



California Fruit & Nut Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

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Cherry and prune orchards were in bloom. Blueberry fields were reported blooming. Winter cover crops were disced and mowed. Bee pollination was in full swing with recent weather making conditions ideal. Almonds were in full bloom throughout March with petal fall occurring later in the month. Walnut orchards were pruned and brush shredded as the weather permitted. Soil amendments and pre-emergent herbicides continued at a fast pace.

MARCH CROP COMMENTS

Grape vineyard operators continued fertilizing, irrigating, and spraying to control weeds throughout the month of March. Pruning and trellis system repairing was complete for the season. Grape buds were swelling and leafing out for various varieties. Stone fruit, nut, and pomegranate orchards were being irrigated and fertilized, while herbicides were applied. New orchards continued to be planted. The recent warm weather has been beneficial to the bloom season for stone fruit growers. Early blooms on peaches, nectarines, and plums were winding down by month's end in Tulare County. Kiwi pruning was almost complete.

Damage assessment of citrus fruit continued throughout the month with growers trying to salvage fruit that survived the January freeze. The drying out of Navel oranges progressed at a fast pace due to the warm spring weather. Buds were appearing in citrus groves as growers began hedging and topping trees. Harvest of oranges, tangerines, tangelos, mandarins, and grapefruit continued throughout the month. Some growers were treating to control fungus and weeds and applying foliar nutrients. Frost damaged limbs continued to be pruned.

FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent Change	Next Crop Update
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006		
NUT CROPS 1/	Acres		Pounds		1,000 Pounds			
Almonds (Shelled) 2/	580,000	580,000	1,580	1,890	915,000	1,095,000	20	May 9, 2007
Pecans	2,600	2,900	1,520	1,280	3,950	3,700	-6	July 6, 2007
Pistachio (In-Shell)								
Marketable In-Shell	---	---	---	---	215,000	201,000	-7	
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	68,000	37,000	-46	
Total	105,000	110,000	2,700	2,160	283,000	238,000	-16	July 6, 2007
Walnuts (In-Shell) 3/	215,000	215,000	1.65	1.63	355.0	350.0	-1	July 6, 2007
FRUIT CROPS 1/								
Apples	24,000	23,000	7.40	7.09	177.5	163.0	-8	July 6, 2007
Apricots	14,500	14,500	5.21	2.69	75.5	39.0	-48	June 11, 2007
Cherries	27,000	28,000	1.95	1.50	52.7	42.1	-20	June 11, 2007
Grapes, Raisin 4/	240,000	240,000	9.52	8.15	2,285.0	1,955.0	-14	July 6, 2007
Grapes, Table	83,000	83,000	10.50	8.43	872.0	700.0	-20	July 6, 2007
Grapes, Wine	477,000	477,000	7.98	6.37	3,806.0	3,040.0	-20	July 6, 2007
Grapes, All 4/	800,000	800,000	8.70	7.12	6,963.0	5,695.0	-18	July 6, 2007
Olives	32,000	31,000	4.44	0.76	142.0	23.5	-83	July 6, 2007
Peaches, Clingstone	30,400	26,300	15.90	13.70	484.0	359.0	-26	May 9, 2007
Peaches, Freestone	36,000	36,000	10.70	9.81	385.0	353.0	-8	May 9, 2007
Pears, Bartlett	12,000	12,000	13.80	16.60	166.0	199.0	20	June 11, 2007
Pears, Other	4,000	4,000	9.00	10.00	36.0	40.0	11	July 6, 2007
Plums, Dried 5/	67,000	67,000	1.45	2.54	97.0	170.0	67	June 1, 2007
BERRIES	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007		
Strawberries 6/	35,800	35,500	590	580	21,163	20,590	-3	July 10, 2007
CITRUS CROPS 7/	2005-06	2006-07	2005-06	2006-07	2005-06	2006-07		
	Cartons		1,000 Cartons					
Grapefruit	11,500	11,500	1,043	835	12,000	9,600	-20	July 12, 2007
Lemons	44,000	45,000	955	733	42,000	33,000	-21	July 12, 2007
Oranges, Navel 8/	135,000	136,000	696	397	94,000	54,000	-43	July 12, 2007
Oranges, Valencia	46,000	43,000	587	465	27,000	20,000	-26	July 12, 2007
Tangerines 9/	14,000	16,000	514	325	7,200	5,200	-28	July 12, 2007

