



California Fruit & Nut Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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JUNE CROP COMMENTS

A series of thunderstorms in early-June moved across the State producing heavy rain, hail, and frequent lightning strikes. Hail damage was reported in several prune orchards in the San Joaquin Valley and the rain caused some loss of fruit to splitting in cherry orchards. The scattered storms and cool temperatures also interrupted field work in some locations. As conditions allowed, treatments for aphids and peach twig borer were applied to dried plum and peach orchards. Some thinning of peaches was observed, as well as applications of sulfur and fungicides. Grapevines across the State were fertilized, irrigated, and treated with fungicides. Vineyards were sprayed with sulfur to control mildew in the San Joaquin Valley, and along the north coast vines were thinned to optimize airflow. Herbicides and insecticides were applied to walnuts and pistachios and preparations began for hull split spraying. Cooler temperatures in the San Joaquin Valley slowed pest development in almond orchards, but mites and

leaf scab remained a concern for many growers. Codling moth treatments continued in walnut orchards and trapping for walnut husk fly began in the Sacramento Valley.

Plum, fig, peach, and nectarine harvests continued during June, and the commercial cherry harvest was nearly complete. Most prune orchards had a moderate-to-heavy set. Fruit in pear and apple orchards continued to develop. Grapevines were reported in full bloom in Lake County. Development of grapevines along the Central Coast was delayed due to cool temperatures, while vineyards along the north coast were developing normally. Strawberry harvest ended in the San Joaquin Valley, and blueberry, blackberry, and boysenberry harvests continued. Almond, pistachio, and walnut nutlets continued to harden throughout most of the State.

Citrus groves were irrigated in the San Joaquin Valley in order to reduce crop stress and increase fruit set. Groves were also thinned and fertilized. Valencia oranges and late varieties of navel oranges continued to be picked, but some larger sized fruit was excessively dry due to over-maturity. Some Valencia lots showed signs of re-greening, so gassing was necessary to enhance color. Star Ruby grapefruit and lemons were also harvested.

FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production Percent Change	Next Crop Update
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009		
NUT CROPS	Acres		Pounds		1,000 Pounds			
Almonds (Shelled) 1/	680,000	710,000	2,400	1,900	1,630,000	1,350,000	-17	January 2010
Pecans 1/	3,100	---	1,210	---	3,750	---		October 9, 2009
Pistachio (In-Shell)	---	---	---	---	231,000	---		
Marketable In-Shell	---	---	---	---	47,000	---		
Shelling Stock	---	---	---	---	---	---		
Total	118,000	---	2,360	---	278,000	---		January 2010
			Tons		1,000 Tons			
Walnuts (In-Shell) 1/ 2/	223,000	---	1.96	---	436.0	---		September 4, 2009
FRUIT CROPS								
Apples 1/	19,500	---	9.23	---	180.0	---		August 12, 2009
Apricots	11,100	10,700	6.94	6.17	77.0	66.0	-14	January 2010
Cherries	27,000	27,000	3.19	2.78	86.0	75.0	-13	January 2010
Grapes, Raisin 1/ 3/	221,000	221,000	11.33	9.50	2,505.0	2,100.0	-16	August 12, 2009
Grapes, Table 1/	83,000	83,000	11.71	10.24	972.0	850.0	-13	August 12, 2009
Grapes, Wine 1/	482,000	482,000	6.34	6.85	3,055.0	3,300.0	8	August 12, 2009
Grapes, All 1/ 3/	786,000	786,000	8.31	7.95	6,532.0	6,250.0	-4	August 12, 2009
Olives	30,000	---	2.23	---	66.8	---		August 12, 2009
Peaches, Clingstone 4/	25,000	24,600	17.00	17.90	426.0	440.0	3	January 2010
Peaches, Freestone 1/	31,000	28,000	14.00	12.50	433.0	350.0	-19	January 2010
Pears, Bartlett 3/	11,000	10,000	17.70	19.00	195.0	190.0	-3	August 12, 2009
Pears, Other 1/	4,000	---	12.00	---	48.0	---		August 12, 2009
Plums, Dried (Prunes) 1/	64,000	64,000	2.02	2.66	129.0	170.0	32	January 2010
BERRIES			Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.			
Strawberries 5/	37,600	39,000	605	620	22,675	24,180	7	October 9, 2009
CITRUS CROPS 6/	2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09		
			Cartons		1,000 Cartons			
Grapefruit	11,000	9,600	945	896	10,400	8,600	-17	September 11, 2009
Lemons	44,000	47,000	673	936	29,600	44,000	49	September 11, 2009
Oranges, Navel 1/ 7/	137,000	141,000	657	539	90,000	76,000	-16	September 11, 2009
Oranges, Valencia 1/	44,000	45,000	773	667	34,000	30,000	-12	September 11, 2009
Tangerines 8/	18,000	27,000	744	496	13,400	13,400	0	September 11, 2009

1/ Revised 2008 data.

2/ Walnut Objective Measurement Report released September 4, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. PDT.

3/ Raisin Grape Objective Measurement Report released August 12, 2009 at 5:30 a.m. PDT.

