AVOCADO PRODUCTION AND VALUE

FLORIDA: Total production of avocados was 1,140,000 bushels in the 1985-86 season just completed, down slightly from the 1,180,000 bushels in 1984-85. This production was higher than the 1983-84 crop but 18 percent less than the record high 1,388,000 bushels produced in 1982-83.

Total crop value was a near record high $16,416,000. Average price delivered to the packing house was $14.40 per bushel, up substantially from $9.75 for the 1984-85 crop. Summer and early fall prices were the lowest of the season with winter varieties averaging higher.

Bearing acreage at 11,600 has increased to a record high, however non-bearing acreage is at the lowest level in recent years.

CALIFORNIA: Total production for the 1984-85 crop year ended last October was 7,800,000 bushel equivalents, down sharply from the record high 9,880,000 bushels produced in the 1983-84 season. Projected volume by the California Avocado Commission for the 1985-86 season indicates an even lower production. The value of production for the 1984-85 crop increased sharply over the two previous seasons, to a record high total value.

Table 1. Florida avocados: Bearing acreage, production, utilization, season average price and value of production at packing house door for crop years 1976-77 through 1985-86

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Bearing</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Price per</th>
<th>Value of</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acres</td>
<td>Production</td>
<td>Certified</td>
<td>Local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976-77</td>
<td>6,900</td>
<td>844,000</td>
<td>818,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977-78</td>
<td>7,300</td>
<td>428,000</td>
<td>412,000</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978-79</td>
<td>7,700</td>
<td>924,000</td>
<td>895,000</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979-80</td>
<td>8,300</td>
<td>1,090,000</td>
<td>1,017,000</td>
<td>21,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980-81</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>1,230,000</td>
<td>1,114,000</td>
<td>26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981-82</td>
<td>9,300</td>
<td>1,032,000</td>
<td>977,000</td>
<td>23,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982-83</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>1,388,000</td>
<td>1,326,000</td>
<td>32,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983-84</td>
<td>10,900</td>
<td>1,080,000</td>
<td>1,032,000</td>
<td>28,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984-85</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>1,180,000</td>
<td>1,150,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985-86</td>
<td>11,600</td>
<td>1,140,000</td>
<td>1,111,000</td>
<td>19,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. California avocados: Bearing acreage, production, season average price and value of production at packing house door for crop years 1976-77 through 1985-86

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Bearing</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Price per</th>
<th>Value of</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acres</td>
<td>Production</td>
<td>Bushels</td>
<td>Dollars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976-77</td>
<td>29,041</td>
<td>4,800,000</td>
<td>14.80</td>
<td>71,160,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977-78</td>
<td>34,410</td>
<td>4,280,000</td>
<td>18.50</td>
<td>79,180,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978-79</td>
<td>39,960</td>
<td>4,920,000</td>
<td>17.30</td>
<td>84,993,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1979-80</td>
<td>44,370</td>
<td>3,000,000</td>
<td>37.40</td>
<td>112,200,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1980-81</td>
<td>47,830</td>
<td>9,520,000</td>
<td>8.90</td>
<td>84,966,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1981-82</td>
<td>64,800</td>
<td>6,280,000</td>
<td>17.20</td>
<td>108,173,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1982-83</td>
<td>72,300</td>
<td>8,080,000</td>
<td>11.50</td>
<td>92,920,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1983-84</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>9,880,000</td>
<td>9.25</td>
<td>91,390,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984-85</td>
<td>73,800</td>
<td>7,800,000</td>
<td>14.75</td>
<td>115,050,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985-86</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1/ Pounds converted to bushels at 50 pounds per bushel, rounded to nearest thousands. 2/ Projected
The Florida lemon is the world's most important lemon and is grown primarily in the lower half of the state, particularly in the •

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Value of Production ($)</th>
<th>Orange Boxes</th>
<th>Orange Cartons</th>
<th>Value per Carton ($)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>8,963,000</td>
<td>1,133,900</td>
<td>1,133,900</td>
<td>7.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>11,908,000</td>
<td>1,354,800</td>
<td>1,354,800</td>
<td>8.81</td>
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<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>14,690,000</td>
<td>1,625,300</td>
<td>1,625,300</td>
<td>8.96</td>
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<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>17,987,000</td>
<td>1,938,900</td>
<td>1,938,900</td>
<td>9.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>21,178,000</td>
<td>2,300,200</td>
<td>2,300,200</td>
<td>9.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>24,625,000</td>
<td>2,819,800</td>
<td>2,819,800</td>
<td>8.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>28,640,000</td>
<td>3,402,100</td>
<td>3,402,100</td>
<td>8.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>33,680,000</td>
<td>4,130,600</td>
<td>4,130,600</td>
<td>8.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>39,900,000</td>
<td>5,059,100</td>
<td>5,059,100</td>
<td>8.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>47,425,000</td>
<td>6,230,400</td>
<td>6,230,400</td>
<td>7.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>56,500,000</td>
<td>7,692,700</td>
<td>7,692,700</td>
<td>7.34</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Value of production was $5,963,000 in 1963. The lemon production is mostly concentrated along the lower half of the state, particularly in the counties of Indian River, Manatee, Orange, and Sarasota. The lemon production is generally harvested for fresh fruit, although some is processed for juice. Growth in production has been steady, with a peak in 1972. In 1973, the value of production was $47,425,000.

April 12, 1968