

# 2000 California Almond Forecast



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CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE

## RESULTS

The initial forecast for 2000 California almond production is 675 million pounds. This is down 19 percent from last year's record crop of 830 million pounds. Estimated bearing acreage for 2000 is 500 thousand. The forecast is based on calls made to a sample of almond growers from April 26 - May 3. Responses were received from 300 growers, of which 270 reports were usable. The acreage from the usable reports accounted for 20 percent of the total bearing acreage.

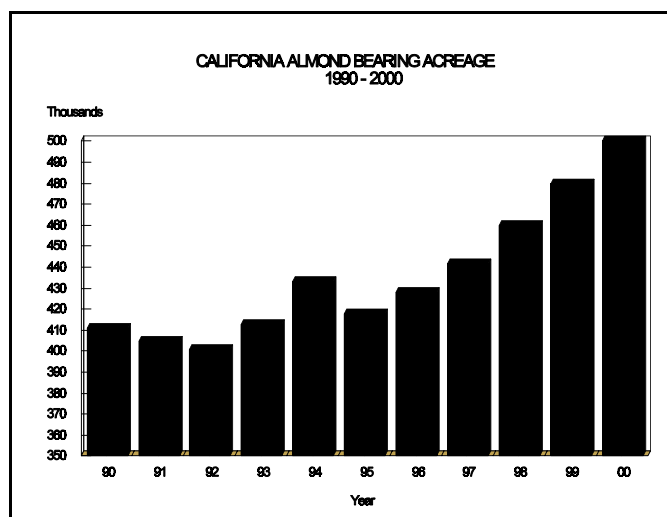
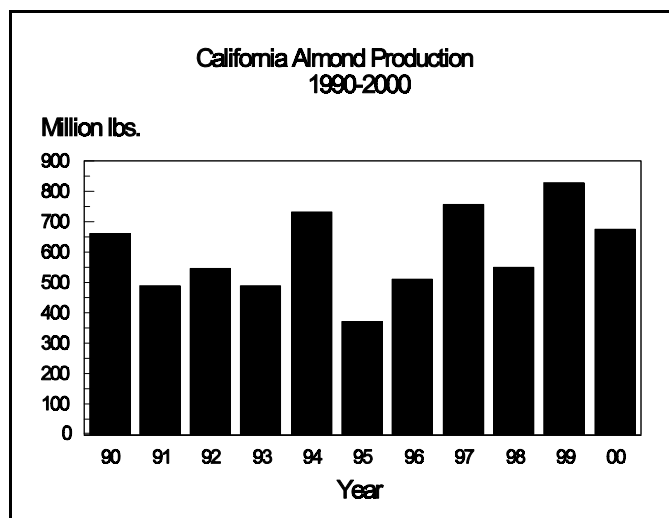
The 2000 season began with growers anticipating a lighter set after the record-setting crop of last year. The set has been quite variable with some varieties having a heavy set, while others were very light. Rain did hamper the bloom in some areas, but warm temperatures in April helped get the crop back on track. The trees look good with no damage from insects or disease reported. However, growers are concerned that rain throughout northern California on May 6-8 could increase the chance for disease. Yields are expected to be down 22 percent from last year. The crop is about two weeks ahead of last year and slightly ahead of normal.

## PROCEDURES

Results of the subjective survey are based on **opinions** obtained from growers. The sample of growers changes from year to year and is grouped by size, so all growers will be represented. Each selected grower is asked to indicate their almond yield from last year and expected yield for the current year.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A special thanks goes to the many almond farm operators and owners who provided information on their operations. The support was outstanding and we appreciate the time they spent completing questionnaires.



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