

# California Fruit & Nut Review



Frequency: Monthly, Except November  
Released: April 14, 2005

(USPS 598-290)  
VOL. 25 NO. 4



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE

## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Fruit and Nut Production .....	1
Citrus and Strawberry Production .....	2
U.S. Per Capita Fruit Consumption .....	3

## MARCH CROP COMMENTS

Periods of rainy weather continued to delay fieldwork and threaten fruit and nut crops during March. The continued wet weather triggered an increase in fungicide use in all tree fruit orchards and grape vineyards, and also created unfavorable conditions for bees to pollinate in almond and plum orchards, resulting in lighter than anticipated fruit set. A period of above normal temperatures in the middle of the month promoted bloom and stimulated growth in many pear and cherry orchards in northern areas of the State. By month's end, most tree fruit orchards were leafing out, and blooms were rapidly disappearing. Early varieties of apricots and cherries were being thinned as fruit began to develop. Apple orchards were blooming across the State, and early varieties began developing fruit by the end of the month. Also during the month, kiwifruit vines began pushing foliar growth, green shoots were elongating and developing fruit in persimmon orchards, and strawberry plants were blooming and developing well in the San Joaquin Valley. Bees were removed from almond orchards by month's end as bloom was complete.

Almond trees were leafed out, and crews in some areas were propping up branches. Catkins were elongating in walnut orchards, prompting walnut growers to apply blight sprays. As weather conditions permitted, growers continued to prune, shred, and remove weeds in nut orchards. Canes and shoots were growing rapidly in grape vineyards, and immature clusters began appearing. As field conditions allowed, growers applied pesticides to control vine mealybugs and cutworms, and prepared the ground for new plantings. Buds were swelling in many orange orchards by month's end, and topping and hedging activities were underway. Periods of rain during the month caused some delays and cancellations in harvesting of citrus fruit. Harvesting of Navel oranges continued throughout the month, but with declining quality and pack-outs. Valencia oranges were picked as maturity tests allowed. Lemons were harvested in many locations. More volume, however, shifted to the South Coastal region as the lemon harvest neared completion in the Central Valley. OroBlanco and MeloGold variety grapefruit were picked in the Central Valley. Mandarins, tangelos, and tangerines were also picked and packed. Pruning and shredding activities in olive orchards continued.

## FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent Change	Next Crop Update
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004		
<b>NUT CROPS</b>	Acres		Pounds		1,000 Pounds			
Almonds (Shelled) 1/	550,000	550,000	1,890	1,850	1,040,000	1,020,000	-2	May 11, 2005
Pecans	2,600	2,600	1,420	1,380	3,700	3,600	-3	October 12, 2005
Pistachio (In-Shell)								
Marketable In-Shell	---	---	---	---	88,000	255,000		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	28,000	93,000		
Total	88,000	93,000	1,350	3,740	119,000	348,000	192	July 6, 2005
Walnuts (In-Shell) 2/	213,000	217,000	1.53	1.50	326.0	325.0	N/C	September 1, 2005
<b>FRUIT CROPS</b>								
Apples	28,000	26,000	8.04	7.88	225.0	205.0	-9	July 6, 2005
Apricots	16,500	16,000	5.61	5.88	92.5	94.0	2	June 10, 2005
Cherries	25,000	26,000	2.62	2.81	65.6	73.0	11	June 10, 2005
Grapes, Raisin 3/	255,000	244,000	8.35	7.91	2,129.0	1,930.0	-9	July 6, 2005
Grapes, Table	85,000	83,000	8.61	8.80	732.0	730.0	N/C	July 6, 2005
Grapes, Wine	479,000	473,000	6.07	5.71	2,909.0	2,700.0	-7	July 6, 2005
Grapes, All 3/	819,000	800,000	7.05	6.70	5,770.0	5,360.0	-7	July 6, 2005
Olives	36,000	32,000	3.28	3.25	118.0	104.0	-12	July 6, 2005
Peaches, Clingstone	31,000	32,000	17.30	16.80	536.0	539.0	1	May 12, 2005
Peaches, Freestone	37,000	37,000	11.20	11.10	413.0	410.0	-1	May 12, 2005
Pears, Bartlett	13,000	13,000	16.70	17.00	217.0	221.0	2	June 10, 2005
Pears, Other	4,300	4,000	12.80	12.00	55.0	48.0	-13	July 6, 2005
Plums, Dried 4/	72,000	70,000	2.51	0.70	181.0	49.0	-73	June 3, 2005
	2,004	2,005	2,004	2,005	2,004	2,005		
<b>BERRIES</b>								
Strawberries	33,200	34,300	590	580	19,588	19,894	2	July 8, 2005
<b>CITRUS CROPS 5/</b>	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05		
Grapefruit	12,500	12,500	864	864	10,800	10,800	N/C	July 12, 2005
Lemons 6/	45,000	44,000	800	886	36,000	39,000	8	July 12, 2005
Oranges, Navel	130,000	130,500	585	659	76,000	86,000	13	July 12, 2005
Oranges, Valencia	52,000	45,500	538	791	28,000	36,000	29	July 12, 2005
Tangerines 7/	10,500	11,300	514	531	5,400	6,000	11	July 12, 2005

