

California Fruit & Nut Review



Frequency: Monthly
Released: June 18, 2003

(USPS 598-290)
VOL. 23 NO. 6



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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MAY CROP COMMENTS

Cultural activities in tree fruit orchards continued throughout the month of May. Growers irrigated, thinned fruit, and applied disease and pest control treatments in vineyards and orchards. The picking and packing of stone fruit gained momentum as warm weather and sunny skies prevailed throughout most of May. Spring Crest, Spring Lady, Super Rich and Queen Crest peaches, Mayfire and May Glo nectarines, Red Beauty plums, Castlebrite and Poppy apricots, and Flaverosa pluots were picked and packed during May. The cherry harvest continued with Brooks, Tulare, Kings, Ranier, and Bing the primary varieties picked. Bloom in wine, raisin, and table grape vineyards was widespread by month's end. Growers cultivated, fertilized, and treated vineyards with fungicides and insecticides as necessary. Table grapes were harvested in the Coachella

Valley with Perlette, Flame Seedless, and Beauty Seedless the primary varieties picked. Grapevines were piled for burning or chipping in many former vineyards. Mission figs were beginning to develop good color by month's end. Bright red blooms were open in many pomegranate orchards in Fresno County. Blueberries were harvested in the San Joaquin Valley. Strawberry harvesting for processing is near completion in the Central Valley. Avocado and olive bloom neared completion by month's end. Some olive growers began setting up olive fruit fly traps. Irrigation and treatments to control diseases and insect pests were made in nut orchards. Walnut, pistachio, almond, and pecan orchards showed good crop development throughout the month. Foliar nutrient applications were made in some citrus orchards. Bloom was complete in most citrus orchards by month's end. Navel orange picking neared completion by the end of May. The Valencia orange harvest remained active throughout the month, but was slowed in response to competition from the stone fruit harvests. Lemons were harvested in Ventura County. Marsh Ruby and Rio Red grapefruit harvests were active in the Coachella Valley, while the Star Ruby grapefruit harvest was active in the southern coastal areas.

FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent Change	Next Crop Update
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003		
NUT CROPS	Acres		Pounds		1,000 Pounds			
Almonds (Shelled) 1/	530,000	530,000	2,050	1,740	1,085,000	920,000	-15	June 26, 2003 October 10, 2003
Pecans	2,600	---	1,380	---	3,600	---		
Pistachio (In-Shell) 2/	---	---	---	---	240,000	---	8	July 31, 2003
Marketable In-Shell	---	---	---	---	60,000	---		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	---	---		
Total	83,000	---	3,610	---	300,000	---		
Walnuts (In-Shell) 3/	200,000	---	Tons		1,000 Tons			September 3, 2003
			1.41	---	282.0	---		
FRUIT CROPS								
Apples	26,000	---	8.08	---	210.0	---	N/C	August 12, 2003 July 11, 2003
Apricots	17,000	16,500	5.00	5.15	85.0	85.0		
Cherries	26,000	27,000	2.13	2.22	55.5	60.0	8	January 2004 July 11, 2003
Grapes, Raisin 4/	246,000	---	10.80	---	2,650.0	---		
Grapes, Table	88,000	---	8.52	---	750.0	---		July 11, 2003
Grapes, Wine	486,000	---	6.38	---	3,100.0	---		July 11, 2003
Grapes, All 4/	820,000	---	7.93	---	6,500.0	---		July 11, 2003
Olives	36,000	---	2.75	---	99.0	---		August 12, 2003
Peaches, Clingstone	31,000	32,100	18.10	18.40	562.0	590.0	5	July 11, 2003
Peaches, Freestone	39,000	39,000	10.20	9.87	398.0	385.0	-3	July 11, 2003
Pears, Bartlett	13,500	12,500	19.60	18.80	264.0	235.0	-11	July 11, 2003
Pears, Other	4,300	---	6.98	---	30.0	---		August 12, 2003
Prunes (Dried Weight) 5/	74,000	72,000	2.34	2.64	171.0	190.0	11	January 2004
BERRIES			Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.			
Strawberries	28,500	29,600	595	600	16,957	17,760	5	July 10, 2003
CITRUS CROP 6/	2001-02	2002-03	2001-02	2002-03	2001-02	2002-03		
					1,000 Cartons			
Grapefruit	14,000	13,000	857	862	12,000	11,200	-7	July 11, 2003
Lemons	49,500	49,000	768	939	38,000	46,000	21	July 11, 2003
Oranges, Navel	128,000	127,500	531	627	68,000	80,000	18	July 11, 2003
Oranges, Valencia	66,500	64,000	617	688	41,000	44,000	7	July 11, 2003
Tangerines 7/	9,000	9,200	489	543	4,400	5,000	14	July 11, 2003

1/ Almond Objective Measurement Report will be released June 26, 2003 at 12:00 p.m.

