

2013 California Dried Plum (Prune) Forecast



California Department of Food and Agriculture, California Agricultural Statistics Service

Cooperating with the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Pacific Region Office

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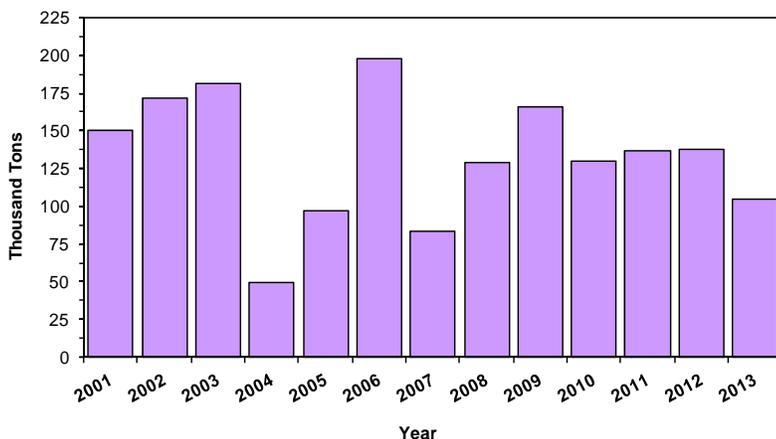
The 2013 California dried plum (prune) crop is forecast to be 105 thousand tons, down 24 percent from the 138 thousand tons produced in 2012. Total 2013 bearing acreage is estimated at 51,000. Dried plum trees were pulled after the 2012 harvest, reducing acreage by 7 percent for the 2013 season. The French prune variety accounts for virtually all dried plum acreage grown in California. The production forecast is based on a survey of dried plum growers conducted by the USDA, NASS, Pacific Region Office from May 9 - 25, 2013.

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

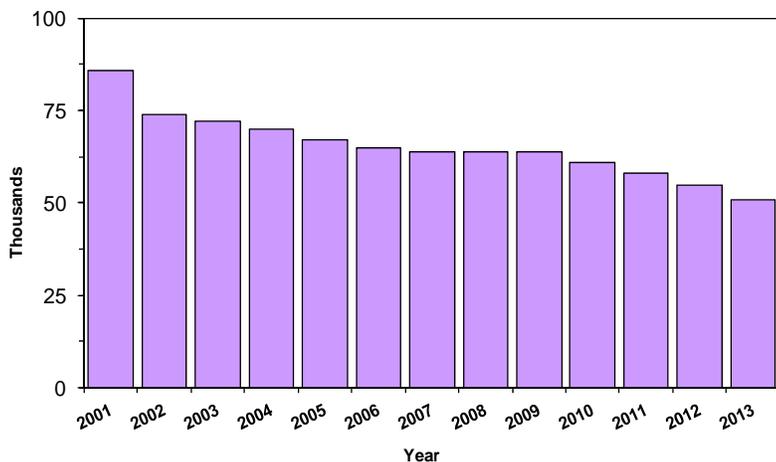
Questionnaires were mailed to growers on April 22, 2013 with return requested by May 6th. Non-respondents were telephoned. Responses were received from 271 growers representing 60 percent of the total bearing acreage.

The 2013 Prune crop bloom was successful in that temperatures were suitably mild with little rain. It lasted for more than 2 weeks giving ample time for pollination. There are prunes on the trees now; the question is what percent will stay on the trees and make it to harvest. The Industry is hoping for a good harvest as Southern Hemisphere crops were disappointing and total supply is tight.

California Dried Plum Production - 2001-2013 (Dried Basis)



California Dried Plum Bearing Acres - 2001-2013



California Dried Plum (Prune) Acreage, Production, and Value, 1995-2013

Year	Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total Production	Utilized Production	Yield Per Acre	Price Per Ton	Value of Utilized Production
	Acres		Tons (Dried Basis)			Dollars	1,000 Dollars
1995	83,500	23,200	181,000	181,000	2.17	1,040.00	188,240
1996	85,000	23,700	223,000	223,000	2.62	839.00	187,097
1997	82,000	21,300	214,000	205,000	2.61	883.00	181,015
1998	83,000	26,000	108,000	103,000	1.30	764.00	78,692
1999	83,000	22,000	178,000	165,000	2.14	861.00	142,065
2000	86,000	15,000	219,000	201,000	2.55	770.00	154,770
2001	86,000	11,000	150,000	135,000	1.74	726.00	98,010
2002	74,000	9,000	172,000	163,000	2.32	810.00	132,030
2003	72,000	8,000	181,000	168,000	2.51	772.00	129,696
2004	70,000	3/	49,000	48,000	0.70	1,500.00	72,000
2005	67,000	7,500	97,000	94,000	1.45	1,470.00	138,180
2006	65,000	7,500	198,000	189,000	3.05	1,390.00	262,710
2007	64,000	7,500	83,000	81,000	1.30	1,450.00	117,450
2008	64,000	3/	129,000	129,000	2.01	1,500.00	193,500
2009	64,000	3/	166,000	166,000	2.59	1,230.00	204,180
2010	61,000	3/	130,000	130,000	2.13	1,350.00	175,500
2011	58,000	3/	137,000	137,000	2.36	1,310.00	179,470
2012 1/	55,000	3/	138,000	138,000	2.51	1,250.00	172,500
2013 2/	51,000	3/	105,000	4/	2.06	4/	4/

1/ Revised.

2/ Forecast.

3/ Non-Bearing discontinued in 2008.

4/ Preliminary Utilized Production, Price and Value were suspended on March 12, 2013 due to sequestration.

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Newsroom/Notices/03_12_2013.asp

Source: USDA, NASS, Pacific Region Office

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