



2017 California Walnut Acreage Report

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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RESULTS

California's 2017 walnut acreage is estimated at 400,000 acres, up 10 percent from 2015. Of the total acreage, 335,000 were bearing and 65,000 were non-bearing.

WALNUT BEARING AND NON-BEARING ACREAGE ^{1/}

Year ^{2/}	Bearing	Non-bearing	Total
2010	255,000	NA	NA
2011	265,000	35,000	300,000
2012	270,000	NA	NA
2013	280,000	45,000	325,000
2014	290,000	NA	NA
2015	300,000	65,000	365,000
2016	315,000	NA	NA
2017 ^{3/}	335,000	65,000	400,000

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

^{2/} Beginning with 2003, acreage survey conducted every other year.

^{3/} Non-bearing acreage estimate is subject to revision based on the upcoming Walnut Nursery Sales Report. NA Not available.

Of the walnut acreage reported, Chandler continues as the leading variety with 121,524 bearing acres, followed by Hartley with 30,172 bearing acres. Chandler also accounted for 59 percent of the non-bearing acreage.

Butte County shows the largest acreage with 16 percent of the total, followed by San Joaquin with 14 percent and Tulare with 10 percent each.

OBJECTIVES

The Pacific Regional Office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) conducts an acreage survey of California walnut growers. The purpose of this survey is to provide walnut acreage information on new plantings and removals. It is a continuation of a long series of industry-funded walnut acreage surveys.

This report consists of two parts:

- Estimated walnut acreage -- bearing, non-bearing, and total.
- Detailed data by variety, year planted, and county – as voluntarily reported by walnut growers and maintained in the NASS database.

With perfect information, the estimated walnut acreage and the detailed data would be the same. However, differences exist for the following reasons:

- A voluntary survey of approximately 4,900 walnut growers is unlikely to ever attain 100 percent completeness.
- It is difficult for USDA, NASS to detect growers that are planting walnuts for the first time.
- The detailed data reflects tree removals from approximately 7,000 acres during the past two years. Of this number, some acreage was harvested in 2017 prior to being pulled out, and that acreage has already been removed from the detailed data.

PROCEDURES

The major source of the walnut detailed data was a questionnaire mailed to all walnut growers included in the NASS database. The mailing was made to approximately 4,900 walnut growers in early November. 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. Producers were given six weeks to respond by mail. A telephone follow-up was then undertaken. Field personnel personally visited large growers who did not respond by mail or telephone.

To arrive at the estimated walnut acreage, the NASS walnut acreage database was compared with pesticide application data maintained by County Agricultural Commissioners and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation. In addition, NASS looked at data collected on the Walnut Nursery Sales Reports.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The USDA, NASS, Pacific Regional Office sincerely appreciates the many farm operators, owners, and management firms providing the information. A special thanks is due to the California Walnut Board for providing funding and support of this special acreage update survey.

