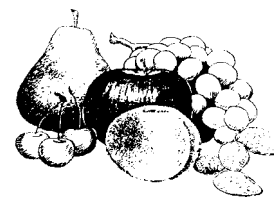


# California Fruit & Nut Review



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CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE

## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

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## FLORIDA CITRUS

December was a very wet and somewhat cold month. There were several hard rains and thunderstorms that produced monthly rainfall averages two to four times the normal rates. Most of the citrus caretakers were busy discing and deep plowing grove middles to help drain excessive water away from the trees' root systems. Pumps of all sizes were kept busy draining ditches and canals away from the groves. There has been some heavy droppage from trees in those very wet groves. There were several mornings during the month with low temperatures in the mid to upper 30's. Low readings in the 40's were common during the last half of the month. There was a little frost on the colder mornings with no damage to citrus trees or fruit. Fresh fruit harvesting crews were kept very busy during the month on the dry days picking crops for the Christmas markets and for the fund-raising projects. Virtually all of the processors were kept very busy trying to run the field run fruit on the same day delivered. Caretakers have also been mowing and chopping cover crops to help prevent future fires. Dead trees have been removed and burned. A few resets have been planted in the southern districts. A few sprays have been applied on the late season crops.

## DECEMBER FRUIT COMMENTS

Seasonal cultural activities such as pruning, grafting, brush shredding, cultivating and dormant spraying continued in orchards and vineyards. Some older variety trees and vines have been removed in preparation for planting replacements. Trees and vines were piled for burning or chipping. Strong winds and rain during the middle of December contributed to some fruit and nut tree loss in parts of the State. Late picking of Crimson and Emperor table grapes in the southern areas of the State was near completion by the middle of December. Warm, dry weather allowed a few strawberry growers in Fresno and Tulare counties to continue harvesting for sale at local roadside stands. Olives were harvested for oil production. Blueberry plantings showed vigorous growth. Fuya and Hachiya Persimmons were picked. Walnut orchards were treated for weed control. Almond stockpile hulling was completed by month's end. Picking of Navel oranges continued throughout December. Rainfall and cool night temperatures helped increase fruit size and enhance exterior color and maturity. Pummelo and Oroblanco grapefruit harvests were active in the desert. Picking of lemons was active in the desert, central valley and south coast areas. Harvest of Satsumas, Minneolas and Fairchilds was active during December.

## FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

| Crop                   | Bearing Acreage |         | Yield Per Acre |         | Estimated Production |         | Production Percent Change | Next Crop Update |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------------|---------|---------------------------|------------------|
|                        | 2001            | 2002    | 2001           | 2002    | 2001                 | 2002    |                           |                  |
| <b>NUT CROPS</b>       | Acres           |         | Pounds         |         | 1,000 Pounds         |         |                           |                  |
| Almonds (Shelled)      | 525,000         | 530,000 | 1,580          | 1,850   | 830,000              | 980,000 | 18                        | January 24, 2003 |
| Pecans                 | 2,600           | 2,600   | 1,420          | 1,080   | 3,700                | 2,800   | -24                       | January 24, 2003 |
| Pistachio (In-Shell)   |                 |         |                |         |                      |         |                           |                  |
| Marketable In-Shell    | ---             | ---     | ---            | ---     | 127,000              | ---     |                           |                  |
| Shelling Stock         | ---             | ---     | ---            | ---     | 34,000               | ---     |                           |                  |
| Total                  | 78,000          | 83,000  | 2,060          | 3,370   | 161,000              | 280,000 | 74                        | January 24, 2003 |
| Walnuts (In-Shell)     | 196,000         | 200,000 | Tons           |         | 1,000 Tons           |         |                           |                  |
|                        |                 |         | 1.56           | 1.38    | 305.0                | 275.0   | -10                       | January 24, 2003 |
| <b>FRUIT CROPS</b>     | Acres           |         |                |         | 1,000 Tons           |         |                           |                  |
| Apples                 | 29,000          | 26,000  | 12.10          | 11.50   | 350.0                | 300.0   | -14                       | January 24, 2003 |
| Apricots               | 18,000          | 17,000  | 4.28           | 5.00    | 77.0                 | 85.0    | 10                        | January 24, 2003 |
| Cherries               | 25,000          | 26,000  | 2.21           | 2.50    | 55.3                 | 65.0    | 18                        | January 24, 2003 |
| Grapes, Raisin 1/      | 276,000         | 273,000 | 9.36           | 11.10   | 2,199.0              | 2,700.0 | 23                        | January 24, 2003 |
| Grapes, Table          | 88,000          | 88,000  | 8.07           | 8.75    | 710.0                | 770.0   | 8                         | January 24, 2003 |
| Grapes, Wine           | 480,000         | 491,000 | 6.36           | 6.52    | 3,053.0              | 3,200.0 | 5                         | January 24, 2003 |
| Grapes, All 1/         | 844,000         | 852,000 | 7.38           | 8.10    | 5,930.0              | 6,670.0 | 12                        | January 24, 2003 |
| Olives                 | 36,000          | 36,000  | 3.72           | 2.50    | 134.0                | 90.0    | -33                       | January 24, 2003 |
| Peaches, Clingstone    | 28,800          | 30,700  | 16.50          | 17.10   | 476.0                | 525.0   | 10                        | January 24, 2003 |
| Peaches, Freestone     | 39,000          | 39,000  | 9.94           | 10.60   | 387.5                | 415.0   | 7                         | January 24, 2003 |
| Pears, Bartlett        | 14,000          | 13,500  | 19.60          | 19.30   | 275.0                | 260.0   | -5                        | January 24, 2003 |
| Pears, Other           | 4,300           | 4,300   | 6.98           | 6.98    | 30.0                 | 30.0    |                           | January 24, 2003 |
| Plums, Dried 2/        | 86,000          | 76,000  | 2.00           | 2.00    | 150.0                | 155.0   | 3                         | January 24, 2003 |
| <b>BERRIES</b>         |                 |         | Cwt.           |         | 1,000 Cwt.           |         |                           |                  |
| Strawberries           | 26,400          | 28,500  | 525            | 530     | 13,860               | 15,105  | 9                         | January 29, 2003 |
| <b>CITRUS CROPS 3/</b> | 2001-02         | 2002-03 | 2001-02        | 2002-03 | 2001-02              | 2002-03 |                           |                  |
|                        |                 |         | Cartons        |         | 1,000 Cartons        |         |                           |                  |
| Grapefruit             | 14,000          | 13,000  | 857            | 862     | 12,000               | 11,200  | -7                        | April 10, 2003   |
| Lemons                 | 49,500          | 49,000  | 768            | 939     | 38,000               | 46,000  | 21                        | April 10, 2003   |
| Oranges, Navel         | 128,000         | 127,500 | 531            | 627     | 68,000               | 80,000  | 18                        | April 10, 2003   |
| Oranges, Valencia      | 66,500          | 64,000  | 662            | 656     | 44,000               | 42,000  | -5                        | March 11, 2003   |
| Tangerines 4/          | 9,000           | 9,200   | 489            | 543     | 4,400                | 5,000   | 14                        | April 10, 2003   |