2/ Pistachio Acreage and Pistachio Objective Measurement reports will be released July 31, 2003 at 12:00 p.m.

3/ Walnut Objective Measurement Report will be released September 3, 2003 at 12:00 p.m.

4/ The Raisin Industry Diversion Program (RID) had 27,000 acres for 2002. These acres were deducted from the bearing acreage.

5/ Estimated production was revised for 2002.

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

7/ Includes tangelos, tangerines and tangors.

Apricots - Apricot production for 2003 is forecast at 85.0 thousand tons, unchanged from the 2002 crop. Bearing acreage is estimated to be 16,500. Cooler weather hampered fruit growth and maturity of early variety apricots. However, late rains increased the size of later varieties compared to last year's crop.

Cherries, Sweet - The 2003 California sweet cherry crop, at 60.0 thousand tons, is up 8 percent from the 2002 crop. Bearing acreage is estimated to be 27,000. Cool, wet weather slowed crop development and delayed the beginning of harvest by a week. While the early crop in Tulare and Kern counties was hurt by the weather, growers in Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties reported scattered damage to their crops. Fruit quality is reported to be excellent. The Bing cherry harvest is ongoing at this time.

Peaches - The 2003 California Freestone peach crop forecast is 385 thousand tons, unchanged from the May forecast, but down 3 percent from the 2002 crop. Bearing acreage is estimated to be 39,000. Fewer than adequate chilling hours during the winter resulted in a lengthy bloom period. Set in the early varieties looks good, while set in the middle-to-late season varieties is down slightly from last season. Harvest of Freestone peaches began during the first week of April. California's Clingstone peach crop is forecast to be 590 thousand tons, up 4 percent from the May forecast and up 5 percent from the 2002 crop. Bearing acreage is estimated to be 32,100. California experienced fewer than adequate chilling hours during the winter, which mostly affected the Stanislaus variety. Set is reported to be lighter in the Modesto area than in the northern area of the State. Growers reported some hail damage in the southern Modesto area. Harvest is expected to begin around the middle of June.

Pears, Bartlett - The initial forecast of the 2003 Bartlett pear crop in California is 235 thousand tons, down 11 percent from last season. Bearing acreage is estimated to be 12,500. Crop quality is reported to be good despite a cool, wet spring. Continued acreage pullouts are not expected to adversely affect overall production.

Prunes - The 2003 California prune crop forecast is 190 thousand dried tons, up 11 percent from last year. Bearing acreage is estimated to be 72,000. The crop encountered more rain and cooler temperatures during March and April than normal. Limited hail damage was reported in both the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys. Favorable weather conditions prevailed during May.

FRUIT PRODUCTION FOR SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

Crop and State	2001	2002	2003 Forecast
	Tons		
APRICOTS			
California	77,000	85,000	85,000
CHERRIES, SWEET			
California	55,300	55,500	60,000
Oregon	40,000	31,000	40,000
Washington	106,000	86,000	90,000
Total 1/	201,300	172,500	190,000
PEACHES			
California Total	863,500	960,000	975,000
Freestone	387,500	398,000	385,000
Clingstone 2/	476,000	562,000	590,000
Georgia	70,000	55,000	62,500
South Carolina	50,000	80,000	65,000
Total	983,500	1,095,000	1,102,500
PEARS, BARTLETT			
California	275,000	264,000	235,000
Oregon	70,000	58,000	70,000
Washington	201,000	167,000	185,000
Total	546,000	489,000	490,000
PRUNES (Dried Wt.)			
California 3/	150,000	171,000	190,000

1/ Forecast for Idaho, Michigan, Montana, New York, Pennsylvania, and Utah will be released on June 26, 2003.
 2/ California Clingstone is over the scale tonnage and includes culls and cannery diversions.
 3/ Revised 2002 data.

