



IN THIS ISSUE, YOU'LL FIND:

- [Upcoming California Avocado Disease Management Webinar](#)
- [FSMA Produce Safety Webinar Series for Small Organic Growers Available](#)
- [Research Indicates Paint Not Effective at Protecting Young Trees from Herbicide Drift](#)
- [Agriculture Labor and Workforce Reform Update](#)
- [Commission Foodservice Team Inspires Local Restaurant Chains with Menu Ideas](#)
- [Market Trends](#)
- [Crop Statistics](#)
- [Weather Outlook](#)

Calendar

For a listing of industry events and dates for the coming year, please visit:
<http://www.californiaavocadogrowers.com/commission/industry-calendar>

FSMA Produce Safety Rule 101 for Small Organic Farms Webinar Series

To assist small organic farmers in understanding how the Food Safety Modernization Act impacts them, the CCOF Foundation is hosting a two-part webinar series reviewing the fundamentals of on-farm food safety and the FSMA Produce Safety Rule compliance requirements. Registration required. [More information here.](#)

February 8 & 15

February 8

Time: 10:00am – 11:30am

Location: Webinar

February 15

Time: 10:00am – 11:30am

Location: Webinar

Grower Webinar: Avocado Disease Management

The California Avocado Society, California Avocado Commission and UC Cooperative Extension are hosting a free online Grower Webinar: Avocado Disease Management session. The webinar is designed to provide growers and grove managers with information concerning management strategies for diseases that California avocado trees are prone to. Registration required. [More information here.](#)

February 16

February 16

Time: 9:00am – 11:00am

Location: Webinar

CAC Board Meeting

February 24

February 24

Time: TBA

Location: TBA

Upcoming California Avocado Disease Management Webinar

The California Avocado Society, California Avocado Commission and UC Cooperative Extension are hosting a free online Grower Webinar: Avocado Disease Management session on Wednesday, February 16 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

The webinar is designed to provide growers and grove managers with information concerning management strategies for diseases that California avocado trees are prone to. The online seminar will cover:

- Approaches to combating avocado root rot, including pesticide management
- The availability of a new chemical to manage Phytophthora
- Other chemical and horticultural practices related to disease management in California avocado groves

The presenters include Dr. Ben Faber, Crops Advisor for the UC Cooperative Extension, and Dakota Camino, PCA with Syngenta.

The Commission will provide registration information for this session as it becomes available.

FSMA Produce Safety Webinar Series for Small Organic Growers Available

To assist small organic farmers in understanding how the Food Safety Modernization Act impacts them, the CCOF Foundation is hosting a two-part webinar series reviewing the fundamentals of on-farm food safety and the FSMA Produce Safety Rule compliance requirements.

The first online session will take place February 8 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. This session will:

- Provide an overview of the FSMA Produce Safety Rule as it pertains to small farms
- Discuss what documents are necessary to demonstrate exemption from the rule
- Review soil amendments, worker health and hygiene, wildlife and domestic animal topics as they are related to the Produce Safety Rule

The second session will take place February 15 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and will include:

- A continued review of the Produce Safety Rule
- A discussion concerning agricultural water quality and usage
- Safe post-harvest handling
- How to develop a food safety plan

If you are unable to attend both sessions, registrants will have access to recordings of the webinars after the event, as well as a PDF of the presentations.

[Registration for the FSMA Produce Safety Rule 101 for Small Organic Farms webinar series is available online.](#)

Research Indicates Paint Not Effective at Protecting Young Trees from Herbicide Drift

While it is often common practice for fruit growers to apply white latex paint to the bottom 2 to 3 feet of young, newly planted trees in order to provide some protection from herbicide drift, researchers note there is little evidence to prove this practice is effective.

A [recent blog post by Dr. Ben Faber summarized the findings of a California field experiment](#) conducted in 2017 that measured the impact of latex paint in preventing herbicide injury on young almond trees. The block of trees consisted of greenhouse-grown trees in cartons. Nine weeks prior to the herbicide applications, the cartons were removed for trees in the “no paint” and “old paint” sections so their bark could harden off. Two days prior to applying the herbicide, the cartons were removed for the “new paint” trees and then the trees were painted.