1/ Almond Subjective Forecast Report released May 11 at 12:00 PM. Almond Objective Measurement Report released June 30 at 12:00 PM.

2/ Walnut Objective Measurement Report released September 1 at 12:00 PM.

3/ Raisin Grape Objective Measurement Report released August 12 at 6:30 AM PDT.

4/ Dried Plum (Prune) Forecast Report released June 3 at 12:00 PM.

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

6/ Estimate for current year carried forward from previous forecast.

7/ Includes tangelos, tangerines and tangors.

**Navel Oranges** - The 2004-05 Navel orange forecast is 86.0 million cartons, down 2 percent from the January 2005 forecast, but 13 percent above last season. Rainfall has slowed harvest all season, keeping workers out of the orchards. Despite the heavy rains, eating flavor and fruit quality have been excellent, creating high demand for this year's crop.

**Valencia Oranges** - The 2004-05 Valencia orange forecast is 36.0 million cartons, down 10 percent from the January 2005 forecast of 40.0 million cartons, but up 29 percent above last season. Harvesting of the Valencia crop was well underway, with no major problems reported as yet. However, acreage pullouts continued in both the Central Valley and southern areas. Overall quality of the harvested crop was good in both districts. Much of the Central Valley crop was being packed for export at this point.

**Grapefruit** - The 2004-05 California grapefruit forecast is estimated at 10.8 million cartons, up 2 percent from the January forecast, but unchanged from last season. Pummelo and Oroblanco grapefruit varieties were harvested in the Central Valley. In both varieties, quality remained good with normal shape, smooth texture, and excellent flavor. Harvesting of Rio Red variety grapefruit was active in the Coachella Valley. Quality was reported to be good, with smooth texture, and mostly normal shape.

**Lemons** - The 2004-05 lemon forecast is 39.0 million cartons, unchanged from January, but 8 percent above last season. Demand and movement were typical for this time of year. Harvesting was essentially complete in the Desert region and was winding down in the Central Valley. Exterior quality was very good, shape was normal, and condition remained strong. Harvest was progressing well in the South Coastal region. Fruit size was generally running medium-to-large and shape was normal.

**Tangerines** - The 2004-05 tangerine forecast is 6.00 million cartons, up 3 percent from the January 2005 forecast, and 11 percent above last season. This year's tangerine season was progressing with no major problems to date. Harvest in the Desert Valley region was nearing a close, but continued in the Central Valley with Minneola the more dominant variety harvested. Overall quality was very good, with excellent color and normal shape. Flavor and eating quality were reported to be good.

**FLORIDA CITRUS**

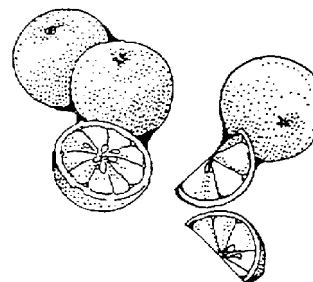
Florida's weather in the citrus areas during March brought slightly higher amounts of rainfall than normal with cool nighttime temperatures and moderate to warm days. Several cold fronts passed through the State bringing overnight temperatures into the upper 40's in some northern locations. Daytime highs reached the low 80's some days with mostly clear skies. The cold fronts brought varying amounts of rainfall to most citrus growing areas each week of the month. The last part of the month brought rainfall amounts over four inches in some upper interior and west coast areas and varying amounts in east coast areas. The last of the month also brought windy weather with clear skies. Most citrus trees in all areas are in excellent condition following the favorable weather of the past several months. Hurricane-damaged trees are showing new growth and some bloom. Severely damaged trees are showing some die back of small limbs. By late-month, upper interior and coastal area orange trees were in full bloom with grapefruit slightly later. Lower interior areas were also near full bloom by the end of the month.

