

California Fruit & Nut Review



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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

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Freestone peach harvest continued with Queencrest, Crown Princess, and Crimson Lady varieties picked. Excellent quality was reported. The Clingstone peach crop is maturing well. Fruit set is reported heavy, but fruit size is reported small. Overall, the crop is reported in good condition. Bartlett pear maturity is normal for June 1. Fruit size is good, but tree set is reported down. Strawberry harvest was active in the San Joaquin Valley, but rain showers hurt part of the crop. Almond growers were tying limbs that were breaking due to a heavy set. The Navel orange harvest was virtually complete by June 1. Valencia orange and lemon picking was active throughout the citrus growing areas. Grapefruit harvest was active in the San Joaquin Valley. New crop blooms and fruit set were developing on the citrus trees.

MAY CROP COMMENTS

Picking of many fruit crops began during May. Table grapes for fresh use were picked in the Coachella Valley with good quality reported. Major varieties harvested included Flame Seedless and Perlettes. In other areas of the State, growers applied sulfur for mildew control. Cherry picking was active, but some early varieties were hurt by scattered rain showers. Harvest of later varieties was doing well. Apricot picking was active with Katy the primary variety. Fruit size is reported to be average. Nectarine picking was active with May Glo, Royal Glo, and Rose Diamond the major varieties. Red Beaut variety plums were also picked.

FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent Change	Next Crop Update
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000		
NUT CROPS	Acres		Pounds		1,000 Pounds			
Almonds (Shelled)	480,000	500,000	1,730	1,350	830,000	675,000	-19	June 29, 2000
Pecans	2,600	---	923	---	2,400	---		Sept. 12, 2000
Pistachio (In-Shell)	---	---	---	---	104,000	---		
Marketable In-Shell	---	---	---	---	18,000	---		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	---	---		
Total	71,000	---	1,730	---	123,000	---		Sept. 1, 2000
			Tons		1,000 Tons			
Walnuts (In-Shell)	191,000	---	1.48	---	283.0	---		Sept. 1, 2000
FRUIT CROPS								
Apples	35,000	---	11.80	---	412.5	---		Aug. 11, 2000
Apricots	19,000	19,000	4.47	5.00	85.0	95.0	12	July 12, 2000
Cherries	18,500	19,000	3.95	2.37	73.0	45.0	-38	January 2001
Grapes, Raisin	279,000	---	7.57	---	2,113.0	---		July 12, 2000
Grapes, Table	87,000	---	7.59	---	660.0	---		July 12, 2000
Grapes, Wine	424,000	---	6.37	---	2,700.0	---		July 12, 2000
Grapes, All	790,000	---	6.93	---	5,473.0	---		July 12, 2000
Olives	35,300	---	4.11	---	145.0	---		Aug. 11, 2000
Peaches, Clingstone	29,800	29,400	17.80	19.10	529.5	560.0	6	July 12, 2000
Peaches, Freestone	37,000	39,000	10.20	10.80	377.5	420.0	11	July 12, 2000
Pears, Bartlett	15,000	15,000	19.50	18.70	292.0	280.0	-4	Aug. 11, 2000
Pears, Other	4,300	---	6.98	---	30.0	---		Aug. 11, 2000
Prunes (Dried Weight)	83,000	86,000	2.14	2.33	178.0	200.0	12	January 2001
BERRIES	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000		
			Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.			
Strawberries	24,600	27,600	615	590	15,155	16,284	7	Dec. 12, 2000
CITRUS CROP 1/	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	July 12, 2000
Lemons	48,500	48,500	668	825	32,400	40,000	23	July 12, 2000
Oranges, Navel	128,000	130,000	328	616	42,000	80,000	91	July 12, 2000
Oranges, Valencia	73,500	73,500	408	735	30,000	54,000	80	July 12, 2000
Tangerines 2/	8,600	8,600	348	488	3,000	4,200	40	July 12, 2000

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.

Apricots - *Apricot* production for 2000 is forecast at 95,000 tons, up approximately 12 percent from the 1999 crop of 85,000 tons. Bearing acres are estimated at 19,000. Set differed widely among orchards this year following a variable bloom. During April, hail storms hit a majority of the Southern San Joaquin Valley. Early season varieties, which have already begun harvest, are a little better than first expected. Fruit sizes are normal thus far.

