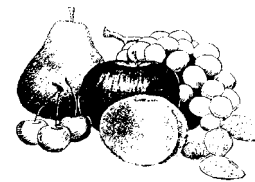


California Fruit & Nut Review



Frequency: Monthly, except November
Released: July 19, 2005

(USPS 598-290)
VOL. 25 NO. 7



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service,
California Field Office

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Fruit and Nut Summary	1-3
Almond Objective Measurement Forecast	3

JUNE CROP COMMENTS

Growers continued their seasonal cycle of irrigation and cultivation in fruit and nut orchards. Cool temperatures during June slowed the maturity of most tree fruit. Grapes, however, were maturing well with the onset of ideal growing conditions. Insecticides and fungicides continued to be applied to grape vineyards. Cane cutting began on early varieties of grapes to provide more aeration, thus, reducing humidity underneath the vines. Stone fruit harvesting continued. Varieties harvested during June included Earlicot, Castlebright, Katy, and Patterson apricots; Spring Snow, Burpeach, Brittney Lane, Babcock, Crimson Lady, Ivory Princess, Flavorcest, Saturn, Snow Beauty, White Lady, June Flame, and Country Sweet peaches; Red Beaut, Early King, Flavorosa, Early Queen, Black Beaut, Splendor, Black Amber, and Santa Rosa plums; Diamond Bright,

Kay Pearl, Kay Sweet, and Red Roy nectarines. Fruit thinning was ongoing in late maturing varieties of stone fruit. Harvested stone fruit orchards were topped, fertilized, and irrigated. Blueberry harvest slowed in Fresno County by month's end. Strawberries, blackberries, and boysenberries were harvested in the Central Valley and the Central Coast. Fig harvest commenced in Merced County. Olive and avocado bloom came to an end toward the latter part of the month. Herbicides were applied in olive orchards. Almond growers were applying insecticides and fungicides in their orchards. Walnut orchards were sprayed for blight and codling moths, and weed control was underway. Some walnut orchards were propped in Yuba County. During June, citrus groves were topped and hedged, and applications of pre-emergent herbicides and fungicides continued. Growers sprayed for cutworms, thrips, and red mites. Marsh White variety grapefruit were harvested in the southern coastal areas of the State, with good quality, normal shape, and good color reported. Marsh Ruby variety grapefruit was harvested in the Coachella Valley and quality was reported to be good to excellent. The Navel orange harvest neared completion, while the Valencia orange harvest continued.

FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent Change	Next Crop Update
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005		
NUT CROPS	Acres		Pounds		1,000 Pounds			
Almonds (Shelled)	550,000	550,000	1,840	1,600	1,010,000	880,000	-13	January 2006
Pecans	2,600	---	1,380	---	3,600	---		October 12, 2005
Pistachio (In-Shell)								
Marketable In-Shell <u>1/</u>	---	---	---	---	254,000	---		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	93,000	---		
Total <u>1/</u>	93,000	---	3,730	---	347,000	---		January 2006
Walnuts (In-Shell) <u>2/</u>	217,000	---	1.50	---	325.0	---		September 2, 2005
FRUIT CROPS								
Apples <u>1/</u>	26,000	---	7.50	---	195.0	---		August 12, 2005
Apricots <u>3/</u>	16,000	14,500	5.88	5.86	94.0	85.0	-10	January 2006
Cherries <u>1/ 3/</u>	26,000	28,000	2.81	1.61	73.0	45.0	-38	January 2006
Grapes, Raisin <u>1/ 4/</u>	244,000	242,000	8.32	10.10	2,030.0	2,450.0	21	August 12, 2005
Grapes, Table <u>1/</u>	83,000	84,000	9.28	9.64	770.0	810.0	5	August 12, 2005
Grapes, Wine <u>1/</u>	473,000	474,000	5.95	6.22	2,815.0	2,950.0	5	August 12, 2005
Grapes, All <u>1/ 4/</u>	800,000	800,000	7.02	7.76	5,615.0	6,210.0	11	August 12, 2005
Olives	32,000	---	3.25	---	104.0	---		August 12, 2005
Peaches, Clingstone	32,000	30,400	16.80	17.40	539.0	530.0	-2	January 2006
Peaches, Freestone <u>1/ 3/</u>	37,000	36,000	11.80	11.40	436.0	410.0	-6	January 2006
Pears, Bartlett <u>1/</u>	13,000	12,500	17.20	16.00	223.0	200.0	-10	August 12, 2005
Pears, Other	4,000	---	12.00	---	48.0	---		August 12, 2005
Prunes (Dried Weight)	70,000	67,000	0.70	1.57	49.0	105.0	114	January 2006
BERRIES			Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.			
Strawberries	33,200	34,300	590	575	19,588	19,723	1	January 2006
CITRUS CROP <u>5/</u>	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05		
			Cartons		1,000 Cartons			
Grapefruit <u>3/</u>	12,500	12,500	864	864	10,800	10,800	N/C	September 22, 2005
Lemons	45,000	44,000	800	864	36,000	38,000	6	September 22, 2005
Oranges, Navel <u>3/</u>	130,000	130,500	585	659	76,000	86,000	13	September 22, 2005
Oranges, Valencia	52,000	45,500	538	659	28,000	30,000	7	September 22, 2005
Tangerines <u>3/ 6/</u>	10,500	11,300	514	531	5,400	6,000	11	September 22, 2005

1/ Revised 2004.