1/ The Raisin Industry Diversion Program (RID) had 41,000 acres enrolled for 2001, but 29,000 acres were enrolled for 2002.

2/ Forecast carried forward from June 2002.

3/ Grapefruit - 33.5 lbs. per carton; Lemons - 38.0 lbs. per carton; Oranges - 37.5 lbs. per carton; Tangerines - 37.5 lbs. per carton.

4/ Includes tangelos, tangerines and tangors.

**Oranges** - The 2002-03 California Navel orange forecast is 80.0 million cartons, unchanged from October, but 18 percent above last season's crop. Recent rainfall has slowed harvesting, but has also enhanced fruit size. The fruit are still expected to be smaller this year, but sets are reported to be heavier. There are some concerns that if relatively mild temperatures persist, the crop may mature too quickly, leading to a shorter season. Oil spotting, wind scars, and sunburn are among the major defects observed so far, but overall fruit quality is good. The 2002-03 Valencia orange forecast is 42.0 million cartons, down 9 percent from the October forecast and 5 percent below last season's crop. Smaller sizes and heavy sets are being reported for the upcoming Valencia crop. Recent high winds may result in some fruit scarring and loss, but otherwise no major problems have been noted as yet.

**Grapefruit** - The 2002-03 California grapefruit forecast is estimated at 11.2 million cartons, down 10 percent from October and 7 percent below last year. Pummelo, Oroblanco and Marsh Ruby grapefruit harvests are active in the desert with overall quality reported as very good.

**Lemons** - The 2002-03 California lemon forecast is 46.0 million cartons, up 10 percent from October and 21 percent above last year. The season is progressing with no major problems to date. Harvest is active in the desert, Central Valley and south coastal areas with very good quality reported.

**Tangerines** - The 2002-03 California tangerine crop is forecast at 5.00 million cartons, up 9 percent from October and up 14 percent from last year. This year's tangerine season is progressing with no major problems to date. Shape is normal and quality has been reported to be very good.

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

| Crop and State             | 2000-01        | 2001-02        | Forecast<br>2002-03 |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|
|                            | 1,000 Cartons  |                |                     |
| <b>ORANGES: 1/</b>         |                |                |                     |
| California, All            | 109,000        | 112,000        | 122,000             |
| Navel & Misc.              | 71,000         | 68,000         | 80,000              |
| Valencia                   | 38,000         | 44,000         | 42,000              |
| Florida                    | 446,600        | 460,000        | 394,000             |
| Texas                      | 4,470          | 3,480          | 3,360               |
| Arizona                    | 1,800          | 1,040          | 900                 |
| <b>ALL U.S. ORANGES</b>    | <b>561,870</b> | <b>576,520</b> | <b>520,260</b>      |
| <b>GRAPEFRUIT: 2/</b>      |                |                |                     |
| California                 | 12,600         | 12,000         | 11,200              |
| Florida                    | 92,000         | 93,400         | 80,000              |
| Texas                      | 14,400         | 11,800         | 11,200              |
| Arizona                    | 500            | 320            | 200                 |
| <b>ALL U.S. GRAPEFRUIT</b> | <b>119,500</b> | <b>117,520</b> | <b>102,600</b>      |
| <b>LEMONS: 3/</b>          |                |                |                     |
| California                 | 45,200         | 38,000         | 46,000              |
| Arizona                    | 7,200          | 5,600          | 5,600               |
| <b>ALL U.S. LEMONS</b>     | <b>52,400</b>  | <b>43,600</b>  | <b>51,600</b>       |
| <b>TANGERINES: 4/</b>      |                |                |                     |
| California 5/              | 4,400          | 4,400          | 5,000               |
| Florida                    | 11,200         | 13,200         | 10,200              |
| Arizona                    | 1,300          | 1,240          | 900                 |
| <b>ALL U.S. TANGERINES</b> | <b>16,900</b>  | <b>18,840</b>  | <b>16,100</b>       |

- 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.

**For information on jobs collecting agricultural data,  
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