



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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AUGUST CROP COMMENTS - CALIFORNIA

Peaches, nectarines, plums, and pears continued to be harvested, packed and shipped. Bosc, Rivermaid Red, and Asian pears were packed and shipped to domestic and foreign marketplaces by midmonth. The pomegranate harvest began. By mid-month, side dressing and pruning of harvested stone fruit orchards had begun and was ongoing. The avocado harvest wrapped up in Santa Barbara County. The table and wine grape harvest continued, with shipments going to foreign and domestic markets by mid-month. The raisin grape harvest began and shortly thereafter, raisin grapes were laid to dry in the lanes. In Madera County, low sugar grapes were harvested. Persimmons gained size in response to the warm weather. Pineapple quince were packed and exported. The strawberry harvest continued and was at peak production in Santa Cruz County early August. Some strawberry fields were reported as abandoned or mowed down due to lack of labor. By month's end, the strawberry and blackberry harvests were in full swing with high volumes. In Stanislaus and Tulare Counties, the almond harvest was underway and steadily increased throughout the State. Stored almonds, pistachios, and walnuts continued to be exported. Some young almond orchards were sprayed for mites. Orchard floor cleaning wrapped up in preparation for almond harvest in Kern and Yolo Counties. Almond hull split continued in Sutter County. Walnut shells began to harden. The large walnut crop was monitored and prepped for harvest by application of treatments for codling moth and mites to some orchards. Husk fly sprays were applied to some walnut groves. Pistachios were progressing well and some orchards were treated for navel orangeworm.

CALIFORNIA CITRUS

Valencia oranges continued to be harvested throughout the month, while some areas of Fresno County completed harvest early in the month. Regreening continued to be a problem with high temperatures. Foreign exports slowed, but harvesting, packing, and shipping to domestic markets continued. Lemons and Australian finger limes were harvested and packed.

FLORIDA CITRUS

In the citrus growing region, reported daily high temperatures were about average for this time of the year. However, a few areas had temperatures that were slightly warmer than normal. Daytime highs were in the lower to Crop Production (September 2016) 37 USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service mid-90s. Rainfall was very sporadic across the citrus growing region. Five of eighteen monitored stations had well above average rainfall, at over nine inches each. The most was in Vero Beach (Indian River County) at 11.44 inches. Eight stations had less than six inches for the entire month. The least rainfall was in Clewiston (Hendry County) at 1.35 inches. According to the August 30, 2016 U.S. Drought Monitor, the northern half of the Indian River District remained in abnormally dry conditions. Small portions of Lake, Orange, Seminole, and Osceola counties were also abnormally dry. The remainder of the citrus region is drought free.

Growers were spraying to combat the citrus greening disease. Re-entry time into groves is typically between 48 hours and ten days. Those growers who have the resources were concentrating on pushing abandoned groves within or adjacent to their properties to help control the psyllid population. Resetting was common where new trees are available. Irrigation was still running in some of the dryer areas of citrus concentration.

NAVEL ORANGE PRODUCTION FORECAST

The initial 2016-17 Navel orange forecast is 84.0 million cartons. Of the total Navel orange forecast, 81.0 million cartons are estimated to be in the Central Valley. This forecast is based on the results of the 2016-17 Navel Orange Objective Measurement (O.M.) Survey, which was conducted from July 9 to September 1, 2016. Estimated fruit set per tree, fruit diameter, trees per acre, bearing acreage, and oranges per box were used in the statistical models estimating production. The varieties forecast in this report include conventional, organic, and specialty Navel oranges (including Cara Cara and Blood orange varieties).

Survey data indicated a fruit set per tree of 384, above the five-year average of 334. The average September 1 diameter was 2.213 inches, below the five-year average of 2.251 inches.

RECORD WALNUT PRODUCTION FORECAST

The 2016 California walnut production is forecast at 670,000 tons, up 11 percent from 2015's production of 603,000 tons. This forecast is based on the 2016 Walnut Objective Measurement (O.M.) Survey, which was officially conducted August 1 through August 23, 2016. There were a few samples completed before August 1 for training and scheduling purposes.

The 2016 walnut season began well with adequate chilling hours and a fair amount of winter rains. Weather during bloom was considered average, with some ideal days and some days of stronger winds and wet weather. Spring rain increased the threat of blight. Hot weather in August resulted in an earlier than usual start to harvest, which is expected to begin in early September.

