



MERIDIAN MONITOR

MARKET NEWS AND INDUSTRY INFORMATION FOR MERIDIAN'S VALUED CUSTOMERS

In a nutshell...

- Pistachio prices continue to rise
- Almonds show increased demand

Pistachio Update

Market continues to firm on news of increasing demand from overseas markets and the recent announcement of zero surface water deliveries for the largest growing region for nuts in California. This announcement is included in this update.

January shipments were down from the record setting 2007/2008 crop. However this is to be expected considering we entered the year with almost 40% less supply than the previous year. There is simply not enough pistachios to cover demand.

There are some lower priced goods being offered into the marketplace. However, most of this material is lower quality and could be up to 2 years old or more. Pricing for good quality material especially for the EU market has and will continue to increase throughout the remainder of this marketing year.

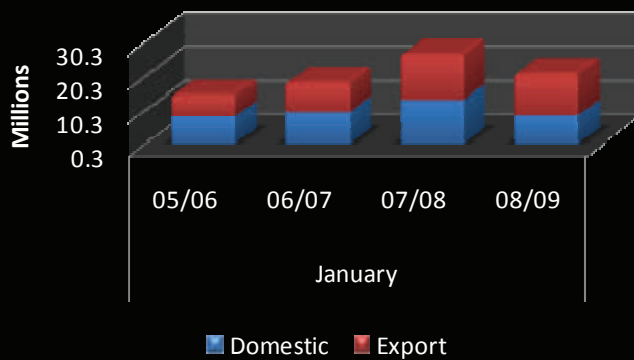


Fox News Special Water Report

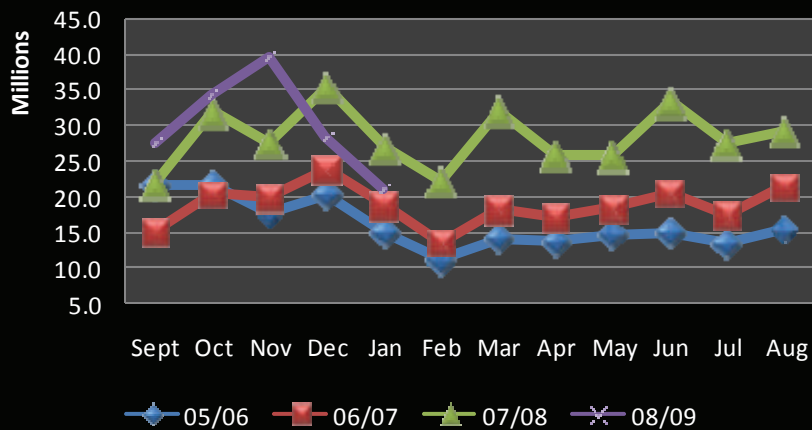
Click Below:

[Water Allocation](#)

Export vs Domestic Monthly Shipment



Monthly Shipments



Sales Contacts:

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Almond Update

Mixed global markets: increase demand from Asian markets as well as Middle East while European market remains sluggish due to stronger dollar and speculation that prices will come down, especially on small size almonds.

Strong demand from Middle East and Asian markets has firmed up pricing on small size Extra #1 almonds as well as inshell almonds although availability is very limited as many grower/packers sold these products early in the season and others off the market through bloom.

Most recent trades of NPS 25/27 at USD \$1.90/lb, FAS while offers for CAL SSR material are very scarce to none. Carmel SSR 25/27 trading at USD \$1.45-1.55/lb levels and some Mission/Mission type \$1.25-1.35/lb levels. No offers or pricing for new crop at this time.