



NEWSLETTER

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September 2008

Almond Industry Position Report

August 2008

Million Lbs

Carry-in August 1, 2008.....	231.2
2007 Net Marketable Crop (Received to date).....	110.6
Total Supply.....	341.8
Sold Shipped & Not Shipped	
Domestic.....	203.4
Export.....	289.7
Total Sold.....	493.1
Uncommitted Inventory (Not Sold).....	00.0

Position Report

Shipments for August totaled 96.6 million pounds putting our industry slightly ahead of last year's 94.6 million pounds. Many feel our shipment number should have been larger because of the increased carry-out number versus recent years. Meaning our industry has more almonds available to ship. The truth is the later harvest limited our new crop shipments for August. September shipments should come in much stronger. Finding open shipping space has not become the problem we feared yet, but it is still early, let's hope the lack of shipping space does not play a role in restricting shipments.

2008 Harvest

Harvest began seven to ten days later than last year. Nonpareil production is being reported as good or heavy through out the state. The Sacramento Valley and Merced south regions are consistently reporting the better crops when compared to last year. Nonpareil quality for the most part is clean and good, our average inedible percentage is currently running 1.25% with ant damage being the primary culprit. Moisture levels have been running low. Some deliveries have come in under 3% with most in mid 3% range. Unfortunately size is our big problem again this year, although we have seen some improvement with the latter deliveries the most common size is a 27/30. At this early stage it appears that the Nonpareil crop will meet the objective estimate being slightly larger than last year. Early reports on the pollinators indicate production may not live up to expectations with size being a huge problem on the Butte/Padre combination, we must remember these reports are based on limited tonnage.

The Market

From the start of harvest trading has been real thin with pricing trending downward. The heavy shipments the industry enjoyed on the closing months of the 2007/2008 crop-year may come back to haunt us. It appears a good portion of that product may have been purchased to use now on the front end of this new crop. Most of the buying interest that is coming in is for January forward with little opportunity for spot business. We do feel there is "pent up" demand in some areas of the market, but those buyers are waiting for the market to hit bottom before jumping in. The market will begin to shore up when growers and packers become comfortably sold.

Grower Received Summary – To get USDA incoming information to you as soon as possible we email or fax results. In addition your Field Representative receives your USDA's results. Grower information is confidential. Please contact your Field Representative with any questions.

POOL Payments They are processed twice a month. Pounds USDA'd from: 1st – 15th are paid by the 20th; 16th – 31st are paid by the 5th of the next month.

Buyer & Seller of Quality California Almonds