



# 2023 California Walnut Acreage Report

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## RESULTS

California's 2023 walnut acreage is estimated at 420,000 acres, with 385,000 acres bearing and 35,000 acres non-bearing. Bearing acreage was down 4% from 2022.

With perfect information, the estimated walnut acreage and the detailed data would be the same. However, differences exist for the following reasons:

### WALNUT BEARING AND NON-BEARING ACREAGE <sup>1</sup>

Year <sup>2</sup>	Bearing	Non-bearing	Total
2019	365,000	70,000	435,000
2020	385,000	(NA)	(NA)
2021	395,000	55,000	450,000
2022	400,000	(NA)	(NA)
2023	385,000	35,000	420,000

<sup>1</sup> Reported data with an allowance for incompleteness.

<sup>2</sup> The walnut acreage survey is conducted every other year.  
(NA) Not available.

- A voluntary survey of approximately 4,600 walnut growers is unlikely to ever attain 100% completeness.
- It is difficult for USDA, NASS to detect growers that are planting walnuts for the first time.

The detailed data reflects tree removals from over 13,000 acres during the past two years. Of this number, some acreage was harvested in 2023 prior to being pulled out, and that acreage has already been removed from the detailed data.

Of the walnut acreage reported, Chandler continued to be the leading variety with 149,716 bearing acres. Tulare continued in second place with 30,248 bearing acres.

Of the total walnut acreage in the state, Butte County showed the largest acreage with 15% of the total, followed by San Joaquin County with 14% and Sutter County with 10%.

## OBJECTIVES

The Pacific Regional Office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) conducts an acreage survey of California walnut growers every other year. The purpose of this survey is to provide walnut acreage information on new plantings and removals. It is a continuation of a long series of industry-funded walnut acreage surveys.

This report consists of two parts:

- Estimated walnut acreage -- bearing, non-bearing, and total.
- Detailed data by variety, year planted, and county – as voluntarily reported by walnut growers and maintained in the NASS database.

## PROCEDURES

The major source of the walnut detailed data was a questionnaire mailed to all walnut growers from our list of walnut orchards. The mailing was sent in October 2023. The questionnaire contained previously reported crop, variety, and acreage information preprinted. Producers were asked to update the information with new plantings, removals, and any other corrections; new growers were mailed a blank questionnaire. Producers were given time to respond by mail. A telephone follow-up was then undertaken. Data collection ended in May 2024.

To arrive at the estimated walnut acreage, NASS considered information provided by the County Agricultural Commissioners and LandIQ, as well as data collected on the Walnut Nursery Sales Report.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The USDA, NASS, Pacific Regional Office sincerely appreciates the many farm operators, owners, and management firms for providing the information. A special thanks goes to the California Walnut Board for providing funding and support of this special acreage update survey.

