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## THE <br> Frmit

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## TFS-64

APPLES, WASHINGTON EXTRA FANCY: WEIGHTED AVERAGE AUCTION PRICES, NORMAL SEASONAL TREND*, AND 1941-42


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THEFRUITSITUATION
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## Summary

Total fruit production in $1942-43$ is expected to be slightly less than the record 1941-42 production. Since the pack of canned fruits and juices may be 10 to 15 percent greater, and the dried fruit pack 20 to 25 percent greater, the total amount of fruit sold for fresh consumption probably will be considerably smaller this season than last. The sharp curtailment in imports of bananas is likely to continue for the duration of the war.

Grape production was indicated on August 1 at 2.6 million tons compared with 2.7 million in 1941. The 1941 crop was the second largest on record. Production of raisin varieties in California is io percent less than in 1941. The largest possible pack of raisins is needed this year to meet the requirements of the United Nations. The United States Department of Agriculture has, therefore, agreed to support grower prices of raisins at roughly $\$ 110$ per ton, a price 36 percent above that received in 1941. In addition, the War Production Board recently issued an order prohibiting the sale of Thompson seedless, Muscat, and Sultana grapes, except for minor quantities, to wineries and for fresh table use. The raisin pack may total 290,000 tons. A pack of this size would be the largest since 1938 and the second largest since 3.923.

Early in August the War Production Board issued an order freezing the 1942 production of the six major dried fruits as well as the carry-over from the 1941 crop. This action was taken in order to guarantee that requirements of the armed forces and lend-lease would be met.

On August 1 the California clingstone peach crop was estimated at 427,000 tons and the California freestone crop at 235,000 tons. Tnis would
be the largest crop of California peaches since 1930. Present indications are that roughly 90 percent of the California clingstone crop will be canned, 7 percent dried, and 3 percent used fresh. For the California freestone crop, indications are that roughly 55 percent will be dried, 10 percent canned, and 35 percent used fresh.

The commercial apple crop was estimated on August 1 at 122.2 million bushels, about the same as last year's crop. Although the decline in the price of summer apples from the beginning of the season has been considerably greater this year than last, in the week ended August 22 prices of important summer apples at Niew York averaged approximately 25 percent higher than prices in the same week in 1941. Increased consumer purchasing power has been largely responsible for the higher prices this summer.

Condition reports indicate that the production of oranges and grapefruit from the bloom of 1942 may easily be the largest on record.
-- August 31, 1942

## GRAPES

BACKGROUND.- Immediately after the enactment of prohibition, prices of grapes were high and large acreages were planted in California. As a result, grape production increased rapidly until 192\%. From then until 1936 production declined because of a reduction in bearing acreage, relatively unfavorable weather conditions, and in come years severe damage from insects. The large production of grapes in the last few years has been the result of adequate water supplies, favorable growing conditions, and a slight increase in bearing acreage.

Grape prices declined rapidly with the increase in production in the early $1920^{\prime} \mathrm{s}$, and remained at fairly low levels throughout the $1930^{\prime} \mathrm{s}$. In 1941 the second largest grape crop on record sold at an average price of $\$ 23.82$ per ton, the highest since 1929. This relatively high price was the result of increases in demand from Governent and from tine regular trade for raisin grapes for drying, crushing, and/毛abie use. The carry-over of raisins from the 1940-41 season had veen the smallest since 1922. Barly in the 1941 season the Department of Agriculture offered to purchase Thompson seedless and Muscat raisins at $\$ 75.00$ per ton ( $\$ 18.75$ per ton on a fresh equivalent basis).

## SITUAMIOLI TN 1942

Grape production was indicated on August 1 at 2.6 million tons compared with 2.7 million in 1941. The 1941 crop was the second largest on record. The California crop is indicated to total 2.3 million tons, 8 percent less than last year. Eroduction of raisin varieties is 10 percent less than in 1941.

Last yeer 836,000 tons of the $1,516,000$ ton raisin vailety crop were used in the production of raisins. The remainder of the crop went to vineries and for fresh table use.