According to the researchers:

- The paint did not provide significant protection from glyphosate or glufosinate.
- Tree stress caused by trunk-applied herbicides was lowest in trees with no paint, suggesting that allowing the bark to harden on young trees is an important means of protecting them from herbicide drift.
- In most treatment combinations, old and new paint applications did not reduce tree stress as effectively as allowing the bark to harden on trees nine weeks prior to application.
- The most effective means of protecting trunks was installing a carton. However, it is important to remember that once the carton is removed (as the tree matures), there may be green bark present which would be vulnerable to herbicides.

Agriculture Labor and Workforce Reform Update

Since 2019, the California Avocado Commission has worked with Congressional members, the Agriculture Coalition for Immigration Reform and other agricultural leaders and organizations to voice support for the Farm Workforce Modernization Act. The FWMA House bill was passed with bipartisan support in November 2019 and again in March 2021. During the summer of 2021, Senator Mike Crapo (R-ID) and Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO) led discussions concerning a Senate version of the FMWA. Those discussions were paused as the Senate engaged in efforts to pass the legislation via the budget reconciliation process. By the end of 2021, the Senate’s efforts to move “immigration via reconciliation” forward were rejected three times by the Senate parliamentarian. Further, the Build Back Better Act, which allocated funds for immigration reform and protections for farm workers, faltered after Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) announced he could not support the BBB Act.

Currently, the fate of BBB is uncertain and its unclear whether new versions of the Act will contain significant immigration reform. Observers note the most likely path forward for meaningful immigration reform may be a bipartisan agreement on a package that can secure the 60+ votes needed to pass in the Senate.

While agriculture reforms remain a fairly popular component of a potential package and Senators Crapo and Bennet are interesting in furthering dialogue concerning a Senate version of FWMA, members of the Hill have noted they “aren’t hearing much from our constituents on the ag labor situation.” This year the agriculture industry faces pending H-2A wage rule changes that will not be favorable for growers, a potential jump in Adverse Effect Wage Rates due to the labor market and supply chain challenges, and continued challenges in securing a reliable workforce. In light of this, members of the agriculture industry are encourage to redouble their efforts to communicate with their elected leaders, especially their U.S. Senators, concerning the labor force challenges they face and the urgent need for action on reform.

Commission Foodservice Team Inspires Local Restaurant Chains with Menu Ideas

The California Avocado Commission’s menu ideation sessions with chain culinary research and development teams play a critical role in demonstrating how the fruit can add California flair to existing chain menus with inspirational and easy-to-prepare menu concepts. On October 28, the Commission’s foodservice team held an in-person menu ideation session with Urban Plates’ culinary team and secured a commitment to launch new California avocado menu items in 2022.

Urban Plates is a Southern California-based chain that has adopted a contemporary restaurant concept in which the freshness and variety of food marketplace offerings is paired with fine-dining culinary integrity. The chain features made-from-scratch dishes that are nourishing and make diners feel good. Because Urban Plates' fundamental philosophy is to invest in quality food through thoughtful sourcing, the chain is a well-suited match for the premium fruit produced by California avocado growers.

The Commission's foodservice team first met with Urban Plates' decision makers at the Produce Marketing Association Foodservice Expo held July 22, 2021. During a one-on-one session, the CAC team discussed Commission resources available to the chain, including menu ideation and promotional support, setting the stage for a future meeting between CAC and the chain's decision makers.

At the menu ideation session, CAC presented nine concepts to Urban Plates' culinary team, including Chief Culinary Officer Jim Cannon, Culinary Manager Jackie Raye and Corporate Chef Joseph Noonan. Chef Noonan shadowed CAC Chef Jason Hernandez in the kitchen as they prepared the concepts together and adapted the ingredients and preparation techniques to fit Urban Plates' operational setup.

Urban Plates will launch new menu items featuring California avocados in 2022 based on the October menu ideation session. By partnering with culinary teams to develop new California avocado-centric menu items, the Commission reinforces its position as an added-value resource to operators while expanding use of fresh avocados in chain menu items. Ultimately, when consumers enjoy fresh California avocado menu items at their favorite restaurants they are exposed to new ways to enjoy the fruit and prepare it at home, building brand loyalty for California avocados and boosting awareness of the premium fruit.



This Avocado Toast prepared Urban Plates' style features fresh vegetables, herbs, poached eggs and premium California avocados.

