

## NASS Survey Training

# Fruit and Nut Production and Disposition Inquiry February 2021 (FRUIT NONCITRUS TREE PDI)



**United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service**

NOD-Training Group  
February 2021



# Survey Overview

- Collecting information on final **2020** crop year production, utilization, and prices
  - Acreage
    - Total & Bearing
  - Total production
  - Fresh market and processing sales and prices
  - Other end uses

# Survey Overview

- Final 2020 marketing and price info asked now because
  - Some fruit can be placed in cold storage and marketed later on after harvest
  - Some prices that growers receive are not finalized until after the entire crop has been marketed
    - Some fruit crops may still be in storage, so the operator may need to estimate how much will be sold through each category and prices

# General Survey Information

- Project Code: **134 - Noncitrus Fruit Survey**
- Questionnaires:
  - Mailed out around January 25
  - Web reporting option (EDR) available
- Release:
  - *Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts – 2020 Summary*
  - May 5, 2021, 3:00 pm

# Fruit and Nut Crops

(varies by state)

- Apples
- Apricots
- Avocados
- Sweet Cherries
- Tart Cherries
- Dates
- Kiwifruit
- Macadamia Nuts
- Nectarines
- Olives
- Papayas
- Peaches
- Freestone Peaches (CA)
- Clingstone Peaches (CA)
- Pears
- Plums
- Prunes

# Screening for Fruit Tree Acres

- Any fruit tree acres in **2020**?
  - If “**NO**”, go to conclusion
    - How many total acres of fruit, citrus, grape, berry, and tree nut crops were on this operation in 2020?
- No actual screening questions/way to handle operations that are out of business
  - Leave good notes if the operation is completely out of business (no agricultural activity)
  - What happened? New operator? Any other info?

# Survey Questions

- Additional screening for each fruit crop:
  - Any [specific fruit crop] tree acres in 2020?
- Acres during **2020**:
  - Total acres
  - Of these, how many were of *bearing* age?
    - Even if limited or no production
- **Total** quantity harvested during 2020
  - Include fruit harvested and not used
  - With low production expected in some areas, be sure to verify whether production is per acre or total
  - Utilization questions **must** sum back to quantity harvested

# Survey Questions

- Quantity sold and prices for:
  - Fresh market (Broken into separate categories as prices can vary)
    - Local/direct sales to consumers
      - Would include sales at U-pick, roadside stands, farmers markets, etc.
    - Wholesale sales (bulk sales, F.O.B. sales, grower packed sales, etc.)
  - Processed
    - Commercial processing
      - NOT broken down by different end uses

# Survey Questions

- Quantity:
  - Processed by this operation
    - Things like: juice, cider, canned fruit, preserves, jellies, etc.
    - Exclude items for home use
  - Harvested but not sold (and won't be sold)
    - Can be due to poor quality, spoilage, market restrictions, etc.

# Survey Questions

- A wide variety of units can be reported
  - Often with varying weights
  - AND different units within one report
    - Example: Production in pounds, sales by the ton, and priced by the carton
- Prices are “at local shipping point after packing and marketing charges”
  - Collecting what the grower actually received

# Survey Questions

- Has the entire [fruit crop] been marketed?
- How many total acres of fruit, citrus, grape, berry, and nut crops were on this operation in 2020?
- Comments about the 2020 growing season

# Things to watch out for:

- Current total and/or bearing acres differs from previous reports
- Bearing acres greater than total acres
- Yield seems high or low
  - Total production / bearing acres
- No bearing acres but production reported
- High or low sales price

# Things to watch out for:

- Sum of disposition does not equal total production
  - Individual items cannot be more than total production
  - Sum of items cannot be more than total production
  - Sum of items must equal total production
- Large quantity of fruit harvested but not sold
- Bearing acres reported but no production or not harvested amount reported

# Things to remember

- Referring to **2020** crop year
- Remember, *bearing age* acres
  - Even in cases of limited or no production this year
- Watch the decimal points:
  - Acres, pounds per unit, prices
- Be mindful of differences across your area
  - May see a wide variety of yields, prices, etc
    - Leave good notes

# Notes/Comments

- Anything odd or unexpected? Be sure to leave a comment explaining the situation
  - Statisticians *depend* on your notes, as they review the data, communicate with HQ, and set estimates
  - Extra information from record comments is especially important for these “specialty” type crops.
  - Leave notes about low production numbers

# Conclusion

- Any questions or concerns contact your supervisor or Regional Field Office
- Hope you have a fruitful survey!

