



FLORIDA  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE  
1222 Woodward Street  
Orlando, Florida 32803

# AVOCADOS & LEMONS

# FLORIDA AGRICULTURE



ANNUAL PRODUCTION AND VALUE

April 17, 1987

## AVOCADOS

FLORIDA: Total production of avocados was 988,000 bushels in the 1986-87 season, 13 percent less than the 1,140,000 bushels produced in the 1985-86 crop year. This was also 29 percent less than the record high 1982-83 production of 1,388,000 bushels. The 1986-87 fruit set was adversely affected by strong winds and heavy rainfall at bloom time in late March. The summer varieties were particularly hard hit.

Total crop value delivered to the packing house door declined sharply to \$10,176,000. Average price per bushel was \$10.30, down from last

season's \$14.40 per bushel but not as low as the \$9.75 per bushel in the 1984-85 season.

Bearing acreage increased to 11,300 as newly set trees came into production.

CALIFORNIA: Total production for the 1985-86 crop year was 6,400,000 bushel equivalents, down from the previous season's 8,000,000 bushel equivalents. This is also greatly reduced from the record high 1983-84 season when 9,880,000 bushels were harvested. Average price for the 1985-86 crop increased sharply to an estimated \$25.00 per bushel equivalent.

Production for the current season as projected by the California Avocado Commission is 8,800,000 bushel equivalents.

Table 1. Florida avocados: Bearing acreage, production, utilization, season average price, and value of production at packing house door for crop years 1977-78 through 1986-87

Season	Bearing acres	Total production	Certified shipments	Local fresh use	Processing	Price per bushel	Value of production
	Acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Dollars	Dollars
1977-78	7,300	428,000	412,000	8,000	8,000	17.25	7,383,000
1978-79	7,700	924,000	895,000	8,000	21,000	10.00	9,240,000
1979-80	8,300	1,090,000	1,017,000	21,000	52,000	14.95	16,298,000
1980-81	9,000	1,230,000	1,114,000	26,000	90,000	13.25	16,293,000
1981-82	9,300	1,032,000	977,000	23,000	32,000	12.50	12,935,000
1982-83	10,000	1,388,000	1,326,000	32,000	30,000	12.00	16,656,000
1983-84	10,900	1,080,000	1,032,000	28,000	20,000	11.50	12,420,000
1984-85	11,000	1,180,000	1,150,000	20,000	10,000	9.75	11,505,000
1985-86 1/	10,700	1,140,000	1,111,000	19,000	10,000	14.40	16,416,000
1986-87	11,300	988,000	957,000	25,000	6,000	10.30	10,176,000

1/ Acreage revised.

Table 2. California avocados: Bearing acreage, production, season average price and value of production at packing house door for crop years 1977-78 through 1986-87

Season	Bearing acres	Total production 1/	Price per bushel	Value of production
	Acres	Bushels	Dollars	Dollars
1977-78	34,410	4,280,000	18.50	79,180,000
1978-79	39,960	4,920,000	17.30	84,993,000
1979-80	44,370	3,000,000	37.40	112,200,000
1980-81	47,830	9,520,000	8.90	84,966,000
1981-82	64,800	6,280,000	17.20	108,173,000
1982-83	72,300	8,080,000	11.50	92,920,000
1983-84	75,000	9,880,000	9.25	91,390,000
1984-85	73,000	8,000,000	14.55	116,400,000
1985-86	74,000	6,400,000	25.00	160,000,000
1986-87 2/	NA	8,800,000	NA	NA

1/ Pounds converted to bushels at 50 pounds per bushel, rounded to nearest thousands. 2/ Projected

Lemon varieties' acreage has also declined substantially. True lemons are grown primarily for the fresh market, but only one-third of the 1986 crop was shipped fresh and at a much lower f.o.b. price than the previous season's record high. Meyer lemons, produced in the southwestern counties of the State, were all processed. Total value of the lemon crop was \$1,594,000, a sharp reduction from last season's \$5,483,000 and the lowest since the 1977 season.

Production of Florida lemons in 1986 increased above the previous three seasons' freeze reduced crops. The 620,000 boxes produced is almost twice the 330,000 boxes harvested from the 1985 crop. Record high production in Florida was 1.85 million boxes from the 1972 crop. Bearing acreage has declined steadily from 8,700 acres in 1971 to an estimated 1,400 acres in 1986, a reduction of 84 percent. Slightly more than 100 acres of Meyer lemons remain since the freezes of recent years. The true

**Florida lemons: Bearing acreage, production, season average on-tree prices and value for crop years 1971 through 1986**

True lemons :  
 Meyer lemons :  
 All lemons :  
 Season : Bearing : Production : Price : Bearing : Production : Price : Bearing : Production : Price : Value of :  
 : acres : tton : per box : acres : tton : per box : acres : tton : per box : acres : tton : per box : production

Year	True lemons (acres)	True lemons (tton)	True lemons (per box)	Meyer lemons (acres)	Meyer lemons (tton)	Meyer lemons (per box)	All lemons (acres)	All lemons (tton)	All lemons (per box)	Value of production (dollars)
1971	7.1	1,140	2.50	1.6	325	1.50	8.7	1,465	2.23	3,267
1972	6.8	1,180	3.00	1.6	670	1.40	8.4	1,850	2.47	4,570
1973	6.3	1,010	3.25	1.6	590	1.45	7.9	1,600	2.58	4,128
1974	6.0	1,150	2.50	1.6	530	.70	7.6	1,680	1.92	3,231
1975	5.4	850	3.60	1.5	450	1.45	6.9	1,300	2.85	3,697
1976	5.6	900	2.45	1.4	470	1.30	7.0	1,370	2.05	2,808
1977	3.7	200	4.55	1.4	190	1.55	5.1	390	3.05	1,190
1978	3.5	370	5.25	1.4	330	1.60	4.9	700	3.50	2,450
1979	3.9	770	8.90	1.3	480	2.50	5.2	1,250	6.45	8,063
1980	3.8	850	7.90	1.3	630	3.95	5.1	1,480	6.20	9,204
1981	3.7	870	6.70	1.3	340	2.20	5.0	1,210	5.45	6,577
1982	2.0	140	13.30	1.2	580	2.00	3.2	720	4.20	3,005
1983	1.6	455	9.00	.7	55	.40	2.3	510	8.10	4,111
1984	1.6	485	NA	.5	65	NA	2.1	550	6.00	3,313
1985 1/	1.3	275	NA	.1	55	NA	1.4	330	16.60	5,483
1986	1.3	560	NA	.1	60	NA	1.4	620	2.60	1,594

1/ Acreage revised.

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