



## Pacific Region Fruit & Nut Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, and Hawaii and Nevada Departments of Agriculture  
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Released: June 1, 2016 · Frequency: Monthly · VOL. 4 NO. 5

### APRIL CROP COMMENTS - CALIFORNIA

In Monterey County, wine grapes were budding and sulfur applications were being applied. In Fresno County, grape shoot growth continued as applications of sulfur dust, nitrogen, and zinc fertilization were applied based on vineyard historical performance and scouting. There were reports of powdery mildew pressure around the County and fungicide treatment programs were applied accordingly. Wine grapes received a third fungicide application close to months' end. The harvesting of cherries continued throughout the month. Olive orchards were blooming. New almond orchards were still being planted by mid-month. In Kings County, apricots and nectarines were being thinned. Pomegranates continued to bloom. In Madera County, fertilizing and irrigating of tree fruits and grapes continued and pistachio trees received nutrient sprays. In San Joaquin County, many orchards were mowed to control weeds. Fungicides were

applied to all grapevines. Cherry packing sheds continued to prepare to receive fruit from the southern part of the State. In Stanislaus County, insecticides were applied to cherry orchards. The quality of cherries was improving as the local varieties continued to be harvested. Stone fruit orchards continued to be thinned and trimmed and pistachio trees continued blooming. Almond orchards continued to show rapid growth. Some older walnut orchards were in the process of being removed at the end of the month. In Sutter County, stone fruits and grapevines were setting fruit and orchard weed control was ongoing. Many growers in several counties fertilized, irrigated, and pruned nut orchards throughout the month. Growers continued to apply copper and fungicides to nut orchards. In Tulare County, walnut orchards were leafing out. Pistachio trees continued blooming. Almond trees continued to show rapid growth.

### CALIFORNIA CITRUS

Navel and Valencia oranges continued to be harvested. Quality was reported to be an issue as the Navel orange crop continued to mature with the hot weather. The Valencia orange harvest was accelerating. Navel,

Valencia, Cara Cara, Golden Nugget mandarins, Minneola tangelos, and lemons continued to be packed and exported to foreign and domestic markets. Seedless tangerines remained netted to prevent cross pollination.

### FLORIDA CITRUS

In the citrus growing region, reported daily high temperatures were slightly above average for this time of the year. All reporting stations had highs at least in the mid to upper 80s, with a few stations reaching over 90 degrees. Morning lows were mostly in the 60s and 70s. Rainfall was less than average in the citrus growing region. Two of eighteen monitored counties had totals close to historical averages. St. Lucie West (St. Lucie County) had 2.61 inches, followed by Balm (Hillsborough County) at 2.23 inches. Of the remaining sixteen monitored stations, nine had an inch or less of rainfall. According to the April 26, 2016 U.S. Drought Monitor, only Marion and Putnam Counties in the most northern part of the citrus region were abnormally dry. The remaining citrus growing counties were drought free.

Packinghouses were still taking mostly Valencia oranges. Only a few red grapefruit and Honey tangerines were available for the fresh market. With the seasonably dry weather and warm temperatures over the past two weeks, grove owners continued robust irrigating programs, watering several times during the week. Field workers reported various methods of combating greening and controlling psyllid population, including tenting of smaller trees, steam treatment, and spraying. Trees were holding fruit from pea size to marble size for next season's crop. Field workers reported seeing an abundance of resetting going on, mostly in the center of the State. Other grove activities included fertilizing, spraying, hedging, and topping.

## CALIFORNIA ALMONDS

The 2016 California almond production (shelled basis) is forecast at 2.00 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the 2015 production of 1.89 billion pounds. The almond bloom began in mid-February, slightly later than the previous season. The 2016 bloom was fast and fairly uniform, with good weather conditions. However, after the bloom heavy winds accelerated nut drop.

## CALIFORNIA PEACHES

The California 2016 peach crop is forecast at 580,000 tons, up 4 percent from 2015. The California Freestone crop is forecast at 260,000 tons, up 3 percent from last season. Growers reported a similar sized crop to last season. In early-May, Snow Angel peaches were being harvested and shipped. The California Clingstone crop is forecast at 320,000 tons, up 5 percent from 2015. Growers reported full bloom occurred in late-February, slightly earlier than last year. The crop has been rated as good in all areas of the State. Irrigation districts have increased their surface water deliveries to growers this year due to a wet winter.

### Peach Production by Type – California: 2014, 2015, and Forecasted May 1, 2016

Type	Total production		
	2014	2015	2016
	(tons)	(tons)	(tons)
Freestone.....	288,000	253,000	260,000
Clingstone <sup>1</sup> .....	332,000	306,000	320,000
Total.....	620,000	559,000	580,000

<sup>1</sup> California Clingstone is over-the-scale tonnage and includes culls and cannery diversions.

### Almonds Utilized Production – California: 2014, 2015 and Forecasted May 1, 2016

State	Utilized production (shelled basis)		
	2014	2015	2016
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)
California.....	1,870,000	1,890,000	2,000,000