



2015 California Almond Forecast

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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RESULTS

The subjective production forecast for the 2015 California almond crop is 1.85 billion pounds, according to a survey conducted by the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Forecasted production is 1 percent below last year's production of 1.87 billion pounds and 8 percent below 2013's production of 2.01 billion pounds. Forecasted bearing acreage for 2015 is 890 thousand. The subjective production forecast is based on a telephone survey conducted from April 14 to April 29 from a sample of almond growers. Of the 485 growers sampled, 328 reported. Acreage from these reports accounted for 29 percent of the total bearing acreage.

The California almond bloom began in early February. The 2015 bloom was one of the earliest almond blooms in memory. In general, the bloom was fast and compact with Monterey and Fritz blooming earlier than Nonpareils. In several instances, the lower two-thirds of trees blossomed two weeks ahead of the top possibly indicating insufficient chilling hours. Nonpareil set appears to be less than optimal while pollinators were reported as looking good overall. Nuts were sizing well with the crop pace at least two weeks ahead of normal and also ahead of last year's early crop. Insect pressure may exceed last year but remains manageable. Water is a problem for many growers with limited amounts available for purchase. Growers irrigating with well water expressed concern regarding salinity.

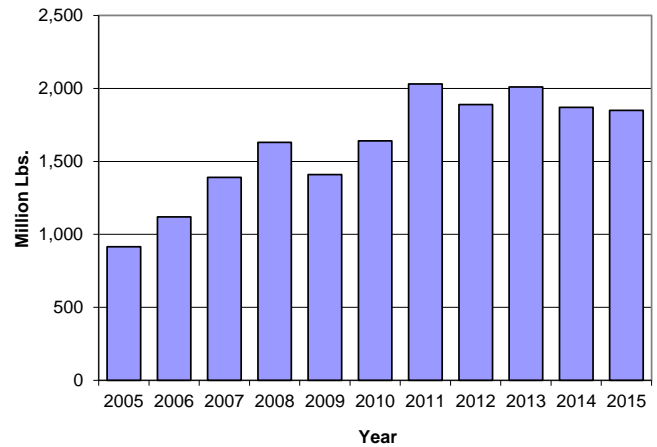
PROCEDURES

Results of the subjective survey are based on **opinions** obtained from growers. The sample of growers changes from year to year and is grouped by size of operation, so all growers will be represented. Growers are asked to indicate their almond yield per acre from last year and expected yield for the current year.

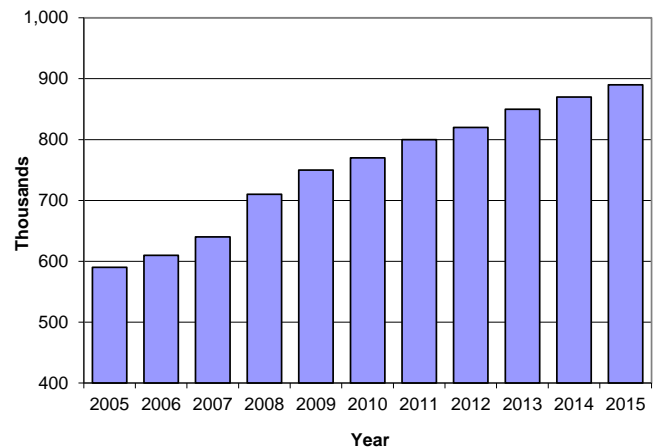
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A special thanks goes to the many almond farm operators and owners who provided information on their operations. The support was outstanding and we appreciate the time they spent completing telephone interviews.

California Almond Production
2005-2015



California Almond Bearing Acreage
2005-2015



California Almond Acreage, Production and Value, 1995-2015

Year	Bearing	Non-Bearing	Yield Per Acre	Production	Price Per Pound 1/	Value of Production 1/
	Acres		Pounds	Million Pounds	Dollars	\$1,000
1995	418,000	65,700	885	370	2.48	880,896
1996	428,000	72,400	1,190	510	2.08	1,018,368
1997	442,000	63,000	1,720	759	1.56	1,160,640
1998	460,000	120,000	1,130	520	1.41	703,590
1999	485,000	115,000	1,720	833	0.86	687,742
2000	510,000	100,000	1,380	703	0.97	666,487
2001	530,000	75,000	1,570	830	0.91	740,012
2002	545,000	65,000	2,000	1,090	1.11	1,200,687
2003	550,000	60,000	1,890	1,040	1.57	1,600,144
2004	570,000	70,000	1,760	1,005	2.21	2,189,005
2005	590,000	110,000	1,550	915	2.81	2,525,909
2006	610,000	145,000	1,840	1,120	2.06	2,258,790
2007	640,000	125,000	2,170	1,390	1.75	2,401,875
2008	710,000	115,000	2,300	1,630	1.45	2,343,200
2009	750,000	90,000	1,880	1,410	1.65	2,293,500
2010	770,000	85,000	2,130	1,640	1.79	2,903,380
2011	800,000	75,000	2,540	2,030	1.99	4,007,860
2012	820,000	110,000	2,300	1,890	2.58	4,816,860
2013	850,000	120,000	2,360	2,010	3.21	6,384,690
2014	870,000	150,000	2,150	1,870	3.50	6,464,500
2015	890,000	2/	2,080	1,850	3/	3/

1/ Price and value are based on the edible portion of the crop only. Inedible production for 2013 is estimated to be 21.0 million pounds.

2/ Non-Bearing Acreage will be available in April 2016.

3/ Preliminary Price and Value will be available in January 2016.