



NEWSLETTER

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August 2006

Almond Industry Position Report

July 2006

Million Lbs

Carry-in August 1, 2005	137.7
2005 Net Marketable Crop (<i>Received to date</i>)	<u>875.2</u>
Total Supply.....	1012.9
Sold Shipped & Not Shipped	
Domestic.....	330.8
Export	<u>642.0</u>
Total Sold.....	972.8
Uncommitted Inventory (Not Sold)	(39.2)

Position Report

Almond shipments for July were 5.4 million pounds higher than July 2005, totaling 60.2 million pounds. Total shipments for the year "tallied" a surprising 914.2 million pounds, only 7% less than last year. This final number is extremely impressive considering the historical high prices paid and the lack of availability at the end of the year. Also worth mentioning is the carryout of 98.7 million pounds, 19% less than last year. Although the market has been inactive in recent weeks the fundamentals are in place for the industry to experience a solid 2006 crop marketing campaign.

2006 POOL Delivery Payments

Delivery POOL payment will be \$0.95 per pound for Nonpareils and \$0.75 per pound for all other varieties. Delivery payments will be made twice a month as we receive your crop.

Grower Deferment Authorization Forms

Deferment forms have been mailed to all growers with POOL contracts. If you plan to defer ANY scheduled payments complete the form and return to our office prior to crop delivery. If you have any questions you can call your field rep or the office.

Harvest

Harvest is trailing last year by an average of 10 days. What is being reported is the drying down of the nuts on the trees is quite varied. The nuts on the outside of some trees are too dry and the nuts in the middle are green creating quite a dilemma of when to shake. Kernels look small and fat. Double percentage is being reported as higher than recent years. Nonpareils appear to have a tight seal helping in the fight against worm damage. Two things are apparent, harvest is later and it's too early to identify patterns in this year's harvest. Good luck!

The Market

The 2006 market has been inactive for some time. A quiet market is not uncommon during June and July but by mid August there is a bit more action and less "tire kicking". Buyers are being extremely cautious. Currently there is a 10 to 15 cents discrepancy between the buyers' price and what the grower is willing to sell for. Supply and demand will eventually dictate the price level. Many end users need almonds soon and most processors will start up their plants as soon as possible to satisfy market demand.

"Buyer & Seller of Quality California Almonds"