

# MARKETING PECANS

## 1976 CROP

ALABAMA

LOUISIANA

OKLAHOMA

FLORIDA

MISSISSIPPI

SOUTH CAROLINA

GEORGIA

NORTH CAROLINA

TEXAS

## DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE

cooperating with

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

---

FEDERAL-STATE MARKET NEWS SERVICE





PREFACE

This publication is a summary of marketing the 1976 United States Pecan Crop. The information contained in this report was compiled from market reports issued by Federal-State market news offices operated cooperatively by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Division, the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Texas Departments of Agriculture.

We gratefully acknowledge the information provided by the Crop Reporting Board of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Statistical Reporting Service. We also wish to thank the growers, buyers, shellers, and other segments of the pecan industry for their cooperation in supplying the information that made these reports possible.

Additional copies of this summary may be obtained on request from:

Federal-State Market News Service  
P.O. Box 1447  
Thomasville, Ga. 31792

Released September 1977  
D.J. Breed Local Representative

Table Of Contents

	Page
PECANS; Production, Season average price, and Value.....	4
LOUISIANA.....	5
OKLAHOMA.....	5
NORTH CAROLINA.....	5
SOUTH CAROLINA.....	6
SOUTHEASTERN SECTION.....	6
TEXAS.....	7
TERMINAL MARKETS.....	7-8

PECANS: Production, season average price, and value, by  
States, 1975 and 1976 (Utilized)

Variety and State	Production		Price per Pound		Value of Production	
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
	1,000 Pounds		Cents		1,000 Dollars	
<b>Improved Varieties:</b>						
Alabama	11,400	4,000	38.0	88.0	4,332	3,520
Arkansas	500	700	55.0	85.0	275	595
Florida	2,000	1,000	40.0	76.0	800	760
Georgia	60,000	43,000	45.0	85.0	27,000	36,550
Louisiana	5,000	700	36.0	95.0	1,800	665
Mississippi	2,000	1,000	46.0	88.5	920	885
New Mexico	13,100	11,500	57.0	100.0	7,467	11,500
North Carolina	1,000	1,900	45.0	72.0	450	1,368
Oklahoma	1,500	800	55.0	90.0	825	720
South Carolina	600	1,700	45.9	80.0	275	1,360
Texas	13,000	11,000	54.0	88.0	7,020	9,680
United States	110,100	77,300	46.5	87.5	51,164	67,603
<b>Native &amp; Seedling:</b>						
Alabama	8,600	1,000	32.0	65.5	2,752	655
Arkansas	3,000	300	34.0	61.0	1,020	183
Florida	3,000	1,500	33.0	60.0	990	900
Georgia	15,000	9,000	34.0	65.0	5,100	5,850
Louisiana	27,000	1,300	34.0	60.0	9,180	780
Mississippi	4,000	500	34.0	62.5	1,360	313
North Carolina	1,200	900	35.0	53.0	420	477
Oklahoma	18,500	1,500	32.0	60.0	5,920	900
South Carolina	1,400	800	35.3	59.0	494	472
Texas	55,000	9,000	36.0	65.0	19,800	5,850
United States	136,700	25,800	34.4	63.5	47,036	16,380
<b>All Pecans:</b>						
Alabama	20,000	5,000	35.4	83.5	7,084	4,175
Arkansas	3,500	1,000	37.0	77.8	1,295	778
Florida	5,000	2,500	35.8	66.4	1,790	1,660
Georgia	75,000	52,000	42.8	81.5	32,100	42,400
Louisiana	32,000	2,000	34.3	72.3	10,980	1,445
Mississippi	6,000	1,500	38.0	79.8	2,280	1,198
New Mexico	13,100	11,500	57.0	100.0	7,467	11,500
North Carolina	2,200	2,800	39.5	65.9	870	1,845
Oklahoma	20,000	2,300	33.7	70.4	6,745	1,620
South Carolina	2,000	2,500	38.5	73.3	769	1,832
Texas	68,000	20,000	39.4	77.7	26,820	15,530
United States	246,800	103,100	39.8	81.5	98,200	83,983

### LOUISIANA

Production: 1976 pecan production was very poor. Louisiana normally accounts for about 11 percent of the total US production. In 1976 Louisiana produced only about 2 percent of the total US crop. According to the Statistical Reporting Service, the final 1976 crop amounted to 2 million pounds, compared with 1975 production of 32 million pounds. The largest Louisiana crop on record was 49 million pounds in 1963 and the smallest was 600,000 pounds in 1922.

Harvesting: Harvesting of the 1976 crop began about two weeks later than normal with the first substantial volume available shortly after mid October. The season ended two months early due to the short crop.

Quality: Louisiana pecans were of generally good quality in 1976.

Marketing: Due to the extremely short 1976 crop no regular Market News reports were released. Grower prices were practically nonexistent. According to estimates released by the Statistical Reporting Service the state average price for all varieties was 72.3 cents per pound.

Varieties: Historically, seedling or native varieties compose about 79 percent of the Louisiana pecan crop. The principal improved varieties include Desirable, Mahan, Stuart, Success, Elliot, Candy, Farley, and Moneymaker.

### OKLAHOMA

Production: Oklahoma pecan production in 1976 proved to be the lightest in history. An extremely dry year and an early frost combined with an off year for an alternate crop were the reasons for the poor yield. Final utilized production figures from the Statistical Reporting Service showed a crop of 2.3 million pounds in 1976. This compares with the 1975 production of 20 million pounds.

