



2021 California Walnut Acreage Report

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

Pacific Regional Office · P.O. Box 1258 · Sacramento, CA 95812 · (916) 738-6600 · (855) 270-2722 Fax · www.nass.usda.gov/ca

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RESULTS

California's 2021 walnut acreage is estimated at 445,000 acres, with 390,000 acres bearing and 55,000 acres non-bearing. Bearing acreage was up 2.6% from 2020.

WALNUT BEARING AND NON-BEARING ACREAGE ¹

Year ²	Bearing	Non-bearing	Total
2014	290,000	(NA)	(NA)
2015	300,000	65,000	365,000
2016	315,000	(NA)	(NA)
2017	335,000	65,000	400,000
2018	350,000	(NA)	(NA)
2019	365,000	75,000	440,000
2020	380,000	(NA)	(NA)
2021	390,000	55,000	445,000

¹ Reported data with an allowance for incompleteness.

² Beginning with 2003, acreage survey conducted every other year.

(NA) Not available.

Of the walnut acreage reported, Chandler continued to be the leading variety with 140,720 bearing acres. Tulare continued in second place with 31,085 bearing acres.

Of the total walnut acreage in the state, San Joaquin County showed the largest acreage with 14.1% of the total, followed by Butte with 13.7% and Tulare with 9.9%.

OBJECTIVES

The Pacific Regional Office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) conducts an acreage survey of California walnut growers every other year. The purpose of this survey is to provide walnut acreage information on new plantings and removals. It is a continuation of a long series of industry-funded walnut acreage surveys.

This report consists of two parts:

- Estimated walnut acreage -- bearing, non-bearing, and total.
- Detailed data by variety, year planted, and county – as voluntarily reported by walnut growers and maintained in the NASS database.

With perfect information, the estimated walnut acreage and the detailed data would be the same. However, differences exist for the following reasons:

- A voluntary survey of approximately 4,900 walnut growers is unlikely to ever attain 100% completeness.
- It is difficult for USDA, NASS to detect growers that are planting walnuts for the first time.

The detailed data reflects tree removals from nearly 9,000 acres during the past two years. Of this number, some acreage was harvested in 2021 prior to being pulled out, and that acreage has already been removed from the detailed data.

PROCEDURES

The major source of the walnut detailed data was a questionnaire mailed to all walnut growers from our list of walnut orchards. The mailing was sent in October 2021. The questionnaire contained previously reported crop, variety, and acreage information preprinted. Producers were asked to update the information with new plantings, removals, and any other corrections; new growers were mailed a blank questionnaire. Producers were given time to respond by mail. A telephone follow-up was then undertaken. Data collection ended in May 2022.

To arrive at the estimated walnut acreage, the NASS walnut acreage database was compared with pesticide application data maintained by County Agricultural Commissioners and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation. In addition, NASS looked at data collected on the Walnut Nursery Sales Survey.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The USDA, NASS, Pacific Regional Office sincerely appreciates the many farm operators, owners, and management firms for providing the information. A special thanks goes to the California Walnut Board for providing funding and support of this special acreage update survey.