Early mid-season orange harvest is mostly over as the season nears completion. Valencia oranges are beginning to be harvested with good demand reported for fresh shipments and most processing fruit going into chilled juice. Weekly harvest by the last of the month was up to five million boxes on the hurricane-reduced crop. Grapefruit harvest for fresh shipments peaked during the month with excellent quality reported. Grapefruit harvest for processing was also high for the limited amount of fruit available. Honey tangerine harvest is strong with good demand reported. Temple and tangelo harvests are complete for the season.

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

Crop and State	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 Forecast
	1,000 Cartons		
<b>ORANGES: 1/</b>			
California, All	124,000	104,000	122,000
Navel and Misc.	84,000	76,000	86,000
Valencia	40,000	28,000	36,000
Florida	406,000	484,000	302,400
Texas	3,140	3,300	3,960
Arizona 2/	940	940	860
ALL U.S. ORANGES	534,080	592,240	429,220
<b>GRAPEFRUIT: 3/</b>			
California, All	11,200	10,800	10,800
Florida 2/	77,400	81,800	26,000
Texas	11,300	11,400	13,000
Arizona	260	280	320
ALL U.S. GRAPEFRUIT	100,160	104,280	50,120
<b>LEMONS: 4/</b>			
California 2/	48,000	36,000	39,000
Arizona 2/	6,000	6,000	4,800
ALL U.S. LEMONS	54,000	42,000	43,800
<b>TANGERINES: 5/</b>			
California 6/	5,600	5,400	6,000
Florida 7/	11,000	13,000	8,900
Arizona 6/	860	1,380	800
ALL U.S. TANGERINES	17,460	19,780	15,700

- 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 previous 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 2002-03 through 2003-04 includes Fallglo, Sunburst, and Honey varieties only.



**Strawberries** - The 2005 strawberry production is expected to be 19.9 million cwt., up 2 percent from last year. Harvested acreage is estimated at 34,300, with a yield of 580 cwt. per acre. Acreage was reported to be moving north from the southern districts to Oxnard and Santa Maria. The season started slowly due to heavy rains that caused damage and delays in Southern California. Production, however, increased in recent weeks as the earlier weather problems seemed to have strengthened strawberry plants.

