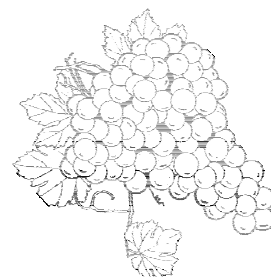


1998 California Raisin Grape Objective Measurement Survey Results



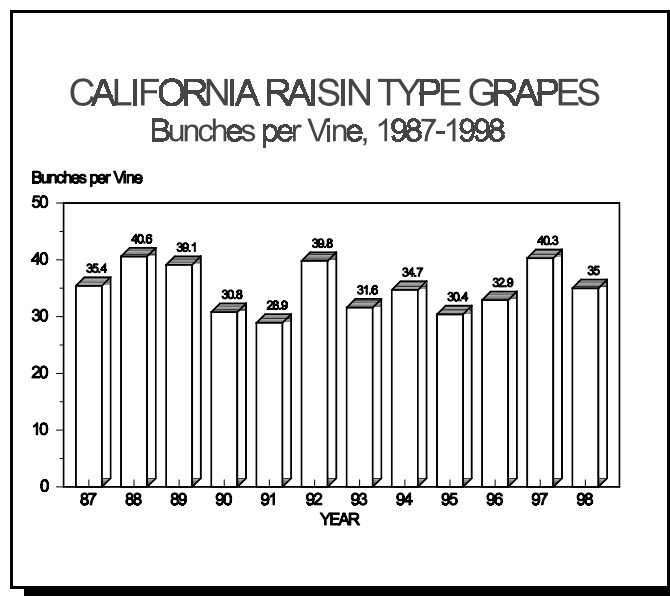
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**CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE**

RAISIN TYPE GRAPE PRODUCTION DOWN

The California raisin type grape variety forecast is 2.30 million tons, down 20 percent from last year. Based on the objective measurement survey, bunches per vine totaled 35.0 compared to 40.3 recorded in 1997. Bunch length, width, and thickness are down. The acreage harvested will be 270 thousand, equal to last year. Thompson Seedless variety grapes are currently being picked for fresh use in the San Joaquin Valley. Maturity is well behind normal. Growers are concerned about mildew and bunch rot. Picking for raisin and wine use may not begin until late August or early September.

The forecast is based on the results of the Raisin Grape Objective Measurement (OM) Survey conducted in July. The Raisin Administrative Committee provided funding for the 1998 Raisin OM Survey.

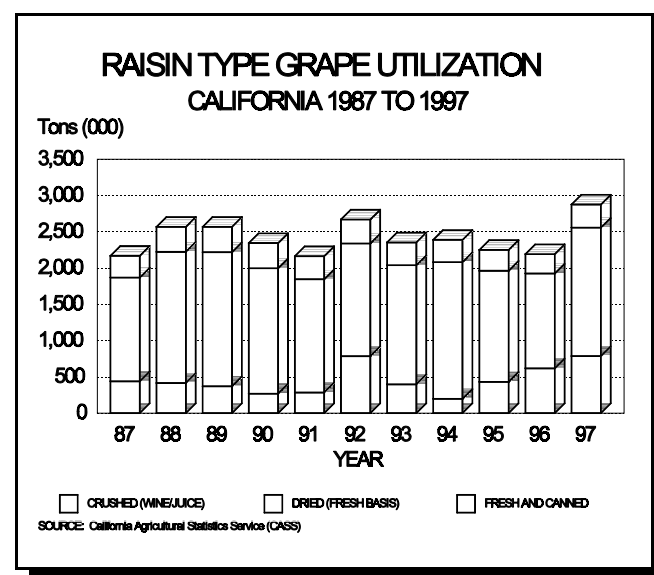


SURVEY HISTORY

The collection of objective measurement data on the California grape crop began in 1956. Grape bunches were counted, measured and weighed in sample vineyards of raisin, table and wine type varieties. No Grape OM Survey was conducted from 1982 through 1984 due to State budget cuts. The Raisin Administrative Committee has funded the OM survey of raisin type variety grapes since 1985.

FIELD SAMPLING ACTIVITIES

Due to the late maturity of the raisin grape crop, fieldwork did not begin until July 20 and was completed July 31. A total of 313 raisin type variety vineyards was sampled for the 1998 data.



CALIFORNIA RAISIN GRAPE OBJECTIVE MEASUREMENT SURVEY RESULTS AND OFFICIAL ESTIMATES, 1987-98

Year	Number Vines Sampled	Avg. No. Bunches Per Vine	Number Normal Bunches Measured	Avg. Normal Bunch Length	Average Normal Bunch Width	Average Normal Bunch Thickness	Official Estimate		
							Bearing Acres	Yield Per Acre	Production
					<i>mm</i>			<i>Tons</i>	<i>(000) Tons</i>
1987	328	35.4	1,364	200	106	80	275,000 <u>a/</u>	8.35 <u>a/</u>	2,170
1988	319	40.6	1,560	212	109	81	274,000 <u>a/</u>	10.30 <u>a/</u>	2,570
1989	285	39.1	1,248	215	110	86	271,000	9.48	2,570
1990	319	30.8	1,202	212	113	91	270,000	8.69	2,345
1991	346	28.9	1,165	217	105	87	266,000 <u>a/</u>	8.80 <u>a/</u>	2,165
1992	317	39.8	1,443	230	116	95	267,000 <u>a/</u>	10.50 <u>a/</u>	2,670
1993	248	31.6	952	222	106	91	266,000 <u>a/</u>	9.57 <u>a/</u>	2,354
1994	330	34.7	1,342	229	105	85	270,000	8.85	2,389
1995	294	30.4	1,054	227	113	87	268,000 <u>a/</u>	9.27 <u>a/</u>	2,252
1996	362	32.9	1,396	217	102	85	270,000	8.12	2,192
1997	376	40.3	1,763	235	104	87	270,000	10.70	2,877
1998	313	35.0	1,245	203	99	82	270,000	8.52	2,300

a/ The following acreage was enrolled in the Raisin Industry Diversion (RID) Program in the year specified: 1987, 15,000 acres; 1988, 25,000 acres; 1991, 20,000 acres; 1992, 12,500 acres; 1993, 20,000 acres; 1995, 25,000 acres. These acres were deducted from bearing acres for yield calculations.

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