WALNUT ACREAGE AS OF 2021 -- COUNTIES AND AGE GROUPS -- STATE SUMMARY

ACREAGE PLANTED DURING YEARS SHOWN AND STANDING IN 2021 ¹

County	2009 and earlier	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Acres standing in 2021		
														Bearing	Non-bearing	Total
Amador	254	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	254	0	254
Butte	24,778	2,469	1,193	1,622	2,124	1,154	1,546	1,324	815	496	497	444	254	36,881	1,834	38,714
Calaveras	730	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	13	0	0	737	13	750
Colusa	5,514	482	531	923	551	484	609	594	272	104	418	112	171	9,959	806	10,764
Contra Costa	269	0	67	0	6	1	40	0	12	0	0	0	0	395	0	395
El Dorado	236	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	236	0	236
Fresno	4,274	113	419	164	150	220	612	251	74	484	125	28	16	6,275	654	6,929
Glenn	12,947	954	963	489	1,038	1,120	548	309	252	234	237	56	119	18,611	655	19,266
Kern	170	0	39	0	0	0	161	80	0	0	0	0	0	450	0	450
Kings	7,735	468	291	372	353	538	721	97	163	84	69	44	4	10,726	212	10,939
Lake	3,440	27	40	23	163	65	66	21	7	48	5	12	0	3,851	64	3,915
Madera	918	25	118	50	21	197	1	118	65	0	1	0	0	1,513	1	1,514
Merced	4,497	116	481	553	335	244	276	222	134	122	25	14	154	6,841	330	7,171
Monterey	270	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	270	0	270
Napa	167	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	167	0	167
Placer	349	140	22	121	188	0	81	0	0	0	0	0	0	900	0	900
Sacramento	661	0	0	52	1	63	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	787	0	787
San Benito	893	4	0	25	36	29	7	111	0	0	45	0	0	1,106	45	1,151
San Joaquin	28,484	1,451	987	1,187	1,524	1,440	1,948	575	408	288	818	233	335	37,788	1,891	39,679
San Luis Obispo	2,041	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	4	0	23	0	0	2,047	27	2,074
Santa Barbara	390	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	390	0	390
Santa Clara	284	2	2	4	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	297	0	297
Shasta	786	0	0	61	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	851	0	851
Solano	6,548	217	40	362	105	98	425	281	45	65	82	0	0	7,973	295	8,268
Sonoma	86	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	86	1	87
Stanislaus	16,288	703	721	1,028	2,125	877	1,353	656	320	151	482	137	106	23,985	961	24,946
Sutter	19,740	895	748	1,130	824	786	628	274	122	72	397	206	141	25,081	881	25,962
Tehama	13,353	1,333	741	1,023	965	1,141	1,031	230	484	461	32	265	52	20,263	849	21,112
Tulare	21,039	851	722	904	657	1,219	1,009	604	341	261	244	17	117	27,315	669	27,984
Ventura	121	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	122	0	122
Yolo	8,022	476	541	227	212	330	1,413	397	154	16	2	85	2	11,676	203	11,879
Yuba	8,328	539	536	777	484	661	837	163	143	737	231	152	33	12,385	1,234	13,619
All Others ²	88	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	89	1	90
Total	193,696	11,269	9,201	11,099	11,861	10,674	13,327	6,307	3,817	3,624	3,744	1,805	1,505	270,304	11,625	281,928

¹ Totals may not add due to rounding.

² All other counties include Alameda, Humboldt, Marin, Mendocino, Nevada, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Cruz, and Siskiyou.

WALNUT ACREAGE AS OF 2021 - VARIETIES AND AGE GROUPS - STATE SUMMARY

ACREAGE PLANTED DURING YEARS SHOWN AND STANDING IN 2021 ¹

Variety	2009 and earlier	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Acres standing in 2021		
														Bearing	Non-bearing	Total
Amigo	69	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	69	0	69
Antenelle	0	0	0	0	0	71	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	71	0	71
Ashley	1,531	0	0	0	10	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,542	0	1,542
Blackmer/Mautner/Vaughn	250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	250	0	250
Carmelo	41	6	1	68	0	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	152	0	152
Chandler	87,695	7,334	6,653	8,107	7,974	6,880	9,645	4,272	2,161	2,273	2,669	1,120	1,002	140,720	7,064	147,784
Chico	1,036	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	1,036	33	1,069
Cisco	49	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	1	54
Eureka	1,686	0	4	1	3	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	1,699	1	1,700
Forde	42	17	71	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	149	0	149
Franquette	5,344	10	32	1	39	4	50	0	2	5	22	0	0	5,431	78	5,509
Franquette Scharsch	97	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	98	0	98
Gillet	2	85	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	98	0	98
Gustine	69	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	69	0	69
Hartley	25,802	67	62	78	183	15	148	162	17	2	60	14	6	26,354	261	26,615
Howard	21,756	1,629	921	1,245	744	1,018	748	308	657	548	153	196	187	29,024	1,084	30,108
Ivanhoe	16	118	163	263	141	188	319	105	322	342	203	18	23	1,634	585	2,219
Livermore	24	0	0	0	30	5	163	55	105	115	152	0	9	222	435	657
Marchetti	178	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	178	0	178
Mayette	286	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	286	0	286
Midland	110	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	110	0	110
Nuggett	121	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	121	1	121
Paradox	99	19	19	15	56	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	210	0	210
Payne	3,115	4	1	0	8	0	72	2	19	0	1	0	0	3,203	20	3,223
Pedro	156	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	157	0	157
Poe	322	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	324	1	325
Serr	10,107	31	32	1	68	0	6	10	0	3	1	5	2	10,255	11	10,266
Solano	0	4	0	38	41	88	470	221	182	113	130	169	47	641	862	1,503
Sunland	1,149	0	0	0	2	0	0	57	0	4	0	0	0	1,208	4	1,212
Tehama	1,417	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,466	0	1,466
Trinta	95	10	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	132	0	132
Tulare	19,786	1,594	1,093	1,185	2,411	2,184	1,498	1,015	320	156	210	75	150	31,085	591	31,676
Vina	9,051	17	60	20	2	7	1	0	0	0	0	34	0	9,158	34	9,192
All Others	2,194	274	78	30	147	176	202	101	32	63	111	173	79	3,102	559	3,661
Total	193,696	11,269	9,201	11,099	11,861	10,674	13,327	6,307	3,817	3,624	3,744	1,805	1,505	270,304	11,625	281,928

