



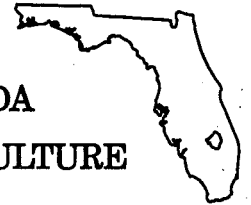
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AVOCADOS

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FLORIDA
 AGRICULTURE



October 10, 1997

FLORIDA: The forecast of avocados for certified shipments is maintained at 950,000 bushels. If realized, this will be slightly more than the 918,000 bushels shipped last season and the largest crop since the 1991-92 season.

Through September, almost 600,000 bushels have been shipped, the result of a heavy crop on the summer varieties.

Winter varieties are reported to have lighter fruit set than last season.

CALIFORNIA: With one month remaining in the 1996-97 season, shipments total 6,313,000 bushel equivalents as reported by the California Avocado Commission. Expected total shipments for the season are near last season's 6,535,000 bushels.

FLORIDA: Estimated certified shipments of avocados, 1997-98 season, with comparisons - Season: April 1 - March 31

Season	Shipments through September	Remaining to be shipped	Total shipments
Bushels			
Certified:			
1987-88	435,400	694,600	1,130,000
1988-89	529,000	529,000	1,058,000
1989-90	617,300	682,700	1,300,000
1990-91	394,800	357,200	752,000
1991-92	584,600	526,400	1,111,000
1992-93	274,700	9,300	284,000
1993-94	61,000	114,000	175,000
1994-95	374,200	404,800	779,000
1995-96	388,300	355,700	744,000
1996-97	461,800	456,200	918,000
Estimated:			
1997-78	598,900	351,100	950,000

CALIFORNIA: Estimated avocado shipments, 1996-97 season, with comparisons - Season: November 1 - October 31

Variety	1995-96 season	1996-97 season		
	Total shipments	Shipments through October 4	Remaining to be shipped	Estimated total shipments
Bushels ^{1/}				
Fuerte	157,000	193,000	--	--
Hass	5,628,000	5,413,000	--	--
Other	750,000	707,000	--	--
Total	6,535,000	6,313,000	287,000	6,600,000

^{1/} Pounds converted to bushels at 50 pound equivalents.