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AVOCADOS

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FLORIDA
 AGRICULTURE



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FLORIDA: The forecast of avocados for certified shipments for the 1998-99 season is 900,000 bushels. This is slightly less than the 938,000 bushels shipped in the previous season and the 918,000 bushels in 1996-97. Although varying within the season, shipments for these seasons have been near constant.

Shipments through July are 163,800 bushels, less than last season but more than the previous. Maturity levels are more normal this season than last which was very advanced. Summer varieties are reported lighter set than last season, with fall and winter varieties slightly heavier.

Trees have recovered completely from the storm in 1992 and replacement trees planted since then are beginning to bear some fruit. Statewide bearing acreage is estimated at 6,000 acres, up from 5,700 acres last season.

CALIFORNIA: Shipments through July are 5,270,000 bushel equivalents, slightly less than last season to the same date. Some fruit was lost to wind drop early in the season. Three months remain in the marketing season with the total crop expected to be 6,160,000 bushel equivalents, about six percent less than last season.

FLORIDA: Certified shipments of avocados, 1998-99 season, with comparisons - Season: April 1 - March 31

Season	Shipments through July	Remaining to be shipped	Total shipments
Bushels			
Certified:			
1988-89	124,900	933,100	1,058,000
1989-90	150,100	1,149,900	1,300,000
1990-91	128,500	623,500	752,000
1991-92	199,400	911,600	1,111,000
1992-93	133,100	150,900	284,000
1993-94	3,100	171,900	175,000
1994-95	92,800	686,200	779,000
1995-96	92,200	651,800	744,000
1996-97	107,700	810,300	918,000
1997-98	217,300	720,700	938,000
Estimated:			
1998-99	163,800	736,200	900,000

CALIFORNIA: Estimated avocado shipments, 1997-98 season, with comparisons - Season: November 1 - October 31

Variety	1996-97 season	1997-98 season		Estimated total shipments
	Total shipments	Shipments through July	Remaining to be shipped	
Bushels 1/				
Fuerte	231,000	98,000	2,000	100,000
Hass	5,551,000	4,552,000	848,000	5,400,000
Other	800,000	620,000	40,000	660,000
Total	6,582,000	5,270,000	890,000	6,160,000

1/ Pounds converted to bushels at 50 pound equivalents.