



California Fruit & Nut Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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September. Some strawberry blocks were being replanted. Olive harvest began, and many growers reported a lighter than normal crop. Some groves with low yields were expected to be left unharvested.

Pistachio picking began and quickly gained speed as the month progressed. Harvesting of almonds continued, and walnut harvest began. Some groves continued to be irrigated.

SEPTEMBER CROP COMMENTS

California table, wine, and raisin-type grape harvest continued during September. In Fresno County, raisin grape harvest was 100 percent complete, with 30 percent on open trays, 27 percent rolled, and 43 percent boxed. Zante currants continued to be rolled. The harvest of early pomegranate varieties was on the rise; later varieties continued to size and mature. Varieties of peaches, plums, pluots, and nectarines continued to be picked and packed. Gala, Granny Smith, Golden Delicious, McIntosh, and Red Delicious apples were harvested, as well as Brown Turkey and Mission figs, Asian pears, and Jujubes. Fall strawberry harvest continued in Oxnard and began in parts of Tulare County during

California's 2008 prune production forecast is 120,000 dried tons, up 45 percent from last year's below normal crop of 83,000 tons, but 39 percent below the 2006 crop. This forecast is carried forward from the June forecast. The 2008 prune crop was hit by a mid-April frost, with some growers reportedly losing 25 to 100 percent of their crop. While the frost was widespread across the State, the low-lying orchards received the heaviest damage. The overall crop is still expected to be above 2007, but below previous high production levels. Prune demand is up, and the harvest and delivery is scheduled to be completed on time.

FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent Change	Next Crop Update
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008		
NUT CROPS	<i>Acres</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>1,000 Pounds</i>			
Almonds (Shelled)	615,000	660,000	2,260	2,270	1,390,000	1,500,000	8	January 2009
Pecans	3,100	3,100	1,420	1,290	4,400	4,000	-9	January 2009
Pistachio (In-Shell)								
Marketable In-Shell	---	---	---	---	333,000	---		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	83,000	---		
Total	114,000	---	3,650	---	416,000	---		January 2009
			<i>Tons</i>		<i>1,000 Tons</i>			
Walnuts (In-Shell)	218,000	218,000	1.49	1.72	325.0	375.0	15	January 2009
FRUIT CROPS								
Apples 1/	20,500	19,500	8.41	8.21	172.5	160.0	-7	January 2009
Apricots	13,800	13,400	5.87	6.12	81.0	82.0	1	January 2009
Cherries	30,000	30,000	2.83	2.87	85.0	86.0	1	January 2009
Grapes, Raisin 1/	227,000	227,000	9.40	9.69	2,133.0	2,200.0	3	January 2009
Grapes, Table	82,000	82,000	9.65	10.10	791.0	830.0	5	January 2009
Grapes, Wine 1/	480,000	480,000	6.85	7.08	3,287.0	3,400.0	3	January 2009
Grapes, All	789,000	789,000	7.87	8.15	6,211.0	6,430.0	4	January 2009
Olives	31,000	31,000	4.27	2.10	132.5	65.0	-51	January 2009
Peaches, Clingstone	26,500	25,300	18.98	15.00	503.0	380.0	-24	January 2009
Peaches, Freestone	36,000	36,000	12.40	11.90	446.0	430.0	-4	January 2009
Pears, Bartlett	12,000	12,000	16.80	16.70	201.0	200.0	NC	January 2009
Pears, Other	4,000	4,000	10.50	11.00	42.0	44.0	5	January 2009
Prunes (Dried Weight) 1/	65,000	65,000	1.28	1.85	83.0	120.0	45	January 2009
			<i>Cwt.</i>		<i>1,000 Cwt.</i>			
Strawberries 2/	35,800	36,700	605	600	21,540	22,020	2	January 2009
CITRUS CROPS 3/	2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09		
			<i>Cartons</i>		<i>1,000 Cartons</i>			
Grapefruit 4/	11,000	11,000	1,036	1,000	11,400	11,000	-4	January 2009
Lemons 4/	44,000	44,000	773	864	34,000	38,000	12	January 2009
Oranges, Navel 1/	137,000	137,000	708	467	97,000	64,000	-34	January 2009
Oranges, Valencia	43,000	43,000	744	558	32,000	24,000	-25	January 2009
Tangerines 5/	18,000	22,000	633	573	11,400	12,600	11	January 2009

1/ Forecast carried forward from previous forecast.

2/ Includes fresh market and processing.