**WALNUT ACREAGE AS OF 2023 -- COUNTIES AND AGE GROUPS -- STATE SUMMARY**

**ACREAGE PLANTED DURING YEARS SHOWN AND STANDING IN 2023**

County	2011 & Earlier	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Acres standing in 2023		
														Bearing	Non-bearing	Total
Amador	249	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	249	1	250
Butte	28,629	1,767	2,304	1,546	1,844	1,463	893	574	570	630	315	324	282	39,399	1,741	41,140
Calaveras	733	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	13	0	0	0	0	748	1	749
Colusa	6,173	795	565	448	609	544	272	104	418	144	171	0	0	9,913	329	10,242
Contra Costa	184	0	6	1	40	0	12	0	0	0	0	9	0	243	9	252
El Dorado	236	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	236	0	236
Fresno	4,503	164	159	220	536	235	74	487	114	28	16	21	109	6,468	198	6,665
Glenn	15,016	717	1,314	1,426	766	530	312	579	475	204	118	35	418	21,108	803	21,910
Kern	197	0	0	0	348	80	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	625	0	625
Kings	7,407	277	383	551	580	97	79	29	69	44	4	30	10	9,472	88	9,560
Lake	3,342	22	163	65	66	21	7	48	3	42	0	7	0	3,734	52	3,786
Madera	1,021	50	21	147	42	131	79	15	1	17	0	0	2	1,506	19	1,525
Merced	4,574	553	304	244	235	89	134	129	25	14	154	0	86	6,277	264	6,541
Monterey	260	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	260	0	260
Napa	166	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	166	0	166
Placer	510	121	188	37	81	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	937	0	937
Sacramento	621	52	1	63	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	747	0	747
San Benito	822	25	36	29	7	111	0	0	45	0	0	0	0	1,076	0	1,076
San Joaquin	28,820	1,187	1,543	1,500	2,047	574	406	288	1,016	362	405	164	188	37,231	1,269	38,501
San Luis Obispo	1,992	0	0	6	0	0	4	0	23	0	0	0	0	2,001	25	2,025
Santa Barbara	182	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	182	0	182
Santa Clara	286	4	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	295	0	295
Shasta	771	3	10	27	119	76	72	0	59	48	35	0	0	1,137	83	1,220
Solano	5,470	362	59	175	426	143	45	146	80	0	31	130	1	6,896	171	7,068
Sonoma	89	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	91	0	91
Stanislaus	15,662	1,039	2,093	889	1,235	626	312	170	531	276	127	169	45	22,481	693	23,174
Sutter	21,035	1,721	914	1,112	1,341	590	145	222	534	355	281	96	79	27,416	1,008	28,424
Tehama	14,885	1,088	905	1,440	1,122	328	572	623	184	277	105	10	152	21,145	544	21,689
Tulare	20,388	788	602	1,181	882	707	442	250	266	194	63	0	52	25,506	308	25,814
Ventura	121	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	122	0	122
Yolo	7,894	29	200	260	1,404	382	154	16	2	85	2	0	0	10,341	87	10,428
Yuba	8,451	766	458	677	686	205	158	762	414	211	48	105	61	12,548	454	13,002
All Others <sup>2</sup>	85	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	86	1	87
<b>Total</b>	<b>200,773</b>	<b>11,532</b>	<b>12,227</b>	<b>12,043</b>	<b>14,433</b>	<b>6,934</b>	<b>4,174</b>	<b>4,441</b>	<b>4,840</b>	<b>2,931</b>	<b>1,877</b>	<b>1,102</b>	<b>1,483</b>	<b>270,641</b>	<b>8,147</b>	<b>278,789</b>

<sup>1</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding.

<sup>2</sup> All other counties include Alameda, Humboldt, Los Angeles, Marin, Mendocino, Nevada, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Cruz, and Siskiyou.

**WALNUT ACREAGE AS OF 2023 - VARIETIES AND AGE GROUPS - STATE SUMMARY**

**ACREAGE PLANTED DURING YEARS SHOWN AND STANDING IN 2023 <sup>1</sup>**

	2011 & Earlier	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Acres standing in 2023		
														Bearing	Non-bearing	Total
Amigo	65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	65	0	65
Antenelle	0	0	0	71	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	71	0	71
Ashley	1,205	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,206	0	1,206
Blackmer/Mautner/Vaughn	184	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	184	0	184
Carmelo	31	68	0	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	135	0	135
Chandler	99,086	8,887	8,336	7,998	10,929	4,862	2,628	3,158	3,751	1,683	1,347	841	537	149,636	4,408	154,044
Chico	858	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	0	0	891	0	891
Cisco	46	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	51
Eureka	1,578	1	2	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,585	0	1,586
Forde	129	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	129	0	129
Franquette	5,027	0	3	4	50	0	2	5	22	0	0	1	0	5,083	29	5,113
Franquette Scharsch	97	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	98	0	98
Gillet	98	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	98	0	98
Hartley	22,592	99	168	12	146	35	16	2	58	14	5	12	1	23,068	93	23,160
Howard	23,746	1,103	737	1,224	881	329	549	511	153	355	252	70	245	29,230	922	30,152
Ivanhoe	232	129	145	188	314	104	330	349	203	18	29	0	14	1,992	60	2,053
Livermore	45	0	30	5	163	52	103	48	141	62	14	0	15	398	279	678
Marchetti	178	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	178	0	178
Mayette	279	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	279	0	279
Midland	110	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	110	0	110
Nuggett	107	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	107	1	107
Paradox	89	15	56	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	162	0	162
Payne	2,639	0	8	0	60	1	19	0	1	0	0	0	0	2,728	1	2,729
Pedro	154	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	154	0	154
Poe	316	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	317	1	318
Serr	8,319	1	68	0	6	10	0	3	1	5	2	0	46	8,407	55	8,461
Solano	47	38	103	88	370	249	182	145	144	169	47	0	0	1,076	505	1,581
Sunland	920	0	2	0	0	57	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	982	0	982
Tehama	1,352	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,352	0	1,352
Trinta	98	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	125	0	125
Tulare	21,170	1,114	2,500	2,233	1,417	1,134	316	153	210	278	77	133	112	30,248	599	30,847
Vina	7,549	20	2	6	1	0	0	0	0	34	0	0	3	7,578	37	7,615
All Others	2,427	30	65	176	90	102	28	63	123	312	104	45	511	2,918	1,158	4,075
<b>Total</b>	<b>200,773</b>	<b>11,532</b>	<b>12,227</b>	<b>12,043</b>	<b>14,433</b>	<b>6,934</b>	<b>4,174</b>	<b>4,441</b>	<b>4,840</b>	<b>2,931</b>	<b>1,877</b>	<b>1,102</b>	<b>1,483</b>	<b>270,641</b>	<b>8,147</b>	<b>278,789</b>

