

# Walnut Production



USDA  
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## Walnut Production Down 6 Percent

The 1996 California walnut production forecast is 220,000 tons, down 6 percent from last year's production and also 6 percent below July's initial crop forecast. This level is based on the Walnut Objective Measurement Survey conducted July 22 through August 18, 1996.

Survey data indicated an average nut set per tree of 1,630, down 8 percent from 1995's average of 1,777 nuts. The Hartley average nut set was down 19 percent, the Serr, up 44 percent, and the Franquette, virtually unchanged from the previous year. Of the nuts sampled, 94.4 percent were sound. In-shell weight per nut was 22.1 grams, while the average in-shell suture measurement was 32.3 millimeters. The average length in-shell was 39.0 millimeters.

Heavy drop was reported as a result of winter's low chilling hours and the rain received during May. Temperatures were very high from late July through mid-August, and there have been reports of heavy sunburn damage. Objective measurement samples do not show sunburn damage to be abnormal, but some damage may have occurred after the samples were taken.

Walnuts: Bearing Acreage, Yield, and Utilized Production  
California, 1994-95 and Forecasted 1996

State	Bearing Acreage			Yield per Acre		
	1994	1995	1996	1994	1995	1996
	Acres			Tons		
CA	171,000	169,000	169,000	1.36	1.38	1.30
	Utilized Production					
	1994	1995		1996		
	Tons					
CA (In-shell basis)	232,000	234,000		220,000		

The "Walnut Production" report is being discontinued. In 1997, these data will be released in the September "Crop Production" report.

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