3/ Grapefruit - 33.5 lbs. per carton, Lemons - 38.0 lbs. per carton, Oranges - 37.5 lbs. per carton, Tangerines - 37.5 lbs. per carton.

4/ Revised 2007-08 data.

5/ Includes tangelos, tangerines, and tangors.

CALIFORNIA CITRUS

Oranges: California's all orange production forecast at 88.0 million cartons (1.65 million tons), down 32 percent from 2007-08 and 4 percent below the 2006-07 crop.

Navel oranges are forecast at 64.0 million cartons (1.20 million tons), down 34 percent from last season and down 7 percent from final 2006-07 utilization. Fruit were sizing well, and harvest should begin by mid-October. A lower than average yield is expected since fruit set per tree is at the lowest level on record.

The October 1 California Valencia forecast is 24.0 million cartons (450 thousand tons), down 25 percent from last season, but up 4 percent from the 2006-07 crop. Harvest of the 2007-08 crop remained underway in many locations. Growers expect a decrease in production for the 2008-09 crop.

Grapefruit: The California grapefruit forecast of 11.0 million cartons (184 thousand tons) is 4 percent lower than the 2007-08 season, but unchanged from 2006-07. Grapefruit for the 2008-09 season continued to develop normally in California as harvest of the previous crop wound down.

Lemon: California's lemon production is forecast at 38.0 million cartons (722 thousand tons), up 12 percent from last season and 3 percent higher than 2006-07. Harvest continued in the coastal areas and began in the desert region. The desert crop has recovered from the devastating freeze of 2007, and a larger crop is expected this season.

Tangerines: In California's tangerine and mandarin forecast is a record-high 12.6 million cartons (236 thousand tons), up 11 percent from last season and 80 percent above the 2006-07 freeze-damaged crop. Bearing acreage continued to increase. An above average yield was expected due to additional crop recovery from the 2007 freeze.

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

Crop and State	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
	1,000 Cartons		
ORANGES: 1/			
California, All	92,000	129,000	88,000
Navel and Misc.	69,000	97,000	64,000
Valencia	23,000	32,000	24,000
Florida	258,000	340,400	332,000
Texas	3,960	3,468	3,000
Arizona	600	760	500
U.S. TOTAL	354,560	473,628	423,500
GRAPEFRUIT: 2/			
California, All	11,000	11,400	11,000
Florida	54,400	53,200	46,000
Texas	14,200	12,200	10,600
Arizona	200	200	300
U.S. TOTAL	79,800	77,000	67,900
LEMONS: 3/			
California	37,000	34,000	38,000
Arizona	5,000	3,000	5,000
U.S. TOTAL	42,000	37,000	43,000
TANGERINES: 4/			
California 5/	7,000	11,400	12,600
Florida	9,200	11,000	9,800
Arizona 5/	600	800	600
U.S. TOTAL	16,800	23,200	23,000

- 1/ ORANGES: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 37.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 45 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs.
- 2/ GRAPEFRUIT: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 33.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 40 lbs.
- 3/ LEMONS: 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.

FLORIDA CITRUS

In Florida, daily high temperatures during September were, on average, in the upper 80s to lower 90s, and all citrus areas received less than average rainfall. Some groves on the East Coast remained wet from the heavy rain that fell during the preceding few weeks. Many of those growers continued pumping water out of canals and ditches. Isolated groves were exhibiting the yellowing of leaves and additional small percentages of fruit drop. Growers and caretakers in other areas across the citrus belt quickly returned to irrigation and general maintenance programs. Other fieldwork included mowing, fertilizing, applying herbicides, removing trees, and preparing for harvest. Field crews were actively scouting for greening and spraying for psyllid population control or pushing affected trees. Overall, well cared for trees looked good, with heavy foliage and healthy fruit. Over a dozen packinghouses opened during the month and began running fruit. Varieties going to the fresh market included Ambersweet and Navel oranges, Fallglo tangerines, and grapefruit. Only one processing plant opened during the month.

CALIFORNIA GRAPES

California's **all** grape varieties production for the 2008 season is forecast at 6.43 million tons, slightly up from August and 4 percent above last year.

Wine-type variety grape production is expected to total 3.40 million tons, 53 percent of California's total grape crop. The production forecast for wine-type varieties is unchanged from the August forecast, but up 3 percent from a year ago. Overall, bunch counts are down slightly from 2007, but quality is reported to be very good.

Production of **table-type** grapes is forecast at 830 thousand tons, 13 percent of California's total grape crop. Production of table varieties is up 4 percent from the August 1 forecast and 5 percent above last year. Late table-type varieties continued to be harvested for fresh use in September. Fruit quality is excellent, although berry size is not as large as in some seasons.

