



2007 California Raisin Grape Overhead Trellis Report

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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RESULTS

California raisin-type grapes using the overhead trellis management system totaled 13,668 acres (bearing and non-bearing) during 2007. This amounted to 6.1 percent of the total raisin-type grape acreage. The Dovine and Fiesta varieties had the highest percentage of acreage using the overhead trellis system, at 56.3 percent and 38.7 percent, respectively. Approximately 31 percent of the total raisin-type acreage planted since 2001 was managed using this system. In Madera County, 14 percent of the raisin-type acreage were grown using overhead trellises, followed by 12.1 percent in Kern County and 12 percent in Kings County. Only 3.4 percent of Fresno County's acreage was devoted to this system.

Most California raisins are produced by sun drying after laying the bunches on paper trays on terraces between vine rows. The overhead trellis system has led to increased production of dried-on-the-vine raisins, increased machine harvesting, and decreased hand labor use.

PROCEDURES

The California Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, conducts

an annual grape acreage survey. The 2007 Grape Acreage Report, published in April, summarized the latest survey results. At the request of the raisin industry, an additional question was added to the grape acreage survey form the past three years to gather information on raisin-type acreage grown using an overhead trellis system. In addition to the overhead trellis system data, producers were asked to update acreage by variety and year planted. Growers were first contacted by mail with telephone follow-up. Field staff personally visited large growers who did not respond by mail. This report summarizes data for raisin-type grapes grown using the overhead trellis system.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Raisin Type Grapes: Total Acreage Standing by Variety, California, 2006-2007 1/

Variety	Total Acres		Overhead Trellis Acres		Trellis Percentage of Total	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
Black Corinth 2/	1,806	1,798	0	0	0.0	0.0
Dovine	690	703	396	396	57.4	56.3
Fiesta	12,286	12,678	4,901	4,901	39.9	38.7
Selma Pete	1,248	1,967	355	355	28.4	18.0
Sultana	126	163	0	0	0.0	0.0
Thompson Seedless	214,311	205,933	7,811	7,861	3.6	3.8
Other Raisin	626	1,223	156	156	24.9	12.8
STATE TOTAL	231,093	224,464	13,618	13,668	5.9	6.1

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Also known as Zante Currant.

Raisin Type Grapes: Total Acreage Standing by County, California, 2006-2007 1/

Variety	Total Acres		Overhead Trellis Acres		Trellis Percentage of Total	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
Fresno	148,463	145,442	4,979	4,979	3.4	3.4
Kern	18,693	18,362	2,199	2,199	11.8	12.0
Kings	932	788	95	95	10.2	12.1
Madera	39,681	38,110	5,325	5,325	13.4	14.0
Merced	736	723	21	21	2.9	2.9
Riverside	2,119	1,969	71	71	3.4	3.6
San Bernardino	152	152	0	0	0.0	0.0
San Luis Obispo	272	272	0	0	0.0	0.0
Stanislaus	260	258	0	0	0.0	0.0
Tulare	19,744	18,348	924	974	4.7	5.3
Other	38	38	4	4	10.5	10.5
STATE TOTAL	231,093	224,464	13,618	13,668	5.9	6.1

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

Raisin Type Grapes: Total Acreage Standing by Year Planted, California, 1998-2007 1/

Year Planted	Total Acres		Overhead Trellis Acres		Trellis Percentage of Total	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
1999 and Earlier	217,964	210,205	9,311	9,311	4.3	4.4
2000	3,377	3,073	905	905	26.8	29.5
2001	1,573	1,549	742	742	47.2	47.9
2002	1,669	1,665	90	90	5.4	5.4
2003	1,929	1,964	1,198	1,198	62.1	61.0
2004	846	876	263	263	31.1	30.0
2005	2,085	2,737	727	727	34.9	26.6
2006	1,649	1,581	383	383	23.2	24.2
2007	NA	814	NA	50	NA	6.1
STATE TOTAL	231,093	224,464	13,618	13,668	5.9	6.1

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.