



# 2018 California Almond Forecast

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

Pacific Regional Office · P.O. Box 1258 · Sacramento, CA 95812 · (916) 738-6600 · (855) 270-2722 Fax · [www.nass.usda.gov/ca](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ca)

Released: May 10, 2018

## RESULTS

The initial subjective forecast for the 2018 California almond production is 2.30 billion pounds. Forecasted production is 1.3 percent above last year's production of 2.27 billion pounds. Forecasted bearing acreage for 2018 is 1,070,000. Forecasted yield is 2,150 pounds per acre, down 5.3 percent from the 2017 yield of 2,270 pounds per acre. The subjective production forecast is based on a telephone survey conducted from April 18 to May 4 from a sample of almond growers.

The 2018 California almond bloom began a few days earlier than normal. The bloom period was extended, due to cold temperatures, and lasted a few weeks. Frosts during bloom hit orchards hard, especially on the east side of the valley. Younger trees were impacted more severely than older trees. Weather during the spring was variable, leading many growers to be unsure about their 2018 crop. As temperatures warmed up in May, nuts were sizing well.

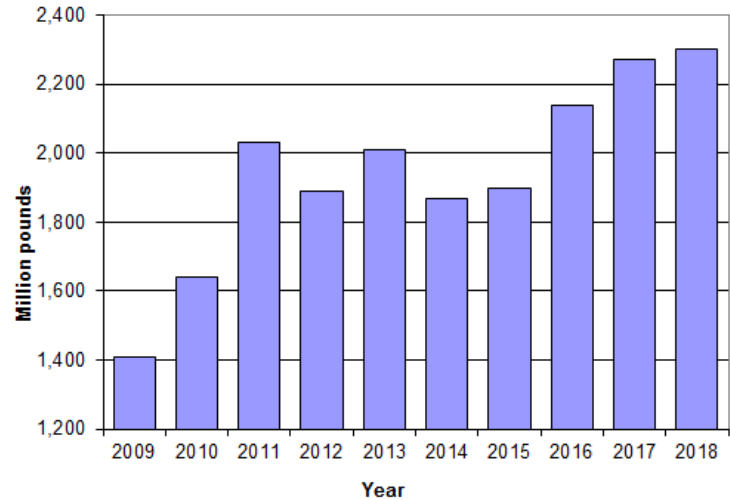
## PROCEDURES

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 of operation, so all growers will be represented. Growers are asked to indicate their almond yield per acre from last year and expected yield for the current year.

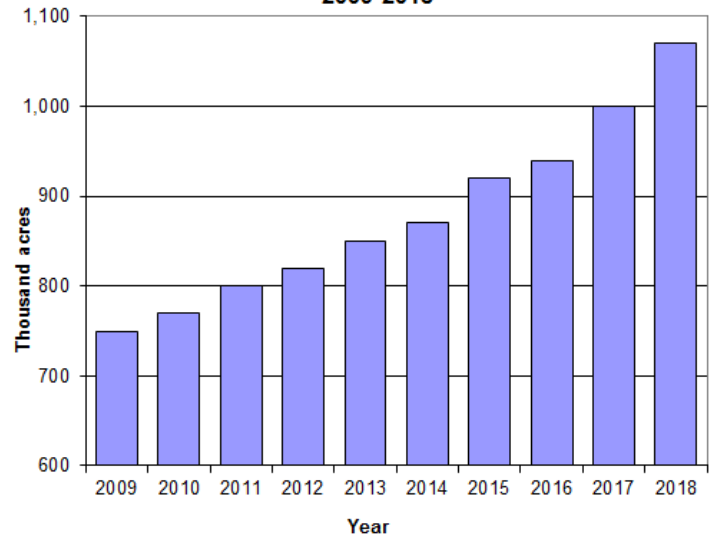
## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A special thanks goes to the many almond farm operators and owners who provided information on their operations. We appreciate the time they spent completing telephone interviews.

California Almond Production  
2009-2018



California Almond Bearing Acreage  
2009-2018



**California Almond Acreage, Production, and Value: 1995-2018**

Year	Bearing	Non-bearing	Yield per acre	Production	Price per pound	Value of production
	acres		pounds	million pounds	dollars	1,000 dollars
1995	418,000	65,700	890	370	2.48	880,896
1996	428,000	72,400	1,190	510	2.08	1,018,368
1997	442,000	63,000	1,720	759	1.56	1,160,640
1998	460,000	120,000	1,130	520	1.41	703,590
1999	485,000	115,000	1,720	833	0.86	687,742
2000	510,000	100,000	1,380	703	0.97	666,487
2001	530,000	75,000	1,570	830	0.91	740,012
2002	545,000	65,000	2,000	1,090	1.11	1,200,687
2003	550,000	60,000	1,890	1,040	1.57	1,600,144
2004	570,000	70,000	1,760	1,005	2.21	2,189,005
2005	590,000	110,000	1,550	915	2.81	2,525,909
2006	610,000	145,000	1,840	1,120	2.06	2,258,790
2007	640,000	125,000	2,170	1,390	1.75	2,401,875
2008	710,000	115,000	2,300	1,630	1.45	2,343,200
2009	750,000	90,000	1,880	1,410	1.65	2,293,500
2010	770,000	85,000	2,130	1,640	1.79	2,903,380
2011	800,000	75,000	2,540	2,030	1.99	4,007,860
2012	820,000	110,000	2,310	1,890	2.58	4,816,860
2013	850,000	120,000	2,360	2,010	3.21	6,384,690
2014	870,000	170,000	2,150	1,870	4.00	7,388,000
2015	920,000	240,000	2,070	1,900	3.13	5,868,750
2016	940,000	300,000	2,280	2,140	2.44	5,158,160
2017 <sup>1/2/</sup>	1,000,000	330,000	2,270	2,270	—	—
2018 <sup>3/</sup>	1,070,000	—	2,150	2,300	—	—

<sup>1/</sup> Price and value will be available in the annual Noncitrus Fruits & Nuts publication, released on June 26, 2018.

<sup>2/</sup> Production and yield were revised based on the Almond Board of California receipts from handlers.

<sup>3/</sup> Preliminary estimate of bearing acres.

— Not available.

SOURCE: USDA/NASS, Pacific Regional Office