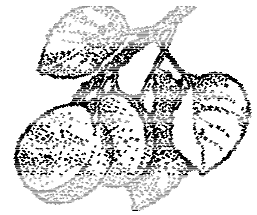


2002 California Prune (Dried Plum) Acreage Report



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CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

RESULTS

California's 2002 prune (dried plum) acreage is estimated by the California Agricultural Statistics Service (CASS) at 83,000 acres, down 14 percent from 2001. Of the total acres, 74,000 were bearing and 9,000 were non-bearing. Estimated bearing acreage was down 14 percent and non-bearing decreased by 18 percent. French prunes remained the dominant variety in California, accounting for 97 percent of the State's total acreage.

Prune (Dried Plum) Bearing and Non-Bearing Acreage ^{1/}

Year	Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
1998	83,000	26,000	109,000
1999	83,000	22,000	105,000
2000	86,000	15,000	101,000
2001	86,000	11,000	97,000
2002	74,000	9,000	83,000

^{1/} Reported data with an allowance for incompleteness.

Sutter County remained the leader for prune acreage in California, with more than twice the bearing acreage of any other county. Sutter accounts for 27 percent of California's total prune acreage. Butte, Yuba, and Tehama counties remained number two, three, and four, respectively, for total prune acreage. These four counties combined account for 65 percent of the State's total prune acreage.

OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the acreage survey is to provide annual prune acreage with information on new plantings and removals. Industry-funded prune acreage surveys have been conducted for many years.

Users are cautioned that this report consists of two parts:

- ▶ Estimated prune acreage -- bearing, non-bearing, and total. Estimated prune acreage appears in the table above.
- ▶ Detailed data by variety, year planted, and county -- as voluntarily reported by prune growers and maintained in CASS' data base. Detailed data appear on pages 2 and 3.

With perfect information, the estimated prune acreage and the detailed data would be equivalent. However, this will never be the case for the following reasons:

- ▶ A voluntary census of 1,200 prune growers is unlikely to ever attain 100 percent completeness.
- ▶ It is extremely difficult for a small staff in Sacramento to detect growers that are planting prunes for the first time.

- ▶ The detailed data reflects tree removals from more than 13,000 acres during the past twelve months. Of this number, some acreage was harvested in 2002 prior to being pulled out, and that acreage has already been removed from the detailed data.

PROCEDURES

The major source of the prune detailed data was a questionnaire mailed to all prune growers included on CASS' data base. The mailing was made in late December 2002 to approximately 1,200 prune growers. The questionnaire contained previously reported crop, variety, and acreage information preprinted. Producers were asked to update the information with new plantings, removals, and any other corrections; new growers were mailed a blank questionnaire. Growers were given six weeks to respond by mail. A telephone follow-up was then undertaken. Field personnel visited large growers who did not respond by mail or telephone.

To arrive at the estimated prune acreage, the CASS prune acreage data base was compared with data provided from the pesticide application data maintained by County Agricultural Commissioners and the Department of Pesticide Regulation.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We sincerely thank the many farm operators, owners, and management firms providing the information. Likewise, thanks to the California Prune Board for providing funding and support of this special acreage update survey.

Appreciation is due the following office staff for the hundreds of hours spent phoning and processing survey information: Jeff Olson (Agricultural Statistician), Pamela Benner, Regina Claypoole, Pearl Gonzalez, Ann Jehn, Janell McAllister, Lupe Moreno, Jeremiah Rhine, and Sheryl Zazzi.

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2002 PRUNE (DRIED PLUM) ACREAGE BY COUNTY, BY YEAR PLANTED a/

County	1990 & Earlier	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	Acres Standing in 2002 b/		
														Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
Alameda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amador	9	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	13
Butte	5,597	529	791	753	1,031	610	256	203	104	161	325	180	62	9,565	1,035	10,600
Colusa	1,791	43	50	44	60	125	162	160	105	48	0	70	0	2,274	383	2,658
Fresno	1,033	355	55	542	325	495	418	37	23	4	0	148	63	3,222	275	3,497
Glenn	4,089	430	371	627	893	741	416	261	139	66	38	113	35	7,567	652	8,218
Humboldt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kern	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	64	0	64
Kings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	10	10
Lake	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	0	27
Madera	677	0	29	0	451	246	41	0	58	0	10	6	0	1,444	74	1,517
Mendocino	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Merced	1,314	89	28	76	135	64	352	0	6	0	12	0	0	2,058	18	2,076
Napa	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	8
Placer	318	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	318	0	318
Riverside	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
San Bernardino	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
San Joaquin	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	17
San Luis Obispo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Santa Clara	131	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	131	9	140
Santa Cruz	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	15
Shasta	0	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	53	4	57
Solano	895	23	116	14	179	42	78	5	21	2	5	5	0	1,347	38	1,385
Sonoma	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	0	53
Stanislaus	65	0	3	7	0	8	8	8	0	2	0	0	0	90	10	100
Sutter	13,704	814	919	1,246	1,959	762	681	509	349	309	387	267	326	20,086	2,146	22,232
Tehama	6,409	316	276	214	479	681	372	114	191	83	80	66	80	8,746	615	9,361
Tulare	2,713	103	126	448	915	613	221	166	165	177	105	61	35	5,140	707	5,847
Yolo	1,344	128	38	67	106	40	47	44	2	22	18	32	99	1,770	217	1,986
Yuba	6,849	421	412	532	266	443	536	209	177	328	279	203	175	9,458	1,371	10,829
State Total	47,122	3,303	3,212	4,571	6,798	4,870	3,588	1,723	1,351	1,201	1,263	1,150	875	73,464	7,563	81,027

a/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

b/ Non-bearing includes plantings for 1997-02.

