



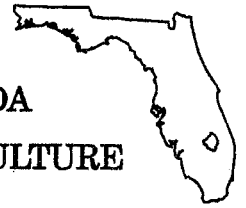
Florida Agricultural Statistics Service
 1222 Woodward Street
 Orlando, Florida 32803
 407 / 648-6013

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/fl>

AVOCADOS

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FLORIDA
 AGRICULTURE



December 11, 1998

FLORIDA: The forecast of avocados for certified shipments is continued at 900,000 bushels. This is less than the last two seasons when slightly more than 900,000 bushels were shipped.

Some droppage of large variety fruit is reported, after effects of winds from two tropical storms that passed through the Dade County area in October. Amounts are reported limited with some wind scar also reported.

Shipments to December 1 total 730,500 bushels, near the amount two years ago when a total of 918,000 bushels were shipped.

CALIFORNIA: Shipments through November 28 total almost 40,000 bushels, well below last season's 185,000 bushels to the same time. Cold temperatures and very windy weather is reported in early December. Any effects are not known at this time.

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

Season	Shipments through November	Remaining to be shipped	Total shipments
Bushels			
Certified:			
1988-89	854,300	203,700	1,058,000
1989-90	1,031,600	268,400	1,300,000
1990-91	651,200	100,800	752,000
1991-92	896,300	214,700	1,111,000
1992-93	274,700	9,300	284,000
1993-94	123,000	52,000	175,000
1994-95	618,900	160,100	779,000
1995-96	633,400	110,600	744,000
1996-97	738,600	179,400	918,000
1997-98	860,400	77,600	938,000
Estimated:			
1998-99	730,500	169,500	900,000

CALIFORNIA: Estimated avocado shipments, 1998-99 season, with comparisons - Season: November 1 - October 31

Variety	1997-98	1998-99 season		
	Total shipments	Shipments through November 28	Remaining to be shipped	Estimated total shipments
Bushels 1/				
Fuerte	98,000	1,100	148,900	150,000
Hass	5,326,000	20,400	4,739,600	4,760,000
Other	659,000	18,100	501,900	520,000
Total	6,083,000	39,600	5,390,400	5,430,000

1/ Pounds converted to bushels at 50 pound equivalents.