

# California Fruit & Nut Review



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grapes suffered no damage. Wine grape harvest was also active. Stone fruit harvest was winding down by late September. Bartlett pear harvest was completed in early September, but Asian and other pear varieties continue to be picked. Apple harvest was active with Granny Smith the primary variety picked in September. Almond, pistachio, and walnut harvests were active during the month. Fall strawberries were picked in the San Joaquin Valley. The new crop Navel oranges were maturing well. Harvest is expected to begin by mid-October in the Edison area of Kern County. Picking of Valencia oranges was active in Southern California with good quality reported. A few lemons are being picked in the south coast area. Quality has varied. In the central valley, quality is fair with slight decay. Quality is reported to be excellent in the desert area. Grapefruit picking was active. The tangerine harvest should begin by mid-October. The crop was maturing well.

## SEPTEMBER CROP COMMENTS

Crop harvesting dominated growers' activities in September. Picking of grapes for fresh use was active during September. Major varieties that were picked included Red Globe, Flame Seedless, Ruby Seedless, Crimson Seedless, and Thompson Seedless. For raisins, one-fourth of the crop is on open trays, one-half rolled, and one-fourth picked up. A few scattered showers occurred the third week of September, but the

## FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent Change	Next Crop Update
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999		
<b>NUT CROPS</b>	Acres		Pounds		1,000 Pounds			
Almonds (Shelled)	460,000	480,000	1,130	1,730	520,000	830,000	60	January 2000
Pecans	2,600	2,600	654	885	1,700	2,300	35	January 2000
Pistachios (In-Shell)								
Marketable In-Shell	---	---	---	---	138,000	---		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	50,000	---		
Total	65,900	68,000	2,850	1,620	188,000	110,000	-41	January 2000
			Tons		1,000 Tons			
Walnuts (In-Shell)	193,000	193,000	1.18	1.45	227.0	280.0	23	January 2000
<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	January 2000
Grapes, Table	83,000	85,000	7.77	8.82	645.0	750.0	16	January 2000
Grapes, Wine	385,000	410,000	6.68	7.07	2,570.0	2,900.0	13	January 2000
Grapes, All	743,000	770,000	7.23	7.66	5,373.0	5,900.0	10	January 2000
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		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	Dec. 10, 1999
<b>CITRUS CROP <sup>1/</sup></b>	1998-99	1999-00	1998-99	1999-00	1998-99	1999-00		
			Cartons		1,000 Cartons			
Grapefruit	16,600	16,600	904	964	15,000	16,000	7	January 2000
Lemons	48,500	48,500	668	845	32,400	41,000	27	January 2000
Oranges, Navel	128,000	130,000	328	616	42,000	80,000	91	January 2000
Oranges, Valencia	73,500	73,500	462	735	34,000	54,000	59	January 2000
Tangerines <sup>2/</sup>	8,600	8,600	348	535	3,000	4,600	53	January 2000

<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.

### CALIFORNIA CITRUS

**Oranges:** This year's orange crop is forecast at 134 million cartons, up 76 percent. California's Navel orange forecast is 80.0 million cartons, up 90 percent. Picking of early-season Navel orange varieties is expected to begin in the Edison area of Kern County by mid-October. After the devastating freeze in the San Joaquin Valley (90 percent of State's Navel acreage) last December, the trees have bounced back with a good set, but small sized fruit. California Valencia oranges are up 59 percent with 54.0 million cartons. Picking of the 1998-99 crop was active in Southern California. Overall, good quality was reported, but with some wind scar, puff, and crease.

**Grapefruit:** The grapefruit crop is forecast at 16.0 million cartons, up 7 percent from last season. Harvest of this season's grapefruit will be getting underway shortly, while the 1998-99 season harvest is winding down. The fruit from the Ventura County area has been running from heavy to choice with good color and exterior blush. Rubies from the Central Valley were reported slightly smaller, but with fewer defects. The cooler weather from La Nina has produced firm, but smaller fruit. Sizes are peaking on 40's, 36's, 32's, and 10's. Although color and eating quality are good, defects include sheep nose, thrip, and sunburn.

