



NEWSLETTER

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February 2014

Almond Industry Position Report

January 2014

	<u>Million Lbs</u>
Carry-in August 1, 2013	317.2
2013 Net Marketable Crop (<i>Received to date</i>)	<u>1,921.7</u>
Total Supply	2,238.9
Sold Shipped & Not Shipped	
Domestic	514.8
Export	<u>1,003.4</u>
Total Sold	1,518.2
Uncommitted Inventory (Not Sold)	720.7

Position Report

California Almond shipments once again turned in a strong month by shipping 160.2 million pounds for an increase of 3.7 million pounds over last January. Total shipments for the year now stand at 1,069.9 million pounds for a 5.28% increase over last year for this same period. Commitments (sold but not shipped) total 448.5 million pounds which should bode well for February & March shipments given the hand-to-mouth market our industry is experiencing. The industry's sold position is now sitting at about 70%.

The Market

Market activity increased and prices firmed as we progressed from the first of the year into February. This market pattern was reminiscent of last January but for different reasons. Last year in January, it became clear the crop was short of the estimate by at least 10%. This year it has become clear in January that we are facing severe water shortages. Prices have moved up about 30 cents per/pound since the first of the year. Buying interest has tapered off with some signs of price resistance surfacing. It is common for the market to become quiet heading into bloom. End-users are most likely covered through March, but April forward still needs plenty of coverage. Bloom weather will drive the market for the short run followed by water again being the main topic of discussion. As we have heard, there is no lack of opinion regarding water. Most agree that the crop will be compromised, but to what extent is the question. Furthermore, how will quality be affected in this year's crop? These have become added issues that sellers and buyers have to wrestle with in making sales decisions. The industry has become a bit edgy due to high levels of uncertainty about new crop size coupled with historically high prices. One thing is certain as we head into bloom; there is never a dull moment in our industry.

Providing Service

Minturn Nut is committed to providing growers with responsive and thorough service. Our experienced field staff is here to assist you on Minturn Nut issues as well as industry items. Your field representative should be your first call. They are ready to take care of your needs regarding; contracts, cash flow demands, grade statements, purchasing almonds, and any other grower-processor requests you have. They truly appreciate your business, do not hesitate to call them.

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"Buyer & Seller of Quality California Almonds"