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AVOCADOS

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FLORIDA
AGRICULTURE

October 9, 1998

FLORIDA: The forecast of avocados for certified shipments is 900,000 bushels, unchanged from last month. Hurricane Georges which passed well to the south of Homestead provided gusty winds and varying amounts of rainfall. No tree damage or loss of fruit has been reported.

Shipments through September are 489,000 bushels, less than last season to the same date. Last season's

maturity levels were advanced and total shipments were the highest since the 1991-92 season.

CALIFORNIA: Shipments through September total 5,981,000 bushel equivalents. One month remains in the marketing season with total production expected to be less than the 1996-97 season.

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

Season	Shipments through September	Remaining to be shipped	Total shipments
Bushels			
Certified:			
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
1997-78	598,900	339,100	938,000
Estimated:			
1998-99	489,000	411,000	900,000

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

Variety	1996-97 season	1997-98 season		
	Total shipments	Shipments through October 3	Remaining to be shipped	Estimated total shipments
Bushels ^{1/}				
Fuerte	231,000	98,000	2,000	100,000
Hass	5,551,000	5,231,000	169,000	5,400,000
Other	800,000	652,000	8,000	660,000
Total	6,582,000	5,981,000	179,000	6,160,000

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