This year the largest possible paci of raisins is needed to fill requirements of the Inited Nations. The United States Department of Agriculture has, therefore, agreed to support grower prices of raisins at roughly $\$ 110$ per ton, 36 percent above the price received by growers in 1941. In addition, the War Iroduction Board recently issued an order prohibiting the sale of mhompson seedless, Muscat, and Sultana grapes, except for minor quantities, to wineries and for fresh table use. It is believed that these two prograns will insure a pack of raisins somewhere in line with the needs of the United Nations. It is probable that roughly $1,160,000$ tons of raisin grape varieties will be dried this jear. The raisin pack would then total about 290,000 tons compared with 209,000 tors in 1941. This would be the largest raisin pack since 1938, and the second largest since 1923.

The totol suoply of raisins (pack plus carry-over fron the 1941-42 season) probably will be 30 percent हreater than the supply in 1941-42, but the demard of the United Nations will be such that the carry-over into the 1943-44 season probabiy will be no greater than the carry-over into the present season.

The ntilization of $1,160,000$ tons of grapes for drying would leave approximately l,182,000 tons of California grapes for other uses (wine and juice production, and fresh consumption), compared with 1,711,000 tons in 1941.

Auction prices of California grapes at New York this season have averaged considerably above prices in the comparable period last year. The Increase for Thompson seedless grapes has averaged 50 percent, for Red Malagas 17 percent, and for Ribiers $g$ percent. These higher prices have resulted largely from smaller sales with the exception of Ribiert this season to date than in the corresoonding period a year earlier, and increased consumer purchasing nower this year over last.

## DRIED FRUITS

BACKGROUND.- Prior to the present war 30 percent of the raisin pack, 40 percent of the dried prune pack, and 50 percent of the dried aoricot pack were exported. The control of continental Eurode by Germany resulted in exports of dried fruits falling off to a mere aribble in the $1340 \sim 41$ season. During the 1941-42 season exports increased over the 1940-41 low as a result of substantial shipments under the Lend-Lease Act.

Early in August the War Production Board issued an order freezing the 1942 production of the siz meyor dried fruits, as well as the carry-over from the 194 crop . This action was taken in order to guerantee that requirements of the armed. forces anu lend-lease would be met.

Dried Prunes
Of all the major dried fruits, prunes probably will ve in the shortest supply as fer as doriestic civilian consuners are concerned. Production of dried prunes in Celiforida is indicated to total 169,000 tons comorred with 177,000 in 1947. It 16,000 tons of dried prunes are produced in the Pacific liorthwest, the totel pack would be about 185,000 tons, roughly the same as the $194 i$ total pack. The carry-over on september $l$ of this year will probably be less than 30,000 tons. The Devartment of Agriculture will suppori grower prices of dried prumes at an everage of $\$ 3.42 .50$ per ton. Last year the price paid growas for dried prunes averaged $\$ 71$ per ton, and the parity price in July was asout $\$ 1 \geqslant 0$ per ton.

## Raisins

The official estimate in August of raisin grape production in Californie was 1,361,000 tons compared with $1,516,000$ tons in 1941. As a result of the War Production Board order prohibiting the sale of Thompson seedless, Muscat, and Sultana grapes, except in minor quantities, to wineries or for fresh shipment, the raisin pack this year may total 290,000 tons. If the commercial carcy-over on Seutember 1 is not more than 30,000 tons, the total supyly available for Government purchase and reguiar trade chennels would be not more than $3 ? 0,000$ tons. The 1941 pacir plus commercial carri-nver totaled about 245 , 000 tuns. Insofar as raisins can be substituted fot aried prunes in the civilian diet, they will tend to offset the relative civilian shortage in dried prunes. The carrymover into the 1943-44 season probably will be no larger than the carry-over this September.

## Other Dried Fruits

The packs of dried apples, apricots, peaches, and pears may total roughly $T 2,000$ tons this year compared with 57,000 tons last year. The dried fis pack may total 33,000 tons, about the same as in 1941. The Department of Agriculture is supporting grower prices of dried apples at $\$ 260$ per ton, aprisots $\$ 300$, peaches $\$ 280$, and pears $\$ 260$ per ton. These prices are above 110 percent of July parity for the individual dried fruits.

