

Crain Walnut Shelling, Inc.

# 2009 CALIFORNIA ENGLISH WALNUT CROP

CY 2009 Edition 2.

## HANDLERS' ESTIMATE

Los Molinos, California  
July 29, 2009

To: All Customers and Forward Sales Staff

RE: INDEPENDENT HANDLERS' SUBJECTIVE CROP ESTIMATE

Today, the California Independent Walnut Handlers Coalition, announced their *subjective* estimate of the 2009 California Walnut Crop to be

**399,000 Inshell Short Tons**

This represents an 8% decline from last year's record crop of 434,000 inshell short tons, and is determined by averaging 30 California Walnut Packers independent estimates.

The industry has also been experiencing record shipments; 355,000 inshell tons as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, an approximate 15% increase from the same period last year. If shipments continue at the current pace, the 2008 crop carry-in will be approximately 85,000 inshell short tons.

Variety specific, the Chandler crop was estimated at 153,000 inshell tons, Hartley at 58,000 inshell tons, and Howard at 35,000 inshell tons. This represents a 13% reduction in the Chandler saleable volume, as the market is essentially void of any carry-in.

As a side note, the entire U.S. West Coast has received record breaking heat over the last several days, however temperatures are expected to return to normal in California by the end of the week. As long as there is no prolonged exposure, this hot spell appears to have produced minimal damage.

We will continue to advise you of any notable information in the crop development or market conditions.

Best Regards,

Vicki Lapera  
Crain Walnut Shelling, Inc.



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