<sup>1</sup> Totals may not add due to rounding. Shaded/bold area represents non-bearing years and includes plantings of the following: Chandler, Chico, Howard Ivanhoe, Tulare (2020-2023); Amigo, Ashley, Cisco, Marchetti, Nuggett, Payne, Pedro, Serr, Sunland, Tehama, Trinta, Vina (2019-2023); Franquette, Franquette Scharsch, Mayette, Poe (2017-2023); all other varieties not specified (2018-2023).

**California Walnut Acreage, Production and Value, 1995-2023**

Year	Bearing	Non-bearing	Yield per acre	Production	Grower return per ton	Total value
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
1995	193,000	23,300	1.21	234,000	1,400.00	327,600
1996	192,000	23,200	1.08	208,000	1,580.00	328,640
1997	193,000	20,900	1.39	269,000	1,430.00	384,670
1998	198,000	29,000	1.15	227,000	1,050.00	238,350
1999	197,000	30,000	1.44	283,000	886.00	250,738
2000	200,000	31,000	1.20	239,000	1,240.00	296,360
2001	204,000	29,000	1.50	305,000	1,120.00	341,600
2002	210,000	27,000	1.34	282,000	1,170.00	329,940
2003	213,000	27,000	1.53	326,000	1,160.00	378,160
2004	214,000	(NA)	1.52	325,000	1,390.00	451,750
2005	215,000	26,000	1.65	355,000	1,570.00	557,350
2006	216,000	(NA)	1.60	346,000	1,630.00	563,980
2007	218,000	25,000	1.50	328,000	2,290.00	751,120
2008	230,000	(NA)	1.90	436,000	1,280.00	558,080
2009	240,000	28,000	1.82	437,000	1,710.00	747,270
2010	255,000	(NA)	1.98	504,000	2,040.00	1,028,160
2011	265,000	35,000	1.74	461,000	2,900.00	1,336,900
2012	270,000	(NA)	1.84	497,000	3,030.00	1,505,910
2013	280,000	45,000	1.76	492,000	3,710.00	1,825,320
2014	290,000	(NA)	1.97	571,000	3,340.00	1,907,140
2015	300,000	65,000	2.02	606,000	1,670.00	1,012,020
2016	315,000	(NA)	2.19	689,000	1,850.00	1,274,650
2017	335,000	65,000	1.88	630,000	2,490.00	1,568,700
2018	350,000	(NA)	1.95	683,000	1,350.00	922,050
2019	365,000	70,000	1.80	657,000	1,890.00	1,241,730
2020	385,000	(NA)	2.05	789,000	1,200.00	946,800
2021	395,000	55,000	1.86	735,000	1,450.00	1,065,750
2022	400,000	(NA)	1.89	756,000	600.00	453,600
2023	385,000	35,000	2.14	824,000	840.00	692,160

(NA) Not available.

Source: USDA, NASS, Pacific Regional Office