2017 WALNUT ACREAGE BY COUNTY, BY YEAR PLANTED ^{1/}

County	2005 and earlier	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Acres standing in 2017		
														Bearing	Non-bearing	Total
Amador	279	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	279	0	279
Butte	25,645	1,187	809	775	1,732	2,549	1,352	1,872	2,898	1,212	2,174	2,078	299	38,611	5,971	44,582
Calaveras	711	0	0	0	33	4	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	748	5	753
Colusa	4,138	205	390	309	681	482	535	870	551	357	172	412	26	8,155	973	9,128
Contra Costa	396	0	0	11	0	0	67	0	0	1	2	4	0	474	7	480
El Dorado	240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	240	0	240
Fresno	3,867	118	413	182	322	109	285	150	142	176	467	164	60	5,587	868	6,454
Glenn	10,537	639	555	734	1,042	842	787	486	1,001	1,041	334	166	125	16,496	1,793	18,289
Kern	250	0	0	0	0	0	39	0	0	0	0	80	0	289	80	369
Kings	7,493	392	443	161	345	458	328	400	315	381	422	97	76	10,331	978	11,309
Lake	3,583	44	18	15	105	30	40	23	160	65	66	16	7	4,008	163	4,171
Madera	814	0	55	20	0	25	118	50	0	137	1	118	0	1,083	256	1,338
Mendocino	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	26	1	27
Merced	4,145	263	193	134	227	136	321	552	184	224	152	166	54	6,154	595	6,749
Monterey	374	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	392	0	392
Napa	170	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	171	0	171
Placer	777	0	0	15	0	140	22	10	188	0	81	0	0	1,141	91	1,232
Riverside	37	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	0	39
Sacramento	651	0	0	0	0	0	0	52	1	63	0	0	0	704	63	767
San Benito	1,020	8	8	14	0	4	0	0	36	29	2	89	0	1,086	125	1,211
San Joaquin	26,071	1,082	799	1,140	1,624	1,421	706	1,163	1,310	1,303	1,353	390	171	35,228	3,305	38,533
San Luis Obispo	2,475	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	2,476	5	2,481
Santa Barbara	432	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	432	0	432
Santa Clara	317	0	0	0	13	2	2	3	0	0	6	0	0	337	6	343
Shasta	846	0	0	0	1	0	0	13	1	2	0	1	0	861	3	864
Solano	6,716	58	60	64	182	190	40	169	71	29	360	272	47	7,497	761	8,258
Sonoma	118	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	119	0	119
Stanislaus	15,953	499	676	1,261	722	698	620	795	1,858	867	1,092	463	224	22,997	2,732	25,728
Sutter	17,258	1,558	906	675	819	835	726	1,019	558	642	375	190	40	24,306	1,294	25,600
Tehama	12,510	679	291	627	437	1,345	696	997	917	1,092	878	73	426	18,482	2,483	20,965
Tulare	20,785	1,095	433	452	294	699	580	832	500	818	603	326	176	25,613	1,981	27,594
Ventura	128	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	128	0	128
Yolo	7,691	382	703	380	597	663	726	227	212	261	581	203	154	11,517	1,264	12,781
Yuba	7,433	983	97	294	542	488	538	773	497	767	805	152	160	11,615	1,915	13,531
All Others ^{2/}	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	0	26
Total	183,909	9,192	6,848	7,283	9,719	11,118	8,528	10,458	11,398	9,465	9,932	5,461	2,050	257,642	27,718	285,360

^{1/} Totals may not add due to rounding.

^{2/} All other counties include Alameda, Humboldt, Marin, Nevada, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Cruz, and Siskiyou.

WALNUT ACREAGE AS OF 2017 - VARIETIES AND AGE GROUPS - STATE SUMMARY
ACREAGE PLANTED DURING YEARS SHOWN AND STANDING IN 2017 ^{1/}

Variety	2005 and earlier	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Acres standing in 2017		
														Bearing	Non-bearing	Total
Amigo	86	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	87	0	87
Ashley	2,426	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2,428	1	2,429
Blackmer/Mautner/ Vaughn	382	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	382	0	382
Chandler	70,441	5,954	4,576	4,984	6,922	6,940	6,118	7,690	7,898	5,993	6,593	2,680	1,204	121,524	16,470	137,994
Chico	1,505	0	0	0	1	2	9	1	0	1	0	0	0	1,517	1	1,518
Cisco	49	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	50	4	54
Eureka	1,900	1	2	5	14	0	5	2	8	1	5	0	1	1,927	17	1,944
Franquette	6,005	1	0	2	49	12	29	1	54	4	49	1	26	6,068	164	6,233
Franquette Scharsch	99	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	99	0	99
Gustine	98	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	98	0	98
Hartley	29,534	105	145	47	205	72	65	44	184	8	155	156	28	30,172	575	30,748
Howard	19,308	1,640	766	838	1,158	1,597	973	1,333	665	1,169	1,205	302	284	28,277	2,960	31,237
Ivanhoe	1	0	0	0	39	53	125	268	145	84	211	83	74	631	452	1,082
Marchetti	206	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	206	0	206
Mayette	307	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	307	0	307
Midland	111	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	111	0	111
Nuggett	163	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	163	0	163
Payne	3,668	18	8	29	32	4	1	0	8	2	73	2	37	3,759	122	3,880
Pedro	187	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	187	0	187
Poe	334	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	335	2	336
Serr	13,145	23	20	37	23	32	52	1	32	7	9	9	0	13,333	57	13,390
Sunland	1,256	0	5	0	20	0	0	0	2	0	0	57	0	1,281	59	1,340
Tehama	1,600	25	0	0	0	65	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	1,690	18	1,708
Trinta	154	0	0	0	7	10	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	198	0	198
Tulare	17,199	1,043	986	1,239	864	1,901	963	882	2,148	1,824	915	1,822	242	27,225	4,803	32,028
Vina	11,699	145	58	9	145	17	8	20	2	7	5	0	10	12,102	24	12,126
Waterloo	387	0	0	2	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	412	0	412
All Others	1,659	235	283	91	217	411	180	190	248	348	710	351	144	3,076	1,991	5,066
Total	183,909	9,192	6,848	7,283	9,719	11,118	8,528	10,458	11,398	9,465	9,932	5,461	2,050	257,642	27,718	285,360

