

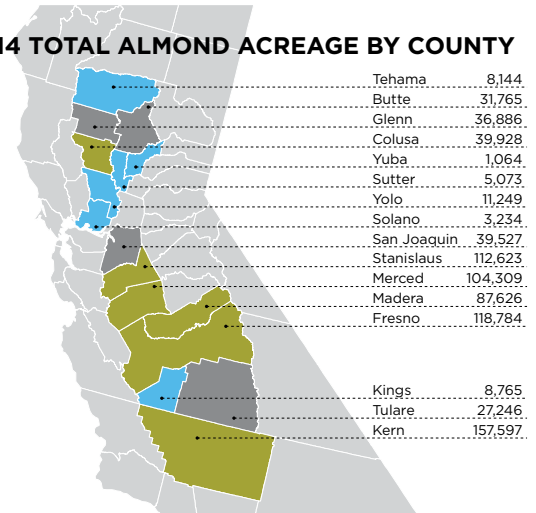
# 2012 Ag Census — California Almonds

## OVERVIEW OF THE CALIFORNIA ALMOND INDUSTRY

With its ideal growing conditions including a mild climate, rich soil and abundant sunshine, California is the world's largest producer of almonds, supplying about 80% of the global demand. There are around 6,800 California Almond farms. Of those, 91% are family farms, many of which are owned and operated by third- and fourth-generation farmers. The 2012 USDA Agriculture Census shows that the total number of almond farms has increased slightly since the 2007 Ag Census, while acreage increased almost 15% to reach approximately 935,000 total acres.

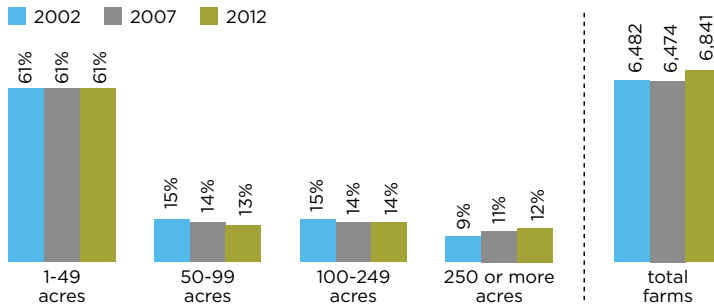
The following graphs further illustrate information about California Almond growers. For additional information on these graphs and more, visit <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2012/>. See definitions of key terms on reverse side.

## 2014 TOTAL ALMOND ACREAGE BY COUNTY



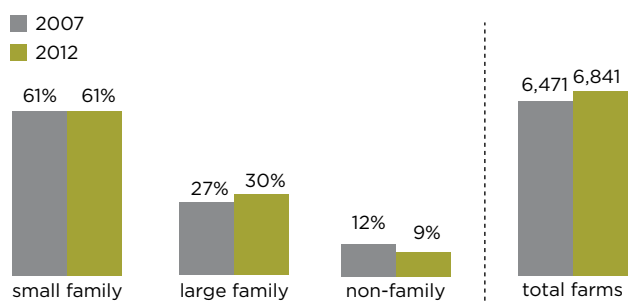
\*Source: NASS 2014 California Almond Acreage Report

## 74% OF FARMS ARE LESS THAN 100 ACRES\*



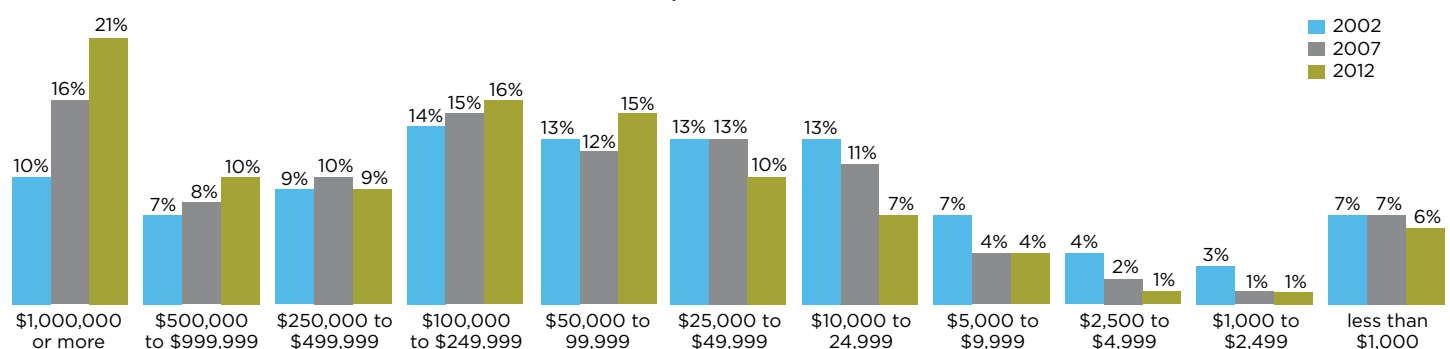
\*Source: 2012 Ag Census, Table 39

## 91% OF FARMS ARE FAMILY FARMS\*



\*Source: 2012 Ag Census, Typology Table (2002 data unavailable)

## 60% OF FARMS HAVE GROSS SALES LESS THAN \$250,000 PER YEAR\*



\*Source: 2012 Ag Census, Table 65

# The Census of Agriculture

The Census of Agriculture is the leading source of facts and figures about American agriculture. Conducted every five years, the census provides a detailed picture of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. It is the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every state and county in the United States. The first Ag Census was completed in 1840.

## WHO COLLECTS THE DATA AND HOW?

All data is collected by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). To gather this data, NASS creates a census mail list (CML) of agricultural operations that potentially meet the farm definition, collects agricultural information from those operations, reviews the data, and after making any necessary corrections, combines that data to provide information on the characteristics of farm operations and farm operators at the national, state and county levels. The CML is a living document, as NASS reviews and improves the list on an ongoing basis. *NASS confirms every name on the list as a qualifying farm.*

For the 2012 Ag Census, data collection was accomplished primarily by mail, electronic data reporting by the Internet, and personal interviews. Data collection began in December 2012 and was completed in July 2013.

## DEFINITIONS\*

**Acres.** (Table 39) Crops were reported in whole acres, with some exceptions, such as land in orchards, which is reported in tenths of acres. Totals for crops reported in tenths of acres were rounded to whole acres at the aggregate level during the tabulation process.

**Farms by size.** (Table 39) All farms were classified into size groups according to the total land area on the farm. The land area of a farm is an operating-unit concept, and includes land owned and operated as well as land rented from others.

**Family farm size.** (Typology) Small family farms are those with gross cash farm income under \$350,000. Large family farms are those with more than \$350,000.

**Market value of agricultural products sold.** (Table 65) This category represents the gross market value before taxes, as well as production expenses of all agricultural products sold or removed from the place in 2012, regardless of who received the payment. It is equivalent to total sales, and it includes sales by the operators as well as the value of any shares received by partners, landlords, contractors or others associated with the operation.

## MORE INFORMATION

The next Ag Census will be taken in 2017. More information about the census can be found at the Census of Agriculture website: <http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/index.php>.

\*Definitions taken from the 2012 Census of Agriculture, Appendix B.