California **Fruit & Nut Review**



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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

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JULY GENERAL COMMENTS

Various California stone fruit varieties were being harvested during July with hot temperatures. Among the varieties harvested during the month were: June Lady, June Flame, July Flame, Zee Diamond, Sweet Scarlett, Pink Lady, and Cling peaches; Black Splendor, Early Queen, Sugarosa, Catalina, and Santa Rosa plums; and Ruby Diamond, Summer Bright, and Grand Pearl nectarines. Harvest was underway for Black Velvet apricots. Pomegranates and figs were being harvested. The cycle of cultivation, irrigation, and pesticide and fungicide for mildew control was in progress in grape vineyards. Apple maturity was delayed due to high temperatures.

Pears were being harvested by the end of the month. Flame Seedless and Perlette grapes were being harvested. Raisin vineyards were cultivated between rows to prepare for harvest at the end of the month. Strawberry harvest continued and by month's end it was nearing completion in some areas. Blueberry, blackberry, and boysenberry harvest continued throughout the State. Almonds, pistachios, and walnuts were progressing and doing well in most areas. White wash applications were utilized to reduce the effects of sunburn in walnut orchards. Cultural practices were underway in nut orchards. These practices included irrigation, spray applications for weed and mildew control, and treatment for codling moth, mites, leaffooted bugs, and hoppers. Orchard mowing and cultivation was also in effect during July. New Navel orange orchards were being established in Fresno County. Valencia harvest was progressing slowly. Red scale treatments were applied at night to avoid hot temperatures. Citrus fruit drop was a concern for many growers toward the middle of the month of July. Lemon packing and hand pruning continued. Some orchards continued irrigation and treatments to control weeds and insects.

Gron	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent	Next
Crop	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	Change	Crop Update
NUT CROPS	Ac	Acres Pounds		1,000 Pounds				
Almonds (Shelled)	580,000	580,000	1,580	1,810	915,000	1,050,000	15	January 2007
Pecans	2,800		1,390		3,900			October 12, 2006
Pistachio (In-Shell)								
Marketable In-Shell					215,000			
Shelling Stock					68,000			
Total	105,000		2,700		283,000			January 2007
			Tor	Tons 1,000 Tons				
Walnuts (In-Shell) 1/	215,000		1.65		355.0			September 1, 2006
FRUIT CROPS								
Apples	25,000	24,000	7.10	7.50	177.5	180.0	1	January 2007
Apricots	14,500	13,800	5.21	2.83	75.5	39.0	-48	January 2007
Cherries	27,000	28,000	1.95	1.61	52.7	45.0	-15	January 2007
Grapes, Raisin <u>2</u> /	240,000	240,000	9.61	8.54	2,306.0	2,050.0	-11	October 12, 2006
Grapes, Table	83,000	83,000	10.45	9.52	867.0	790.0	-9	October 12, 2006
Grapes, Wine <u>2</u> /	477,000	477,000	7.98	6.71	3,805.0	3,200.0	-16	October 12, 2006
Grapes, All	800,000	800,000	8.72	7.55	6,978.0	6,040.0	-13	October 12, 2006
Olives	32,000	31,000	4.44	1.61	142.0	50.0	-65	January 2007
Peaches, Clingstone 2/	30,400	26,300	15.90	14.40	484.0	380.0	-21	January 2007
Peaches, Freestone 2/	36,000	36,000	10.70	10.60	385.0	380.0	-1	January 2007
Pears, Bartlett 2/	12,000	12,000	13.80	16.30	166.0	195.0	17	January 2007
Pears, Other	4,000	4,000	9.00	10.00	36.0	40.0	11	January 2007
Plums, Dried 3/	67,000	67,000	1.34	2.16	90.0	145.0	61	September 29, 2006
BERRIES			Cw	/t.	1,000) Cwt.		
Strawberries	34,300	35,800	600	570	20,580	20,406	-1	January 2007
CITRUS CROPS <u>4</u> /	2004-05	2005-06	2004-05	2005-06	2004-05	2005-06		
			Carte			Cartons		
Grapefruit, All	12,500	12,500	928	960	11,600	12,000	3	September 21, 1006
Lemons	44,000	42,000	864	905	38,000	38,000	N/A	September 21, 2006
Oranges, Navel	130,500	131,000	659	641	86,000	84,000	-2	September 12, 2006
Oranges, Valencia	45,500	45,000	901	489	41,000	22,000	-46	September 21, 2006
Tangerines 5/	11,300	12,000	496	667	5,600	8,000	43	September 21, 2006

FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Walnut Objective Measurement Report will be released September 1, 2006 at 12:00 p.m. PDT.

2/ 3/ 4/ "Estimated Production" for 2006 was carried forward from July.

Prune (Dired Plum) Post-Harvest Estimated will be released September 29, 2006 at 12 p.m. PDT.

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

5/ Includes tangelos, tangerines, and tangors.