^{1/} Totals may not add due to rounding. Shaded/bold area represents non-bearing years and includes plantings of the following: Chandler, Chico, Howard Ivanhoe, Tulare (2014-2017); Amigo, Ashley, Cisco, Gustine, Marchetti, Nuggett, Payne, Pedro, Serr, Sunland, Tehama, Trinta, Vina (2013-2017); Franquette, Franquette Scharsch, Mayette, Poe (2011-2017); all other varieties not specified (2012-2017).

California Walnut Acreage, Production and Value, 1994-2017

Year	Bearing	Non-bearing	Production	Yield per acre	Grower return per ton	Total value
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
1994	189,000	25,600	232,000	1.23	1,030.00	238,960
1995	193,000	23,300	234,000	1.21	1,400.00	327,600
1996	192,000	23,200	208,000	1.08	1,580.00	328,640
1997	193,000	20,900	269,000	1.39	1,430.00	384,670
1998	198,000	29,000	227,000	1.15	1,050.00	238,350
1999	197,000	30,000	283,000	1.44	886.00	250,738
2000	200,000	31,000	239,000	1.20	1,240.00	296,360
2001	204,000	29,000	305,000	1.50	1,120.00	341,600
2002	210,000	27,000	282,000	1.34	1,170.00	329,940
2003	213,000	27,000	326,000	1.53	1,160.00	378,160
2004	214,000	NA	325,000	1.52	1,390.00	451,750
2005	215,000	26,000	355,000	1.65	1,570.00	557,350
2006	216,000	NA	346,000	1.60	1,630.00	563,980
2007	218,000	25,000	328,000	1.50	2,290.00	751,120
2008	230,000	NA	436,000	1.90	1,280.00	558,080
2009	240,000	28,000	437,000	1.82	1,710.00	747,270
2010	255,000	NA	504,000	1.98	2,040.00	1,028,160
2011	265,000	35,000	461,000	1.74	2,900.00	1,336,900
2012	270,000	NA	497,000	1.84	3,030.00	1,505,910
2013	280,000	45,000	492,000	1.76	3,710.00	1,825,320
2014	290,000	NA	571,000	1.97	3,340.00	1,907,140
2015	300,000	65,000	606,000	2.02	1,670.00	1,012,020
2016 ^{1/}	315,000	NA	689,000	2.19	1,850.00	1,274,650
2017 ^{2/ 3/}	335,000	65,000	627,798	1.87	NA	NA

^{1/} Production and price are based on the Walnut Raisin Prune report released in October 2017. Value was calculated based on production and price.

^{2/} Production reported to the California Walnut Board by handlers. Revised production, yield, price, and value will be released in the Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts 2017 Summary on June 26, 2018.

^{3/} Non-bearing acreage estimate is subject to revision based on the upcoming Walnut Nursery Sales Report. NA Not available.

Source: USDA, NASS, Pacific Regional Office