

SPECIAL PEACH FORECAST
(SUPPLEMENTAL)

Release:
June 20, 1969
3:00 P.M. EDT

California Clingstone peach production is now forecast at 1,778 million pounds (889,000 tons), 4 percent above last year and 29 percent above the 1967 crop.

The forecast of production excludes fruit to be removed by the "green drop" program. Production figures quoted above include peaches used or to be used for pickles, drying, fresh shipment and on farm use, as well as for canning.

The special forecast for California is based upon objective measurement yield data collected in the field from May 19 through June 15, 1969. In addition, late May and early June grower reports of crop condition were evaluated. The tree crop was reduced by an effective "green drop" of 2.34 percent.

Fruit set per tree was about 10 percent above last year and about 9 percent above the 1963-67 average. Harvest sizes are projected to be smaller than last year. Bearing acreage is above last year.

This supplemental forecast for California Clingstones is 72 million pounds below the June 1 forecast of 1,850 million pounds. New data are not available at this time for other peach producing States but if this adjustment is applied to the U. S. total estimated as of June 1 the total peach forecast would be 3,806 million pounds, 6 percent above last season and 42 percent above the 1967 harvested production.