2/ Walnut Objective Measurement Report will be released September 1, 2005 at 12:00 p.m. PDT.

3/ Estimated production for 2005 carried forward from June.

4/ Raisin Grape Objective Measurement Report will be released August 12, 2005 at 5:30 a.m. PDT.

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/ Includes tangelos, tangerines, and tangors.

Grapes - The California all grape forecast on 800 thousand bearing acres is 6.21 million tons, up 11 percent from last year. Specifically, the wine grape forecast on 474 thousand bearing acres is 2.95 million tons, up 5 percent from last season's crop. The expected table grape production on 84.0 thousand acres is 810 thousand tons, up 5 percent from 2004, while the raisin grape production on 242 thousand bearing acres is forecast at 2.45 million tons, up 21 percent from last year. Harvest of the raisin and table type varieties for fresh use was active through early July in the Coachella Valley. The wine crop is reported to be in good condition for most varieties. Quality of the raisin crop is expected to be down due to mildew problems which resulted from the cool, wet Spring weather.

Apricots - California's apricot production is forecast at 85.0 thousand tons, unchanged from the June forecast, but down 10 percent from the 2004 crop. Bearing acres are estimated to be 14.5 thousand. Commencement of bloom was early this year as a result of the warming impact of a mild El Nino Southern Oscillation. Unsettled late spring weather caused significant damage in the southern San Joaquin Valley and resulted in cracking, and shot hole and brown rot problems. Generally the fruit sized out well. Harvest began at the end of April, though was initially slow relative to recent years, and will be finished by mid-July.

Peaches - The 2005 California Freestone peach crop forecast is 410 thousand tons, unchanged from both the June forecast and the 2004 crop. Bearing acres are estimated at 36.0 thousand. Freestone peach harvest is underway, and quality is reported to be very good to date. The 2005 California Clingstone peach crop forecast is 530 thousand tons, up 4 percent from the June forecast, but down 2 percent from the 2004 crop. Bearing acres are estimated at 30.4 thousand. Harvesting of Clingstone peaches began in late June. Set is expected to be lighter than a year ago, but fruit size is excellent throughout the State.

Grapefruit - The 2004-2005 California grapefruit forecast is estimated at 10.8 million cartons, unchanged from the April forecast and unchanged from last season. Marsh White variety grapefruit was harvested in the southern coastal areas of the State. Quality of the Marsh White variety was reported to be good, with normal shape and good color. Marsh Ruby variety grapefruit was harvested in the Coachella Valley, with reports of good to excellent quality.

Lemons - The 2004-2005 California lemon forecast is 38.0 million cartons, down 3 percent from the April forecast, but up 6 percent from the 2003-2004 production. Harvest remains active in the South Coastal Area. Fruit size has been generally running medium to large, and shape is normal.

Oranges - The 2004-05 California Navel orange forecast is 86.0 million cartons, up 12 percent from the 2003-2004 production. Harvesting of the 2004-05 crop is essentially complete, as growers have been making the transition to the Valencia crop. No major concerns have been reported as the last of the Navels make their way to the packing sheds. The Valencia orange forecast is 32.0 million cartons, up 13 percent from last season's crop. Valencia harvesting continued at a slow, but steady, pace with good fruit quality. Katydid damage and sunburn were among the few quality problems noted in recent weeks.

FRUIT PRODUCTION FORECAST, BY STATE AND U.S.

Crop and State	2003	2004	Forecast 2005
	Tons		
APRICOTS			
California	92,500	94,000	85,000
Utah	180	330	160
Washington	4,900	6,800	5,000
U.S. TOTAL	97,580	101,130	90,160
CHERRIES, SWEET			
California ^{1/}	65,600	73,000	45,000
Michigan	13,000	24,700	27,000
Oregon	41,000	43,000	29,000
Washington	118,000	133,000	120,000
Other States ^{2/}	8,100	8,360	5,550
U.S. TOTAL	245,700	282,060	226,550
PEACHES			
California			
Freestone	413,000	436,000	410,000
Clingstone ^{3/}	536,000	539,000	530,000
Georgia	55,000	52,500	40,000
Michigan	23,500	18,700	19,000
New Jersey	35,000	32,500	30,000
Pennsylvania	36,500	23,000	20,500
South Carolina	50,000	70,000	75,000
Washington	19,500	21,500	22,000
Other States ^{4/}	91,000	113,910	93,850
U.S. TOTAL	1,259,500	1,307,110	1,240,350

^{1/} Forecast carried forward from *Crop Production Report* released June 10, 2005.

^{2/} ID, MT NY, PA, and UT. Estimate for PA discontinued in 2005.

^{3/} California Clingstone is over the scale tonnage and includes culls and cannery diversions.

^{4/} AL, AR, CO, CT, ID, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, MO, NC, NY, OH, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, VA, and WV. Estimate for IN discontinued in 2005.

