

California Fruit & Nut Review



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AUGUST CROP COMMENTS

Harvesting of table grapes continued during August. Varieties harvested included Flame Seedless, Autumn Royal, Princess, Fantasy, Thompson Seedless, Summer Royal, Red Globe, Kyoho, and Crimson Seedless. Raisin growers began placing Zante Currant and other early varieties on trays for drying, and by month's end, some trays were being rolled. Growers with dried-on-the-vine raisins continued cane cutting, while Thompson raisin growers were cane cutting and preparing the ground for terracing. Many grape growers began picking for wine and bulk juice production. Harvesting of stone fruit advanced with Prima 23, Snow

King, Prima 20, and Snow Giant peaches; Friar, Howard Sun, Betty Anne, Angelina, and Rosemary plums; Flavor Grenade pluots; and August Fire, August Red, Flamekist, and Regal Red nectarines. Prune harvesting was coming to its end in most areas. Good yields were reported from most prune growers in the San Joaquin Valley, while poor quality and low yields were reported from growers in northern counties. Stone fruit varieties harvested near the end of the month had some internal damage due to the hot weather, resulting in reduced pack-outs. Some stone fruit growers continued summer pruning following harvest, and most growers treated for spider mites. A few orchards were removed following harvest, and the trees were stacked for disposal. Apple harvest was underway in August with Granny Smith and Royal Gala varieties picked and packed. Harvesting of figs continued throughout the month.

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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	---	---	---	---	254,000	---		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	93,000	---		
Total	93,000	---	3,730	---	347,000	---		January 2006
Walnuts (In-Shell)	217,000	219,000	1.50	1.55	325.0	340.0	5	January 2006
			Tons		1,000 Tons			
FRUIT CROPS								
Apples	26,000	25,000	7.50	8.20	195.0	205.0	5	January 2006
Apricots	16,000	14,500	5.88	5.86	94.0	85.0	-10	January 2006
Cherries	26,000	28,000	2.81	1.61	73.0	45.0	-38	January 2006
Grapes, Raisin	244,000	242,000	8.32	9.50	2,030.0	2,300.0	13	October 12, 2005
Grapes, Table	83,000	84,000	9.28	9.40	770.0	790.0	5	October 12, 2005
Grapes, Wine	473,000	474,000	5.95	6.22	2,815.0	2,950.0	5	October 12, 2005
Grapes, All	800,000	800,000	7.02	7.55	5,615.0	6,040.0	8	October 12, 2005
Olives	32,000	32,000	3.25	3.91	104.0	125.0	20	January 2006
Peaches, Clingstone	32,000	30,400	16.80	17.40	539.0	530.0	-2	January 2006
Peaches, Freestone	37,000	36,000	11.80	11.40	436.0	410.0	-6	January 2006
Pears, Bartlett	13,000	12,000	17.20	15.00	223.0	180.0	-19	January 2006
Pears, Other	4,000	4,000	12.00	11.30	48.0	45.0	-6	January 2006
Plums, Dried	70,000	67,000	0.70	1.57	49.0	105.0	114	January 2006
			Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.			
BERRIES								
Strawberries	33,200	34,300	590	575	19,588	19,723	1	January 2006
CITRUS CROP 1/	2004-05	2005-06	2004-05	2005-06	2004-05	2005-06		
			Cartons		1,000 Cartons			
Grapefruit	12,500	---	864	---	10,800	---		September 22, 2005
Lemons	44,000	---	864	---	38,000	---		September 22, 2005
Oranges, Navel	130,500	131,000	659	641	86,000	84,000	-2	September 22, 2005
Oranges, Valencia	45,500	---	659	---	30,000	---		September 22, 2005
Tangerines 2/	11,300	---	531	---	6,000	---		September 22, 2005

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.

AUGUST CROP COMMENTS

(Continued from Page 1)

Harvesting of early pomegranate varieties began at the end of the month. Many San Joaquin Valley strawberry growers were fumigating and preparing soil for the fall crop. Blueberry fields were being mulched, pruned, and thinned. Almond harvest began in a few orchards the second week of August, and by month's end, harvest was well underway across the State with trees being shaken and nuts being swept and picked up from orchard floors and transported to hulling facilities. Later maturing orchards were treated with herbicides to clear weeds prior to harvest. Other nut orchards were being cultivated and irrigated, and orchard floors were prepared for harvest. There was some cleanup of broken limbs in walnut orchards, and husk fly and codling moth treatment continued. Some walnuts were exhibiting signs of sun burn. Olive fruit fly control application in olive orchards continued. Fruit set for kiwifruit appeared to be heavy. Growers applied fertilizers and micro nutrients through drip line irrigation systems to reduce heat stress and fruit drop on kiwifruit vines.

