

THE NUTCAST



(209) 538-7766 * 3242 S. Carpenter Road, Modesto, CA 95358

October 2018

GROWERS WHO KEEP ALMONDS

If you desire to keep some of your newly grown almonds, you must ask your huller/sheller to pull these almonds for you.

Due to new FSMA regulations, once Valley Harvest Nut takes possession of the almonds, we are unable to release any almonds to you.

Please call your huller/sheller.



IT'S HARVEST TIME

We are now well into the 2018 almond harvest and, except for the one day of rain, the harvest is progressing nicely. We had to dry a few wet deliveries from moisture and/or green harvest, but most of the almonds are very dry. Moisture readings are running 3% to 4% instead of the desired USDA standard 5%. We also see that the inedible count is much lower than last year. The industry indicates nonpareils produced lighter than estimated, but we have found that most of our growers are up slightly from last year. However, Valley Harvest Nut and the industry agree regarding California's and pollinators...we both are noticing lower pounds than last year.



ago. That is good news, but not indicative of dancing because prices dropped significantly since our last Nutcast. Right after the September newsletter, we saw nonpareil buyer prices slide under \$3.00 per pound! We haven't seen prices under \$3.00 for a long time and it "hurt" to take orders! Thank goodness for the increase last week—prices have returned to about \$3.00 per pound at the buyer level.

Shipments for September were also down industry wide and also with Valley Harvest. The late harvest, a low carry in from last year, and uncertainty and hesitation from buyers because of tariffs, etc. caused shipments to fall behind September 2017. With the growing questions about this 2018 crop size, buyers are beginning to realize they need to step up to the plate. We trust October shipments will portray a much better picture for the almond industry and for Valley Harvest.

With a potential lighter crop than the estimated 2.45 billion pounds, prices increased around ten cents about seven days

Top 10 Halloween

1. Reese's Peanut Butter Cups
2. Twix
3. Snickers
4. KitKat
5. Butterfinger
6. Crunch
7. Mr. Goodbar
8. Reese's Pieces
9. Hershey's
10. Flavored Tootsie Rolls



**Next Payment:
2 weeks after USDA
inspection**



Can Almond Tree Varieties be Watered Differently?

The Almond Board of California writes, "Almonds constitute one of the area's top crops and everyone is anxious about the next water shortage and its effects on crops. UC Davis graduate students are looking into how varying amounts of water affect almond yield. The current results on the differences in yield from the different treatments and quality will be presented in December at the Almond Conference in Sacramento. "

The annual Almond Conference will be held at the Sacramento Convention Center, December 4-6, 2018. If you are interested in booking a hotel room, please use this link: <https://www.almondconference.com/location.aspx>.

Non-refundable hotel rooms will be available at a discounted price until 10/26/18.