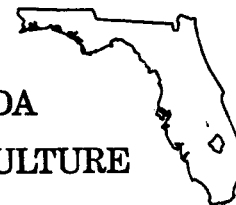




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FLORIDA
AGRICULTURE

TROPICAL FRUIT

PRODUCTION AND VALUE

April 24, 1998

AVOCADO PRODUCTION AND VALUE

FLORIDA: Production of avocados for the just completed 1997-98 season is estimated at 960,000 bushels, up 2 percent from the previous season. Trees have completely recovered from the storm affected 1993-94 season and those planted since then are producing limited amounts of fruit.

Bearing acreage is estimated at 5,700 acres, the same as last season. Maturity of the crop was advanced 3 to 4 weeks with demand reported strong most of the season.

The average price for fruit delivered to the packing house door is \$14.60 per bushel, up from \$13.20 last season, with the total crop value at a near record \$14,016,000.

OTHER STATES: California's 1996-97 production which ended harvest last October is down slightly to 6.6 million bushel equivalents. Average prices and total value were up slightly. Hawaii production continued to decline with prices and value also down slightly.

FLORIDA AVOCADOS: Bearing acreage, production, utilization, season average price, and value of production at packing house door for crop years 1988-89 through 1997-98

Season	Bearing acreage	Total production	Certified shipments	Local fresh use	Processing	Price per bushel	Value of production
	Acres	Bushels				Dollars	
1988-89	10,900	1,080,000	1,058,000	22,000	--	10.90	11,772,000
1989-90	10,600	1,340,000	1,300,000	40,000	--	8.30	11,122,000
1990-91	9,000	784,000	752,000	17,000	15,000	17.10	13,406,000
1991-92	8,600	1,132,000	1,111,000	21,000	--	11.90	13,471,000
1992-93	8,400	288,000	284,000	4,000	--	14.60	4,198,000
1993-94	5,800	176,000	175,000	1,000	--	20.50	3,608,000
1994-95	5,700	800,000	779,000	21,000	--	15.40	12,320,000
1995-96	5,800	760,000	744,000	16,000	--	14.90	11,324,000
1996-97	5,700	940,000	918,000	22,000	--	13.20	12,408,000
1997-98	5,700	960,000	938,000	22,000	--	14.60	14,016,000

OTHER STATES' AVOCADOS: Bearing acreage, production, season average price, and value of production at packing house door for selected years.

Season	Bearing acreage	Total production	Fresh shipments	Processing	Price per bushel	Value of production
	Acres	Bushels 1/			Dollars	
CALIFORNIA						
1992-93	72,900	11,360,000	10,600,000	760,000	10.00	113,600,000
1993-94	72,500	5,560,000	5,280,000	280,000	45.25	251,590,000
1994-95	67,600	6,240,000	6,108,000	132,000	37.25	232,440,000
1995-96	59,900	6,840,000	6,780,000	60,000	34.00	233,136,000
1996-97	57,700	6,600,000	6,520,000	80,000	38.00	251,616,000
HAWAII						
1992-93	220	14,000	14,000	--	23.00	322,000
1993-94	250	10,000	10,000	--	22.00	220,000
1994-95	220	10,000	10,000	--	25.00	250,000
1995-96	210	10,000	10,000	--	27.25	273,000
1996-97	180	8,800	8,800	--	26.75	214,000

1/ Pounds converted to bushels at 50 pound equivalents.

MANGO PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Production of mangos in Florida for commercial shipments remained at an estimated 100,000 bushels with the price decreasing to \$14.50 per bushel. Bearing acreage is

down from last year to 1,400. Bloom problems and disease at fruit set time is limiting production.

FLORIDA MANGOS: Acreage, production, season average price, and value of production at packing house door for crop years 1992 thru 1997

Crop year	Acreage			Bearing trees	Production and value		
	Total	(4 years) Non-bearing	Bearing		Bushels 1/	Price	Total value
	Acres			1,000 trees	1,000 bushels	Dollars	1,000 dollars
1992	2,800	300	2,500	239	400	10.70	4,280
1993	1,600	0	1,600	149	50	19.00	950
1994	1,900	300	1,600	151	100	15.00	1,500
1995	1,800	300	1,500	142	150	11.50	1,725
1996	1,800	300	1,500	144	100	15.00	1,500
1997	1,700	300	1,400	142	100	14.50	1,450

1/ 55 pounds

LEMON PRODUCTION AND ON-TREE VALUE

Lemon production decreased to 120,000 boxes with the average price per box at \$6.55. "True" lemon varieties are

shipped fresh with some processed, and all of the Meyers are processed.

FLORIDA LEMONS: Bearing acreage, production, season average on-tree prices and value for crop years 1992 through 1997

Season	True lemons			Meyer lemons			All lemons			
	Bearing acres	Production	Price per box	Bearing acres	Production	Price per box	Bearing acres	Production	Price per box	Value of production
		1,000 boxes	Dollars		1,000 boxes	Dollars		1,000 boxes	Dollars	1,000 dollars
1992	600	215	NA	100	40	NA	700	255	6.15	1,565
1993	600	167	NA	100	33	NA	700	200	10.00	1,998
1994	600	188	NA	100	32	NA	700	220	7.60	1,677
1995	600	130	NA	100	35	NA	700	165	8.25	1,361
1996	700	170	NA	100	25	NA	800	195	10.30	2,006
1997	800	80	NA	100	40	NA	900	120	6.55	787

LIME PRODUCTION

Lime production for the just completed 1997-98 season is 29 percent higher than the previous season. Trees

in Dade County planted after the storm are beginning to produce increasing amounts of fruit.

FLORIDA LIMES: Utilization in bushels, 1992-93 through 1997-98 season

Season	Fresh use			Sold for processing	Total production
	Certified shipments	Local sales	Total fresh		
	Bushels				
1992-93	1,146,100	21,900	1,168,000	432,000	1,600,000
1993-94	228,500	11,500	240,000	80,000	320,000
1994-95	289,300	14,700	304,000	64,000	368,000
1995-96	371,400	12,600	384,000	96,000	480,000
1996-97	398,300	9,700	408,000	104,000	512,000
1997-98	510,400	17,600	528,000	176,000	704,000