Citrus groves were showing steady growth, and some growers were dusting to protect trees and fruit from sunburn. Harvesting of Valencia oranges was sluggish during most of the month, and by month's end, most of the remaining fruit was picked for juice processing. Treatment continued in many orange groves to control scale, other pests, and weeds. Growers were preparing for the upcoming Navel orange harvest. The Navel crop was developing and sizing fairly, but some fruit had notable sunburn damage due to the hot weather. Harvesting of lemons began on a limited basis in the Desert region. The Marsh Ruby variety grapefruit harvest continued in the southern coastal areas of the State. Quality was generally good, however, mild weather delayed the color resulting in pale colored fruit in most lots. Shape was normal, with smooth texture in all sizes, and flavor and eating quality were good.

FLORIDA CITRUS

Florida's August weather in most of the citrus growing areas was marked by relatively high temperatures, high humidity, and near average rainfall. Record high temperatures were set in some areas. On most days, temperatures reached the mid to high 90's with high humidity. Rainfall was near average in all citrus growing areas. Rainfall accumulations for the calendar year remained above normal levels in all areas. The coastal areas received slightly more rain than interior areas. Citrus crops in all areas are making excellent progress with no major problems reported during August. Citrus trees are in excellent condition with limited fruit splitting reported. Fresh fruit crops are being sprayed regularly to hold

down insect populations, with some crops on the East Coast receiving weekly treatments. Citrus growers and caretakers are conducting routine summer cultural practices including weed control and dead tree removal and replacement. In the flat woods and coastal areas, growers are also maintaining ditches and canals to move excess water out of the groves and away from tree roots. Growers continue to push and burn trees that have been identified as exposed to citrus canker. Canker continues to be found in much of the State.

CALIFORNIA NAVAL ORANGE FORECAST

The initial 2005-06 Navel orange forecast is 84.0 million (37.5-pound) cartons, 2 percent below last season's crop of 86.0 million cartons. Of the total forecast, 82.0 million cartons are estimated to be in the Central

Valley. Survey data indicated an average fruit set of 461 oranges per tree, with a September 1 diameter of 2.230 inches.

CALIFORNIA CENTRAL VALLEY NAVAL ORANGES 1/

Crop Year 2/	Final Utilized Production 3/ (37.5-Lb. Cartons)	Bearing Acres	Average Trees Per Acre	Average Set Per Tree	Average September 1 Diameter 4/ (Inches)	Average March 1 Diameter 4/ (Inches)
1986-87	58,566,000	94,997	128	544	2.169	2.847
1987-88	53,588,000	96,110	126	361	2.343	3.195
1988-89	58,326,000	98,766	126	570	2.195	2.761
1989-90	79,242,000	101,525	125	541	2.250	2.820
1990-91	25,514,000	104,560	124	498	2.213	---
1991-92	60,406,000	102,000	124	---	---	---
1992-93	81,034,000	102,612	121	572	2.296	3.021
1993-94	63,800,000	106,381	121	452	2.365	3.090
1994-95	66,358,000	107,049	121	457	2.232	3.063
1995-96	69,750,000	113,000	121	460	2.258	2.994
1996-97	71,700,000	115,000	121	359	2.470	3.208
1997-98	81,000,000	116,500	121	407	2.481	3.195
1998-99	37,000,000	118,000	121	380	2.184	---
1999-00	76,000,000	119,000	122	458	2.224	3.049
2000-01	68,000,000	122,000	122	347	2.311	3.120
2001-02	60,000,000	122,000	122	264	2.483	3.172
2002-03	82,000,000	122,500	122	466	2.200	3.000
2003-04	77,000,000	123,000	124	358	2.410	3.210
2004-05	84,000,000	123,500	125	392	2.495	3.295
2005-06	82,000,000	124,000	127	461	2.230	3.030

1/ Data for final utilized production and bearing acres are from the orange industry. Acreage data are the number of acres with trees of bearing age (more than four years old). Some fruit could have been picked from trees younger than four years old, but not enough to consider the tree full-bearing.

2/ Data for 1990-91 and 1998-99 (freeze years) were not used in forecasting the 2005-06 crop. An Objective Measurement Survey was not conducted for the 1991-92 season due to lack of funding.

3/ USDA, NASS, California Field Office preliminary forecast for 2005-06.

