



# 2011 California Almond Forecast

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office · P.O. Box 1258 · Sacramento, CA 95812 · (916) 498-5161 · (916) 498-5186 Fax · [www.nass.usda.gov/ca](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ca)

Released: May 5, 2011 - 12:00 p.m.

## RESULTS

The initial subjective forecast for the 2011 California almond production is 1.75 billion pounds. This is 6 percent above last year's production of 1.65 billion pounds. Estimated bearing acreage for 2011 is 750 thousand. This forecast is based on a telephone survey conducted April 21 - May 2 from a sample of almond growers. Of the 486 growers sampled, 375 reported. Acreage from these reports accounted for 27 percent of the total bearing acreage.

After a good winter with excellent chilling hours, the 2011 almond crop bloom began. A cold spring lengthened the bloom, causing more overlap between varieties. Cold weather can affect bee activity, but pollination was successful this year and California almond trees set a good crop. Freezing temperatures this spring did affect the northern regions more than the south, but frost damage was not significant. Older plantings suffered some damage from the strong winds that accompanied the spring storms, but overall damage was minimal. Spotty damage from hail was also noted. Low disease and insect pressure have been reported and, with all the precipitation California has seen this winter, lack of water for irrigation is not the problem it was a few years ago. Normal levels of shed have been reported. The crop in general is reported to be good with heavy sets noted on several varieties.

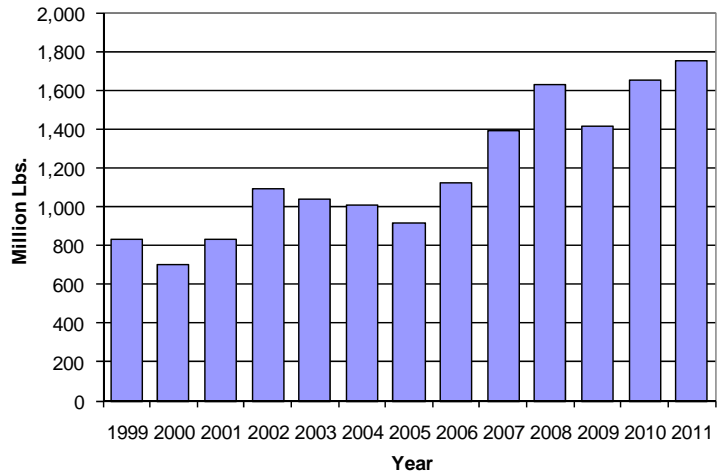
## PROCEDURES

Results of the subjective survey are based on **opinions** obtained from growers. The sample of growers changes from year to year and is grouped by size of operation, so all growers will be represented. Each selected grower is asked to indicate their almond yield per acre from last year and expected yield for the current year.

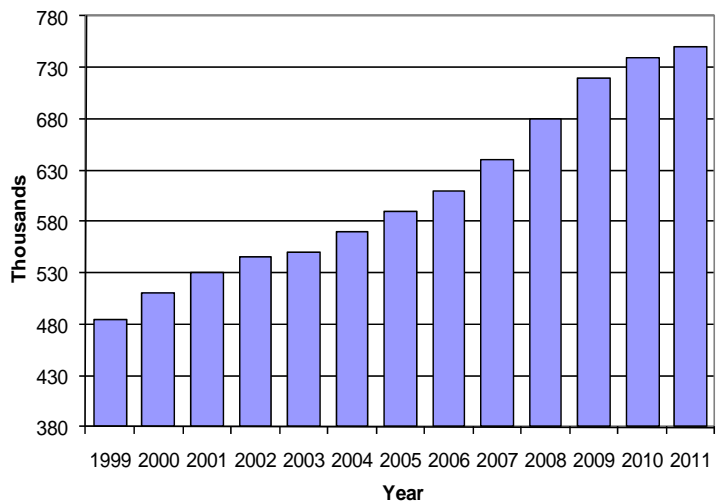
## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A special thanks goes to the many almond farm operators and owners who provided information on their operations. The support was outstanding and we appreciate the time they spent completing telephone interviews.

California Almond Production  
1999-2011



California Almond Bearing Acreage  
1999-2011



**California Almond Acreage, Production and Value, 1995-2011**

Year	Bearing	Non-Bearing	Yield Per Acre	Production	Price Per Pound 1/	Value of Production 1/
	Acres		Pounds	Million Pounds	Dollars	\$1,000
1995	418,000	65,700	885	370	2.48	880,896
1996	428,000	72,400	1,190	510	2.08	1,018,368
1997	442,000	63,000	1,720	759	1.56	1,160,640
1998	460,000	120,000	1,130	520	1.41	703,590
1999	485,000	115,000	1,720	833	0.86	687,742
2000	510,000	100,000	1,380	703	0.97	666,487
2001	530,000	75,000	1,570	830	0.91	740,012
2002	545,000	65,000	2,000	1,090	1.11	1,200,687
2003	550,000	60,000	1,890	1,040	1.57	1,600,144
2004	570,000	70,000	1,760	1,005	2.21	2,189,005
2005	590,000	110,000	1,550	915	2.81	2,525,909
2006	610,000	145,000	1,840	1,120	2.06	2,258,790
2007	640,000	125,000	2,170	1,390	1.75	2,401,875
2008	680,000	115,000	2,400	1,630	1.45	2,343,200
2009	720,000	90,000	1,960	1,410	1.65	2,293,500
2010 2/	740,000	85,000	2,230	1,650	1.65	2,694,450
2011 3/	750,000	4/	2,330	1,750	5/	5/

1/ Price and value are based on the edible portion of the crop only. Inedible production for 2010 is estimated to be 17 million pounds.

2/ Subject to revision July 7, 2011.

3/ Preliminary.

4/ Non-Bearing Acreage will be available April 2012.

5/ Preliminary Price and Value will be available January 2012.

VIC TOLOMEO  
Director

SARAH HOFFMAN & KELLY KRUG  
Deputy Directors

DOUG FLOHR & LENA SCHWEDLER  
Estimates Group Statisticians

---

VIC TOLOMEO, Director  
 SARAH HOFFMAN - KELLY KRUG, Deputy Directors  
 Doug Flohr - Ben Blomendahl - Aaron Cosgrove  
 Sarah DeVandry - Stephanie Holm - Robert Jeutong - Brian Kugel  
 Jodi Letterman - John McDonnell - Karen Olmstead - Lena Schwedler  
 Geoffrey Sechter - Jennifer Travis - Jennifer Van Court  
 Estimates Group - (916) 498-5161

---

**USDA-NASS, California Field Office publications  
 are available free-of-charge on the Internet at:  
[www.nass.usda.gov/ca](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ca)**