

# THE NUTCAST

Valley Harvest  
Nut Co., Inc.



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December 2023

## Nativity Story



1. Where did Mary and Joseph live before Jesus was born?
2. What was Joseph's occupation?
3. Which Angel told Mary that she was to carry God's child?
4. Why did Mary and Joseph have to travel to the City of David?
5. In what city was Jesus born?
6. Why did Mary and Joseph have to stay at the stable?
7. Where did Mary lay the swaddled baby Jesus to sleep?
8. How many Wise Men travelled to visit Jesus?
9. What did the Wise Men follow to find Jesus?
10. What were the three gifts given to the baby Jesus?
11. How did the shepherds hear about the birth of Jesus?
12. Why did King Herod try to kill Jesus?
13. Where did Jesus' family flee to from Bethlehem?
14. Which gospels tell the story of the Nativity?

(1) Nazareth; (2) Carpenter; (3) Gabriel; (4) Joseph had to register on the census; (5) Bethlehem; (6) There was no room at the inn; (7) In a manger; (8) The Bible doesn't actually say; (9) A star; (10) Gold, frankincense, and myrrh; (11) An angel told them; (12) He was worried that Jesus would take the throne; (13) Egypt; (14) Luke & Matthew

## Market Report

Harvest is now at the very tail end. We received the last of the new crop YESTERDAY AFTERNOON. Valley Harvest Nut has officially closed the Incoming department.

It has been a busy drying year. Even though we are waiting for more rain to wet the dry fields, the few showers during harvest led to about 12% of all incoming lots needing to be dried. The huge red Peerless wagons sit under the drying canopy many years just collecting dust. But when those wagons are needed, they are a blessing to save almond kernels from molding and possibly losing an entire crop. *This would be NO BUENO!*

Shipping on the export market has been robust with numbers exceeding last year. We, at Valley Harvest, work with the domestic market and our plant has been extremely busy keeping up with the domestic demand. Our shipping is similar to past years at this point. Our challenge has been to keep up with the requests. Our technician who controls the EVO machine (electronic eye sorter) has had



to slow the 'output' to be able to remove the increased inedible kernels and the table sorting lines are running *much slower* to locate all the pinhole. There-

fore, we have been working ten-hour days and many Saturdays so that we can tell the customers, "**sure, we can have that for you!**"

Regarding pricing, we believe better days are coming. The total incoming crop will fall below the estimate of 2.6 billion. With the high inedible count challenging the end-product quality, combined with the increase in export shipments, the anticipation of increased pricing, or at least stable pricing, remains strong. We will watch as the new year approaches.

We wish you  **blessings**  for this Christmas season that is quickly approaching and for a successful and healthy New Year.



The California Small Agricultural Business Drought & Flood Relief Grant Program will provide relief to small agricultural businesses that experienced a decline in annual gross receipts or gross profits due to drought or flood conditions.

**Eligible Applicants:** small agricultural businesses financially impacted by the severe drought and/or flood conditions in the State of California.

**Grant Awards:** up to \$100,000

**Application deadline:** 1/15/24 at 23:59

For more information: <https://www.grants.ca.gov/grants/california-small-agricultural-business-drought-and-flood-relief-grant-program-groups-1-2/>

Next Payment  
February 20



Date Extended

Date Extended