

# THE NUTCAST

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I found this saying online. It is a good description of the current almond industry (and much of life).

Faith, Family, and Friends are extremely important to me. When you discover your reason for living and focus on that, and remember to laugh especially during sideways moments.

## Market Report

Valley Harvest Nut is taking orders, producing almond products and shipping. We shipped 26% more product this month than January. Prices have been up and down. Sales have poured in at times and then hardly any orders the next few days. Life doesn't always make sense. Right now, the almond industry seems a bit sideways. The good news is that the grower & seller are in control. **Hooray!** We will take the good news. But why?

### 2024 CROP SHIPPING

Domestic shipments are down 4.4% and export shipments are down 2.2%. Therefore, February 2025 shipments are lower than February 2024. Usually this concept forces prices down, but prices are up.

### 2024 CROP TOTAL SUPPLY

The 2024 total receipts slammed on the brakes this month. The increase was only 17.4 million pounds compared to January's 88 million addition. With an assumed 2.7 billion receipt added to the 502 million carry-in, total supply for the market is 3.2+/- billion pounds. Supply and demand are fairly equal. Prices should remain steady, but prices are up.

### 2025 CROP BLOOM

The weather was not really an issue—hooray! **BUT**...the lack of bees, inconsistent blooms, and weak bud growth is not a good recipe for a terrific upcoming crop. Most handlers anticipate another 2.7 billion crop which is basically a repeat of this year. Prices should remain steady, but prices are up.

### TREE HEALTH & 2025 PROJECTION

For too long, farmers have not had enough money to properly care for their trees. *Have the trees reached the point of no return? Definitely not. BUT, have the trees reached the point that production/tonnage will decrease?* Everyone we ask believes tree health will negatively impact the upcoming crop. Couple this with fewer bearing acres, total supply for the 2025 crop *could* be less than the 2024 crop. With a decent bloom, the buyer doesn't normally worry until the Subjective estimate, but they seem to be worried. Their worry = prices are up.

### HOW DO WE EXPLAIN SIDWAYS?

Consumers want your almonds. A long-time broker friend said, "almonds are diversified and can be found all over the grocery store. In nutritional bars, baking products, produce sections, milk, butter, chips, cereal, oatmeal, candy bars, salad, nut & trail mixes," and I'm sure you can think of other foods as well. Our growers are blessed by the many uses of an almond.

Sometimes life doesn't make sense, and we are experiencing that right now. I cannot put my finger on just one reason why prices are up, but the collective brings us to this culmination. And, if I had to guess, you probably don't really 'need' to know the reason why.

**Prices are up and that is GREAT NEWS!**



People wear green on St. Patrick's Day because green is the color of Ireland and the shamrock, and it's believed to bring good luck and ward off leprechauns.

to explain the Holy Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.)

Maewyn Succat was born in Britain, though he became famous for his work in spreading Christianity in Ireland.

