

THE NUTCAST

Valley Harvest
Nut Co., Inc.



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October 2022



Save the date for

The Almond Conference 2022

December 6-8, 2022

SAFE Credit Union Convention Center
Sacramento, CA

The Almond Board of
California was established
in 1950. This year,
they celebrate the
50th almond conference.

To register, go to
<https://www.almondconference.com/attendee/>



Market Report

The 2022 harvest is just about complete with only one small rain. The rapid, fast harvest was slowed by just a few days and almost all almonds made it through with no drying. We have had just a very few wet lots. We still can't tell how far off this crop is compared to last year, but it is definitely down. With the effects of the drought and excessive hot weather, we see smaller kernels, lower moisture counts, and even some shrivel. Worm count is up even to the point of webbing and live worm with some incoming lots. Fumigation is truly imperative this season. Again, Toni's old adage is *"the one consistent thing about the almond industry is that every year will be different!"* This year is no exception.

The industry market report wasn't exciting for the month of September. August shipments were up significantly from last year helping to relieve some of the larger than ever carry-in. But September crashed and shipments were down 17% from last year. We always compare our Valley Harvest shipping with the market report and, yes, our September shipping was down from 2021, but only by 6.8%. Our August was extremely busy. So, when Valley Harvest combines August & September shipping numbers, our average is slightly above last year. The industry had a busy August too, but not quite enough to be above last year. The industry is behind about 10%.

How do all these boring percentage figures affect your pocketbook? It results in lower pricing. Buyers are aware of the abundance of almonds and they feel the crunch of the inflation, so they demand lower pricing. Handlers cut prices to meet their demands to sell the carry-in and current crop. This keeps cash flowing so we can maintain grower payments. Even this Monday, the 17th, Valley Harvest was forced to join "the pack" and reduce our selling prices by .10 to .15 cents per pound just as the industry did for both whole almonds and manufactured almonds. It will continue to be a stretch for our growers to maintain proper field and tree care with increasing costs and lower prices.

BUT!! (There is always a BUT!) This isn't the first time growers have been through tough times; you are still here and still farming! We will all get through this. Be grateful for the blessing of another day, for your family, and for those beautiful trees that are out your window. There's nothing better than getting your feet in the dirt that produces food in abundance for the world regardless of the price. You are a proud farmer and we appreciate each of you. Hang in there. Keep your faith strong. We will continue to do all we can to keep you farming.

2022 NATIVITY Toni Conway's Open House

Toni's Nativity Open House is back! She invites you to wander through her home looking at and enjoying her 900 set collection of the Christmas Story. From all over the world, Baby Jesus is displayed in many different manners from mice to metal and resin to Lenox.

Nativity Display: 3242 S Carpenter Road, Modesto
For Information: call 209-538-2110
Visit Toni's Website: www.conwaynativities.com



NATIVITY OPEN HOUSE DATES

Fri, December 2, 10AM-8PM
Sat, December 3, 10AM-8PM
Sun, December 4, 1PM-8PM

Fri, December 9, 10AM-8PM
Sat, December 10, 10AM-8PM
Sun, December 11, 1PM-8PM

Invite your family & friends.
Individuals & groups welcome.