



NEWSLETTER

8800 South Minturn Road - Le Grand California 95333 USA
 Office 559-665-8500 FAX 559-665-8588
 www.minturnut.com

May 2006

Almond Industry Position Report

April 2006

	<u>Million Lbs</u>
Carry-in August 1, 2005.....	137.7
2005 Net Marketable Crop (<i>Received to date</i>)	<u>874.3</u>
Total Supply.....	1012.0
Sold Shipped & Not Shipped	
Domestic.....	284.7
Export	<u>565.9</u>
Total Sold	850.6
Uncommitted Inventory (Not Sold).....	(161.4)

Position Report

For the second month in a row, shipments have out paced last year's numbers for the same period. Total shipments for April increased by 12 million pounds over last year's 58.1 million pounds for a total of 70.1 million pounds. That brings the total shipments for the 2005-06 crop to 693.7 million pounds, down 12.8% (102.1 million pounds) from last year. Shipments have gained 7% in the last two months. Assuming shipments are at least equal to the final three months of last year our industry carryout would be a manageable 125-130 million meat pounds.

Grower Appreciation BBQ

Earlier this month we held our Annual Grower Appreciation BBQ. The turnout was strong and reports were positive with all that attended enjoying the get-together, and as usual the food was the big hit! Thanks to all for coming and for those who weren't able to break away from the farm, we hope to see you next year. Congratulations go out to the game winners! Corky Schafer had a perfect kernel count for the Jug O' Nuts game: 6,200. Lynette Jacobsen nailed down the Subjective Estimate at 1.02 billion pounds. Norma Stretch, Rick Tucker, and Paul Mesple knew the most about Almond Varieties. There were 11 that answered the Almond Word Game correctly: Bobby Sano, Linda Davis, Leta Hering, Cindy Edelbacher, Al Edelbacher, Stefan Edelbacher, Brian Jacobsen, Mike Schafer, Sheila Schafer, Lynette Jacobsen and Trevor Grey. Good job!

Market Update

The market continues to firm on both current and new crop prices, with current crop prices increasing at a faster pace. Buyers are now concerned with tightening supplies and the possibility of a late harvest. The result means buyers are extremely motivated to contract to cover their needs for a smooth transition into new crop. This activity is pushing up prices. Where it stops is hard to predict in view of what happened this past year, coupled with the weakening dollar.

2005 Pool Final

Following consistency in recent years, we will announce our final Pool prices in the June newsletter. We are confident our prices will be competitive. Final payments will be mailed out to growers on Monday July 10th.

Leaftooted Plant Bug Reported

There have been numerous reports of the "Big Footed" Plant Bug by growers. They can do much damage quickly by stinging the almond. Be sure the check with your PCA.

"Buyer & Seller of Quality California Almonds"