4/ Over-the-scale tonnage and includes culls and cannery diversions

5/ Includes fresh market and processing.

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

7/ Navel Orange Objective Measurement Report will be released September 11, 2009 at 5:30 a.m. PDT.

8/ Includes tangelos, tangerines, and tangors.

NON-CITRUS FRUIT

Apricots - California's 2009 apricot production is projected to be 66,000 tons, representing 88 percent of the total U.S. crop. This estimate is unchanged from the June forecast, but down 14 percent from 2008. Cooler temperatures have allowed for a uniform harvest. Producers are reporting good yields, limited pest problems, and mostly favorable weather after frost early in the year. Producers were also able to secure water for post-harvest irrigation.

Grapes - California's all grape production is forecast at 6.25 million tons, down 4 percent from a year ago. Wine grapes account for 53 percent of California's total production, raisin grapes account for 34 percent, while the remaining 13 percent are table grapes. Growers are expecting an average crop this year and the cooler than normal weather has been excellent for berry development. Mildew problems have been reported primarily in the San Joaquin Valley.

Wine grape production is forecast at 3.30 million tons, up 8 percent from the 2008 crop. In general, bunch counts in the San Joaquin Valley are up from 2008. The most significant increases were seen in the red varieties of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Rubired, Ruby Cabernet, and Syrah. Raisin grape production is forecast at 2.10 million tons, down 16 percent from last year. Bunch counts of Thompson Seedless grapes in the Central and South San Joaquin Valley are down 25 percent from last year. Raisin grapes were being harvested in the Coachella Valley. Table grape production is expected to be 850,000 tons, down 13 percent from last year. Harvest of table grapes was underway in the Coachella Valley. Although production is forecast to be down from last year, the quality in this region is expected to be high due to good growing conditions.

Peaches - The California Clingstone crop is forecast at 440,000 tons, unchanged from the June 1 forecast, but 3 percent above the 2008 crop. This season's bloom was reported as good to very good in all growing areas. Freezing temperatures in early March resulted in slight frost damage in some areas. However, early March rainstorms gave way to good weather for pruning, spraying, and tree planting. By the end of April, the fruit was starting to differentiate in size. Harvest began on June 18, which was the same starting date as last year. The California Freestone crop is forecast at 350,000 tons, down 5 percent from the June 1 forecast and 19 percent below the 2008 crop. Freezing temperatures in early March, along with decreased bearing acres, has resulted in a lower production forecast. Harvest continued during June with Britney Lane, Crimson Lady, Spring Flame, Earlich, Sierra Snow, and Ivory Princess being the major varieties.

FRUIT PRODUCTION FORECAST, BY STATE AND U.S.

Crop and State	2007	2008	2009 Forecast
	Tons		
APRICOTS			
California	81,000	77,000	66,000
Utah	260	410	250
Washington	7,200	4,200	9,000
U.S. TOTAL	88,460	81,610	75,250
CHERRIES, SWEET			
California 1/	85,000	86,000	75,000
Michigan	27,300	26,500	28,000
Oregon	35,000	30,000	65,000
Washington	157,000	100,000	200,000
Other States 2/	6,380	4,560	6,500
U.S. TOTAL	310,680	247,060	374,500
PEACHES			
California			
Freestone	446,000	433,000	350,000
Clingstone	503,000	426,000	440,000
Georgia	13,000	28,000	35,000
Michigan	20,500	14,000	20,000
New Jersey	32,000	34,000	34,000
Pennsylvania	19,400	21,200	25,300
South Carolina	12,500	60,000	60,000
Washington	18,500	16,800	20,000
Other States 3/ 4/ 5/	62,250	100,310	86,740
U.S. TOTAL	1,127,150	1,133,310	1,071,040

- 1/ Forecast carried forward from Crop Production Report released June 10, 2009.
- 2/ Includes ID, MT NY, and UT. The first estimate for 2009. sweet cherries in MT will be in Jan 2010.
- 3/ 2007 includes: AL, AR, CO, CT, ID, IL, KY, LA, MA, MD, MO, NC, NY, OH, OK, OR, TX, UT, VA, and WV.
- 4/ 2008 includes: AL, AR, CO, CT, ID, IL, KY, LA, MA, MD, MO, NC, NY, OH, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, VA, and WV.
- 5/ 2009: Estimates discontinued for KY, LA, OK, OR, and TN.

CITRUS FRUIT

Grapefruit - The California grapefruit forecast is 8.60 million cartons (144,000 tons), down 2 percent from the previous forecast, 17 percent lower than last season. At the end of June, harvest transitioned from the Star Ruby variety to the Marsh Ruby variety in the coastal region.

Lemons -The California forecast, at 44.0 million cartons (836,000 tons), is up 16 percent from the previous forecast and 49 percent higher than last season. Lemon harvest in southern coastal areas continued. Fruit size and quality were reported as good, but demand was lower than anticipated.