FLORIDA CITRUS

Rainfall during May was generally about average. However, most of the rains fell in a few days. Growers and caretakers utilized virtually all of their irrigation equipment during most of the month. Trees in most of the well-cared-for groves are in very good condition. The spring flush of new growth has hardened up and the older trees are ready to produce their summer flush. New crop fruit is progressing very well with good sizes in most groves. Harvest of Valencia oranges was very active through most of May. Movement of the late oranges slowed toward the end of the month as supplies were running low. Grapefruit harvest was very slow all of this month as most of the fresh fruit packing houses were closing. Most of the grapefruit picked during May went to the juice plants. Honey Tangerine harvest was over for the year by the end of the month. Caretakers were very active during May mowing, chopping, and discing cover crops prior to harvesting crews arrival and for fire protection. Hedging and topping continued in harvested groves in all areas. Summer sprays and fertilizations are currently being applied. Dead trees are being pushed out and burned. New resets are being planted in larger groves with permanent irrigation. Summer herbicides are being applied where weed growth has gotten out of hand. Growers are cutting vines out of their trees where they have grown out of control.

CITRUS FRUIT PRODUCTION BY STATE AND U.S.

Crop and State	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 Forecast
	1,000 Cartons		
ORANGES 1/			
California, All 2/	109,000	109,000	124,000
Navel & Misc. 2/	71,000	68,000	80,000
Valencia 2/	38,000	41,000	44,000
Florida	446,600	460,000	402,000
Texas 2/	4,470	3,480	3,160
Arizona 2/	1,800	1,040	800
ALL U.S. ORANGES	561,870	573,520	529,960
GRAPEFRUIT 3/			
California 2/	12,600	12,000	11,200
Florida	92,000	93,400	77,400
Texas 2/	14,400	11,800	11,000
Arizona 2/	500	320	200
ALL U.S. GRAPEFRUIT	119,500	117,520	99,800
LEMONS 2/ 4/			
California	45,200	38,000	46,000
Arizona	7,200	5,600	5,800
ALL U.S. LEMONS	52,400	43,600	51,800
TANGERINES 5/			
California 2/ 6/	4,400	4,400	5,000
Florida 7/	11,200	13,200	11,000
Arizona 2/ 6/	1,300	1,240	800
ALL U.S. TANGERINES	16,900	18,840	16,800

1/ ORANGES: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 37.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 45 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs.
 2/ Estimate for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.
 3/ GRAPEFRUIT: Arizona, 1 carton=32 lbs.; California, 1 carton = 33.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 40 lbs.
 4/ LEMONS: All, 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.
 7/ Data for 2000-01 through 2001-02 includes Robinson, Fallglo, Sunburst, Dancy, and Honey varieties. Data for 2002-03 includes Fallglo, Sunburst, and Honey varieties only.

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

Season 1/	Almonds	Hazelnuts	Pecans	Walnuts	Macadamias	Pistachios	Other 2/	Total 3/
	Pounds							
1976-77	0.42	0.07	0.33	0.51	0.02	0.04	0.51	1.90
1977-78	0.45	0.06	0.37	0.48	0.02	0.04	0.28	1.70
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	2.15
1992-93	0.59	0.08	0.35	0.46	0.05	0.10	0.57	2.21
1993-94	0.60	0.10	0.52	0.38	0.05	0.13	0.55	2.33
1994-95	0.57	0.07	0.48	0.44	0.06	0.13	0.49	2.25
1995-96	0.47	0.09	0.38	0.38	0.05	0.12	0.42	1.91
1996-97	0.48	0.02	0.47	0.32	0.06	0.06	0.51	1.93
1997-98	0.51	0.07	0.41	0.36	0.07	0.14	0.53	2.09
1998-99	0.56	0.05	0.44	0.38	0.07	0.15	0.52	2.17
1999-00	0.75	0.10	0.38	0.51	0.08	0.18	0.53	2.53
2000-01	0.56	0.06	0.41	0.44	0.07	0.21	0.47	2.22
2001-02 4/	1.01	0.09	0.45	0.42	0.07	0.18	0.69	2.91

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: Food and Rural Economics Division, ERS, USDA.

REVISED 2002 ACREAGE ESTIMATES

The table to the right contains revised acreage estimates for 2002 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, 2002 CROP

Crop	Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
	Acres		
Almonds	530,000	60,000	590,000
Grapes, All	847,000	85,000	932,000
Raisin	273,000	6,000	279,000
Table	88,000	9,000	97,000
Wine	486,000	70,000	556,000
Prunes	74,000	9,000	83,000
Walnuts	200,000	26,000	226,000

To receive the detailed **2002 GRAPE ACREAGE BULLETIN** released June 3, 2003, please inform us by mailing a request to:

CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
P.O. Box 1258
Sacramento, CA 95812-1258

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