California Market Trends

To view all market trend graphs, including “Weekly Volume Summary,” “Weekly Avocado Prices” and “U.S. Avocado Supply,” please visit: <http://www.californiaavocadogrowers.com/industry/market-statistics>.

California Avocado Society Weekly Newslines* Avocado Prices – January 26, 2022

	Conventional #1	Organic #1
California Hass	(Field Price Per Lb)	(Field Price Per Lb)
#32's	\$2.00 - \$2.10	\$2.26 - \$2.32
36's	\$2.00 - \$2.10	\$2.26 - \$2.32
40's	\$1.94 - \$2.05	\$2.26 - \$2.32
48's	\$1.94 - \$2.00	\$2.30 - \$2.36
60's	\$1.64 - \$1.75	\$2.10 - \$2.16
70's	\$1.16 - \$1.25	\$1.54 - \$1.60
84's	\$0.70 - \$0.76	\$0.80 - \$0.86

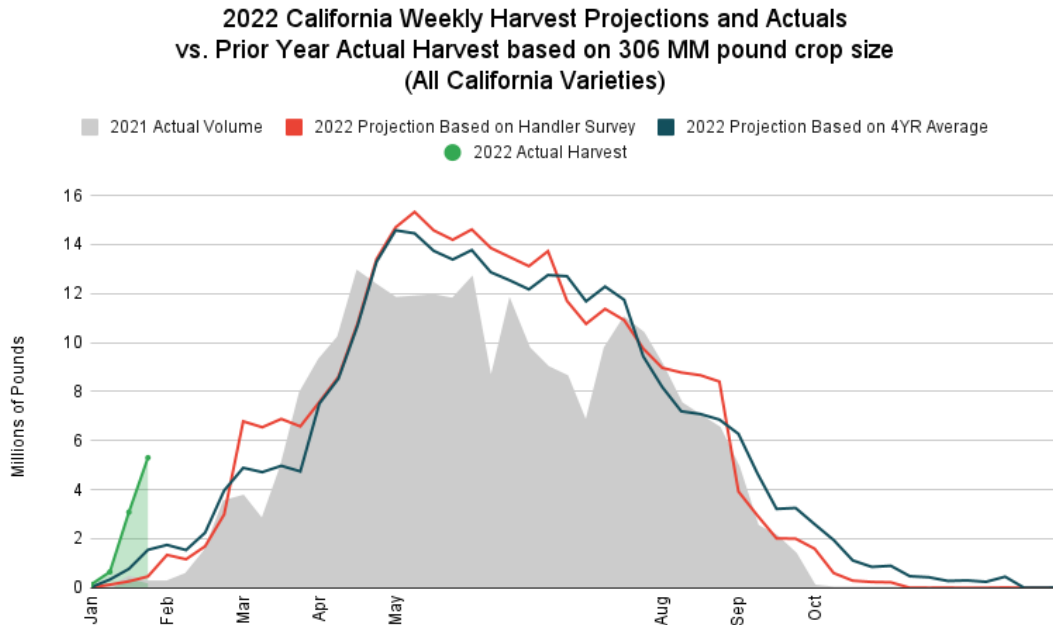
*To subscribe to the Weekly Newslines, please contact the California Avocado Society at (949) 940-8869 or www.CaliforniaAvocadoSociety.org.

California Avocado Commission Weekly Volume Summary (Pounds)

WEEKLY VOLUME SUMMARY				
(Volume in Pounds)				
	Week Ending		Season-to-Date	
	01/30/2022		since 11/01/2021	
	(CA) Harvest / (Import) Arrivals	Shipped by AMRIC Handlers	(CA) Harvest / (Import) Arrivals	Shipped by AMRIC Handlers
	California Detail			
HASS	5,184,868	1,022,239	8,846,651	1,387,321
LAMB	0	0	0	0
GEM	0	0	0	0
OTHER	18,400	58,625	194,850	168,950
CALIFORNIA TOTAL	5,203,268	1,080,864	9,041,501	1,556,271
INDUSTRY ADJUSTED	5,306,965	1,107,171	9,218,434	1,600,912
	Imported Hass Detail			
MEXICO	53,857,725	31,650,766	643,184,427	391,954,158
PERU	0	0	0	772,362
CHILE	390,000	202,225	4,333,166	5,971,205
COLOMBIA	150,000	143,325	1,990,000	1,053,875
NEW ZEALAND	0	0	0	0
DOMINICAN	0	34,325	940,000	867,100
IMPORT TOTAL	54,397,725	32,030,641	650,447,593	400,618,700
	Other Detail			
CA EXPORT	0	8,000	0	10,175
CA ORGANIC	0	134,250	0	229,857
IMPORTED (Greens)	3,120,000	0	24,510,000	0
FLORIDA	274,670	0	5,625,070	0
GRAND TOTAL	63,099,360	33,137,812	689,801,097	402,219,612