Oranges - All orange production in California is forecast at 106.0 million cartons (1.99 million tons), unchanged from the previous forecast, but down 15 percent from last season. Navel orange harvest was complete for the season, and growers reported good quality and size. The Valencia harvest was off to a slow start, but fruit size and quality were excellent. Freezes in March and hot temperatures in May contributed to the decrease in production from last year for both varieties.

Tangerines - The California tangerine and mandarin forecast is 13.4 million cartons, unchanged from last season's final utilization. Harvest was complete and, despite challenges with heat and drought during the growing season, it turned out to be a good year for California tangerines and mandarins.

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

Crop and State	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 Forecast
	1,000 Cartons		
ORANGES: 1/			
California, All	92,000	124,000	106,000
Navel & Misc.	69,000	90,000	76,000
Valencia	23,000	34,000	30,000
Florida	258,000	340,400	324,200
Texas	3,960	3,468	2,920
Arizona	600	760	500
U.S. TOTAL	354,560	468,628	433,620
GRAPEFRUIT: 2/			
California, All	11,000	10,400	8,600
Florida	54,400	53,200	43,400
Texas	14,200	12,200	11,200
Arizona	200	200	140
U.S. TOTAL	79,800	76,000	63,340
LEMONS: 3/			
California	37,000	29,600	44,000
Arizona	5,000	3,000	5,000
U.S. TOTAL	42,000	32,600	49,000
TANGERINES: 4/			
California 5/	7,000	13,400	13,400
Florida	9,200	11,000	7,800
Arizona 5/	600	800	500
U.S. TOTAL	16,800	25,200	21,700

- 1/ ORANGES: California and Arizona, 1 carton = 37.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 45 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs. Small quantities of tangerines included in Texas.
- 2/ GRAPEFRUIT: California and Arizona, 1 carton=33.5 lbs.; Florida, 1 carton = 42.5 lbs.; Texas, 1 carton = 40 lbs
- 3/ LEMONS: All, 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

During June, typical Florida summer weather patterns brought thunderstorms and scattered showers to the entire citrus producing region. Weekly rainfall totals in most areas ranged from one to three inches. Longer days of sunshine and adequate rainfall were beneficial for fruit growth and tree foliage. Next season's citrus crop was in good condition in well cared for groves.

Valencia harvesting decreased significantly by mid-month as processing plants and packing houses began closing for the season. Harvest utilization totals for the final week of June dropped below one million boxes, and harvest of all other varieties of Florida citrus was relatively complete at the beginning of the month. Production practices were limited in June by periods of heavy rain, but included applying herbicides, mowing, hedging and topping, and removing brush. Growers also began focusing on psyllid control using both aerial and ground spraying.



2009 CALIFORNIA ALMOND FORECAST DOWN

California's 2009 almond production is forecast at 1.35 billion meat pounds, down 7 percent from May's subjective forecast and 17 percent below last year's crop. The forecast is based on 710 thousand bearing acres. Production for the Nonpareil variety is forecast at 450 million meat pounds, 26 percent below last year's deliveries. The Nonpareil variety represents 36 percent of California's total almond production.

After a difficult spring, the 2009 almond crop is generally in good condition, although it looks to be about 2 weeks behind. Bloom progressed slowly due to wet conditions, and wet weather hampered pollination. Cool temperatures did extend the almond bloom in parts of the Sacramento Valley. Freezing temperatures in March caused damage to some almond orchards. Mites were present on almonds across the state; however, control measures combined with some spring rains resulted in little damage to the crop. Irrigation water availability is a concern but has had minimal impact on the 2009 crop.

TABLE 1: COMPARISON OF NUT ESTIMATES AND ORCHARDS SAMPLED BY DISTRICT AND VARIETY, JUNE OBJECTIVE MEASUREMENT SURVEY COUNTS, 2004-2009

District and Variety	2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		2009	
	Nuts Per Tree	Orchards Sampled										
ALL DISTRICTS (All Varieties)	7,162	749	5,461	838	6,723	834	7,413	865	7,452	816	5,589	852
BY DISTRICTS												
<u>District I</u> Sacramento Valley	6,527	131	6,326	142	6,888	151	7,758	135	8,157	112	6,737	120
<u>District II</u> San Joaquin Valley	7,290	618	5,262	696	6,710	683	7,350	730	7,340	704	5,400	732
BY VARIETIES												
Butte	8,788	112	7,471	112	7,624	110	7,866	109	8,038	106	7,505	108
California Types 1/	6,665	172	5,275	262	5,945	268	7,633	285	7,458	273	5,302	284
Carmel 2/	6,380	90	4,698	144	5,415	149	7,159	161	7,259	149	5,129	141
Mission	6,719	26	6,410	19	6,667	21	7,391	16	8,901	12	5,578	10
Nonpareil	6,676	335	4,650	347	6,848	340	7,067	370	7,079	344	5,136	360
Padre	9,414	54	7,127	52	7,801	52	8,000	59	9,195	57	6,791	63

1/ For survey purposes, the California classification includes the following varieties: Aldrich, Ballico, Carmel, Davey, Fritz, Harvey, Le Grand, Mono, Monterey, Norman, Price Cluster, Ruby, Tokoyo and Yosemite.

2/ Carmel variety is also included in California Types.