



2007 California Prune (Dried Plum) Second Forecast

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office • P.O. Box 1258 • Sacramento, CA 95812 • (916) 498-5161 • (916) 498-5186 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov/ca

Released: September 28, 2007, 12:00 p.m. PDT

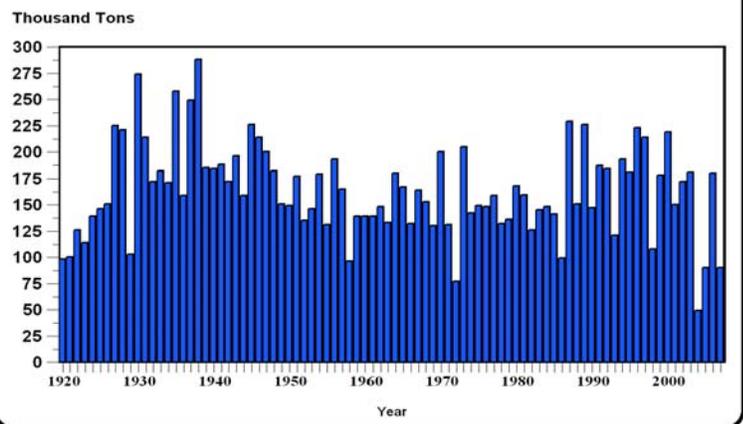
The 2007 California prune (dried plum) crop is forecast to be 90 thousand tons (dried basis), down 5 percent from the June forecast and down 50 percent from the 180 thousand tons produced in 2006. Total 2007 bearing acreage is estimated at 65,000. The French prune variety accounts for 97 percent of all prune acreage grown in California. The production forecast is based on a survey of prune growers conducted by the USDA, NASS, California Field Office from August 27-September 14, 2007.

The survey used a random sampling design based on total prune acreage for each operator. The sample is designed to provide a State estimate of production for all growers.

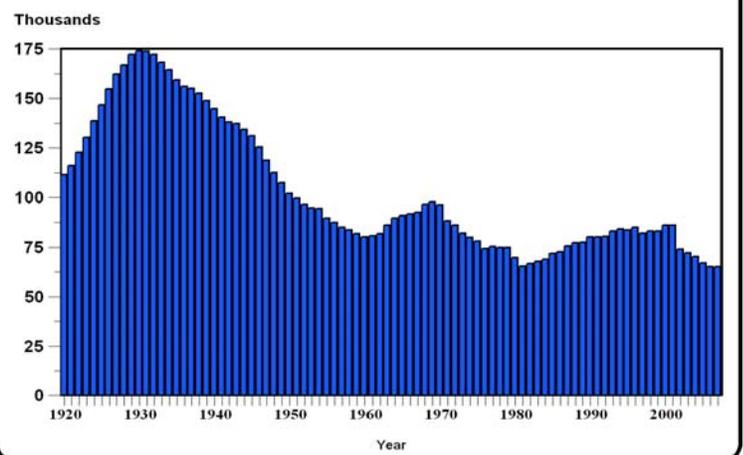
Questionnaires were mailed to growers on August 27, 2007 with return requested by September 14. Non-respondents were telephoned. Responses were received from 220 growers representing 44 percent of the total bearing acreage.

The 2007 prune crop experienced an extremely warm period during bloom. The bloom was also one of the shortest in memory. As a result of poor pollination, a small set occurred statewide. Many growers in Yuba and Sutter counties reported extremely low yields. Several growers reported loss of fruit due to the dry weather conditions that hampered bee pollination activities. Production was also hindered as a result of stressed orchards recovering from the previous year's high production.

California Prune Production - 1920-2007
(Dried Basis)



California Prune Bearing Acres - 1920-2007



California Prune (Dried Plum) Acreage, Production, and Value, 1993-2007

Year	Bearing	Non-Bearing	Production	Yield Per Acre	Price Per Ton	Value of Production
	<i>Acres</i>		<i>Tons (Dried Basis)</i>		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
1993	83,000	11,000	121,000	1.46	1,120.00	135,520
1994	84,000	18,800	193,000	2.30	1,090.00	210,370
1995	83,500	23,200	181,000	2.17	1,040.00	188,240
1996	85,000	23,700	223,000	2.62	839.00	187,097
1997	82,000	21,300	214,000	2.61	883.00	181,015
1998	83,000	26,000	108,000	1.30	764.00	78,692
1999	83,000	22,000	178,000	2.14	861.00	142,065
2000	86,000	15,000	219,000	2.55	770.00	154,770
2001	86,000	11,000	150,000	1.74	726.00	98,010
2002	74,000	9,000	172,000	2.32	810.00	132,030
2003	72,000	8,000	181,000	2.51	772.00	129,696
2004	70,000	N/A	49,000	0.70	1,500.00	72,000
2005	67,000	7,500	90,000	1.45	1,470.00	138,180
2006	65,000	7,500	180,000	2.77	1,490.00	255,684
2007 <u>a/</u>	65,000	N/A	90,000	1.38	N/A	N/A

a/ Forecast

Source: USDA, NASS, California Field Office

VIC TOLOMEO
Director

JACK RUTZ -- SARAH HOFFMAN
Deputy Directors

DOUG FLOHR -- JACKIE BROWN
Estimates Group Statisticians

Comments or questions should be directed to:
USDA, NASS, California Field Office
P.O. Box 1258
Sacramento, CA 95812
(916) 498-5161
(916) 498-5186 (Fax)

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