CITRUS FRUIT PRODUCTION FORECAST, BY STATE AND U.S.

Crop and State	2002-03	2003-04	Forecast 2004-05
	1,000 Cartons		
ORANGES: ^{1/}			
California, All	124,000	104,000	116,000
Navel and Misc. ^{2/}	84,000	76,000	86,000
Valencia	40,000	28,000	30,000
Florida	406,000	484,000	299,200
Texas	3,140	3,300	3,540
Arizona ^{2/}	940	940	860
U.S. TOTAL	534,080	592,240	419,600
GRAPEFRUIT: ^{3/}			
California ^{2/}	11,200	10,800	10,800
Florida ^{2/}	77,400	81,800	25,600
Texas	11,300	11,400	13,200
Arizona ^{2/}	260	280	320
U.S. TOTAL	100,160	104,280	49,920
LEMONS: ^{4/}			
California	48,000	36,000	38,000
Arizona ^{2/}	6,000	6,000	4,800
U.S. TOTAL	54,000	42,000	42,800
TANGERINES: ^{2/ 5/}			
California ^{6/}	5,600	5,400	6,000
Florida ^{7/}	11,000	13,000	8,900
Arizona ^{6/}	860	1,380	800
U.S. TOTAL	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 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 2002-03 through 2003-04 include Fallglo, Sunburst, and Honey varieties only.

FLORIDA CITRUS

Florida's June weather in the citrus areas was rainy and warm with high humidity. Tropical flows brought localized storms and caused above average rainfall in all counties. Some counties received near record amounts of precipitation. Average daytime temperatures were in the high 80's to low 90's. Lows at night were in the 60's and 70's. Groves and trees are generally in good condition. New growth is showing good progress in most areas.

Harvest of Valencia oranges was slowed, and sometimes halted, due to the extremely wet weather. Weekly Valencia orange harvest reached almost 3.00 million boxes during the second week of June, after being hindered by rain the first week, when only 1.50 million boxes were utilized. Some groves experienced standing water along the main roads, making it difficult to operate harvesting equipment. Grove maintenance was also hindered due to the rainy conditions. Grapefruit harvest was completed during June.



CALIFORNIA ALMOND OBJECTIVE MEASUREMENT FORECAST, 2005

California's 2005 almond production is forecast at 880 million meat pounds, up 4 percent from May's subjective forecast, but down 13 percent from last year's crop. The forecast is based on 550 thousand bearing acres. Production for the Nonpareil variety is forecast at 280 million meat pounds, down 21 percent from last year's deliveries. The Nonpareil variety represents 32 percent of California's total almond production.

Weather during bloom was less than ideal this year due to continued instances of rain. The Nonpareil variety displayed one of the weakest blooms in years. Bloom was rapid with an extremely poor set. Numerous orchards displayed early petal fall. In addition, rain decreased the ability of bees to successfully pollinate many orchards. The set in other varieties is also down, but not to the extent of the Nonpareil variety. Kernel weight, length, width, and thickness are all up from last year. The kernels solidified slower than normal due to cooler than average temperatures during the spring.

**COMPARISON OF NUT ESTIMATES AND ORCHARDS SAMPLED
BY DISTRICT AND VARIETY, JUNE OBJECTIVE MEASUREMENT SURVEY COUNTS, 2000-2005**

District and Variety	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005	
	Nuts Per Tree	Orchards Sampled	Nuts Per Tree	Orchards Sampled	Nuts Per Tree	Orchards Sampled	Nuts Per Tree	Orchards Sampled	Nuts Per Tree	Orchards Sampled	Nuts Per Tree	Orchards Sampled
ALL DISTRICTS (All Varieties)	5,298	686	6,672	798	8,100	786	7,002	777	7,162	749	5,461	838
BY DISTRICTS												
<u>District I</u>												
Sacramento Valley	6,167	126	7,189	165	7,849	141	7,648	149	6,527	131	6,326	142
<u>District II</u>												
San Joaquin Valley	5,111	559	6,537	633	8,128	645	6,849	628	7,290	618	5,262	696
BY VARIETIES												
Butte <u>1/</u>	---	---	---	---	8,741	99	8,904	110	8,788	112	7,471	112
California Types <u>2/</u>	5,332	140	6,850	167	7,615	177	6,815	183	6,665	172	5,275	262
Carmel <u>3/</u>	5,275	84	6,832	99	7,146	99	6,727	97	6,380	90	4,698	144
Mission	4,975	31	5,928	41	8,235	29	8,055	28	6,719	26	6,410	19
Nonpareil	4,959	359	6,449	386	8,043	373	6,110	358	6,676	335	4,650	347
Padre <u>1/</u>	---	---	---	---	8,268	48	9,729	57	9,414	54	7,127	52

1/ Butte and Padre variety breakdowns were initiated in 2002.

2/ For survey purposes, the California classification includes the following varieties: Aldrich, Ballico, Carmel, Davey, Fritz, Harvey, Le Grand, Mono, Monterey, Norman, Price Cluster, Ruby, Tokoyo and Yosemite.

3/ Carmel variety is also included in California Types.