

2012 California Olive Probability Survey Report



California Department of Food and Agriculture, California Agricultural Statistics Service

Cooperating with the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, California Field Office

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CALIFORNIA OLIVE FORECAST FOR 2012

The 2012 California olive crop forecast is 180,000 tons, up 153 percent from last year's crop of 71,200 tons. Bearing acreage is estimated at 44,000 for a yield of 4.09 tons per acre. Of the total production, an estimated 94,000 tons will be utilized for canning, and the remaining 86,000 tons are expected to be harvested for oil or specialty products.

The California Olive crop outlook is looking positive. Growers are anticipating a good crop, especially after last year's poor crop. Weather conditions during the bloom period were generally good. In the north, there was a good set. Producers thinned their crop to allow the remaining fruit to grow bigger. In the south, there was an initial good fruit set, but after Easter, extreme weather events resulted in some false bloom. This decreased the set slightly, but will permit the fruit to grow larger.

The Manzanillo and Sevillano olive varieties are expected to produce 47 percent and 9 percent of the total olive crop, respectively. The remaining 44 percent is expected to come from all other varieties.

SURVEY SAMPLE

A total of 324 growers were sampled for the survey. Reports from 179 were used to establish this forecast. The sample is designed to provide a State estimate of all varieties; estimates by variety are less precise.

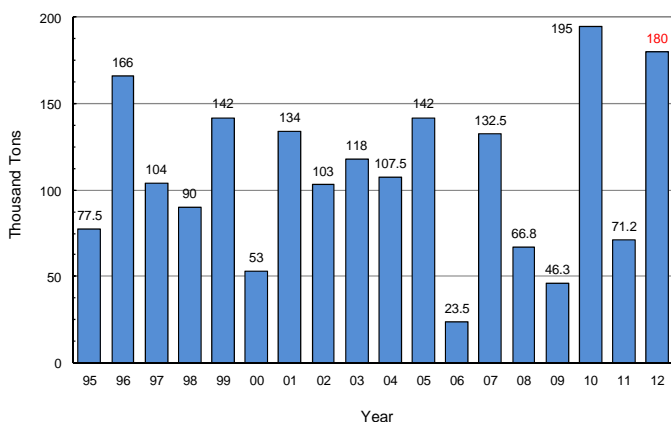
VARIETAL FORECAST

Growers were asked to estimate production by variety. The following table lists varietal level forecasts based on survey data.

Variety	2011 Production	2012 Forecast	<u>2012</u> <u>2011</u>
	Tons		Percent Change
Manzanillo	23,000	84,000	265
Sevillano	7,500	16,000	113
Other 1/	40,700	80,000	97
TOTAL	71,200	180,000	153

1/ Includes acreage and production for varieties that were or will be used for oil and other specialty products.

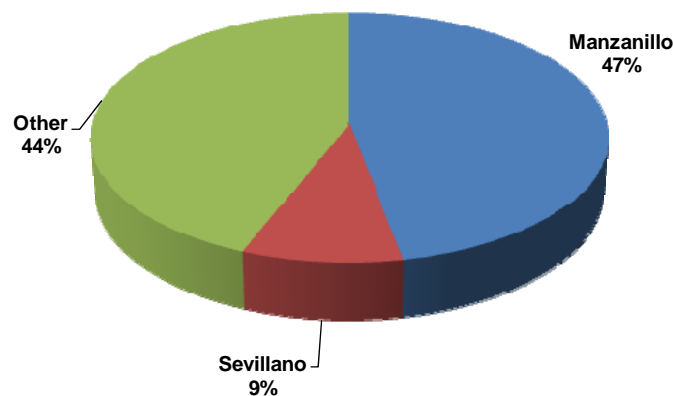
California Olive Production
1995-2011, 2012 Forecast



SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The USDA's NASS California Field Office designed the probability survey, developed a sampling procedure, and analyzed the data.

2012 California Olive Production
Percent by Variety



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