**Lemons:** The lemon crop forecast is 41.0 million cartons, up 27 percent from last season. In the south coast region, minimal amounts are currently being harvested. Fruit quality has varied widely from lot to lot. Quality is fair in the central valley with slight decay in some lots. Fruit quality is excellent in the desert area. Statewide, defects include wind scar, botrytis bumps, tip, and picking injuries.

**Tangerines:** California's tangerine production is 4.60 million cartons, up 53 percent from last season. The crop was maturing well with average quality reported. Harvest should begin in mid-October.

### CITRUS FRUIT PRODUCTION BY STATE AND U.S.

Crop and State	1997-98	1998-99	Forecast 1999-00
	1,000 Cartons		
<b>ORANGES: <u>1/</u></b>			
California, All	138,000	76,000	134,000
Navel & Misc.	88,000	42,000	80,000
Valencia	50,000	34,000	54,000
Florida	488,000	371,400	422,000
Texas	3,050	2,860	3,200
Arizona	2,000	2,300	1,800
U.S. TOTAL	631,050	452,560	561,000
<b>GRAPEFRUIT: <u>2/</u></b>			
California, All <u>3/</u>	16,000	15,000	16,000
Florida	99,100	94,100	100,000
Texas	9,600	12,200	11,000
Arizona	1,600	1,500	1,300
U.S. TOTAL	126,300	122,800	128,300
<b>LEMONS: <u>4/</u></b>			
California	42,000	32,400	41,000
Arizona	5,200	6,900	7,800
U.S. TOTAL	47,200	39,300	48,800
<b>TANGERINES: <u>5/</u></b>			
California <u>6/</u>	4,800	3,000	4,600
Florida	10,400	9,900	12,800
Arizona	1,200	1,900	1,400
U.S. TOTAL	16,400	14,800	18,800

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 Desert and other Area Grapefruit forecasts combined to all Grapefruit beginning in 95-96.

4 LEMONS: 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.

### FLORIDA CITRUS

Rainfall during the month of September was generally above normal. Many of Florida's citrus producing counties reported surplus moisture conditions with some standing water by the end of the month. Hurricane Floyd, Tropical Depression Harvey, and several heavy downpours accounted for the wet month. The big rains did help produce an abundance of new growth on trees of all ages. However, due to excessive moisture, there is an increase in fruit splitting in some groves. New crop fruit is making good progress considering the varying bloom from this

past spring. Maturity is lagging in most crops. However, there are a few fresh fruit packing houses shipping early bloom white and colored grapefruit, Navels, Fall Glo hybrids, and some Amber Sweet oranges. Caretakers have been very active trying to keep up with the mowing, chopping, and discing of cover crops. Growers in most areas have completed their fall fertilizing. Spraying for fresh crops continue. Pushing and burning of dead trees has been reported in most of the larger groves.

**CALIFORNIA GRAPES**

Production of all grape varieties for the 1999 season is forecast at 5.90 million tons, up 10 percent from last season. Raisin-type grapes are 2.25 million tons, up 4 percent, while table grapes are forecast at 750 thousand tons, up 16 percent. Wine-type grapes are forecast at 2.90 million tons, up 13 percent. Picking of Thompson Seedless variety grapes for fresh use, wine crush, and raisin lay were still active in late September. Harvest of the wine-type variety grapes is active with good quality reported. Picking of table-type grapes in the San Joaquin Valley was active with good quality reported. Major varieties picked included Red Globe, Flame Seedless, Ruby Seedless, and Crimson Seedless.

