

# THE NUTCAST

Valley Harvest  
Nut Co., Inc.



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## GIFT BASKETS

Cooler weather is in the air and time is flying by. We are inching closer and closer to the holiday season. Valley Harvest Nut will gladly assist you in checking off your Christmas list.



Every creates beautiful gift baskets of natural whole, manufactured, and/or seasoned almonds intended for holiday or personal gifts. We stocked our seasoning inventory, so your orders can be ready within 2 weeks.

Please send your requests by giving us a call 209-538-7766 or send a message to [info@valleyharvestnut.com](mailto:info@valleyharvestnut.com). You can either pay with check, cash, or take the cost off your grower statement.

## TONI IS BETTER

Some of you had heard that Toni "vacationed" at Memorial Hospital for 5 days earlier this month. We are THRILLED to say she is recouping. Thank you for your prayers and concern.



## Market Report

The late-arriving harvest has left us **speechless**, not because we are shocked, but because the industry is lacking information. Since we don't know what to tell you about the size of the crop, and we don't want to assume, we will go with Toni Conway's saying: **'The one thing you can count on in the almond industry is that the new crop will be different from the last crop'**. That statement couldn't be more true this season. Let's talk about some differences.

### Almond kernels are BIG! HUGE!!

To date, Valley Harvest Nut has sized nearly 600,000 pounds of your nonpareil kernels. Of that, 66% are size 20/22 or larger (that means 20-22 kernels per ounce) while only 11% are size 25/27 or smaller. Personally, I haven't experienced a crop where the majority of kernels are so big. Almond customers are in a quandary trying to figure out how to make the large almonds work in their end-products.

Kernel Size	2023 Crop	2022 Crop
16/18	6%	Zero
18/20	18%	12%
20/22	42%	18%
22/24	7%	9%
23/25	16%	21%
25/27	5%	16%
27/30	5%	18%
30/32	0%	7%
32/34 & smaller	0.74%	6%

### WORMS & INSECTS ARE OVER-EATING!!

OMG! How much can worms actually eat without exploding? I hope they are close to filling their bellies because they are outright consuming your almonds.

The chart below compares the first eight USDA inspections from 2022 & 2023 crops. The 8th inspection in 2022 was 10/6/22; the 8th inspection for 2023 was 10/19/23. The time difference is two weeks which confirm that this crop is late. And we would say incoming receipts are closer to three to four weeks late.

Variety	2023 lbs.	INED %	2022 lbs.	INED %
NP	1,546,372	3.16%	1,540,133	1.32%
NP type	205,023	2.23%	110,202	2.08%
SONORA	32,267	1.68%	19,430	2.02%
IND	967,445	2.53%	1,116,347	1.39%
CARMEL	137,846	2.38%	210,608	1.23%
CALS	235,109	1.78%	334,553	1.07%
MISSION	418,585	1.31%	638,241	0.51%

The good news...customers are paying higher prices than they did in August. We covet the opportunity to make our growers as much money as we possibly can; we have you in mind as we talk with each customer. Thank you for trusting Valley Harvest Nut to sell your almonds.

WE APPRECIATE YOU



Valley Harvest Nut is a member of Western Ag Processes Association (WAPA). This AMAZING organization answered the industry's call for representation and expertise in critical compliance areas, such as air pollution, food safety and safety services. They educate Democrat and Republican politicians about the ag industry. VHN welcomed Assemblymember Nguyen, representing District 10, and took her on a tour of our facility. She learned about almonds: how your farming practices impact our facility and how our facility is impacted by imposed regulations (some good, some challenging.)