Cherries, Sweet - The 2000 California *sweet cherry* crop is forecast at 45,000 tons, down 38 percent from the 1999 crop. Bearing acreage is estimated at 39,000. California's cherry season began with irregular blooming and even re-blooming on some trees. This resulted in irregular fruit set and harvest has been extended because fruit is not all maturing at the same time. Scattered rain caused damage to some orchards, while sparing others. Overall the early varieties received the bulk of the rain damage. Quality of the remaining fruit is good.

Peaches - The 2000 California *Freestone peach* crop is forecast at a record high 420,000 tons, up 11 percent from last year's crop. Bearing acres is estimated at 39,000. The yield calculates to 10.80 tons per acre. The freestone peach crop continues to progress smoothly, as near ideal conditions persist. Early season harvest and movement were in full swing. California's *Clingstone peach* crop is forecast at 560,000 tons this year, up 6 percent from 1999. Bearing acreage is estimated at 29,400 with a resulting yield of 19.10 tons per acre. Favorable weather has contributed to positive fruit development. Fruit set is heavy and fruit size is small. Some mildew has been reported in the Modesto area, but overall, the 2000 crop remains in good condition.

Pears, Bartlett - The initial forecast of the 2000 *Bartlett pear* crop in California is 280,000 tons, down 4 percent from last year. Bearing acres are estimated to be 15,000. The spring weather has been good for Bartlett pear fruit quality. Maturity development is normal for June 1. Fruit size is good, but tree set is down.

Prunes - The 2000 California *prune* production is forecasted at 200,000 tons, up 12 percent from the State's 1999 total production. Bearing acreage is estimated at 86,000 acres, up 4 percent from the previous year. The yield calculates to 2.33 dried tons per acre. The 2000 prune season is progressing well. The Northern and Central prune growing areas are experiencing a heavier fruit set than the previous year. The Southern area is slightly lighter than last year.

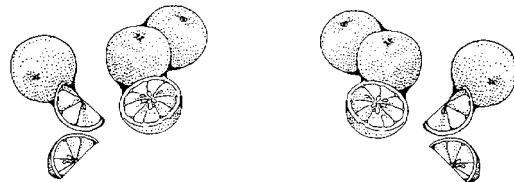
FRUIT PRODUCTION FOR SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

Crop and State	1998	1999	2000 Forecast
	Tons		
APRICOTS			
California	113,000	85,000	95,000
CHERRIES, SWEET			
California	15,200	73,000	45,000
Oregon	55,000	50,000	52,000
Washington	98,000	68,000	95,000
Total 1/	168,200	191,000	192,000
PEACHES			
California Total	863,000	907,000	980,000
Freestone	340,500	377,500	420,000
Clingstone 2/	522,500	529,500	560,000
Georgia	35,000	55,000	52,500
South Carolina	70,000	80,000	75,000
Total	968,000	1,042,000	1,107,500
PEARS, BARTLETT			
California	277,000	292,000	280,000
Oregon	65,000	66,000	55,000
Washington	145,000	190,000	175,000
Total	487,000	548,000	510,000
PRUNES (Dried Wt.)			
California	108,000	178,000	200,000

1/ Forecast for Idaho, Michigan, Montana, New York, Pennsylvania, and Utah will be released on June 22, 2000.
 2/ California Clingstone is over the scale tonnage and includes culls and cannery diversions.

FLORIDA CITRUS

May was a very hot and dry month. Growers and caretakers used their irrigation equipment around the clock to help keep their trees in good condition. Many lakes, ponds, streams, and water reservoirs have dried up and are no longer usable for irrigation purposes. Rain is needed to rebuild Florida's water supply. Due to the constant irrigation, most of the new crop fruit is in OK to good condition. The dry weather has limited growth. Harvest of Valencia oranges has been very active during May. Six to eight million boxes of late oranges were picked each week during the month. Grapefruit movement slowed considerably toward the end of the month as supplies were finally running low. By the end of May, the Honey tangerine harvest was just about over for this season. Caretakers were kept busy operating and repairing irrigation equipment this month. Hedging and topping were very active, however, there has been a general burning ban due to the drought and very little burning of grove debris has been allowed. Summer spraying and fertilizing is underway in all areas.



CITRUS FRUIT PRODUCTION BY STATE AND U.S.