The **raisin-type** variety grape production is forecast at 2.20 million tons, 34 percent of California's total grape crop. Production of raisin varieties is unchanged from last month, but up 3 percent from 2007. Although a slightly above average sized raisin crop is expected, the quality is down from a year ago.

FRUIT PRODUCTION

Crop and State	2006	2007	2008 Forecast
	Tons		
APPLES			
California 1/	177,500	172,500	160,000
Idaho 1/	30,000	17,500	27,500
Michigan	440,000	385,000	265,000
New York	630,000	655,000	600,000
North Carolina	86,500	30,000	82,500
Ohio 1/	51,000	27,800	47,500
Oregon 1/	75,000	67,500	85,000
Pennsylvania	235,000	235,000	220,000
Virginia	110,000	107,500	115,000
Washington	2,775,000	2,600,000	2,700,000
West Virginia	45,000	40,000	42,500
Other States 1/ 2/	280,850	219,150	276,100
U.S. TOTAL	4,935,850	4,556,950	4,621,100
GRAPES			
California: All	5,726,000	6,211,000	6,430,000
Wine	3,176,000	3,287,000	3,400,000
Table 3/	717,000	791,000	830,000
Raisin 3/	1,833,000	2,133,000	2,200,000
Michigan	32,500	100,100	71,000
New York	155,000	180,000	165,000
Pennsylvania	82,000	84,000	93,000
Washington	316,000	376,000	365,000
Other States 1/ 4/	65,650	66,900	82,100
U.S. TOTAL	6,377,150	7,018,000	7,206,100

- 1/ Estimates for current year carried forward from an earlier forecast.
- 2/ Other states include: AR, CO, CT, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, NH, NJ, RI, SC, TN, UT, VT, and WI.
- 3/ Fresh basis.
- 4/ Other states include: AR, AZ, GA, MO, NC, OH, OR, TX, and VA.

CASH INCOME BY COMMODITY GROUPS, CALIFORNIA, 2006-08 1/

Source of Income	2006	2007	2008
	\$1,000		
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS			
Almonds	2,525,909	2,258,790	2,127,375
Apples	54,699	81,210	79,666
Apricots	33,930	23,128	34,878
Avocados	279,745	337,258	253,853
Berries, Other	257,840	293,344	332,463
Berries, Strawberries	1,122,834	1,199,341	1,338,586
Cherries	84,751	124,391	155,016
Dates	24,101	34,690	37,459
Figs	25,919	25,815	24,921
Grapefruit	101,794	81,515	42,702
Grapes	3,194,805	2,998,434	3,082,014
Kiwifruit	22,461	23,148	22,517
Lemons	292,163	322,489	292,196
Nectarines	120,456	112,706	89,039
Olives	80,102	18,119	86,693
Oranges, Navel and Miscellaneous	639,980	344,673	224,230
Oranges, Valencia	171,707	130,369	59,553
Peaches, Clingstone	122,939	104,846	152,665
Peaches, Freestone	157,048	165,562	179,175
Pears	79,790	68,269	82,691
Pecans	7,110	5,848	7,832
Pistachios	580,150	449,820	561,600
Plums	92,463	108,648	101,077
Plums, Dried	81,927	156,860	240,921
Tangerines	45,288	53,501	54,751
Walnuts	557,350	563,980	754,000
Other Fruits and Nuts	126,796	146,530	117,400
TOTAL	10,884,057	10,233,284	10,535,273

Source of Income	2006	2007	2008
	\$1,000		
VEGETABLE CROPS			
	6,436,085	7,410,194	7,973,315
FIELD CROPS			
	2,891,205	2,726,872	3,254,083
LIVESTOCK, POULTRY AND PRODUCTS			
	8,425,628	7,547,271	10,734,914
NURSERY, GREENHOUSE AND FLORICULTURE			
	3,706,441	3,889,917	4,068,566
CHRISTMAS TREES			
	9,026	8,785	8,700
TOTAL CASH INCOME FROM MARKETINGS			
	32,352,441	31,816,324	36,574,850
FARM RELATED INCOME 2/			
	2,382,123	2,799,247	2,519,230
GROSS CASH INCOME FROM FARMING			
	34,734,564	34,615,571	39,094,080

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Includes value of home consumption, value of inventory adjustments, machine hire and custom work, forest products sold, rental value of farm dwelling, government payments, and other miscellaneous farm income.