

PEACH FUZZ



An exclusive membership newsletter published by California Canning Peach Association the cooperative bargaining association in the canning cling peach industry.

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CURRENT CROP CONDITIONS

According to the CCPA’s field staff, California’s full bloom date for cling peaches occurred on March 6th which is 1 day earlier than last year’s March 7 full bloom date. The timing for our 2022 peach bloom differed from recent years as the Yuba/Sutter area reached full bloom sooner than all other areas of the state. The March 4th full bloom date in the Yuba/Sutter area was four days earlier than last year while the Kingsburg full bloom date of March 6 was one day later than last year and the Modesto full bloom date of March 9th was 3 days later than last year. Final chilling hours recorded at U.C. Davis for Nov 1-Feb 28 this year amounted to 921 hours which represents a 176 hour increase over the 745 chilling hours reported for 2020/21. The Yuba/Sutter and Modesto areas both recorded increases in chilling hours while the Parlier (Kingsburg area) total were virtually unchanged from last year. During the last week in February much of the Sacramento Valley experienced several nights of freezing temperatures which resulted in potential frost damage to a number of crops. Although the frost damage to peaches is significantly less than the damage being reported in almonds, it is clear that the 2022 cling peach crop was impacted by the freezing temperatures. At this point it appears that the biggest impact occurred in some of the peach orchards north of Yuba City which relied on irrigation district water instead of utilizing wells on the property for frost protection. Growers will be able to better assess the extent of any damage to their peach crop in the coming months. Local county Ag Commissioners are encouraging growers who have experienced any frost damage to contact their offices to report the extent of anticipated crop losses.

Chilling Hours Comparison

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Verona	1,014	958	952	1,080	1,143	1,179
Davis	874	811	762	760	745	921
Modesto	900	956	948	977	1,064	1,126
Parlier	824	977	845	1,035	1,128	1,129

Full Bloom Timing

Area	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Yuba/Sutter	Feb 26	Mar 10	Mar 12	Mar 19	Mar 3	Mar 8	Mar 4
Modesto	Feb 29	Mar 12	Mar 19	Mar 18	Mar 3	Mar 6	Mar 9
Kingsburg	Feb 26	Mar 4	Mar 13	Mar 9	Feb 29	Mar 5	Mar 6
Statewide	Feb 27	Mar 10	Mar 14	Mar 18	Mar 3	Mar 7	Mar 6

PEACH GROWERS FACE THIRD DROUGHT YEAR

Although Northern California experienced two atmospheric river events in November/December, optimism regarding a plentiful rainfall year has vanished. After experiencing the driest January and February in state history, California’s Department of Water Resources reports that the state’s snowpack is only at 63% of average as of early March. They note that a significantly below-average snowpack when combined with current low reservoir levels will result in a very challenging year for growers as we experience our third consecutive year of drought conditions. Although the major peach growing areas are currently far ahead of last year for YTD rainfall since July 1, rainfall totals for January 1st through March 7 are significantly below prior year totals. Clearly any reductions in water allocations by local irrigation districts will force peach growers to pump more groundwater which will further raise their 2022 energy costs.

YTD Rainfall Comparison

July 1 – March 7

Location	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Verona	8	18.93	7.11	5.01	11.97
Davis	6.89	22.78	8.99	4.19	13.93
Modesto	2.01	9.35	6.22	5.48	7.2
Parlier	3.19	7.12	3.27	3.63	5.83

YTD Rainfall Comparison

January 1 – March 7

Location	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Verona	6.02	13.72	1.29	3.06	0.13
Davis	5.47	17.76	1.2	1.92	0.14
Modesto	1.92	4.31	1.02	5.16	0.12
Parlier	2.49	5.18	0.65	2.64	0.45

CCPA CELEBRATES IT’S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

The California Canning Peach Association held it’s 100th Annual Meeting on Wednesday, January 26 at the Sacramento Hilton Hotel. Board Chairman Ranjit Davit and President Hudgins reviewed the Association’s 100 year history and reflected on the contributions of generations of grower leaders willing to commit their time, energy and wisdom in carrying out the Peach Association’s mission of maintaining a strong peach industry. The audience viewed a special video presentation which highlighted the Association’s 100 year history. For growers who were unable to attend our meeting, all of the speeches and the 100 year video presentation can now be viewed on our website (Go to Calpeach.com, click on the “About” tab, then under 100 Year Anniversary to view the video). The Association awarded the 2021 Ron Schuler Memorial Scholarship to Hannah Bains from Yuba city. President Hudgins also announced that the Peach Association’s field representatives would be delivering an orchard sign to every member signifying our 100 year history in the coming weeks. The Peach Association has now joined the ranks of just 8 other California cooperatives with a 100 year history.

