

# THE NUTCAST

Valley Harvest  
Nut Co., Inc.



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## Predictions

While we don't endorse outside publications, we would like to bring your attention to the West Coast Nut magazine that arrives in our office. The February 2019 issue included an article titled "*The Five Year Almond Outlook Reveals Profitable Prices*". It is a five-page article with graphs giving the positive and negative numbers of the predicted industry over the next five years. Basically, it says that growers can expect almond consumption to increase throughout the world and prices should be stable in the market even with a predicted three-billion-pound annual crop. It mentions that growers need and will continue to need about \$2.00/lb. to break even and prices will continue to exceed that - possibly to \$2.50 average. If you don't already receive this free subscription, you could find the article online.



## MARKET REPORT

The almond market has been quite busy with domestic and export markets reporting record numbers when comparing to January 2018. Domestic shipments increased 8.5% above the pounds shipped 12 months ago. Export shipments not only exceeded January 2018 by 8.2% but it also exceeded one month from the current crop year. Valley Harvest shipments have been moving steadily right along with the rest of the industry. We have been very busy at the plant.



Most contract commitments for the industry are based on sale prices locked in early in the season. In that Valley Harvest Nut chooses

to limit contracting, it allows us to take advantage of prices as they increase. Our experience over the years has proven almost always to be to your financial advantage and we trust this year is the same. We always try to do our very best to protect your grower price.

## Blossoms & Bees & Bummer Weather

As you are aware, the month of February has been quite volatile for the bloom conditions which we are smack dab in the middle of and the effects of this poor bloom weather pattern will be the subject of next month's Nutcast. So, our above report for the January Market will not be



of concern to you since the weather has been so uncooperative with the bloom. Basically, in a nutshell, prices for nonpareils came down in January and all other prices remained stable. Now that wet weather soaked us this February, prices increased last week but sellers and buyers "are holding" to see what will come of this bloom season. Bees are in place in the fields but are they not willing to be out of their homes to do their job - not in cold, wet weather. There is prediction of a slight break in the weather as we write this report and that could be the beginning of a better bloom period. To be continued....