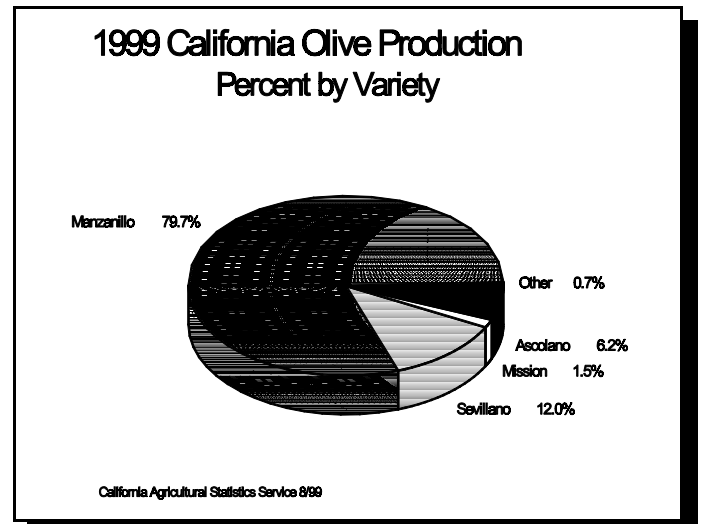
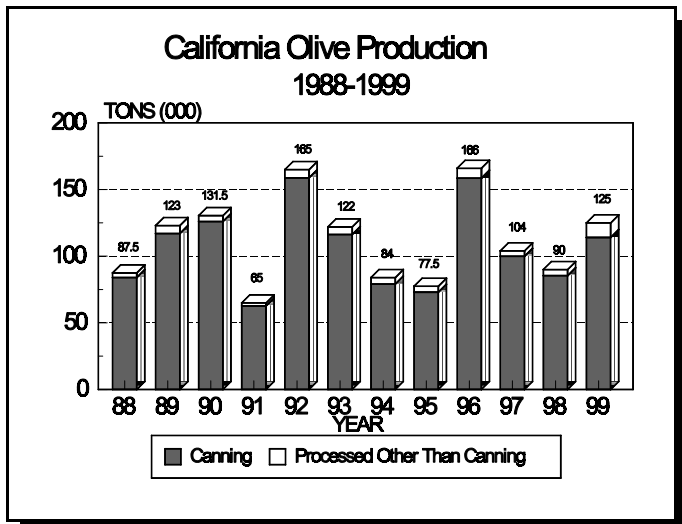
**FLORIDA CITRUS**

Most areas of Florida's citrus belt were drier than normal during July. A few counties had above average rainfall during the month. However, most caretakers were running their irrigation at the end of the month to maintain good tree condition. The hotter than normal temperatures and high humidity have helped generate an abundance of new growth on trees of all ages. New crop fruits of varying sizes from the prolonged bloom are making good progress in the well cared for groves. Caretakers are cutting cover crops to minimize surface moisture use. Spraying, fertilizing, and pushing out dead trees continue in all areas.

**1999 CALIFORNIA OLIVE FORECAST**

The 1999 olive crop is forecast at 125,000 tons, up 39 percent from the 1998 production of 90,000 tons. Bearing acres are estimated at 35,300. Due to good weather conditions during the bloom and pollination periods, most growers expect a large crop with good quality. Damage from the freeze has been minimal. Thus far, fruit size appears to be normal in most orchards. The Manzanillo variety has about 80 percent of the total production. Growers expect the Manzanillo variety yield to increase about

