



2008 California Almond Forecast

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

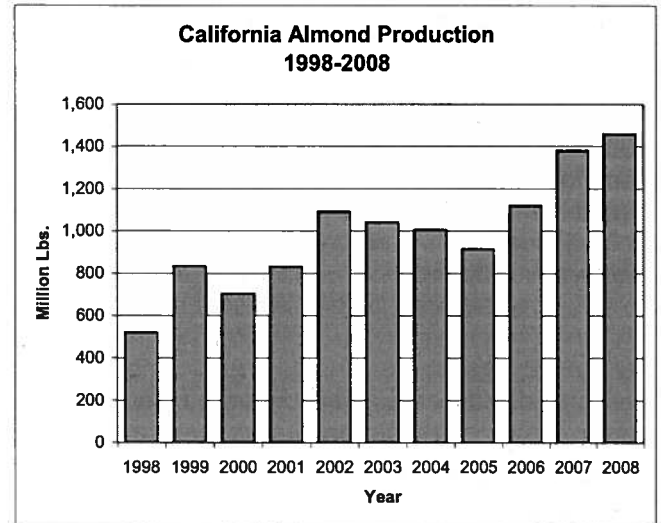
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RESULTS

The initial forecast for the 2008 California almond production is 1.46 billion pounds. This is 6 percent above last year's revised production of 1.38 billion pounds. Estimated bearing acreage for 2008 is 660 thousand. This forecast is based on a telephone survey conducted April 23 - May 2 from a sample of almond growers. Of the 470 growers sampled, 251 reported. Acreage from these reports accounted for 18 percent of the total bearing acreage.

After a near perfect bloom, the 2008 California almond set looks strong. This year's bloom arrived three weeks later than normal and progressed quickly; it lasted only 10 days as opposed to the average three weeks. Overlapping bloom between varieties was outstanding this year, resulting in good cross-pollination, and there was an adequate supply of bees to pollinate the crop. The set of the Nonpareil variety is down slightly, but the set is up in other varieties.

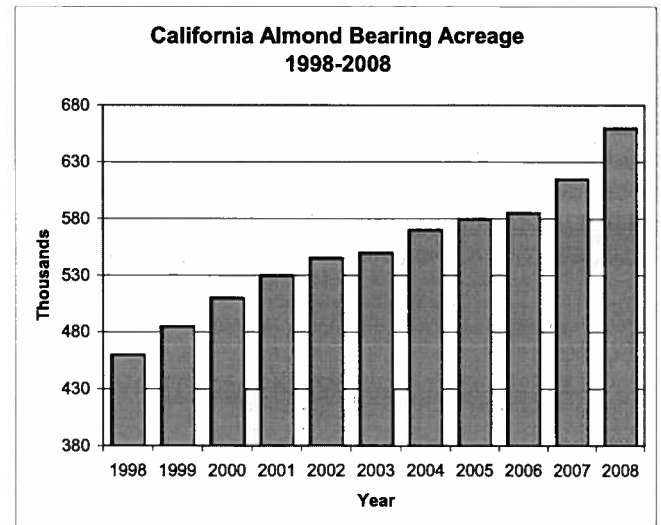


PROCEDURES

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. Each selected grower is 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 Acreage, Production and Value, 1994-2008

Year	Bearing	Non-Bearing	Production	Yield Per Acre	Price Per Pound 1/	Value of Production 1/
	Acres		Million Pounds	Pounds	Dollars	\$1,000
1994	433,000	46,500	735	1,700	1.34	965,202
1995	418,000	65,700	370	890	2.48	880,896
1996	428,000	72,400	510	1,190	2.08	1,018,368
1997	442,000	63,000	759	1,720	1.56	1,160,640
1998	460,000	120,000	520	1,130	1.41	703,590
1999	485,000	115,000	833	1,720	0.86	687,742
2000	510,000	100,000	703	1,380	0.97	666,487
2001	530,000	75,000	830	1,570	0.91	740,012
2002	545,000	65,000	1,090	2,000	1.11	1,200,687
2003	550,000	60,000	1,040	1,890	1.57	1,600,144
2004	570,000	70,000	1,005	1,760	2.21	2,189,005
2005	580,000	110,000	915	1,580	2.81	2,525,909
2006	585,000	145,000	1,120	1,920	2.06	2,258,790
2007 2/	615,000	125,000	1,380	2,240	1.73	2,357,471
2008 3/	660,000	N/A	1,460	2,210	N/A	N/A

1/ Price and value are based on the edible portion of the crop only. Inedible production for 2007 is estimated to be 17.3 million pounds.

2/ Revised production, yield and value.

3/ Preliminary

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CALIFORNIA ALMOND FORECAST
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