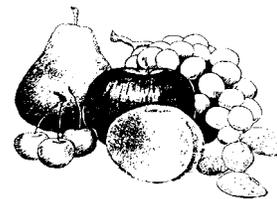


California Fruit & Nut Review



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CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
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SEPTEMBER CROP COMMENTS

The almond harvest peaked and was almost complete by the end of the month. Walnut harvest began the first week of September, while pistachios started the following week. By the end of the month most of the raisin grape trays had been either rolled or picked up. Scattered rains and higher humidity in the middle of the month brought concerns of bunch rot on table and wine grapes in the Central Valley and Sonoma County. This was largely controlled with the application of

fungicides. The apple harvest continued as the harvest of higher elevation Red and Golden Delicious apples began in the middle of the month. The harvest of Asian pears, persimmons, figs, olives, and pomegranates continued. Late season peaches, plums, and nectarines harvest was almost complete. The Valencia harvest was almost complete by the end of the month. New crop lemon harvest began in the Imperial Valley area at the end of the month. New crop Navels were treated for Red Scale. Gibberellic acid was applied to delay fruit drop and maturity. Grapefruit were sizing well.

FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent Change	Next 1997 Crop Update
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997		
NUT CROPS	- Acres -		- Pounds -		- 1,000 Pounds -			
Almonds (Shelled)	405,000	420,000	1,260	1,620	510,000	680,000	33	January 1998
Pecans	2,500	2,500	520	1,120	1,300	2,800	115	January 1998
Pistachio (In-Shell)								
Marketable In-Shell	---	---	---	---	85,000	---		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	20,000	---		
Total	64,300	65,400	1,630	2,600	105,000	170,000	62	January 1998
Walnuts (In-Shell)	169,000	170,000	1.23	1.35	208.0	230.0	11	Nov. 17, 1998
FRUIT CROPS	- Acres -		- Tons -		- 1,000 Tons -			
Apples	36,200	36,600	12.45	12.30	450.0	450.0	NC	January 1998
Apricots	20,200	20,400	3.76	6.13	76.0	125.0	65	January 1998
Cherries	12,900	13,700	1.91	2.55	24.6	35.0	42	January 1998
Grapes, Raisin	270,000	268,000	8.10	9.70	2,186.0	2,600.0	19	January 1998
Grapes, Table	74,500	75,000	7.95	9.33	592.0	700.0	18	January 1998
Grapes, Wine	311,000	325,000	7.15	8.31	2,225.0	2,700.0	21	January 1998
Grapes, All 1/	655,500	668,000	7.63	8.98	5,003.0	6,000.0	20	January 1998
Olives	33,700	33,700	4.93	2.82	166.0	95.0	-43	January 1998
Peaches, Clingstone	31,000	31,000	17.65	17.70	546.5	550.0	1	January 1998
Peaches, Freestone	34,300	35,200	9.25	10.80	316.5	380.0	20	January 1998
Pears, Bartlett	18,900	18,800	15.20	16.00	287.0	300.0	5	January 1998
Pears, Other	4,800	4,800	6.25	6.25	30.0	30.0	NC	January 1998
Prunes (Dried)	80,200	81,200	2.74	2.65	220.0	215.0	-2	January 1998
BERRIES	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997		
	- Acres -		- Cwt. -		- 1,000 Cwt. -			
Strawberries	25,200	22,600	540	560	13,608	12,656	-7	Dec. 11, 1997
CITRUS CROP 2/	1996-97	1997-98	1996-97	1997-98	1996-987	1997-98		
	- Acres -		- Cartons -		- 1,000 Cartons -			
Grapefruit	18,600	18,600	882	968	16,400	18,000	10	January 1998
Lemons	46,500	47,300	860	930	40,000	44,000	10	January 1998
Oranges, Navel	124,000	125,000	646	704	80,000	88,000	10	January 1998
Oranges, Valencia	75,000	75,000	746	800	56,000	60,000	7	January 1998
Tangerines 3/	8,700	8,800	598	545	5,200	4,800	-8	January 1998

1/ The Raisin Industry Diversion Program (RID) was not used in 1996 or 1997.