The 2016 Walnut O.M. Survey utilized a total of 729 blocks with two sample trees per block. Survey data indicated an average nut set of 1,406 per tree, up 11 percent from 2015's average of 1,272. Percent of sound kernels in-shell was 98.7 percent Statewide. In-shell weight per nut was 21.6 grams, while the average in-shell suture measurement was 32.2 millimeters. The in-shell cross-width measurement was 32.7 and the average length in-shell was 38.2 millimeters. All of the sizing measurements were below average levels since 1985.

Estimated nut sets, sizing measurements, average number of trees per acre, and estimated bearing acreage were used in the statistical models.

Utilized Production of Oranges by Crop - States and United States: 2015-2016 and Forecasted October 1, 2016

Crop and State	Utilized Production boxes ¹		Utilized production ton equivalent ²	
	2015-2016	2016-2017	2015-2016	2016-2017
	<i>1,000 boxes</i>	<i>1,000 boxes</i>	<i>1,000 tons</i>	<i>1,000 tons</i>
California, all	54,200		2,168	
Early, mild, and Navel ³	45,500	42,000	1,820	1,680
Valencia	8,700		348	
United States, all	137,491		5,911	
Early, mid, and Navel ³	82,951		3,502	
Valencia	54,540		2,409	

¹ Net pounds per box: California-80.

² Total may not add due to rounding.

³ Navel and miscellaneous varieties in California. Early (including Navel) and midseason varieties in Florida and Texas. For 2015-2016 Small quantities of Temples in Florida. Beginning in 2016-2017 Temples in Florida are included in Tangerines and mandarins.

Utilized Production of Walnuts In-shell Basis - California: 2015 and Forecasted September 1,2016

State	Utilized Production	
	2015	2016
	<i>tons</i>	<i>tons</i>
California.....	603,000	670,000

Utilized Citrus Production by Crop – California and United States: 2014-2015 and 2015-2016

Crop, State, and Season	Bearing acreage	Yield per acre	Utilization of production			Price per box ¹			Value of production		
			Total	Fresh	Processed	All	Fresh	Processed	Total	Fresh	Processed
	acres	boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	dollars	dollars	dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
Oranges											
California											
Navel and miscellaneous											
2014-2015	129,000	302	39,000	31,400	7,600	16.29	(D)	(D)	635,394	(D)	(D)
2015-2016	125,000	364	45,500	37,000	8,500	14.75	(D)	(D)	671,240	(D)	(D)
Valencia											
2014-2015	34,000	271	9,200	6,600	2,600	15.00	(D)	(D)	137,962	(D)	(D)
2015-2016	32,000	272	8,700	5,400	3,300	12.00	(D)	(D)	104,403	(D)	(D)
United States											
Early, midseason, and Navel ²											
2014-2015	312,000	281	87,570	35,196	52,374	13.23	19.84	9.17	1,172,009	699,414	472,595
2015-2016	299,600	277	82,951	40,281	42,670	12.70	18.37	7.80	1,064,694	739,284	325,410
Grapefruit											
California ³											
2014-2015	9,800	490	4,800	3,600	1,200	10.50	(D)	(D)	50,388	(D)	(D)
2015-2016	9,500	400	3,800	3,019	781	16.87	(D)	(D)	64,111	(D)	(D)
United States ³											
2014-2015	67,300	326	21,950	12,195	9,755	9.85	13.91	4.87	216,258	169,477	46,781
2015-2016	64,100	303	19,400	10,465	8,935	12.93	18.85	6.07	251,036	197,726	53,310
Lemons											
California											
2014-2015	47,000	438	20,600	14,000	6,600	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
2015-2016	47,000	436	20,500	15,600	4,900	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States											
2014-2015	55,300	409	22,600	15,298	7,302	30.83	(D)	(D)	696,835	(D)	(D)
2015-2016	54,500	408	22,250	16,912	5,338	33.00	(D)	(D)	734,209	(D)	(D)
Tangerines and mandarins											
California ⁴											
2014-2015	52,000	360	18,700	13,880	4,820	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
2015-2016	57,000	381	21,700	18,700	3,000	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
United States ⁴											
2014-2015	63,400	333	21,135	15,521	5,614	22.13	29.69	1.31	468,083	461,555	6,528
2015-2016	65,300	354	23,115	19,658	3,457	27.52	32.33	0.59	637,412	635,938	1,474

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Equivalent packinghouse-door returns.

² Includes small quantities of Temples in Florida.

³ Includes pummelos.

⁴ Includes tangelos and tangors.