**FRUIT PRODUCTION**

Crop and State	1997	1998	1999 Forecast
	Tons		
<b>APPLES</b>			
California	481,000	407,500	412,500
Idaho	55,000	85,000	45,000
Michigan	500,000	485,000	550,000
New York	560,000	535,000	615,000
North Carolina	76,000	92,500	85,000
Ohio	30,000	40,000	50,000
Oregon	80,000	90,000	80,000
Pennsylvania	267,500	197,500	245,000
Virginia	135,000	140,000	180,000
Washington	2,500,000	3,200,000	2,600,500
West Virginia	57,500	55,000	65,000
Other States <sup>1/</sup>	419,900	366,200	382,400
<b>U.S. TOTAL</b>	<b>5,161,900</b>	<b>5,693,700</b>	<b>5,307,400</b>
<b>GRAPES</b>			
California: All	6,648,000	5,373,000	5,900,000
Raisin	2,883,000	2,158,000	2,250,000
Table	825,000	645,000	750,000
Wine	2,940,000	2,570,000	2,900,000
Arizona	25,000	23,000	8,000
Michigan	61,000	70,400	68,000
New York	139,000	128,000	189,000
Pennsylvania	61,000	54,000	73,000
Washington	319,000	222,000	275,000
Other States <sup>2/</sup>	37,900	32,550	41,900
<b>U.S. TOTAL</b>	<b>7,290,900</b>	<b>5,902,950</b>	<b>6,554,900</b>

<sup>1/</sup> 1997-98: AZ, AR, CO, CT, GA, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, ME, MD, MA, MN, MO, NH, NJ, NM, RI, SC, TN, UT, VT, and WI.

1999: New Mexico forecast discontinued.

<sup>2/</sup> AR, GA, MO, NC, OH, OR, and SC.

**Cash Income by Commodity Groups, 1996-98**

Source of Income	1996	1997	1998
	\$1,000		
<b>FRUIT &amp; NUT CROPS</b>			
Almonds	1,018,368	1,160,640	698,600
Apples	151,269	167,613	129,781
Apricots	30,663	37,673	31,895
Avocados	237,033	260,971	252,763
Berries, Bushberries	30,968	25,367	33,456
Berries, Strawberries	584,860	686,418	782,923
Cherries	45,430	63,375	23,978
Dates	23,301	23,574	24,609
Figs	12,894	15,209	12,579
Grapefruit	58,197	32,241	63,877
Grapes	2,187,737	2,875,672	2,414,420
Kiwifruit	13,157	16,483	24,544
Lemons	218,269	231,392	227,592
Nectarines	116,977	98,895	108,502
Olives	102,422	66,768	41,309
Oranges, Navel & Miscellaneous	299,726	375,875	322,786
Oranges, Valencia	255,850	274,286	264,098
Peaches, Clingstone	114,510	143,000	113,377
Peaches, Freestone	146,306	89,937	113,146
Pears	89,728	86,881	80,347
Pecans	1,079	3,960	2,822
Pistachios	121,800	203,400	193,640
Plums	95,831	76,825	98,845
Prunes	187,676	175,484	125,314

Source of Income	1996	1997	1998
	\$1,000		
Tangerines	29,196	34,288	18,888
Walnuts	328,640	384,670	229,270
Other Fruits & Nuts	81,872	105,225	85,300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,583,759</b>	<b>7,716,122</b>	<b>6,518,661</b>
<b>VEGETABLE CROPS</b>	<b>5,541,127</b>	<b>6,191,626</b>	<b>5,909,396</b>
<b>FIELD CROPS</b>	<b>2,979,149</b>	<b>3,359,052</b>	<b>2,863,573</b>
<b>NURSERY &amp; GREENHOUSE PROD.</b>	<b>2,281,327</b>	<b>2,550,199</b>	<b>2,468,541</b>
<b>CHRISTMAS TREES</b>	<b>12,491</b>	<b>10,469</b>	<b>11,000</b>
<b>LIVESTOCK &amp; POULTRY PROD.</b>	<b>6,125,111</b>	<b>6,309,659</b>	<b>6,845,071</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH INCOME FROM MARKETINGS</b>	<b>23,522,964</b>	<b>26,137,127</b>	<b>24,616,242</b>
<b>FARM RELATED INCOME</b>	<b>1,629,094</b>	<b>1,504,578</b>	<b>1,277,814</b>
<b>GROSS CASH INCOME FROM FARMING <sup>1/</sup></b>	<b>25,152,058</b>	<b>27,641,705</b>	<b>25,894,056</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Includes value of home consumption, value of inventory adjustments, machine hire and custom work, forest products sold, rental value of farm dwelling, government payments, and other miscellaneous farm income.

Source: USDA Economic Research Service