



2016 California Dried Plum (Prune) Forecast



California Department of Food and Agriculture

Cooperating with the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Pacific Regional Office

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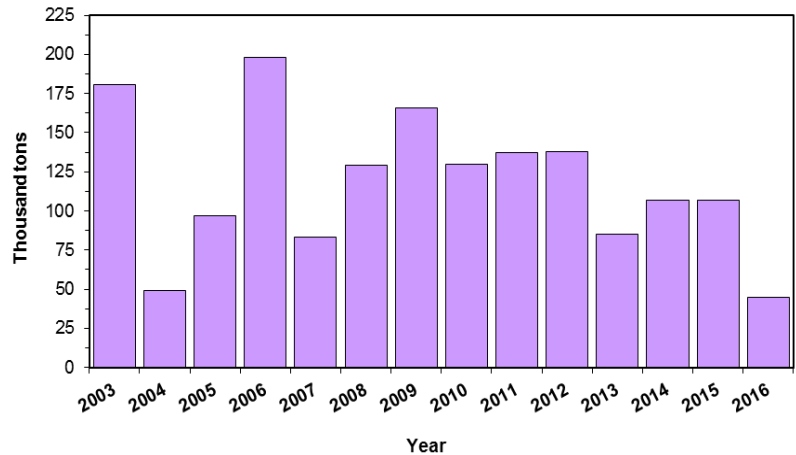
The 2016 California dried plum (prune) crop is forecast at 45 thousand tons, down 58 percent from the 107 thousand tons reported to the California Dried Plum Board as produced in 2015. Total 2016 bearing acreage is estimated at 45,000, six percent below the previous year. The French prune variety accounts for virtually all dried plum acreage grown in California. The production forecast is based on a survey of dried plum growers conducted by the USDA, NASS, Pacific Regional Office from May 12-31, 2016.

The survey used a random sampling design based on total dried plum acreage for each operator. The sample is designed to provide a State estimate of production for all growers.

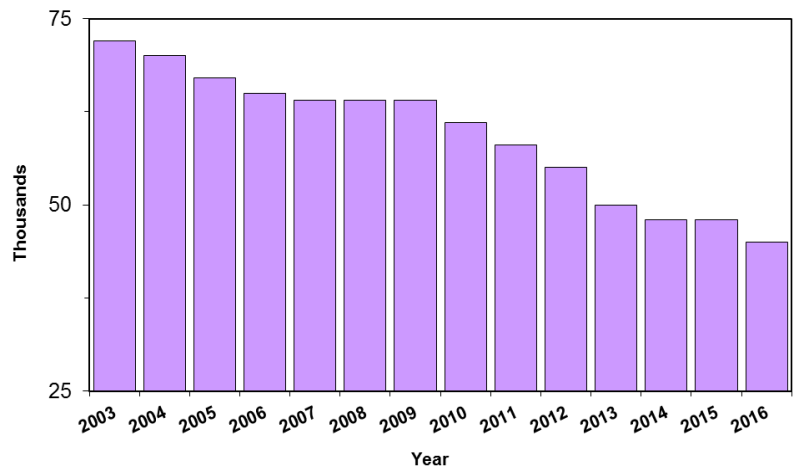
Questionnaires were mailed to growers on April 26, 2016 with return requested by May 12th. Non-respondents were telephoned. Responses were received from 217 growers whose acres represent 45 percent of the total bearing acreage.

The 2016 dried plum season appears to be very difficult. Storms, with cold, wet, and windy weather, created problems during the bloom and adverse conditions for bees during the height of the pollination period. If the forecast is realized, this year's crop would be the smallest on record since official estimates began in 1920.

California Dried Plum Production: 2003-2016 (Dried Basis)



California Dried Plum Bearing Acres: 2003-2016



California Dried Plum (Prune) Acreage, Production, and Value: 1997-2016

Year	Bearing Acres	Total production Tons (Dried basis)	Utilized production	Yield per acre	Price per ton Dollars	Value of utilized production \$1,000
1997	82,000	214,000	205,000	2.61	883.00	181,015
1998	83,000	108,000	103,000	1.30	764.00	78,692
1999	83,000	178,000	165,000	2.14	861.00	142,065
2000	86,000	219,000	201,000	2.55	770.00	154,770
2001	86,000	150,000	135,000	1.74	726.00	98,010
2002	74,000	172,000	163,000	2.32	810.00	132,030
2003	72,000	181,000	168,000	2.51	772.00	129,696
2004	70,000	49,000	48,000	0.70	1,500.00	72,000
2005	67,000	97,000	94,000	1.45	1,470.00	138,180
2006	65,000	198,000	189,000	3.05	1,390.00	262,710
2007	64,000	83,000	81,000	1.30	1,450.00	117,450
2008	64,000	129,000	129,000	2.02	1,500.00	193,500
2009	64,000	166,000	166,000	2.59	1,230.00	204,180
2010	61,000	130,000	130,000	2.13	1,350.00	175,500
2011	58,000	137,000	137,000	2.36	1,310.00	179,470
2012	55,000	138,000	138,000	2.51	1,330.00	183,540
2013	50,000	85,000	85,000	1.70	2,000.00	170,000
2014 1/ 4/	48,000	107,106	3/	3/	3/	3/
2015 1/ 4/	48,000	106,532	3/	3/	3/	3/
2016 2/	45,000	45,000		1.00		

Source: USDA, NASS, Pacific Regional Office

- 1/ Production and acreage subject to revision.
- 2/ Forecast.
- 3/ Preliminary Utilized Production, Price, and Value will be available in the Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts Annual release on July 6, 2016.
- 4/ Production reported to the CA Dried Plum Board by prune processors.

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