## PEACHES

## California Situation

On August 1 production of both clingstone and freestone peaches in California was expected to be the largest since 1930. The clingstone crop was indicated at 427,000 tons, and the freestone crop at 235,000 tons.

The peach situation in California is about the some as in June when it was discussed in detail in this repori. Present indications are that roughly 90 percent of the clingstone crop will be canned -- the major portion in the straight peach pack, and the remainder in the fruit cocktail and salad packs -- with 7 percent dried, and 3 percent used fresh. As regards the California freestone crop, indications at present, are that roushiy 55 percent will be dried, 10 percent canned, and 35 percent used fresh.

Trade reports indicate that growers may receive an average of about $\$ 60$ per ton for clingstones for canning. In lgll the average was $\$ 48$ per ton. In July, 110 percent of parity for clingstones was $\$ 46$ per ton.

## PEARS

BACKGROUND. - Pear producers in 1941 received highest prices for their crops since 1929. The average price received by farmers was 35 cents per bushel, 50 percent, above price in 1940. The higher price in 19lfl resulted from an increased demand for pears for canning and increased demand by consumers for the fresh fruit. The total amount of pears canned as such or in fruit salad. was the largest on record.

## PACIFIC COASI SITUATION

Pear production in the Pacific Coast States on August l was indicated to total 19.? million bushels ( 461,000 tons), compared with 20.3 million bushels ( 487,000 tors) in 1941. Production of Bartlett pears was expected to be slizhtly less than a year earlier.

The Pacific Coast pear situation has not changed materially since the June issue of this report. It is probable that 51 percent of the Pacific Coast pear crop will be canned this year, 5 percent dried, and 44 percent used fresh. Trade reports indicate that Pacific Coast growers may receive roughly $\$ 65$ per ton for pears for canning. Last year they received an average of approximately $\$ 41$ per ton. In July, $l l 0$ percent of parity was $\$ 56$ per ton.

## APPL 2 S

BACKGROUND. - The commercial production of apples in 1941 was about l.22 million bushels (revised), considerably larger than the l940 commercial crop. In spite of increased production, the season average price to growers for the 1941 crop was nearly \$l per bushel compared with 80 cents the preceding vear, reflecting increased purchasing power of consumers and greater demand for apples by processors. Production of canned apples and applesauce in 1941 was the largest on record, and dried apple production was larger than in 1940.

## SITUATION IN 1942

The commercial apple crop was estimated on August 1 at 122.2 million bushels, about the same as a year earlier. Increased production in the

Eastern States offsets sljghtly smaller crops in the Central and Western States. The eastern crop is indicated to be 8 percent greater than in 1941.

Although the decline in the price of summer apples from the beginning of the season has been considerably greater this year than last, in the week ended August 22 prices of important summer apples at liew York averaged approximately 25 percent higher than prices in the same week in 1941. Increased consumer purchasing power has been largely responsible for the higher prices this summer. Grower prices of apples in August averaged 80 percent of parity.

CITRUS
The California Valencia orange crop this summer is indicated to total 29.5 million bores, approximately 500,000 boxes less than last year. Prices of California Valencias at New York decreased from $\$ 5.21$ per box in the week ended July 31 to $\$ 4.23$ per box in the week ended August 21 .

Prices of California lemons have averaged considerably lower this summer then last even though the crop is materially smaller. These lower prices have been partly the result of lower temperatures this summer.

Production of oranges and grapefruit from the bloon of 1942 may be of record size.

Table l.- Apples: Production in States having a commercial crop, average 1934-39, annual 1541, and indicated 1942 1/