Crop Statistics

As reported in the last issue of the GreenSheet, market conditions have been ideal to set the California harvest into motion, with this past week (1/30/22) seeing over 5 million pounds of fruit come to market. As seen in the chart below, harvest rates at this level weren't expected until the end of February, putting harvest actuals about a month ahead of schedule.



At this point in the season, actual harvest has exceeded December 2021 AMRIC Handler projections by over 8 million pounds. CAC will be watching the next few weeks of harvest closely to determine whether the start of the California season is indeed here, or if California growers begin to back off as inventory levels rise. Below are the current first quarter California harvest projections and year-to-date actual harvest volumes. The Commission will reevaluate the current harvest projections in February, with input from AMRIC handlers, taking into account the estimated volume of crop that will remain for March through the end of the year.

2022 California Crop Weekly Harvest Statistics			
4-Year Historical - AMRIC Handler Forecast - Actual Volumes			
All Varieties			
Week Ending	4-Year Historical Forecast	AMRIC Handler Forecast December 2021	Industry Adjusted Actual Weekly Volume
9-Jan	22,900	9,400	128,277
16-Jan	338,800	131,500	650,532
23-Jan	773,600	265,300	3,085,410
30-Jan	1,551,000	465,300	5,306,965
6-Feb	1,751,200	1,343,100	
13-Feb	1,541,700	1,166,900	
20-Feb	2,249,100	1,694,300	
27-Feb	3,968,300	2,993,200	
6-Mar	4,892,500	6,787,300	
13-Mar	4,717,800	6,547,800	
20-Mar	4,975,800	6,885,500	
27-Mar	4,747,400	6,583,300	
3-Apr	7,514,200	7,578,500	
1st QTR SubTotal	39,044,300	42,451,400	9,171,184
2nd QTR SubTotal	165,439,100	172,031,100	-
3rd QTR SubTotal	94,477,800	90,115,700	-
4th QTR SubTotal	7,038,800	1,401,800	-
Total	306,000,000	306,000,000	9,171,184

Weather: 30-Day Outlook For California's Coastal & Valley Areas

(Jan. 28 – March 1)

BASIC PATTERN:

Large Scale Pattern –

- A. Last week of Jan: extremely dry for all of California. Warmer than normal conditions continue, with subtropical upper high pressure recurring in California during this final week.
- B. February: Three rainy periods are suggested for Feb: One around the 1-6, another about the 12-16, and another within about the 24-28 Feb. The rainy periods in Feb appear sufficient to produce near normal monthly totals of rain and snow in the Sierras and mountains of northern California. Southern California appears to remain warmer and drier than normal.
- C. March: March is colder than normal, but also wet. This suggests mostly minor but frequent frost/freeze events. Colder and wetter than normal in NW California coastal mountains. Colder than normal with seasonable precipitation amounts for N Sierra Nevada. Drier than normal is indicated for central and S California. Somewhat dry in most of California, but with chance for a little above normal precipitation in far N California coastal mountains N Mendocino Co north, and in northern Sierras, and Siskiyou's. Above normal frost risk in NW California (Mendocino/Sonoma/Napa Co's and near or above normal frost risk S Sacramento Valley and Central California. March 2022 appears dry in SOCAL.

- D. January's rainfall and snowfall were extremely low for a normally robust winter month. At the other extreme, we saw a wildfire in the Big Sur coastal mountains around 21 Jan, and conditions in Northern California and Sierra west slope were becoming conducive for wildfire activity, due to recurrent dry Santa Ana-type winds and almost one month of dry weather.
- E. Recurrent fronts, some with rains, from the North Pacific will tend to support about normal frost/freeze events for the late winter: Feb and early Mar, including SOCAL citrus and avocado regions. There will be plenty of input of moisture from weakening troughs that landfall into N and Central California. Cold airmasses will tend to be marine type rather than continental arctic, originating in the Yukon.

