



# NEWSLETTER

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March 2008 

## Almond Industry Position Report

February 2008

	<u>Million Lbs</u>
Carry-in August 1, 2007 .....	133.9
2007 Net Marketable Crop (Received to date).....	<b>1335.3</b>
Total Supply .....	<b>1468.2</b>
Sold Shipped & Not Shipped	
Domestic.....	385.5
Export.....	<b>701.6</b>
Total Sold .....	<b>1087.1</b>
Uncommitted Inventory (Not Sold).....	<b>382.1</b>

### Position Report

Shipments of California almonds, again earned another fantastic month, setting another record at 85.9 million pounds for February. Total shipments for last year now sit at 783.7 million pounds compared to 683.4 million pounds for the same period last year, for a 14.6% improvement over last years record pace. If our industry can finish the year with a 15% increase in total shipments, our industry would ship an impressive 1225.9 million pounds with a carry out of 243.3 million pounds.

### The Current Market

Buying interested has shifted from current crop to new and future crops for the moment. With our bloom showing promise at this early stage, buyers with the help of traders have had success in bringing prices down. It's difficult to determine how much volume has been traded. However with the falling dollar coupled with stronger inventories here is California, there is true motivation among buyers to get something on the books for new and if possible future crops. It's a bargain for the buyers! Current crop prices will continue to sag until increased buying takes place covering May forward positions.

### 2008 Crop Bloom Report

The bloom got off to a late start with Kern County leading the way, although in general the state started closer together than in recent years. Weather has been absolutely terrific. Nonpareils are light on bud set in most areas probably due to two outstanding crops in a row. The bloom over lap of the different varieties has been excellent. Again this year the best bud set is on the Butte-Padre combination. Plenty of bees have made their way to California with no shortages being reported. Fortunately we have heard more positive comments on bees rather than negative. Accumulated bee flight hours are considerably ahead of last year in all growing areas. At this early stage growers are optimistic about the pollinator varieties crop potential, and a bit reserved on the Nonpareil.

### 2007 Grower Pool Progress Payment:

The April Pool progress payment will be as follows: Nonpareil \$.40 per pound for a total of \$1.70 per pound & all other varieties \$.30 per pound for a total of \$1.45 per pound. The payment will be mailed out on April 8<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to pick your payment up, please call the office. We will announce the final payment at the completion of selling your 2007 crop.

### Annual Grower Appreciation B.B.Q. Thursday April 24<sup>th</sup>

Make sure and mark your calendars! Come and enjoy a great meal featuring our annual requested menu. The gathering will get started at 11:00 a.m. Make sure to be here early if you enjoy Hanks famous oysters bar.

*Buyer & Seller of Quality California Almonds*