



NEWSLETTER

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March 2013

Almond Industry Position Report

February 2013

	<u>Million Lbs</u>
Carry-in August 1, 2012	335.2
2012 Net Marketable Crop (<i>Received to date</i>).....	<u>1,809.1</u>
Total Supply.....	2,144.3
Sold Shipped & Not Shipped	
Domestic.....	508.6
Export.....	<u>1,041.3</u>
Total Sold.....	1,549.9
Uncommitted Inventory (Not Sold)	594.4

Position Report

California almond shipments for February created an outstanding month by shipping 160.0 million pounds. This represents a rise of 7% compared to last year. Year-to-date shipments sit at 1.176 billion pounds—up slightly compared to February 2012. Crop receipts stand at 1.865 billion pounds which should be nearly complete for the year. Our industry is currently 75% sold.

The Market

Market activity continues to be on the light side. Pricing is a bit soft with price discrepancies going as high as 7 cents per pound on the same item depending on the market and customer. California should demonstrate patience for a couple more weeks. Buyers need to return to the market and shore up their supplies to finish the 2012 crop campaign. Most industry sources feel April forward is under-covered with many end users needing to cover all or most of the April forward positions. The market should come back to life in the next couple of weeks.

2013 Crop Bloom Report

The bloom got off to a late start with the entire state starting and finishing the bloom close together. Nonpareils had a fairly good bloom in most regions with reports of light blossom set in some areas. The Butte/Padre bloom was the overall strongest. The Monterey bloom was disappointing. The overlap on the blooming between the varieties was excellent in most orchards. The length of the bloom was shorter than the previous two years. From start to finish, bloom ran for two to three weeks for all varieties which is a bit quick. One concern going into bloom was bees. In most cases, growers were able to secure an adequate supply of bees and were content with the strength of their hives. With it being so dry, frost will be a major concern for another month. Water will be the biggest challenge this year to finish off this 2013 crop. It is too early to make any reasonable predictions on this year's crop. We will defer to others in our industry to make early crop estimates.

2012 Crop Progress Payment

The next Pool Progress Payment has been scheduled for Friday, April 26th. It will be as follows:

- Nonpareils will go to \$2.05 / pound (an increase of \$.55 / pound)
- All other varieties will go to \$1.73 / pound (an increase of \$.40 / pound)

If you would like to pick up your check on April 26th, please contact your field representative or our office to make arrangements.

Annual Grower Appreciation BBQ – FRIDAY, MAY 3rd

Make sure to mark your calendar for May 3rd! We hope to see all of you at our Grower Appreciation BBQ to enjoy a great meal and share a few laughs with other industry people. The gathering will start at 11 am with visiting, plant tours, Jack's Smoked Wild Salmon, Joe's Wood Stove Pizza and Hank's Famous Oyster Bar. Lunch is to follow at noon.

"Buyer & Seller of Quality California Almonds"