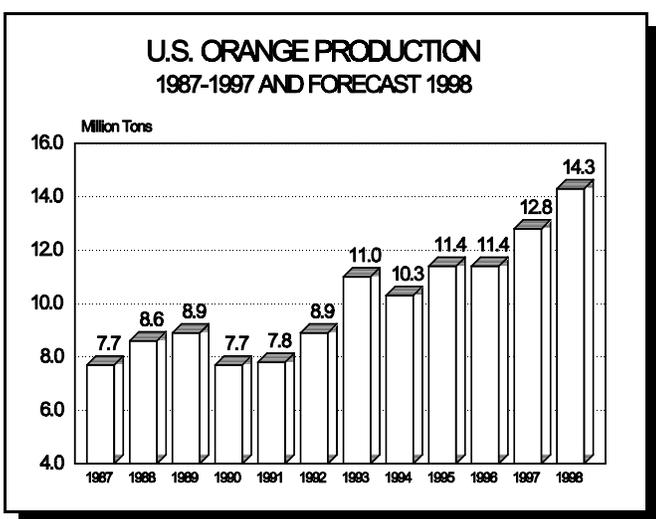
2/ Grapefruit -- 33.5 lbs. per carton; Lemons -- 38.0 lbs. per carton; Oranges -- 37.5 lbs. per carton; Tangerines -- 37.5 lbs. per carton.

3/ Includes tangelos, tangerines and tangors.

Oranges: The California all orange forecast for the 1997-98 season is 148.0 million cartons, up 9 percent from last season.

The 1997-98 California Navel orange forecast is 88.0 million cartons, up 10 percent from last season. Picking of early season Navel orange varieties is expected to begin in the Edison area of Kern County by mid-October. The number of oranges per tree is greater than last year, but the size of the fruit is huge like last year.

The 1997-98 California Valencia orange forecast is 60.0 million cartons, up 7 percent from last season. The crop is maturing well, with good yields expected.



Grapefruit: The 1997-98 California all grapefruit crop is forecast at 18.0 million cartons. This is 10 percent above the 1996-97 production estimate. Weather conditions have been generally good to date and the crop is progressing on schedule.

Lemons: The initial 1997-98 California lemon forecast is 44.0 million cartons. This is up 10 percent from the 1996-97 40.0 million carton level. Quality in the central valley and south coast have predominantly been good to fair, with heavy choice-grade packed out. The Imperial Valley lemons were generally export quality.

Tangerines: The initial 1997-98 California tangerine forecast is 4.80 million cartons. This is down 8 percent from the 1996-97 season. The tangerine crop was maturing well, with average fruit size reported. Picking should begin by late-October.

CITRUS FRUIT PRODUCTION BY STATE AND U.S.

Crop & State	1995-96	1996-97	Forecast 1997-98
ORANGES: 1/	- 1,000 Cartons -		
California, All	116,000	136,000	148,000
Navel & Misc.	76,000	80,000	88,000
Valencia	40,000	56,000	60,000
Florida	406,600	452,400	508,000
Texas	1,880	2,840	3,100
Arizona	3,300	2,000	2,000
U.S. TOTAL	527,780	593,240	661,100
GRAPEFRUIT: 2/			
California, All <u>3/</u>	16,200	16,400	18,000
Florida	104,700	111,600	108,000
Texas	9,100	10,600	10,000
Arizona	2,400	1,800	1,600
U.S. TOTAL	132,400	140,400	137,600
LEMONS: 4/			
California	42,000	40,000	44,000
Arizona	10,200	5,200	5,200
U.S. TOTAL	52,200	45,200	49,200
TANGERINES: 5/			
California <u>6/</u>	5,200	5,200	4,800
Florida	9,000	12,600	11,000
Arizona	2,000	1,100	1,000
U.S. TOTAL	16,200	18,900	16,800

- 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/ Desert and other Area Grapefruit forecasts combined to all Grapefruit beginning in 95-96.
- 4/ LEMONS: 1 carton = 38 lbs.
- 5/ TANGERINES: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 37.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 47.5 lbs.
- 6/ Includes tangelos, tangerines, and tangors.

FLORIDA CITRUS

Groves in Florida's citrus belt were treated to varying degrees of changing weather during September. The first few days of the month had normal rains, and then most areas turned very dry with caretakers irrigating their properties. The dryness generally prevailed until the 26th and 27th when low pressure covered this State's citrus belt, particularly the west coast and west central grove lands. Four to fourteen inches of rain fell in the two-day period causing many soggy groves and grove roads for the last days of the month. Generally new crop fruit is in very good condition and maturity is some what advanced for this time of year. Fresh fruit packing houses packed Navels, Ambersweet and Hamlin oranges, Fallglo and Robinson tangerines, Satsumas and K-Earlyls during September. Two processing plants are open to run packinghouse eliminations. Also, many loads of packinghouse eliminations have gone to the pastures to be destroyed as the processors were not taking fruit in volume. Caretakers have been active cutting cover crops, spraying, fertilizing, applying herbicides, and pushing and burning dead and/or abandoned trees.

