

# CROP REPORT



OREGON  
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## 2004 Hazelnut Crop Forecast up 16 percent from 2003

Hazelnut production in Oregon is forecast to be 44,000 tons this year, the third highest hazelnut crop on record, according to the Oregon Agricultural Statistics Service (OASS). If realized, this would be 16 percent above last year's revised hazelnut crop, and more than double that of 2002's 19,500 tons, which was the lowest crop since 1998's 15,400 tons. However, this year's forecasted production level of 44,000 tons would fall short of the record set in 2001 with 49,500 tons. The second highest hazelnut crop on record was 1997's 46,650 tons.

If realized, the 2004 hazelnut crop would be a deviation from a biennial bearing pattern which has endured for over a decade. The forecasted level of 44,000 tons is up from 2003's 37,900 tons, which was considered to be an "up" year according to the historical production patterns. Since the early 1990's, Oregon's hazelnut crop production has annually swung from highs to lows, one of the most noteworthy being 1998's crop of 15,400 tons, which was a decline of over 31,000 tons from 1997's huge crop of 46,650 tons.

This year, there was an average of 298 nuts picked per tree for the OASS Hazelnut Objective Yield Survey, the highest nut count since 2001's 574 nuts per tree, a year which produced a bumper crop of 49,500 tons. This compares with 261 nuts in 2003, and 222 nuts in 2002. The percentage of good nuts found in the OASS laboratory, 85.1 percent, was down nearly three percentage points from 88.0 percent last year, and up less than one percentage point from 2002. The average dry weight per good nut sampled was 3.28 grams. This year's sampled nuts were heavier than in 2003, but slightly lighter than those sampled in 2002. The average size per good nut was 5.93, 22 percent larger than in 2003, but one percent smaller than in 2002. Brown stained nuts amounted to less than 0.10 percent of all good nuts sampled, an historic low, surpassing last year's record low of 0.12 percent.

### Oregon Hazelnut Production, 1997-2004

| Utilized production (In-shell basis) |        |        |        |        |        |                   |                             |
|--------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1997                                 | 1998   | 1999   | 2000   | 2001   | 2002   | 2003 <sup>v</sup> | Forecast 2004 <sup>vi</sup> |
| Tons                                 | Tons   | Tons   | Tons   | Tons   | Tons   | Tons              | Tons                        |
| 46,650                               | 15,400 | 39,700 | 22,300 | 49,500 | 19,500 | 37,900            | 44,000                      |

<sup>v</sup> Revised August 2004.  
<sup>vi</sup> As of August 24, 2004.

### Hazelnuts: Share of Good Nuts by Size, 2001-2004

| Size | OASS Laboratory |                 | Share of Good Nuts |         |         |         | Industry Equivalents |                |
|------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|----------------|
|      | Minimum Measure | Maximum Measure | 2001               | 2002    | 2003    | 2004    | Size                 | Measure        |
|      | mm              | mm              | percent            | percent | percent | percent |                      | mm             |
| 1    |                 | 14.6            | 0.4                | 0.2     | 0.5     | 0.2     | Small                | less than 17.9 |
| 2    | 14.6            | 18.3            | 15.2               | 7.4     | 12.0    | 5.3     | Small                | less than 17.9 |
| 3    | 18.3            | 19.9            | 13.5               | 7.6     | 15.6    | 9.6     | Medium               | 17.9 to 19.4   |
| 4    | 19.9            | 20.9            | 14.6               | 7.5     | 15.2    | 9.5     | Large                | 19.4 to 22.2   |
| 5    | 20.9            | 22.0            | 19.5               | 13.8    | 20.8    | 15.3    | Large                | 19.4 to 22.2   |
| 6    | 22.0            | 22.6            | 11.9               | 11.8    | 12.3    | 11.7    | Large                | 19.4 to 22.2   |
| 7    | 22.6            | 23.6            | 12.9               | 18.9    | 12.8    | 18.5    | Jumbo                | 22.2 +         |
| 8    | 23.6            |                 | 12.0               | 32.8    | 10.8    | 29.9    | Jumbo                | 22.2 +         |

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