



# NEWSLETTER

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**May 2009**

## Almond Industry Position Report

**April 2009**

	<u>Million Lbs</u>
Carry-in August 1, 2008 .....	231.2
2008 Net Marketable Crop ( <i>Received to date</i> ) .....	1,566.0
Total Supply.....	1,797.2
<b>Sold Shipped &amp; Not Shipped</b>	
Domestic .....	460.4
Export .....	931.6
<b>Total Sold .....</b>	<b>1,392.0</b>
<b>Uncommitted Inventory (Not Sold).....</b>	<b>(405.2)</b>

### Position Report

Shipments of California almonds in April shot through the roof for the third month in a row. Our industry shipped 111.7 million pounds compared to 95.5 million pounds for April last year. Total shipments for the year now stand at 1.030 billion pounds compared to 970.3 million pounds a year ago for the same time period. Shipments are now running 6.19% ahead of last year's record shipping pace. Commitments (sold but not shipped) stand at 361.4 million pounds or 116.6 million pounds ahead of last year at this time, insuring record shipments to complete our industry's shipping year.

### The Market

The last three weeks market activity has been strong with demand coming in across the board. No doubt the strongest demand has come from China and the Middle East primarily searching for Nonpareils & Carmel / Monterey supreme grade. During the past three weeks prices steadily pushed up for about a ten-cent improvement on most varieties depending on size and grades. Unfortunately higher priced containers of almonds shipped earlier in the year continue to be left at the dock by some traders and end users. Western Europe is the main focus with these problems. Product being left at the dock obviously becomes a big concern because a percentage of these loads will no doubt be forced to be resold in distressed condition further hurting prices. The good news is shipments. Hopefully the strong shipment number will offset any negative impact caused by the higher than expected subjective estimate. New crop prices are still at levels that excites no one! As a result new crop sales have been quit light compared to resent years.

### 2009 Crop Report

On Friday May 8<sup>th</sup> The USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Services (NASS) announced the 2009 California Almond Crop Forecast subjective estimate to be 1.45 billion pounds based on 710,000 producing acres. Opinions on this year's subjective estimate have varied with most industries sources believing this number is 100 million pounds too high.

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