**FRESH FRUIT: UNITED STATES PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION, 1982 TO DATE 1/**

Year 2/	CITRUS FRUIT					TOTAL 3/	NON-CITRUS FRUIT						
	Oranges & Temples	Tangerines, Tangelos, & Mandarins	Lemons	Limes	Grapefruit	Citrus	Apples	Apricots	Avocados	Bananas	Blueberries	Cherries	
	Pounds												
1982	11.7	2.1	2.1	0.4	7.2	23.4	17.5	0.1	1.9	22.5	0.2	0.5	
1983	15.0	2.3	2.3	0.5	7.8	28.0	18.3	0.1	2.2	21.3	0.1	0.7	
1984	11.9	2.1	2.2	0.5	6.0	22.6	18.4	0.1	1.8	22.2	0.2	0.7	
1985	11.6	1.5	2.3	0.6	5.5	21.5	17.3	0.2	1.5	23.5	0.3	0.4	
1986	13.4	1.6	2.5	0.6	6.1	24.2	17.8	0.1	2.4	25.8	0.2	0.5	
1987	12.8	1.8	2.5	0.5	6.4	24.0	20.8	0.1	1.6	25.0	0.2	0.7	
1988	13.9	1.8	2.5	0.6	6.7	25.4	19.8	0.2	1.6	24.3	0.3	0.5	
1989	12.2	1.7	2.4	0.7	6.6	23.6	21.2	0.1	1.1	24.7	0.2	0.5	
1990	12.4	1.3	2.6	0.7	4.4	21.4	19.6	0.2	1.4	24.4	0.1	0.4	
1991	8.4	1.4	2.6	0.8	5.9	19.0	18.1	0.1	1.4	25.1	0.2	0.4	
1992	12.8	1.9	2.5	1.0	5.9	24.2	19.1	0.2	2.2	27.1	0.2	0.5	
1993	14.2	1.9	2.6	1.0	6.2	25.8	19.0	0.1	1.3	26.6	0.3	0.4	
1994	12.9	2.1	2.7	1.0	6.1	24.7	19.4	0.2	1.4	27.8	0.3	0.5	
1995	11.8	2.0	2.8	1.2	6.0	23.8	18.7	0.1	1.6	27.1	0.3	0.3	
1996	12.6	2.2	2.9	1.1	5.9	24.6	18.7	0.1	1.6	27.6	0.3	0.4	
1997	13.9	2.5	2.8	1.2	6.2	26.5	18.1	0.1	1.7	27.2	0.3	0.6	
1998	14.6	2.2	2.5	1.4	5.9	26.6	19.0	0.1	1.5	28.0	0.3	0.5	
1999	8.4	2.3	2.6	1.3	5.8	20.4	18.5	0.1	1.9	30.7	0.3	0.6	
2000	11.7	2.9	2.4	1.4	5.1	23.5	17.5	0.2	2.2	28.5	0.3	0.6	
2001	11.9	2.7	3.0	1.5	4.9	23.9	15.6	0.1	2.5	26.6	0.3	0.8	
2002	11.7	2.6	3.3	1.1	4.6	23.3	16.0	0.1	2.3	26.8	0.4	0.7	
2003	11.9	2.7	3.3	1.9	4.1	23.9	16.5	0.1	2.6	26.2	0.4	0.9	
Year 2/	NON-CITRUS FRUIT CONTINUED										TOTAL 3/		
	Cranberries	Grapes	Kiwifruit	Mangos	Peaches & Nectarines	Pears	Pineapples	Papayas	Plums & Prunes	Strawberries	Non-Citrus	Fruit	
	Pounds												
1982	0.2	5.7	0.1	0.3	5.4	2.9	1.7	0.2	1.1	2.4	62.4	85.9	
1983	0.1	5.6	0.1	0.4	5.4	3.0	1.7	0.2	1.4	2.3	62.9	90.9	
1984	0.1	6.1	0.2	0.4	6.7	2.5	1.5	0.3	1.8	3.0	66.0	88.6	
1985	0.1	6.8	0.1	0.4	5.5	2.8	1.5	0.2	1.4	3.0	65.0	86.5	
1986	0.1	7.1	0.2	0.5	5.8	3.0	1.7	0.2	1.3	2.9	69.6	93.8	
1987	0.1	7.1	0.3	0.6	6.1	3.5	1.6	0.2	1.9	3.1	72.8	96.7	
1988	0.1	7.7	0.3	0.4	6.8	3.2	1.8	0.2	1.7	3.3	72.0	97.4	
1989	0.1	7.9	0.3	0.5	5.9	3.2	2.0	0.1	1.4	3.3	72.5	96.1	
1990	0.1	7.8	0.5	0.5	5.5	3.2	2.1	0.2	1.5	3.2	70.7	92.0	
1991	0.1	7.3	0.5	0.9	6.4	3.1	1.9	0.2	1.4	3.6	70.5	89.6	
1992	0.1	7.1	0.4	0.7	6.0	3.1	2.0	0.2	1.8	3.6	74.3	98.5	
1993	0.1	7.0	0.6	0.9	5.9	3.4	2.0	0.3	1.3	3.6	72.7	98.5	
1994	0.1	7.0	0.6	1.0	5.4	3.4	2.0	0.3	1.6	4.1	74.9	99.6	
1995	0.1	7.5	0.6	1.1	5.3	3.4	1.9	0.4	0.9	4.1	73.2	97.1	
1996	0.1	6.7	0.5	1.3	4.4	3.1	1.9	0.5	1.4	4.3	72.9	97.5	
1997	0.1	7.8	0.5	1.4	5.5	3.4	2.3	0.5	1.5	4.1	75.0	101.6	
1998	0.1	7.2	0.6	1.5	4.7	3.4	2.8	0.5	1.2	3.9	75.1	101.7	
1999	0.1	8.0	0.6	1.6	5.3	3.5	3.0	0.6	1.3	4.5	80.7	101.1	
2000	0.1	7.4	0.6	1.8	5.3	3.4	3.2	0.7	1.2	4.8	77.6	101.1	
2001	0.1	7.4	0.6	1.8	5.2	3.3	3.2	0.8	1.3	4.2	73.6	97.5	
2002	0.1	8.4	0.5	2.0	5.2	3.1	3.8	0.8	1.3	4.6	76.0	99.4	
2003	0.1	7.7	0.4	2.1	5.2	3.0	4.4	0.9	1.2	4.9	76.5	100.4	

1/ All non-citrus fruit data are on calendar-year basis, except apples (year begins in August of year shown), grapes (year begins in May for 1990-2003 and in July for 1982-1989), and pears (year begins in July). The year begins as follows for citrus fruit: November for oranges, tangerines, tangelos and temples; September for grapefruit; August of prior year for lemons; and April of year shown for limes.

2/ Preliminary 2003 figures.

3/ Some figures may not add due to rounding.