

# 2004 California Olive Probability Survey Report



Released: August 12, 2004  
5:30 A.M. PDT



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE

## CALIFORNIA OLIVE FORECAST FOR 2004

California's 2004 olive crop forecast is 85,000 tons, down 28 percent compared to last year's 118,000 tons. Bearing acreage decreased 11 percent from 36,000 acres last year to 32,000 acres in 2004. The yield, at 2.66 tons per acre, is 19 percent lower than the 2003 yield. The olive crop is alternate bearing, with this year representing the low year of overall production. The crop in southern areas of the State, Tulare County, is spotty and light. The heat wave at the end of April through the beginning of May scorched the bloom and resulted in a poor set. The crop in northern areas, Tehama and Glenn counties, looks good overall. The Sevillano variety is light, but the Manzanillo crop is heavy, and the quality is good.

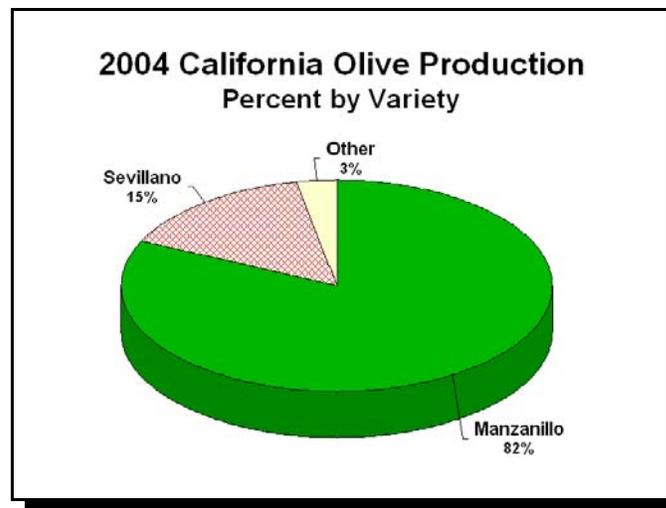
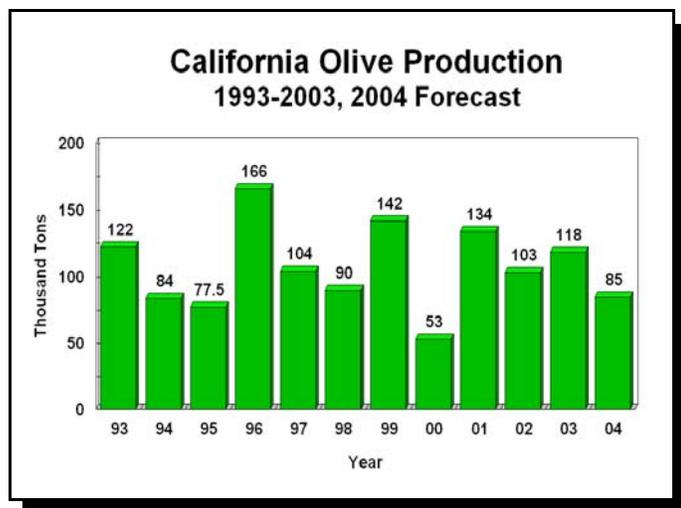
The Manzanillo and Sevillano olive varieties are expected to produce 82 percent and 15 percent of the total olive crop, respectively. The remaining 3 percent are expected to come from all other varieties. The majority of the total production will be utilized for canning. It is estimated that approximately 75,000 tons will be canned with the remaining 10,000 tons used for olive oil and other specialty products.

## VARIETAL FORECAST

Growers were asked to estimate production by variety. The following table lists a varietal level forecast based on survey data.

Variety	2003 Production	2004 Forecast	Percent Change
	Tons	Tons	
Manzanillo	102,000	70,000	69
Sevillano	13,000	13,000	100
Other <sup>1/</sup>	3,000	3,000	100
TOTAL	118,000	85,000	72

<sup>1/</sup> Includes acreage and production for varieties that were or will be used for oil and other specialty products.



## SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The California Agricultural Statistics Service (CASS) designed the probability survey, developed a sampling scheme, and analyzed the data. The olive industry provided CASS with grower names and last year's tonnage.

## SURVEY SAMPLE

A total of 342 growers was sampled for the survey. Reports from 317 were used by CASS to establish this forecast. The sample is designed to give a State estimate of all varieties; estimates by variety should be construed to be less precise.

VIC TOLOMEO  
Director

JACK RUTZ  
Deputy Director

GARY NELSON -- SUZANNE ADAMS  
Agricultural Statisticians -- Estimates Group

Comments or questions should be directed to:

California Agricultural Statistics Service  
P.O. Box 1258  
Sacramento, CA 95812  
Phone: (916) 498-5161  
Fax: (916) 498-5186