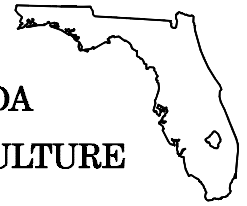




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AVOCADOS



FLORIDA
AGRICULTURE

October 8, 1999

FLORIDA: The forecast of avocados for certified shipments is 900,000 bushels, unchanged from last month and the initial forecast in August. Although several hurricanes and storms have passed near south Florida, no damaging winds or loss of fruit have been reported. Rainfall has been heavy at times, but not excessive.

Shipments through September are 555,300 bushels, 14 percent more than last season to the same date but less

than the previous season which was the highest since the August 1992 hurricane. Demand is excellent with good prices and returns reported.

CALIFORNIA: Shipments through October 2 total 5,241,000 bushel equivalents, exceeding the estimated total shipments for the season which were 5,018,000 bushel equivalents. Shipments of Haas will continue until the season ends October 31.

FLORIDA: Estimated certified shipments of avocados, 1999-00 season, with comparisons - Season: April 1 - March 31

Season	Shipments through September	Remaining to be shipped	Total shipments
Bushels			
Certified:			
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
1997-98	598,900	339,100	938,000
1998-99	489,000	402,000	891,000
Estimated:			
1999-00	555,300	344,700	900,000

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

Variety	1997-98 season	1998-99 season		
	Total shipments	Shipments through October 2	Remaining to be shipped	Estimated total shipments
Bushels ^{1/}				
Fuerte	93,000	103,000	NA	NA
Hass	5,376,000	4,708,000	NA	NA
Other	629,000	430,000	NA	NA
Total	6,098,000	5,241,000	NA	NA

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