



Predictions and Trends for the California Almond Market

August 2007

Market Update:

Shipments of California almonds for July 2007 were 82,036,676 pounds. That was 37 % ahead of July 2006 and should create big momentum for the 2007 marketing campaign. The 2007 crop harvest is underway and quality looks excellent. Sizes are just as NASS suggested; they are on the small side.

Recent prices we have paid for 2007 crop:

Nonpareil 23/25	\$1.94
Nonpareil 25/27	\$1.88
Carmel 23/25	\$1.61
Carmel 25/30	\$1.55
Others	\$1.50

2007 Crop Pool Delivery Payments:

This year's delivery prices per pound are:

Nonpareil	\$.70
All others	\$.50

Reminders:

Those of you deferring income until January 2008, need to contact Jean in grower accounting. You can call her at (559) 449-1721 or E-mail her at, jean@panochecreek.com.

You can see your USDA quality information on line at our website (www.panochecreek.com).

If you have forgotten your password or never had a password, Jean can help you to get one.

Farming News: by Barry Watts

"...hull rot is the single greatest yield reducer of young almond orchards..."

Some of you may be dealing with hull rot right now and for you this will be a refresher course. But many orchards are just now in the stage of development where growers are seeing hull rot for the first time.

What is the Cause? Excessive water and nitrogen. Hull rot is caused by fungi. The fungi can only gain access to the inside of the hull during hull split, and from there, will begin to infect healthy tissue. Signs of hull rot are clusters of dead leaves, shoot and small branch die-back. Signs of hull rot are starting to show right now and will continue for the next couple of months.

What is the Cure? As of right now there is no chemical solution. Research (by Brent Holtz, UC farm advisor of Madera County) shows that irrigation management will greatly reduce the number of hull rot strikes per tree. Dr. Holtz used a pressure bomb to measure midday stem water potential. Stem water potential was used to monitor deficit irrigation in order to reduce hull rot without severely stressing the trees. Nitrogen levels should be managed as well. Trees with nitrogen levels below 2.6% do not favor hull rot. To see the entire article by Dr. Holt visit:

http://cemadera.ucdavis.deu/newsletterfiles/The_Pomology_Post11832.pdf