FORECASTS FOR CALIFORNIA

Precipitation Trend: The main dates of precipitation are: Feb 1-2, 3-6, 12-16, and 24-28.

Forecast for Northern and Central California:

NORCAL Rains: Feb 1-2, 3-6, 12-16, and 24-28.

CENTRAL CALIF Rains: Feb 2, 4-6, 13-16 and 27-28.

WARM SPELLS: Jan 28-31, Feb 9-11 and 19-23.

COLD SPELLS: Feb 1-6, 12-17 and 24-28.

FRONTS WITH RAINS: Feb 1, 3-4, 12, 24 and 28.

FROST AND FREEZE: Feb 7-10 and 17-20.

Forecast for S California:

SOCAL RAINS: Feb 3-5, 14-16 and 28.

SOCAL WARM SPELLS: Jan 28-Feb 1, 8-12, and 19-23.

SOCAL COOL OR COLD SPELLS: Feb 13-16 and 28.

FROST PERIODS: Feb 6, 15-16 and 22-24.

FRONTS WITH RAINS: Feb 4-5, 14, and 28.

Sierra Nevada:

Dates of mountain rains and snows: Feb 2-6, 13-16 and 25-28.

The listing of dates normally included for hot and cold spells, and precipitation are based on our CFSDaily and CFSDailyAI forecast products, and present expected trends in precipitation and temperature (CFSDailyAI) to 4km. Our system gives some consideration of terrain and coastal influence. We consider the CFSv2 as one of the better ways to represent basic weather down in the sub-monthly time scale beyond the 15 day GFS or monthly maps from CFSv2 or NMME.

Southern California Deserts Outlook for Jan 28-Feb 28, 2022:

Highlights: The CFSv2 model shows a return to near or a little above normal temperatures for SOCAL in Feb, and warmer/drier than normal for Mar. Best chances for freezes in Feb and Mar are in the dry cool airmasses behind cold fronts, after dry downslope winds diminish or subside. The CFSv2 model is suggesting a trend towards warmer than normal days in Mar. If this occurs, then frosts may become less frequent than normal. We note that NORCAL is colder than normal per CFSv2 in Mar, while SOCAL is warmer than normal per CFSv2 guidance.

Looking Ahead – Long Range Outlook

Mar 1 – Apr 30, 2022 - N and Central California.

Summary – N and Central California: We list here the trends from the North American MultiModel Ensemble (NMME) with regard to an overall statement on the frost season.

NORCAL and Central California: Below normal temperatures for both Feb and Mar 2022. Slightly below normal temperatures for Apr 2022. NMME results for April 2022 show near normal rain in the Delta and Northern California, and near normal temperature for Apr.

Mar 1 – Apr 30, 2022 - For SOCAL mountains westward to coast:

Results from NMME for SOCAL Feb-Apr: Warmer than normal. Drier than normal Feb and Mar, but near normal rainfall for April (a month of usually meager rainfall).

From CFSv2 monthly guidance: Feb will have near normal nighttime lows for S California, San Luis Obispo Co and south, and continued cool with some frosts/freezes. There is support for a continuation in frost/freeze frequency through most of Feb a few dry cold fronts maintaining cold dry airmasses into SOCAL coastal valleys. The frost risk in Feb, and again in early March includes counties of Ventura, interior Orange, Riverside, and interior San Diego as well. The southern deserts have decreased frost risk in latter Feb and Mar.

CFSv2 monthly guidance suggests troughs coming into California and the Sierra Nevada to Great Basin at times during Feb and again in Mar. There is a possible up-tick in rains during latter part of Feb and in Mar for California. Opportunity exists for frost and freeze in the prime cool-season food-crop areas of the southern deserts and western Arizona during non-windy periods. Again, the best chance of frost/freeze will be following dry cold frontal passages and after dry downslope winds subside.

In summary, after the robust storms during Dec, and a possible up-tick of rains a few times in Feb and in early to mid March (NORCAL), it nonetheless appears that we are more likely to have a drier than normal season overall, with some seriously low reservoir levels at the beginning of the long dry hot season in May-June.

[\(Terms and Definitions Used In This Weather Outlook\)](#)

Alan Fox & Zane Stephens...Fox Weather, LLC

Copyright © 2022, Fox Weather, LLC, Used by permission.