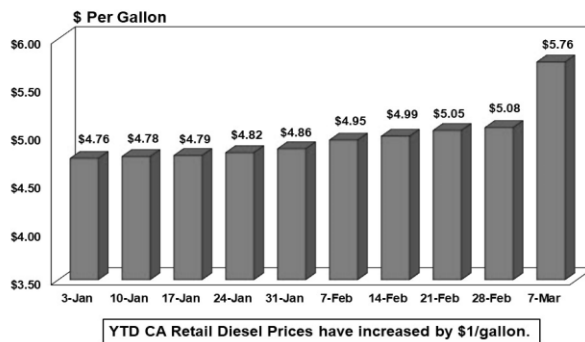
RETURNSERVICEREQUESTED

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 «Company_Name»
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PEACH GROWERS FACED WITH MUCH HIGHER COSTS IN 2022

The rising cost and shrinking availability of farm labor coupled with unprecedented cost increases as a result of supply chain disruptions and Russia’s invasion of Ukraine represent a significant challenge for peach growers this year. Although California’s minimum wage increased by 7.1% to \$15/hour on January 1st, the effective increase in 2022 labor costs for growers will amount to a double-digit percentage increase when the lower overtime hour threshold and current inflationary pressures are factored into the equation. Although growers have been faced with the impact of higher input costs for fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides for months, fuel prices have quickly risen to unprecedented levels within the last few weeks. During the first 9 weeks of 2022, California’s weekly retail diesel fuel prices have risen by \$1/gallon (21%) to \$5.76/gallon with no signs of slowing down in the coming weeks. As the Peach Association continues our discussions with processors regarding 2022 raw product pricing, we will be pursuing a fact-based approach in outlining the impact of all these cost increases and the price increase which is required to offset our higher costs of production.

**Weekly California Diesel Price Trends
 Jan 1-Mar 7, 2022**



PROJECTED 2022 ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION

The Peach Association’s field staff reports that pullouts following the 2021 season now total 1,302 acres which amounts to 8.8% of the industry’s total bearing acreage in 2021. This figure is more than four times greater than the 282 acres of 2019 plantings which will move into the bearing acreage classification for 2022. The Association projects that the industry will have approximately 13,800 bearing acres for the 2022 harvest which represents a 949 acre decrease from our 2021 bearing acreage position. If the industry achieves our three year average yield of our 15.9 tons/acre in 2022, total production would amount to 219,400 tons compared to total deliveries of 225,300 tons in 2021.

**Cling Peach Pullouts
 As of March 3, 2022**

1. By Area

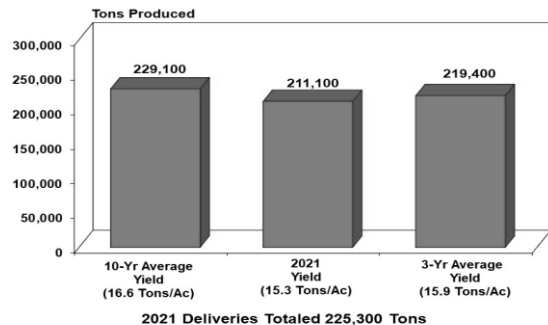
Area	EE Acres	E Acres	L Acres	EL Acres	Total Acres	% of Bearing
Yuba/Sutter	190	130	487	92	899	10.0%
Modesto	95	22	57	73	247	5.8%
Kingsburg	19	9	75	53	156	10.7%
TOTAL	304	161	619	218	1,302	8.8%

2. By 2021 Processor

Processor	EE Acres	E Acres	L Acres	EL Acres	Total Acres
DMF	116	46	153	98	413
PCP	188	110	425	120	843
All Others	0	5	41	0	46
TOTAL	304	161	619	218	1,302

Last year pullouts totaled 1,340 acres as of January 5th.

Possible 2022 Peach Crop Scenarios*



OF INTEREST

- At their January 26th meeting the Association’s Board of Directors elected Board officers for 2022. They are as follows: Chairman Ranjit Davit, Vice Chairman Eric Spycher, Secretary Leonard Perez, and Treasurer Peter Martini. We also welcomed two newly elected board members for 2022: Mark Cederlind from Winton and Darryl Starn from Denair.
- Canned peach imports for June-December total 2,572,997 cases, down 18% from year-ago levels. Since January 1st, Del Monte Foods has imported over \$2,213,000 worth of canned/plastic packaged peach products from China, Greece, and Chile.