



# NEWSLETTER

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## Almond Industry Position Report

December 2006

Million Lbs

Carry-in August 1, 2006 .....	112.2
2006 Net Marketable Crop ( <i>Received to date</i> ) .....	<u>1023.6</u>
Total Supply .....	1135.8
Sold Shipped & Not Shipped	
Domestic .....	288.6
Export .....	<u>497.2</u>
Total Sold .....	<u>785.8</u>
Uncommitted Inventory (Not Sold) .....	350.0

## Position Report

As projected, December shipments were strong setting a new shipment record for December at 94.1 million pounds. Total shipments for the year now stand at 525.1 million pounds or 26% ahead of last year for the same period. Crop receipts have hit 1055.3 million pounds exceeding our state estimate of 1050.0 million pounds. Most industry sources feel the 2006 crop will settle in around the 1100 million pounds mark, which would be a new record crop. Whatever extra we end up with is needed in order to keep up with demand.

## The Current Market

Demand remained steadily strong through December and continued in January right up until this position report. As a result our industry added 94.6 million pounds of new sales in the month of December, which was huge. Now a week after the position report was released the market is a bit quieter. Possibly the slow down is due to our industry trying to move prices up another \$.05 - \$.10 or maybe most end-users are covered now through bloom, or a little of both? We still believe business needs to be written before bloom but on a limited basis. However, April forward is wide open with many end-users needing to cover this period. Bloom weather will no doubt play a role in buyers and sellers attitudes from bloom forward. But in the end availability will set the course as our industry transitions out of old crop and into new crop.



## Bees

Again this year bees are a sore subject with most growers! Prices being reported range from \$120.00-\$150.00 per hive. What's alarming is that some beekeepers are demanding a fifty percent down payment before the delivery of the bees without a frame guarantee to the grower. Any offer of less than six frames is worthless; eight frames would be most desirable. Good luck!

***“Buyer & Seller of Quality California Almonds”***