Grapes: The California all grape forecast is 6.00 million tons, up 20 percent from last year.

The California raisin type variety grape forecast is 2.60 million tons, up 19 percent from last year. Picking of Thompson Seedless variety grapes for fresh use, wine crush, and raisin lay is nearing the end.

The table type grape production forecast is 700 thousand tons, up 18 percent from last year.

The wine type grape production forecast is 2.70 million tons, up 21 percent from last year. Quicker than normal maturity of wine grapes this season resulted in an early start of harvest.

FRUIT PRODUCTION

Crop & State	1995	1996	1997 Forecast
APPLES	--- Tons ---		
California	425,000	450,000	450,000
Idaho	40,000	90,000	65,000
Michigan	610,000	362,500	500,000
New York	555,000	515,000	560,000
North Carolina	135,000	100,000	80,000
Ohio	60,000	45,000	37,500
Oregon	70,000	69,500	77,500
Pennsylvania	250,000	195,500	237,500
Virginia	200,000	137,500	125,000
Washington	2,425,000	2,750,000	2,600,000
West Virginia	82,500	52,500	55,000
Other States ^{1/}	440,000	410,000	424,450
U.S. TOTAL	5,292,500	5,177,500	5,211,950
GRAPES			
California			
All	5,234,000	5,003,000	6,000,000
Raisin	2,252,000	2,186,000	2,600,000
Table	707,000	592,000	700,000
Wine	2,275,000	2,225,000	2,700,000
Arizona	26,000	25,000	23,000
Michigan	70,000	65,000	65,000
New York	165,000	189,000	155,000
Pennsylvania	63,000	83,000	65,000
Washington	326,000	144,000	309,000
Other States ^{2/}	38,300	39,200	42,350
U.S. TOTAL	5,922,300	5,548,200	6,659,350

^{1/} 1995-96: AZ, AR, CO, CT, DE, GA, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, ME, MD, MA, MN, MO, NH, NJ, NM, RI, SC, TN, UT, VT, and WI.

1997: Same as 1995-96, except NM forecast discontinued.

^{2/} AR, GA, MO, NC, OH, OR, and SC.

CALIFORNIA CASH INCOME BY COMMODITIES AND COMMODITY GROUPS, 1994-96

Source of Income	1994	1995	1996
	\$1,000		
FRUIT & NUT CROPS			
Apples	138,478	154,815	146,912
Apricots	43,700	21,085	32,169
Cherries	63,512	41,540	45,430
Figs	23,768	15,841	12,606
Nectarines	68,168	93,990	115,029
Peaches, Clingstone	97,470	87,847	114,510
Peaches, Freestone	67,918	93,175	134,826
Pears	70,269	62,183	89,728
Plums	79,358	117,849	93,257
Prunes	172,496	199,438	193,061
Almonds	965,202	880,896	1,008,576
Pecans	1,740	3,712	1,079
Pistachios	118,809	161,320	121,800
Walnuts	238,960	327,600	317,750
Grapes	1,718,322	1,859,900	2,154,422
Kiwifruit	18,413	15,089	13,368
Avocados	247,794	228,606	226,239
Dates	18,609	17,598	18,277
Olives	38,977	50,065	102,588
Grapefruit	53,393	52,644	55,878
Lemons	207,768	226,484	178,264
Oranges, Navel & Miscellaneous	276,046	263,790	256,280
Oranges, Valencia	199,043	252,841	236,471
Tangerines	26,135	32,296	14,669
Bushberries	34,047	28,235	30,968
Strawberries	647,575	611,002	584,860
Other Fruits & Nuts	80,642	62,750	70,750
TOTAL	5,716,612	5,962,591	6,369,767

Source of Income	1994	1995	1996
	\$1,000		
FIELD CROPS	3,289,090	3,147,543	3,187,673
VEGETABLE CROPS	5,059,472	5,707,336	5,300,043
NURSERY & GREENHOUSE PRODUCTS	1,986,450	2,140,928	2,223,707
CHRISTMAS TREES	18,807	14,928	15,000
LIVESTOCK, POULTRY & PRODUCTS	5,488,710	5,549,294	6,213,336
TOTAL CASH INCOME FROM MARKETINGS	21,559,141	22,522,620	23,309,526
FARM RELATED INCOME	1,158,780	849,580	1,479,129
GROSS CASH INCOME FROM FARMING ^{1/}	22,717,921	23,372,200	24,788,655

^{1/} 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.

SOURCE: USDA Economic Research Service