

June 2014 Almond Position Report

June 2014 shipments are 152.8 million pounds. This is 11.3% higher than the June 2013 shipments of 137 million pounds and a new record.

2013 Almond Supply

Carry-in from the 2012 crop:	317 million pounds
2013 crop receipts to date:	2.008 billion pounds
Less 3% loss / exempt:	60 million pounds
Less Shipments to date:	1.804 billion pounds
Less commitments:	237 million pounds
Remaining unsold supply:	222 million pounds

With the summer heat, all the vacations, the lack of offers and the Middle East conflict threatening an end to the world, we thought that this was the right time for a summer poem. So here it is. For those of you who don't like poetry...or to be more precise....who don't like bad poetry, just delete this message. You don't need to send me a message correcting my stanza structure. Complain to Maya Angelou. Oh, that's right.....

A Summer Poem

June 30 was the holy day, when NASS said two point one;
Buyers yearning for hot deals thought it was time for fun.
The emails poured in right away "this estimate is high;"
The answers came like lightning back "oh please, you've much to buy;
Twenty cents less your dreams may want but in our almond world,
We'll counter you with 'off the market' 'til your toes are curled."

Sellers know this game too well they won't succumb to pressure;
They take the 4th off, grab a break, enjoy denial's pleasure.
Now two weeks on, the beggars begging, no one wants to sell;
Trees and growers both are loaded, only time will tell.

June shipments what a lovely sight can you believe this figure?
One five two big million pounds a part of *me* got bigger.
Domestic sales nine months of records, doubt the USA?
We may not play the futbol well, but nuts we sure display.
Exports up fifteen percent, a new and vibrant number;
Our borders may be porous, friend, but shipments they don't slumber.

You gotta love the unions man, they're living in dark ages;
You know their latest qualms this time? No co-pays or more wages?
Six-figures they deserve by birth, their granddad worked the docks;
Pay ten bucks for a doctor trip? Not for these swinging cocks.

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Longshoremen move a box and believe they're special people;
Remove the cross atop the church, put *them* atop the steeple.
This holy I L W U from heaven sent by God;
With gutless politicians helping them commit this fraud.

"Competition" is a word they've heard but they don't know its meaning;
So please don't make them work so hard, from teats these guys need weaning.
Efficiency's for sissies man, computers are for losers;
A huge nation in the hands of these birthright abusers.
While others strive to get ahead, these guys they put up walls;
Foreign ports they eat our lunch, the union's got our balls.

So other than the talk of strike what else does summer bring?
High prices for all nuts that surely make all growers sing.
The Turkish hazels froze you know, so now their crop's a fraction;
The prices there no one can tell, an Erdogan distraction.
The apricots they froze there too, got damaged beyond words;
Don't worry friend, sip on your Raki, we'll just blame the Kurds.

Walnuts, a big crop portend, but prices are not leaning;
The circulars, they're flyin' round, though they don't have much meaning.
Chandler with the shell is now two twenty-five or more;
The guys who planted years ago their walnuts do adore.
The trees are loaded with these nuts, but growers they are holding.
We hope that prices stay this firm or soon they will be folding.

Pistachios resting in the palms of sharp Sir Stuart Resnick;
Anyone who farms that nut believes that he's fantastic.
Five hundred million pounds because of problems with the sexes;
Pollinating drags this year, male timing just perplexes!

Pecans you know we love to sell from Georgia or from Texas;
But if you deal with that damned nut there is no rational nexus.
No marketing order for the studs that farm the good ol' South;
If they don't like where you're from, boy, they'll slap you 'cross the mouth.

In China, outlook's gloomy for yet another season;
Their walnuts looking great this year did not succumb to freezin'.
If Hong Kong's shut, Haiphong will rock to get across the border;
Governments can never stop a juicy purchase order.
But prices for most Chinese are too high to just accept;
They want to buy, they strive they try, but in the end inept.

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In India no one knows for sure though things they are a no-go;
Bulk almonds need importer name with vegetarian logo.
Indian Food Safety not a joke though please don't see their crackers;
Those six year old hard working girls? Just lazy low-born slackers.

The Mid East is a hopeless place where myth and violence smolder;
Throw the rocks and drop the bombs and hope you can grow older.
ISIS now the latest rage, Al Qaeda seems so gentle;
Dare to analyze religion and get deemed judgmental.

It's not all doom and gloom you know, the US market's shining;
My mama always used to say, look for the silver lining.
The world for sure headed to hell but why the frown and fear?
If almond prices stay this high you'll take the trip with cheer.

So for the coming season, how much will almonds cost?
If you must ask this question dear, then you've already lost.
Can hunt for discounts all you want though there will be no giving.
Come visit growers in our state for beachfront carefree living.

Enjoy the summer!