1/ Estimate for current year carried forward from previous forecast.
 2/ Almond Subjective Forecast Report released May 9 at 12:00 p.m. PDT. Almond Objective Measurement Report released June 29 at 12:00 p.m. PDT.
 3/ Walnut Objective Measurement Report released September 5 at 12:00 p.m. PDT.
 4/ Raisin Grape Objective Measurement Report released August 10 at 5:30 a.m. PDT.
 5/ Dried Plum Forecast reports (Prunes) will be released June 1 at 12:00 p.m. PDT and again on September 28 at 12:00 p.m. PDT.
 6/ Includes fresh market and processing.
 7/ Grapefruit -- 33.5 lbs. per carton; Lemons -- 38.0 lbs. per carton; Oranges -- 37.5 lbs. per carton; Tangerines -- 37.5 lbs. per carton.
 8/ Navel Objective Measurement Report released September 12 at 5:30 a.m. PDT.
 9/ Includes tangelos, tangerines and tangors.

CALIFORNIA CITRUS

Navel Oranges - The 2006-07 Navel orange forecast is 54.0 million cartons, unchanged from last month, but down 43 percent from last season. Packers continued to find good quality Navel oranges. The drying of frost-damaged fruit became more evident, and packing houses were using mechanical frost separators to separate damaged fruit from good fruit.

Valencia Oranges - The 2006-07 Valencia orange forecast remains unchanged from March at 20.0 million cartons. The crop is expected to be down 26 percent from last season. The full extent of frost-damage to the Valencia orange crop was yet to be realized. A few packing houses were scheduled to begin working the first week of April.

Grapefruit - The 2006-07 California grapefruit forecast is 9.60 million cartons, unchanged from the March forecast, but down 20 percent from last season. Subsequent to the January freeze, a number of measures were taken to assist recovery to trees affected by the cold. Damaged limbs were pruned and foliar nutrients applied in many orchards. New trees were planted. As a result of the freeze, grapefruit and pummelo harvests remained slow. Sales of Desert Rios were, nonetheless, steady in a range of sizes and supplies of smaller sizes were especially good. Pummelos had been picked for the season and sales were good. Oroblanco sales were limited and inventories were low.

Lemons - The 2006-07 lemon forecast is 33.0 million cartons, unchanged from the March forecast, but 21 percent below last season. Recovery to citrus trees affected by the January freeze continued, though flowering and fruit set appeared to be lost for next year's crop in parts of Imperial County. Packing houses exhausted their lemon supplies in the desert areas of California. Elsewhere, lemons were still being picked and packed, though volumes from the Central Valley were low. Inventories in the south coastal regions of the State were also low, but more supplies will be available as harvest gains momentum in that part of the State. Quality of south coastal lemons was reportedly excellent in a variety of sizes; however, volumes were somewhat lighter than the previous season.

Tangerines - The 2006-07 tangerine forecast is 5.20 million cartons, unchanged from the March forecast and down 28 percent from last season. Harvesting of tangerines slowly increased after the January freeze and began to wind down in early April. The recovery process for surviving trees continued. Frost damaged limbs were being pruned, and new trees were being planted. Murcott harvest picked up speed in March, and inventories were still being packed. Murcotts were proving to have good quality.

FLORIDA CITRUS

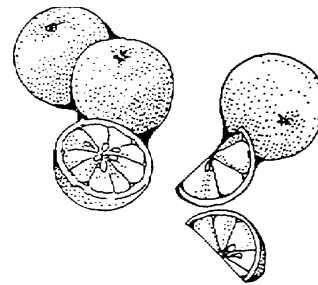
Bloom was evident in all citrus growing areas during March. By the third week of the month, full bloom was noted on most citrus varieties in coastal and upper interior areas and a few Valencia orange groves had begun showing petal drop. Field personnel in lower interior groves reported an even, heavy bloom on all varieties. Rainfall for the month was below average in all areas. The east coast and the southern citrus producing areas were very dry, having received about an inch of rainfall for the month. Many days in the lower to mid 80s were recorded in all areas. Most growers were irrigating frequently, but the dry, warm weather could cause problems if rain does not come shortly after the bloom period.

Early and mid-season orange harvests were completed during March. Valencia harvest increased significantly during the second week of the month. The Valencia harvest was running ahead of the last two years, indicating an earlier maturing crop. Grapefruit harvest continued throughout the month with about two-thirds of the harvested fruit being processed. Honey tangerine harvest was steady at between 100,000 and 200,000 boxes per week. Growers and caretakers continued hedging and topping programs and applying pesticides in preparation for the next season's crop. In addition to normal maintenance programs, growers scouted for greening and removed diseased trees.

CITRUS FRUITS PRODUCTION BY STATE AND U.S.