¹ Totals may not add due to rounding. Shaded/bold area represents non-bearing years and includes plantings of the following: Chandler, Chico, Howard Ivanhoe, Tulare (2018-2021); Amigo, Ashley, Cisco, Gustine, Marchetti, Nuggett, Payne, Pedro, Serr, Sunland, Tehama, Trinta, Vina (2017-2021); Franquette, Franquette Scharsch, Mayette, Poe (2015-2021); all other varieties not specified (2016-2021).

California Walnut Acreage, Production and Value, 1995-2021

Year	Bearing	Non-bearing	Production	Yield per acre	Grower return per ton	Total value
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
1995	193,000	23,300	234,000	1.21	1,400.00	327,600
1996	192,000	23,200	208,000	1.08	1,580.00	328,640
1997	193,000	20,900	269,000	1.39	1,430.00	384,670
1998	198,000	29,000	227,000	1.15	1,050.00	238,350
1999	197,000	30,000	283,000	1.44	886.00	250,738
2000	200,000	31,000	239,000	1.20	1,240.00	296,360
2001	204,000	29,000	305,000	1.50	1,120.00	341,600
2002	210,000	27,000	282,000	1.34	1,170.00	329,940
2003	213,000	27,000	326,000	1.53	1,160.00	378,160
2004	214,000	(NA)	325,000	1.52	1,390.00	451,750
2005	215,000	26,000	355,000	1.65	1,570.00	557,350
2006	216,000	(NA)	346,000	1.60	1,630.00	563,980
2007	218,000	25,000	328,000	1.50	2,290.00	751,120
2008	230,000	(NA)	436,000	1.90	1,280.00	558,080
2009	240,000	28,000	437,000	1.82	1,710.00	747,270
2010	255,000	(NA)	504,000	1.98	2,040.00	1,028,160
2011	265,000	35,000	461,000	1.74	2,900.00	1,336,900
2012	270,000	(NA)	497,000	1.84	3,030.00	1,505,910
2013	280,000	45,000	492,000	1.76	3,710.00	1,825,320
2014	290,000	(NA)	571,000	1.97	3,340.00	1,907,140
2015	300,000	65,000	606,000	2.02	1,670.00	1,012,020
2016	315,000	(NA)	689,000	2.19	1,850.00	1,274,650
2017	335,000	65,000	630,000	1.88	2,490.00	1,568,700
2018	350,000	(NA)	679,000	1.94	1,350.00	916,650
2019	365,000	75,000	655,000	1.79	1,890.00	1,237,950
2020	380,000	(NA)	790,000	2.08	1,200.00	948,000
2021	390,000	55,000	725,000	1.86	1,410.00	1,022,250

(NA) Not available.

Source: USDA, NASS, Pacific Regional Office