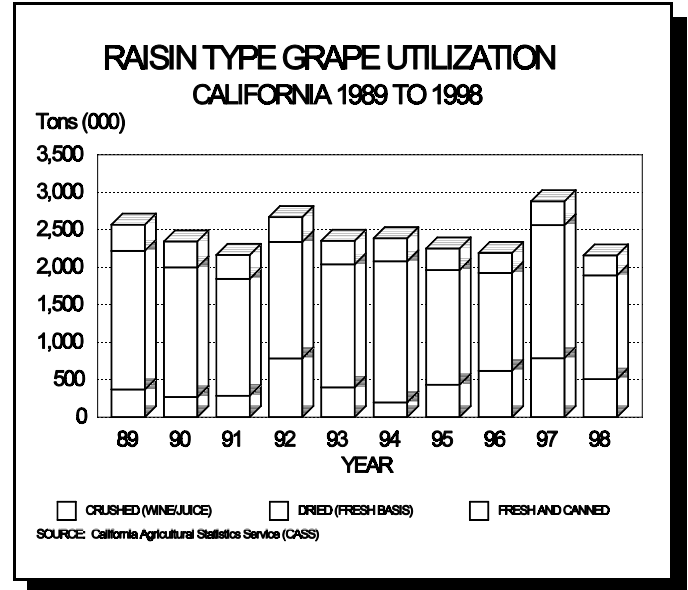
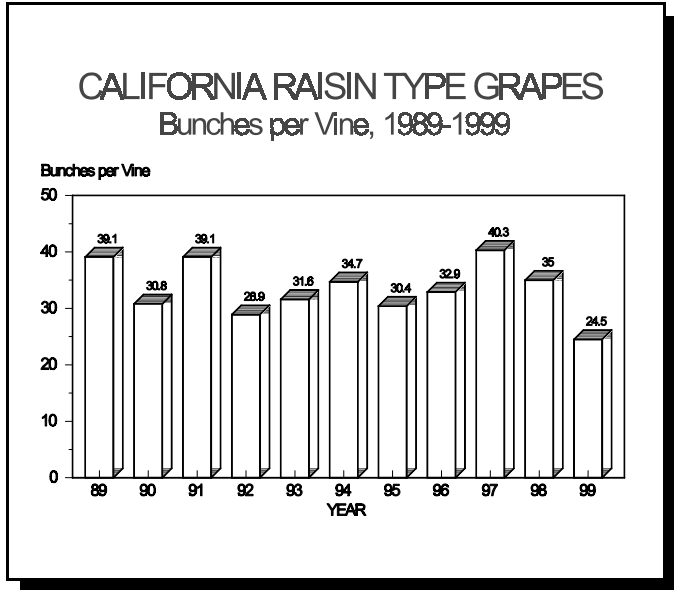
39 percent from last year's yield. Growers expect the yield of Sevillano and Ascolano varieties, which account for about 18 percent of production, to increase by 7 percent and 24 percent, respectively. Growers estimate 91 percent of their olives will be used for canning purposes. This results in a canning olive production of about 114,000 tons.



**RAISIN TYPE GRAPE PRODUCTION UP**

The California raisin type variety grape forecast is 2.25 million tons, up 4 percent from last year. Based on the objective measurement survey, bunches per vine totaled 24.5 compared to 35.0 recorded in 1998. This is the lowest bunch count since the Raisin Grape Objective Measurement (O.M.) Survey was reinstated in 1985. Conversely, the bunch sizes are the largest.

The acreage harvested will be 275 thousand, equal to last year's. Thompson Seedless variety grapes are currently being picked for fresh use in the San Joaquin Valley. Good quality was reported due to warm days and cool nights.



**CALIFORNIA RAISIN GRAPE OBJECTIVE MEASUREMENT SURVEY RESULTS AND OFFICIAL ESTIMATES, 1989-99**

Year	Vines Sampled	Average Bunches Per Vine	Normal Bunches Measured	Average Normal Bunch			Official Estimate		
				Length	Width	Thickness	Bearing 1/	Yield Per Acre 1/	Production
				mm			Acres	Tons	1,000 Tons
1989	285	39.1	1,248	215	110	86	271,000	9.48	2,570
1990	319	30.8	1,202	212	113	91	270,000	8.69	2,345
1991	346	28.9	1,165	217	105	87	266,000	8.80	2,165
1992	317	39.8	1,443	230	116	95	267,000	10.50	2,670
1993	248	31.6	952	222	106	91	266,000	9.57	2,354
1994	330	34.7	1,342	229	105	85	270,000	8.85	2,389
1995	294	30.4	1,054	227	113	87	268,000	9.27	2,252
1996	362	32.9	1,396	217	102	85	270,000	8.12	2,192
1997	376	40.3	1,763	235	104	87	270,000	10.70	2,883
1998	313	35.0	1,245	203	99	82	275,000	7.85	2,158
1999	303	24.5	863	242	120	94	275,000	8.18	2,250

1/ The following acreage was enrolled in the Raisin Industry Diversion (RID) Program in the year specified: 1991, 20,000 acres; 1992, 12,500 acres; 1993, 20,000 acres; 1995, 25,000 acres. These acres were deducted from bearing acres for yield calculations.

**GRAPE PRODUCTION FORECAST FOR SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES, 1997-99**

Crop and State	1997	1998	Forecast 1999
	Tons		
California: All Varieties	6,648,000	5,373,000	5,900,000
California: Raisin Varieties	2,883,000	2,158,000	2,250,000
California: Table Varieties	825,000	645,000	750,000
California: Wine Varieties	2,940,000	2,570,000	2,900,000
Michigan	61,000	70,400	65,000
New York	139,000	128,000	186,000
Pennsylvania	61,000	54,000	71,000
Washington	319,000	222,000	285,000
Other States 1/	62,900	55,550	49,900
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>7,290,900</b>	<b>5,902,950</b>	<b>6,556,900</b>

1/ Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, and South Carolina.