Crop and State	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 Forecast
	1,000 Cartons		
ORANGES: 1/			
California, All	129,000	121,000	74,000
Navel and Misc.	88,000	94,000	54,000
Valencia	41,000	27,000	20,000
Florida	299,600	295,400	261,400
Texas	3,540	3,200	3,700
Arizona	860	900	700
ALL U.S. ORANGES	433,000	420,500	339,800
GRAPEFRUIT: 2/			
California, All	12,200	12,000	9,600
Florida	25,600	38,600	56,000
Texas	13,200	10,400	13,000
Arizona	280	200	200
ALL U.S. GRAPEFRUIT	51,280	61,200	78,800
LEMONS: 3/			
California	41,000	42,000	33,000
Arizona	4,800	7,600	5,000
ALL U.S. LEMONS	45,800	49,600	38,000
TANGERINES: 4/			
California 5/	5,800	7,200	5,200
Florida	8,900	11,000	9,200
Arizona 5/	800	1,100	600
ALL U.S. TANGERINES	15,500	19,300	15,000

- 1/ ORANGES: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 37.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 45 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs. Small quantities of tangerines in Texas.
- 2/ GRAPEFRUIT: Arizona, 1 carton=32 lbs.; California, 1 carton = 33.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 40 lbs.
- 3/ LEMONS: All, 1 carton = 38 lbs.
- 4/ TANGERINES: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 37.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 47.5 lbs.
- 5/ Includes tangelos, tangerines, and tangors.



STRAWBERRIES

The 2007 strawberry production is expected to be 20.6 million cwt., a 3 percent decline from last year. California's area for harvest is forecast at 35,500 acres, down 1 percent from 2006. California's strawberry season started slowly this year due to a January freeze followed by dry conditions. Sporadic damage has been reported in the southern part of the State. However, warmer weather is expected to bring shipments back within normal ranges.

FRESH FRUIT: UNITED STATES PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION, 1984 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												
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	28.4	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	24.0	16.9	0.1	2.7	26.2	0.4	0.9
2004	10.8	2.8	3.1	1.9	4.1	22.7	18.8	0.1	3.1	25.7	0.5	1.0
2005	11.4	2.5	2.9	2.2	2.7	21.6	16.9	0.1	3.3	25.1	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												
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	0.2	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	93.9
1987	0.1	7.1	0.3	0.6	6.1	3.5	1.6	0.2	1.9	3.1	72.8	96.8
1988	0.1	7.7	0.3	0.4	6.8	3.2	1.8	0.2	1.7	3.3	72.0	97.5
1989	0.1	7.9	0.5	0.5	5.9	3.2	2.0	0.1	1.4	3.3	72.7	96.3
1990	0.1	7.8	0.5	0.5	5.5	3.2	2.1	0.2	1.5	3.2	70.7	92.1
1991	0.1	7.3	0.3	0.9	6.4	3.1	1.9	0.2	1.4	3.6	70.4	89.4
1992	0.1	7.1	0.5	0.7	6.0	3.1	2.0	0.2	1.8	3.6	74.4	98.6
1993	0.1	7.0	0.5	0.9	5.9	3.4	2.0	0.3	1.3	3.6	72.6	98.4
1994	0.1	7.0	0.5	1.0	5.4	3.4	2.0	0.3	1.6	4.1	74.9	99.6
1995	0.1	7.5	0.5	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	72.8	97.4
1997	0.1	7.8	0.5	1.4	5.5	3.4	2.3	0.5	1.5	4.1	75.1	101.7
1998	0.1	7.2	0.5	1.5	4.7	3.4	2.8	0.5	1.2	3.9	75.2	101.7
1999	0.1	8.0	0.5	1.6	5.3	3.5	3.0	0.6	1.3	4.6	80.7	101.1
2000	0.1	7.4	0.6	1.8	5.3	3.4	3.2	0.7	1.2	4.9	77.7	101.2
2001	0.1	7.4	0.4	1.8	5.2	3.3	3.2	0.8	1.3	4.2	73.5	97.4
2002	0.1	8.4	0.4	2.0	5.2	3.1	3.8	0.8	1.3	4.7	75.9	99.3
2003	0.1	7.7	0.4	2.1	5.2	3.1	4.4	0.9	1.2	5.3	77.5	101.4
2004	0.1	7.8	0.4	2.0	5.1	3.0	4.4	1.0	1.1	5.5	79.7	102.4
2005	0.1	8.6	0.5	1.9	4.8	2.9	4.9	0.9	1.1	5.8	78.3	99.9

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 1990-2005 and in July for 1983-1989), 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 2005 figures.

3/ Some figures may not add due to rounding.

SOURCE: Economic Research Service, USDA.