



# 2008 California Raisin Grape Objective Measurement Report

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office · P.O. Box 1258 · Sacramento, CA 95812 · (916) 498-5161 · (916) 498-5186 Fax · www.nass.usda.gov/ca

Released: August 12, 2008, 5:30 a.m. PDT

## RAISIN-TYPE GRAPE PRODUCTION UP FROM THE JULY FORECAST

The California raisin-type variety grape forecast is 2.20 million tons, up 7 percent from the July forecast. Based on the objective measurement survey, bunches per vine totaled 40.6 compared to 38.3 recorded in 2007. Acreage of bearing age is 227,000.

The 2008 California raisin-type grape crop is shaping up to be an average to slightly above average sized crop. A frost in April hit some grape growers hard, but raisin variety grapes had minimal damage. Water was also a concern for some growers, especially in the Fresno area. Pest and disease pressure was low this year.

Weather has been favorable during the growing season thus far, and vines look good. The raisin crop is behind, but appears to be catching up and maturing nicely. Harvest for raisin production has not yet begun.

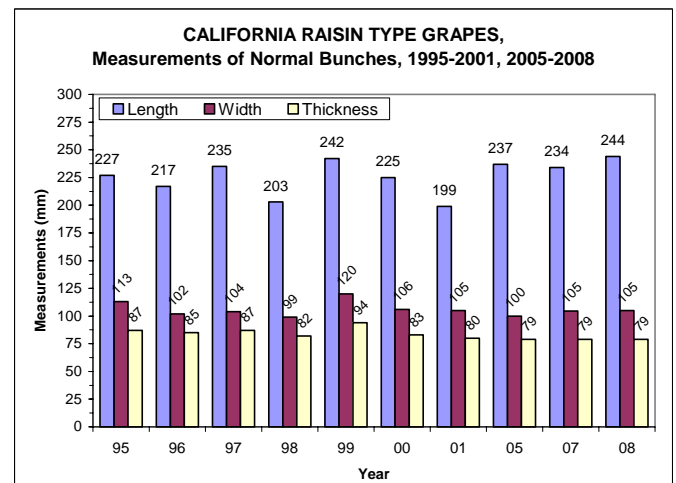
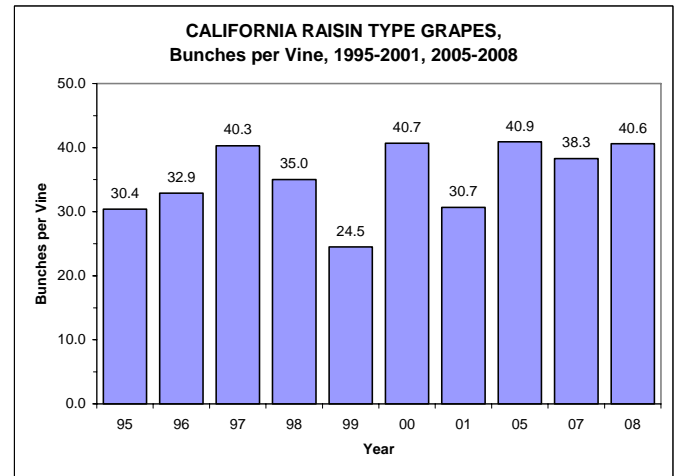
The forecast is based on the results of the Raisin Grape Objective Measurement (O.M.) Survey conducted in July. The Raisin Administrative Committee provided funding for the 2008 Raisin O.M. Survey.

## 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 O.M. Survey was conducted from 1982 through 1984 due to State budget cuts. The Raisin Administrative Committee funded the O.M. survey of raisin-type variety grapes from 1985 to 2001, 2005, 2007, and again this year.

## FIELD SAMPLING ACTIVITIES

Data were collected the first three weeks of July. A total of 327 raisin-type variety vineyards were sampled for the 2008 data.



**California Raisin Grape Objective Measurement Survey Results and Official Estimates, 1993-2008**

Year	Vines Sampled	Average Bunches Per Vine	Normal Bunches Measured	Average Normal Bunch			Official Estimate		
				Length	Width	Thickness	Bearing 1/	Yield Per Acre 1/	Production
				<i>mm</i>			<i>Acres</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
1993	248	32	952	222	106	91	266,000	9.57	2,354
1994	330	35	1,342	229	105	85	270,000	8.85	2,389
1995	294	30	1,054	227	113	87	268,000	9.27	2,252
1996	362	33	1,396	217	102	85	270,000	8.12	2,192
1997	376	40	1,763	235	104	87	270,000	10.70	2,883
1998	313	35	1,245	203	99	82	275,000	7.55	2,077
1999	303	25	863	242	120	94	279,000	7.61	2,122
2000	294	41	1,341	225	106	83	280,000	10.40	2,921
2001	294	31	1,036	199	105	80	235,000	9.43	2,215
2002	---	---	---	---	---	---	246,000	11.40	2,804
2003	---	---	---	---	---	---	255,000	8.71	2,220
2004	---	---	---	---	---	---	244,000	8.35	2,038
2005	319	41	1,430	237	100	79	240,000	9.52	2,285
2006	---	---	---	---	---	---	234,000	7.83	1,833
2007	298	38	1,283	234	105	79	227,000	9.40	2,133
2008	327	41	1,471	244	105	79	227,000	9.69	2,200

1/ The following acreage was enrolled in the Raisin Industry Diversion (RID) Program in the year specified: 1993 – 20,000 acres; 1995 – 25,000 acres; 2001 – 41,000 acres; 2002 – 27,000 acres. These acres were deducted from bearing acreage for yield calculations.

**VIC TOLOMEO, Director**  
**JACK RUTZ - SARAH HOFFMAN, Deputy Directors**  
 Doug Flohr - Courtney Charles - Mark Johnson – Tom Marr  
 John McDonnell - Lena Schwedler - Rosemary Tremblay  
 Jennifer Van Court - Theresa Varner - Susan Young  
 Estimates Group - (916) 498-5161

**USDA-NASS, California Field Office publications**  
**are available free-of-charge on the Internet at:**  
[www.nass.usda.gov/ca](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ca)