

CROP REPORT



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

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PRESS RELEASE
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2007 Hazelnut Crop Forecast Down 23 Percent

Hazelnut production in Oregon is forecast to be 33,000 tons this year, according to the Oregon field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. If realized, this would be 23 percent below last year's hazelnut crop of 43,000 tons, but up 20 percent from 2005.

This year there was an average of 222 nuts picked per tree for the Hazelnut Objective Yield Survey used annually to forecast Oregon's hazelnut crop. This compares to an average of 380 nuts picked per tree last year; an average difference of 158 nuts per tree. The percentage of good nuts analyzed in the laboratory, at 86.6 percent, is 1.4 percentage points higher than last year and the highest since 2003. Brown stained nuts totaled 0.3 percent of all nuts sampled, the same as in 2006.

The average size grade per good nut was 5.45 and the dry weight per good nut sampled was 3.09 grams. The nuts sampled were both larger and heavier than in 2006, which is to be expected with a smaller crop. Large nuts (NASS laboratory sizes 4, 5, and 6) accounted for 40.6 percent of the total, and jumbo nuts (NASS laboratory sizes 7 and 8) accounted for 38.2 percent of the total.

From 1992 to 2003, Oregon hazelnut production exhibited a biennial bearing pattern. Production in those years fluctuated greatly from year to year, some more than 200 percent. The 2004 crop deviated from this pattern with a reduction in production of just one percent from the previous year. The pattern deviated again in 2005 when the hazelnut crop was down for a second year in a row. Not only was the crop down for a second year, but there was a smaller 'crop swing' with only a 26 percent production reduction from the previous year. The 2006 crop showed a return to the historic pattern in the sense that the crop was up from the previous year, but again, there was not a large 'crop swing' as there had been prior to 2003. Forecasted production in 2007 is down only 23 percent from last year, once again a smaller change than would be expected of the traditional biennial bearing pattern.

Oregon Hazelnut Production, 2000-2007

Utilized production (In-shell basis)							
2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Forecast 2007 ^{1/}
Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
22,300	49,500	19,500	37,900	37,500	27,600	43,000	33,000

^{1/} As of August 21, 2007

Hazelnuts: Share of Good Nuts by Size, 2004-2007

Size	NASS Laboratory		Share of Good Nuts				Industry Equivalents	
	Minimum Measure	Maximum Measure	2004	2005	2006	2007	Size	Measure
	mm	mm	percent	percent	percent	percent		mm
1		14.6	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.7	Small	less than 17.9
2	14.6	18.3	5.3	4.9	7.2	8.8	Small	less than 17.9
3	18.3	19.9	9.6	7.6	11.6	11.6	Medium	17.9 to 19.4
4	19.9	20.9	9.5	5.2	14.0	12.3	Large	19.4 to 22.2
5	20.9	22.0	15.3	8.5	19.4	16.5	Large	19.4 to 22.2
6	22.0	22.6	11.7	7.9	13.0	11.9	Large	19.4 to 22.2
7	22.6	23.6	18.5	17.3	16.9	17.1	Jumbo	22.2 +
8	23.6		29.9	48.4	17.3	21.1	Jumbo	22.2 +

For more details, please call (503) 326-2131 or see our home page at www.nass.usda.gov/or

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