Table 2.- Apples, western: Weighted average auction price per box, specified varieties and grades, at New York and Chicago, April-Avgust, 1941 and 1942

| Market and month | O1d crop |  |  |  | New crop |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Wiresay, Washington: Yel工ow Newtown, extre fancy grade :Oregon, extra fancy |  |  |  | Gravenstein, Calif., fancy grade |  |
|  | 1941 | 1942 | 1941 | 1942 | 1941 | 1942 |
|  | llars | Dollars | Dollars | 11 ars | Dollars | Dollars |
| New York: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| April ...: | 1.85 | 2.55 | 1.77 | 2.50 | --- | --- |
| May | 1.89 | 2. 65 | 1.84 | 2.52 | --- | --- |
| June .... | 2.22 | 2.95 | 2.10 | 3.19 | --- | --- |
| July .... : | 2.25 | 3.61 | .96 | --- | --- | --- |
| August 1/: | 2.15 | --- | --- | --- | 1.51 | 3.01 |
| : |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chicago: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| April ...: | 1.59 | 2.08 | 1.51 | 1.63 | --- | --- |
| May . . . . . | 1.52 | 2.34 | 1.57 | 2.61 | --- | --- |
| June | 1.76 | 2.62 | 1.83 | 3.14 | --- | --- |
| July . . . . : | . 92 | 2.65 | --- | --- | 1.83 | --- |
| August I/: | . 59 | --- | --- | --- | 1.41 | 2.75 |

Compiled from New York Daily Fruit Reporter, deciduous section, and Chicago Fruit and Vegetable Reporter.
1/ Average of first 2 weeks.
Table 3.- Cherries: Production, 12 States, average 1930-39, annual 1941, and indicated 1942


I] For some States in certain years, production includes some quantities unharvested on account of market conditions. In 194I, estimates of such quantities were as follows (tons): Washington sour, 1,000; Oregon sour, 100.
2) Includes the following quantities harvested but not utilized due to ex-
cessive cullage resulting from rain damage and other causes (tons):
Washington sour, 500 ; Oregon sweet, 800 ; sour, 100.

Table 4.- Cherries, western: Weignted average auction price per lug, New York: May-Ausust, 1941 and 1942


Compiled from New York Daily Fruit Reporter, deciduous section.

Table 5.- Citrus fruits: Condition on Ausust I; averase 1930~39, amual 1941 and 1942


Table G.- Grapefnuit: Totel wearly shipments from proauciñ aveas, June to August, 2941 and 1942 1]

| Week ended |  | Florida :Cailif.0 Motal |  |  | 1942 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | orida | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Calin. } \\ & \text { Ariz. } \end{aligned}$ | Total |
|  |  |  |  |  | Cars | Cars | Cars | Cars | Cams | Cars |
| June | 6 | 304 | 169 | 2) 481 | 150 | 251 | 401 |
|  | 13 | 170 | 267 | - 437 | 119 | 292 | 411 |
|  | 20. | 106 | 295 | 401 | 66 | 295 | 361 |
|  | 27. | 80 | 205 | 285 | 41 | 331 | 372 |
| July |  | 35 | 123 | 158 | 19 | 155 | 174 |
|  | 11. | 16 | 93 | 109 | 12 | 111 | 123 |
|  | 18. | 11 | 95 | 107 | 4 | 104 | 108 |
|  | 25 | 10 | 106 | 116 | - | 108 | 108 |
| Augrust | 1. | -- | 103 | 103 | -- | 101 | 101 |
|  | 8. | - | 117 | 117 | -- | 105 | 105 |
|  | 15. | - | 100 | 100 | - | 134 | 134 |

Compiled from reports of the Agricultural Marketing Administration.

1) Rail, boat, and truck. Interstate truck shipments from California-Arizona; interstate and intrastate tiruck shipments (excluding trucked to cenners and to boats) from Hlorida. All data subject to revision.
2) Including 8 cars from Texas.

Table 7.- Oranges: Total weekly shipments from producing areas,



Compiled from eeports of the Agricultural Marketing Láministration.

1) Rail, boat, and truck. Interstate truck shipments fron Californie-Arizona; interstate and intrastate truck shipments (excluding trucked to conners and
to boats) from Florida. All data subject to revision.
2] In addition to these commercial shipments, 2 cars were purchased in
California and shipped for relief purposes.