Crop and State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00 Forecast
	1,000 Cartons		
ORANGES 1/			
California, All	138,000	72,000	134,000
Navel & Misc.	88,000	42,000	80,000
Valencia	50,000	30,000	54,000
Florida	488,000	372,000	460,000
Texas	3,050	2,860	3,400
Arizona	2,000	2,300	1,800
ALL U.S. ORANGES	631,050	449,160	599,200
GRAPEFRUIT 2/			
California	16,000	15,000	16,000
Florida	99,100	94,100	106,200
Texas	9,600	12,200	11,900
Arizona	1,600	1,500	1,700
ALL U.S. GRAPEFRUIT	126,300	122,800	135,800
LEMONS 3/			
California	42,000	32,400	40,000
Arizona	5,200	6,900	6,200
ALL U.S. LEMONS	47,200	39,300	46,200
TANGERINES 4/			
California 5/	4,800	3,000	4,200
Florida	10,400	9,900	14,200
Arizona	1,200	1,900	1,800
ALL U.S. TANGERINES	16,400	14,800	20,200

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

TREE NUTS (SHELLED BASIS) PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION, 1976-77 TO DATE

Season <u>1/</u>	Almonds	Hazelnuts	Pecans	Walnuts	Macadamias	Pistachios	Other <u>2/</u>	Total <u>3/</u>
	Pounds							
1976-77	0.42	0.07	0.33	0.51	0.02	0.04	0.51	1.91
1977-78	0.45	0.06	0.37	0.48	0.02	0.04	0.28	1.71
1978-79	0.39	0.08	0.39	0.37	0.02	0.04	0.42	1.71
1979-80	0.37	0.04	0.46	0.42	0.03	0.04	0.38	1.74
1980-81	0.42	0.05	0.43	0.50	0.03	0.05	0.32	1.79
1981-82	0.50	0.05	0.45	0.52	0.03	0.04	0.33	1.92
1982-83	0.59	0.07	0.49	0.47	0.04	0.05	0.46	2.16
1983-84	0.58	0.05	0.48	0.52	0.04	0.07	0.52	2.25
1984-85	0.68	0.06	0.54	0.48	0.04	0.11	0.47	2.37
1985-86	0.81	0.07	0.47	0.48	0.05	0.12	0.45	2.45
1986-87	0.53	0.03	0.54	0.49	0.05	0.11	0.47	2.21
1987-88	0.59	0.06	0.54	0.46	0.05	0.09	0.41	2.20
1988-89	0.65	0.07	0.50	0.50	0.05	0.12	0.40	2.29
1989-90	0.62	0.05	0.46	0.45	0.06	0.08	0.51	2.23
1990-91	0.74	0.07	0.49	0.45	0.06	0.11	0.50	2.42
1991-92	0.61	0.06	0.46	0.45	0.05	0.08	0.44	2.16
1992-93	0.59	0.08	0.35	0.47	0.05	0.10	0.58	2.22
1993-94	0.61	0.10	0.53	0.38	0.05	0.13	0.56	2.35
1994-95	0.58	0.07	0.49	0.45	0.06	0.14	0.50	2.28
1995-96	0.48	0.09	0.38	0.39	0.06	0.12	0.42	1.93
1996-97	0.49	0.03	0.48	0.36	0.06	0.06	0.52	1.99
1997-98	0.52	0.08	0.42	0.38	0.04	0.14	0.54	2.13
1998-99 <u>4/</u>	0.58	0.06	0.49	0.37	0.04	0.18	0.53	2.25

1/ Beginning August of first year indicated for walnuts, September for pistachios, and July for all others.

2/ Includes the following nuts: Brazil, pignolias, chestnuts, cashews, and mixed nuts.

3/ Some figures may not add due to rounding.

4/ Preliminary estimates.

SOURCE: Commodity Economics Division, ERS, USDA.

REVISED 1999 ACREAGE ESTIMATES

The table to the right contains revised acreage estimates for 1999 almonds, grapes, prunes, and walnuts. These estimates are based on a statistical sample initiated to provide an unbiased indication of State acreage and to measure the incompleteness in the data base maintained by this office.

More detailed acreage reports for these crops are available on our web site at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ca> (listed under Publications).

ACREAGE ESTIMATES, 1999 CROP

Crop	Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
	Acres		
Almonds	480,000	105,000	585,000
Grapes, All			
Raisin	279,000	7,000	286,000
Table	87,000	13,000	100,000
Wine	421,000	130,000	554,000
Prunes	83,000	22,000	105,000
Walnuts	191,000	29,000	220,000

To receive the detailed **1999 GRAPE ACREAGE BULLETIN** that was released June 8, 2000, please inform us by mailing a request to:

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