PRUNE (DRIED PLUM) ACREAGE AS OF 2002 -- VARIETIES AND AGE GROUPS -- STATE SUMMARY ACREAGE PLANTED DURING YEARS SHOWN AND STANDING IN 2002 a/

Variety	1990 & Earlier	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	Acres Standing in 2002 b/		
														Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
French	45,525	3,283	3,198	4,518	6,622	4,655	3,357	1,599	1,258	1,146	1,176	876	711	71,156	6,766	77,922
French Early Grans	69	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	69	0	69
French Improved	517	3	5	0	149	22	12	15	17	29	28	6	0	707	94	802
State Total	46,111	3,286	3,203	4,518	6,771	4,677	3,368	1,614	1,275	1,175	1,203	882	711	71,932	6,860	78,793

a/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

b/ Non-bearing includes plantings for 1997-02.

2002 FRENCH PRUNE (DRIED PLUM) ACREAGE BY COUNTY a/

County	1990 & Earlier	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	Acres Standing in 2002 b/		
														Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
Alameda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amador	9	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	13
Butte	5,308	529	788	753	1,031	603	217	203	104	160	325	171	49	9,227	1,012	10,238
Colusa	1,791	43	50	44	60	125	162	135	105	48	0	70	0	2,274	358	2,633
Fresno	996	355	55	542	325	465	418	25	22	0	0	0	57	3,155	104	3,258
Glenn	4,089	430	371	609	893	726	416	256	139	66	38	113	25	7,534	636	8,170
Humboldt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kern	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	64	0	64
Kings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	10	10
Lake	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	0	27
Madera	677	0	29	0	451	246	41	0	58	0	10	6	0	1,444	74	1,517
Mendocino	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Merced	1,314	89	28	76	135	64	352	0	6	0	12	0	0	2,058	18	2,076
Napa	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	8
Placer	318	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	318	0	318
San Bernardino	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
San Joaquin	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	17
San Luis Obispo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Santa Clara	126	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	126	9	135
Santa Cruz	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	15
Shasta	0	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	53	4	57
Solano	895	23	116	8	179	42	78	5	21	2	5	5	0	1,341	38	1,379
Sonoma	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	0	53
Stanislaus	65	0	3	0	0	8	8	8	0	2	0	0	0	83	10	93
Sutter	13,571	803	919	1,246	1,959	762	658	496	349	309	387	222	302	19,918	2,065	21,983
Tehama	6,358	316	276	214	479	681	372	114	191	83	80	66	56	8,695	591	9,286
Tulare	2,424	97	120	447	895	473	85	114	90	170	58	31	0	4,541	462	5,003
Yolo	1,312	128	38	62	99	40	47	42	2	8	5	32	83	1,724	171	1,895
Yuba	6,675	421	412	516	266	443	515	209	177	328	279	167	139	9,246	1,299	10,546
State Total	46,111	3,286	3,203	4,518	6,771	4,677	3,368	1,614	1,275	1,175	1,203	882	711	71,932	6,860	78,793

a/ Varieties include French, French Improved, and French Early Grans. Totals may not add due to rounding.

b/ Non-bearing includes plantings for 1997-02.

2002 OTHER PRUNE (DRIED PLUM) ACREAGE BY COUNTY a/

County	1990 & Earlier	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	Acres Standing in 2002 b/		
														Bearing	Non-Bearing	Total
Butte	289	0	3	0	0	8	39	0	0	1	0	9	13	339	23	362
Colusa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	25
Fresno	38	0	0	0	0	30	0	12	1	4	0	148	6	68	171	239
Glenn	0	0	0	18	0	15	0	5	0	0	0	0	11	33	16	49
Humboldt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mendocino	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Riverside	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
San Luis Obispo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Santa Clara	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Santa Cruz	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Solano	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	6
Sonoma	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stanislaus	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	7
Sutter	133	11	0	0	0	0	23	13	0	0	0	44	24	168	82	249
Tehama	51	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	51	24	75
Tulare	289	6	6	1	20	140	137	52	75	7	47	30	35	599	245	844
Yolo	33	0	0	6	7	0	0	3	0	14	13	1	16	45	46	91
Yuba	175	0	0	16	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	36	35	212	71	283
State Total	1,012	17	9	54	27	193	219	109	76	26	60	268	164	1,532	703	2,234

a/ Totals may not add due to rounding. Includes acreage of Burton, German, Imperial, Italian/Fellenberg, Miro, Moyer, Punian, Ross, Sergeant/Robe De Sergeant, Sierra Sweet, Sugar, Victor LG, 29-C, and 707 varieties.

b/ Non-bearing includes plantings for 1997-02.