FRUIT ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION

Apples - California's 2006 apple crop forecast is 180 thousand tons, up one percent from 2005. Acreage is estimated at 24.0 thousand acres, resulting in a yield of 7.50 tons per acre. California growers are expecting an apple crop similar in size to last year. Overall fruit size and color are good. Harvest of the Gala variety began on August 3. The size was down from what was originally anticipated due to the heat wave that struck the State the latter part of July. It was too early to tell the effects of the heat wave on later maturing varieties.

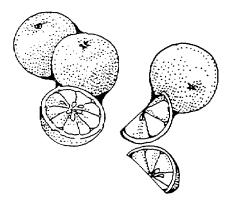
Grapes - Wine-type variety grape production for California is forecast at 3.20 million tons, unchanged from the July forecast, but down 16 percent from 2005. The table-type grape production is expected to total 790 thousand tons, up 5 percent from the July forecast, but down 9 percent from last year. The California raisin-type variety grape forecast is 2.05 million tons, unchanged from the July forecast, but down 11 percent from 2005. Raisin and table-type grapes for fresh use were harvested in the San Joaquin Valley, while table grape harvest in the Coachella Valley was complete. Flame Seedless, Black Emerald, Zante Current, and Thompson Seedless were among the varieties being harvested. Table grape sugar maturity tests have been high, and an increase in berry size occurred due to a light berry set. Raisin vineyards were cultivated between rows in preparation for harvest. Wine grape growers around the State reported that quality looked excellent as vines reach the final stades of development. The heat wave during July delayed berry sizing. and the smaller grapes will add intensity to the flavor. Yields in red grape vineyards appeared about average, but were lighter than normal among white varieties. Cultural operations such as irrigation, cultivation, vine suckering, and fungicide application continued in grape vineyards. Vine cutting was underway to allow sunlight penetration to enhance berry color.

GRAPE PRODUCTION FOR SELE	ECTED STATES AND U.S.
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Crop and State	2004	2005	2006 Forecast				
	Tons						
California:							
All Varieties	5,623,000	6,978,000	6,040,000				
Wine Varieties	2,815,000	3,805,000	3,200,000				
Table Varieties	770,000	867,000	790,000				
Raisin Varieties	2,038,000	2,306,000	2,050,000				
Michigan	62,500	102,700	25,000				
New York	142,000	178,000	160,000				
Pennsylvania	86,800	90,000	78,000				
Washington	267,000	415,000	350,000				
Other States <u>1</u> /	58,730	65,000	64,000				
United States	6,240,030	7,828,700	6,717,000				

1/ Includes Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, and Virginia.

Pears - The forecast of the 2006 <u>Bartlett</u> pear crop in California is 195 thousand tons, up 17 percent from 2005. The 2006 <u>other</u> pear forecast for California is 40.0 thousand tons, up 11 percent from 2005. The Bartlett bloom period was lengthened, particularly in the Sacramento River and Mendocino areas, due to rain and cool temperatures. Small fruit sizes were expected. Harvesting of other pears continued. Pear orchards were treated to control the leaf-footed bug, worms, aphids, and hoppers.



FLORIDA CITRUS

Cumulative precipitation amounts in citrus producing counties are still below normal for the year, with intermittent thunderstorms and passing showers during the month only partially offsetting this deficit. Temperatures reached the low to mid 90's on several days in all of the growing areas.

Harvest of the later maturing Valencia oranges, used primarily for processing, finished during the third week in July. Labor was in short supply, delaying harvest completion. Growers continue to irrigate, due to hot weather and the lack of sufficient rain, to keep trees and the new crop in good condition. Fruit sizes are reported as variable, with some early and mid-season oranges larger than golf balls and some grapefruit larger than baseball size. Activity in the groves included application of summer oils, cleaning ditches, fertilizing, mowing, and irrigation.

CALIFORNIA OLIVE FORECAST FOR 2006

The 2006 California olive crop forecast is 50,000 tons, down 65 percent from last year's crop of 142,000 tons. Bearing acreage is estimated at 31,000 for a yield of 1.61 tons per acre, down 64 percent from last year's yield. Olive growers across California are reporting that the 2006 olive crop is the worst crop in many years. If realized the crop forecast of 50,000 tons would be the smallest since 1981, when 44,900 tons were produced. From Northern counties to the Central Valley, reports of little to no crop are consistent. Both areas were heavily impacted by uncooperative winter and spring weather conditions. Extremely warm weather in January followed by freezing temperatures in February damaged fruit buds. Heavy rains and cool temperatures arrived in April and May, during the peak of olive bloom, knocking blossoms off trees and destroying any opportunity for proper pollination.

The Manzanillo and Sevillano olive varieties are expected to produce 76 percent and 20 percent of the total olive crop, respectively. The remaining 4 percent are expected to come from all other varieties. The majority of the total production will be utilized for canning. It is estimated that approximately 45,000 tons will be canned with the remaining 5,000 tons used for olive oil and other specialty products.