Table 8.- Citmus fruits: Meightod average auction price per box, at New Vorls and Chicago, April-August, 1941 and 1942


Compiled from weekly reports of the California Fruit Growers Exchange, New York, and the Fruit and Vegetable Reporter, Chicago.
1/ Average of first 2 weeks.
Table 9.- Grapes: Production in most important States, average 1930-39, annual 1941, and indicated 1942 1/


Table 10.- Grapes, California: Fei ohted average auction price per lug, by specified varieties, at IJew York and Chicago, June to August, 1941 and 1942

$\overline{\text { Compiled from New York Daily Fruit Reporter, deciduous section, and Chicago Fruit }}$ and Vegetable Reporter.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Table 11.- Peaches: Production, by geographic divisions, average } \\
& \text { 1930-39, annual 1941, and indicated 1942 1// }
\end{aligned}
$$



1/ For some States in certain years, production estimates include some quantities unharvested on account of market conditions. In 1941, such quantities were as follows (1,000 bushels): Illinois 168, North Carolina 300, South Carolina 600, and Georgia 640. $2 /$ Includes the following quantities harvested but not utilized due to excessive cullage (1,000 bushels): Virginia 100, South Carolina 300, and Georgia 320.

Table l2.- Pears: Production, by geographic divisions, arerage 1930-39, annual 1941, and indicated 1942 1/


I/ For some States in certain years, production includes some quantities unharvested on account of market conditions. In 1941, estinates of such quantities included 10,000 bushels in Pennsylvania and 50,000 bushels of "other varieties" in Oregon. 2) Includes the following quantities harvested but not utilized due to excessive cullage (1,000 bushels): Washinston "other" 84, Oregon "other" 80.

Table 13.- Caiifornia canned fruits: June 1 stocks, 1936-42


Compiled by Western Canner and Packer from reports of Canners' League of California.

Table 14.- Pears, California Bartletts: Weighted average auction price per jox, at New York and Cinicago, July to August, 19lli and 1942

| Week ended | 1941 : 1942 |  | 1941 | 1942 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dollars | Dol1ars | Dollars | Dollars |
| July 17 | 3.06 | --- | 2.57 | - |
| 24. | 2.63 | 4.45 | 2.73 | 4.54 |
| 31. | 2.47 | 4.05 | 2.38 | 3.59 |
| August 7 . | 2.94 | 3.76 | 2.76 | 3.74 |
| 24 | 2.76 | 3.86 | 2.83 | 3.96 |

Sompiled from Iew York Deily Kruit Meporter, deciduous section, and Chicago Fruit and Vegetable Reporter.

Table 15.- Plums and pmunes: Production, average 1930-39, annual 1941, and indicated 1042; also utilization of prunes, average 1930-39 and annual 1941


1] 1930-41 revised. The estimates of utilizetion of prunes (iightrinand portion of this table) include quantities sold and used on the farm for household consumption.
2/ For some States in certain years, production includes some quantitins unharw vested on account of market conditions. In 1941, estimate of such quartities were as follows (tons): Plums, California 5,000; prunes, eastern Oregon 500.
3) Includes the following quentities hervestad but not utilized due to cxcessive cullage (tons): Eastern Washington 500, westorn Oregon 2,800.
4 In California the dryins ratio is acp:oximately $2-1 / 2$ tons of fresh fruit to
I ton of dried. In some years, in addition to the dried prunes produced, addition-
al quantitios of prunes remained unharvested on account of merket conditions. In
1941, the equivalent of 11,000/狂nsried prumes was not hervested on account of
market coñitions.
5) Includes small quentities for cold pacling.
5) The drying ratio in Washington and Oregon ramges from 3 to 4 tons of fresh Eruit to $l$ ton of dried.

Table I6.- Miscellaneous fmits and nuts: Condition August 1 and production, average 1930-39, annuel 1941, and indicated 1942


1) 1930-41 revised. For some States in certain years, production includes some quantities unharvested on account of market conditions.
2/ Short-time average.
Production in percentage of a full crop.
Dry basis.
Boxes of approximately 70 pounds, net weight.
Table 17.- Frozen fruits: Cold-storage holdings, by geographic divisions, August 1, 1942


Table 18.- Frozen fruits: Cold-storage holdinps, by varieties, August'l, 10,42, rith comparisons


Compiled from renorts of the Agricultural Marketing Administration.
Table 19.- Pecans: Production, average 1930-39, annual 1941, and indicated 1942 I/


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