



NEWSLETTER

8800 South Minturn Road - Le Grand California 95333 USA
 Office 559-665-8500 FAX 559-665-8588
www.minturnnut.com

May 2019

Almond Industry Position Report

	April 2019
	<i>Million Lbs</i>
Carry-in August 1, 2018	359.0
2018 Net Marketable Crop (Received to date)	2,220.3
Total Supply	2,579.3
Sold Shipped & Not Shipped	
Domestic	763.2
Export	1,435.8
Total Sold	2,199.0
Uncommitted Inventory (Not Sold)	380.3

Position Report

April shipments were essentially flat compared to last year by being up a modest 0.3% but this was still enough to be a record at 177.0 million pounds. Exports finally popped by shipping 109.3 million pounds or 6.1% more than last year but still lag behind for year-to-date shipments by 2.8%. The domestic market has been strong all year but was down by 7.7% percent in April yet still up year-to-date by 1.6%. Commitments are very strong compared to last year by being up a whopping 22.3% percent for domestic and 10.5% for export. This suggests strong shipments to finish off the year and in turn reducing our projected carry-out. By the end of summer, California will have essentially sold out all of the record 2018 crop. Taking the above numbers as well as current receipts, the industry is 85.9% sold.

The Market

With the shipment report illustrating robust commitments, the current market appears to have solidified its position as not much inventory will remain to finish off the current crop year. Buyers needing late summer shipments may be hard pressed to find what they need prior to new crop. The majority of this demand, however, is still concentrated in the ingredient-type markets of Europe and North America. Major Nonpareil buying regions remain quiet and this has not been aided by the current Chinese trade issues. To date that market is down by 33% but can hopefully whipsaw back in a hurry if a new and better trade deal is reached. Keep in mind that market was never free, even prior to these current trade negotiations, so the real potential for almonds in China have yet to be realized. As California moves into larger crop years, it's imperative that a freer trade agreement be reached and hopefully these tactics yield their desired results which is increased market access and significantly lower duties.

2018 Acreage Estimate

California almond acreage was estimated at 1,090,000 acres bearing and 300,000 acres of non-bearing. This is up 2% from the prior year. The preliminary estimate for bearing acreage of 2018 is 1,170,000.

2019 Subjective Estimate

Last week the NASS subjective forecast put the 2019 crop at 2.5 billion pounds. This would be an increase of 9.6% over last year. Yield per acre is projected to be 2,140 pounds or 2.4% percent more than last year. Yield potentials seem to be slightly affected by the less than ideal bloom weather of heavy rains, winds and colder than average temperatures.

2018 Grower Progress Payment

Our next progress payment will be made the first half of June with a goal of making the final payment by Mid-August.

“Buyer & Seller of Quality California Almonds”