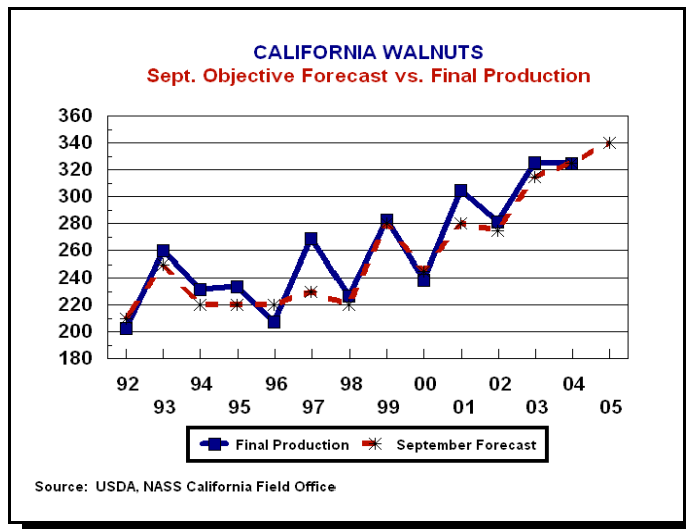
4/ Size data for 1984-85 through 1993-94 are from the Navel Orange Administrative Committee, while the data since 1993-94 are from the orange industry.

WALNUT PRODUCTION FORECAST

The 2005 California walnut production is forecast at a record 340,000 tons, up 5 percent from 2004's production of 325,000 tons. This forecast is based on the 2005 Walnut Objective Measurement (O.M.) Survey, which was conducted July 29 through August 24, 2005.

The 2005 Walnut O.M. Survey utilized a total of 655 blocks with two sample trees per block. Survey data indicated an average nut set of 1,575 per tree, up 3 percent from 2004's average of 1,526. The Hartley nut set was down 15 percent; Chandler, was up 29 percent; Serr, was up 22 percent; Franquette, was down 40 percent from 2004. Percent of sound kernels in-shell was 97.5 percent Statewide. In-shell weight per nut was 20.0 grams, while the average in-shell suture measurement was 31.7 millimeters. The average length in-shell was 38.6 millimeters.

Estimated nut sets, sizing measurements, average number of trees per acre, and estimated bearing acreage were used in the statistical models.



CALIFORNIA WALNUT OBJECTIVE MEASUREMENT SURVEY DATA – NUTS SET PER TREE BY DISTRICT

Year	Coast <u>1/</u>	Sacramento Valley <u>2/</u>	San Joaquin Valley <u>3/</u>	State <u>4/</u>
1994	1,813	1,961	1,602	1,773
1995	1,420	2,253	1,451	1,777
1996	1,362	1,836	1,497	1,630
1997	1,128	2,233	1,439	1,753
1998	1,070	1,654	1,253	1,407
1999	1,355	2,180	1,250	1,709
2000	1,195	1,812	1,204	1,483
2001	937	2,020	1,478	1,719
2002	1,254	1,982	1,142	1,572
2003	640	1,846	1,429	1,599
2004	924	1,943	1,168	1,526
2005	818	1,854	1,372	1,575

- 1/ Coast includes: Contra Costa, Lake, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa Clara, and Sonoma counties.
- 2/ Sacramento Valley includes: Butte, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Sacramento, Solano, Sutter, Tehama, Yolo, and Yuba counties.
- 3/ San Joaquin Valley includes: Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare counties.
- 4/ District and State averages are derived by weighting county averages by county bearing acreage figures.

CALIFORNIA WALNUT OBJECTIVE MEASUREMENT SURVEY DATA -- STATE TOTALS

Year	Bearing Acres	Total Production Tons	Kernel Grade - Percent Sound	In-Shell			
				Weight	Width	Length	Cross-Width
				gm	mm		
1994	189,000	232,000	95.6	22.1	32.2	39.4	32.2
1995	193,000	234,000	93.1	20.8	31.7	39.2	31.3
1996	192,000	208,000	94.4	22.1	32.3	39.0	32.5
1997	193,000	269,000	97.3	22.9	32.3	38.6	32.6
1998	198,000	227,000	94.4	21.4	31.9	39.5	31.8
1999	197,000	283,000	97.9	23.0	32.2	39.4	32.7
2000	200,000	239,000	96.9	21.2	32.2	38.2	32.8
2001	204,000	305,000	97.8	21.5	31.7	38.3	31.6
2002	210,000	282,000	96.3	22.0	32.4	38.5	32.7
2003	213,000	326,000	97.0	22.4	32.5	39.1	32.4
2004	217,000	325,000	98.2	22.5	32.6	39.0	32.5
2005 <u>a/</u>	219,000	340,000	97.5	20.0	31.7	38.6	31.6

a/ Bearing years include plantings of the following: Chandler, Chico, Howard, Tulare (2001 & Earlier); 50-55, 59-124, 4946, Amigo, Ashley, Bardoni, Cisco, Earhorn, Grove, Gustine, Honeycutt, Houston, Jensen, Lompoc, Marchetti, Nuggett, Payne, Pedro, Serr, Sunland, Tehama, Trinta, UCD 67-13, Vina, Westside (2000 and Earlier); Franquette, Franquette Scharsch, Mayette, Placentia, Poe, Willsons/Willsons Wonder, Woodland (1998 & Earlier); all other varieties not specified (1999 & Earlier).