Marketing: Trading was almost inactive in 1976. Many growers withheld their pecans until the end of harvest before putting them on the market. Small lots were aggregated and held until prices improved. Most of the crop was sold within state mostly to candy makers and bakeries. Retail acceptance was poor due to the high prices. SRS reported an average price of 70.4 cents per pound for the 1976 crop compared with an average of 33.7 cents per pound for the 1975 crop.

Varieties: Native or seedling varieties outnumbered improved varieties by almost two to one in 1976.

### NORTH CAROLINA

Harvest and Production: The 1976 North Carolina pecan harvest began about October 15 and continued until about December 10. According to the Statistical Reporting Service utilized production of the 1976 pecan crop was 2.8 million pounds, some forty percent higher than the 2 million pounds produced in 1975.

Marketing: The first Market News report on North Carolina pecans was available on November 9. The final report was released January 3, 1977. The average price per pound was sharply higher than during the previous year. The Statistical Reporting Service reported average prices of 72 cents per pound for improved varieties and 53 cents for natives or seedlings in 1976 compared with 45 cents for improved varieties and 35 cents for natives or seedlings in 1975.

Varieties: Improved varieties were more plentiful than natives and seedlings in 1976. Principal improved varieties were Stuarts, Cape Fear, Desirables, and Mahans.

#### Prices Paid To Growers At Buying Stations-1976 Crop

<u>Date - 1976</u>	<u>Improved Varieties</u>	<u>Seedlings</u>
Nov. 9	50-55	40-45
15	60-65	40-50
22	65-80	45-65
29	65-80	45-65
Dec. 6	60-85	45-65
13	80-90	40-65
20	80-90	45-70
27	85-90	50-60
Jan. 3 - 1977	85-90	50

SOUTH CAROLINA

**Production:** Late cold weather in the spring affected pollination and fruit set was reduced. Extremely dry weather during July and August significantly reduced nut size and meat development. Many growers did not follow good insect and disease control practices. Consequently a small crop was produced. The Statistical Reporting Service reported a final 1976 utilized production of 2-1/2 million pounds of pecans. This was 25 percent higher than the 2 million pounds produced in 1975.

**Harvesting:** Harvest was reduced due to small size. Quality was variable.

**Marketing:** Demand at the market place was good throughout the season. Prices were high. Due to the limited supplies South Carolina shellers were forced to buy most of their shelling stocks from Georgia, Alabama, and other states.

**Varieties:** Seedlings or natives were the most common varieties. The principal improved variety was Stuarts.

Prices Paid Per Pound To Growers At South Carolina Assembly Points

Date - 1976	Natives	Stuarts
Nov. 23	Sales too few to Quote	
30	Sales too few to Quote	
Dec. 2	40-60	60-80
7	40-60	60-80

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

(ALABAMA, GEORGIA, FLORIDA, AND MISSISSIPPI)

**Production:** 1976 pecan production decreased sharply from the 1975 production, the main reason being 1976 was an "off" year in the two year production cycle for pecan trees. Adverse weather during the harvest was also responsible for some of the decrease. In the main southeastern producing state of Georgia 1976 utilized production totaled 52 million pounds according to the Statistical Reporting Service, USDA. This compares with the 1975 utilized production of 75 million pounds.

**Harvesting:** The 1976 harvest began about mid October and was immediately slowed by frequent heavy rains. Cool damp weather slowed gathering as well as curing operations. Most early season harvesting was done by hand. Mechanical harvesters were used by some growers after the first sub-freezing temperatures were reported in early November.

**Quality:** Southeastern pecans were quite variable in quality during 1976. Adverse weather was blamed for much of the variation. Appearance was affected by staining due to long periods of time spent waiting for rains to stop before nuts could be removed from the ground.

**Marketing:** The 1976 crop was sold at prices sharply higher than those received during the 1975 crop year. The average price per pound paid to southeastern growers in 1976 was 81.5 cents according to the Statistical Reporting Service. That was roughly double the 42.8 cents per pound paid for 1975 offerings. This sharp increase was the result of a short national crop. Total US production in 1976 was 103.1 million pounds, compared with 246.8 million pounds in 1975. The 1976 crop was sold as rapidly as possible considering the wet weather. Active marketing got underway in mid October and was about complete by the middle of December. There was no price differential according to state of origin.

**Varieties:** Stuarts made up the bulk of the crop. Other major varieties included natives, moneymakers, desirables, schleys, frotchers, and success.

PECAN SUMMARY PRICES

Prices Paid To Growers At Delivery Points

Date of Sales -1976	STUARTS		NATIVES		MONEYMAKERS		DESIRABLES		SCHLEYS	
	Range	Mostly	Range	Mostly	Range	Mostly	Range	Mostly	Range	Mostly
Oct. 28	85-90	85-88	55-60	58-60	60-65	--	95-100	--	95-100	100
Nov. 2	85-90	--	55-60	--	60-65	--	94-96	--	95-100	98-100
4	85-93	88-90	58-62	58-60	65-70	--	94-98	95-96	95-102	100
9	90-95	--	60-65	--	65-70	67-70	95-100	100	95-102	100
11	88-95	90-95	58-65	60-65	65-70	--	95-102	100	95-103	100
16	88-96	95-96	60-70	65-70	70-75	--	100-105	--	95-105	100-105
18	95-97	--	65-72	--	70-75	73-75	100-105	--	95-105	100-105
23	95-97	--	65-72	70	70-75	75	95-105	100-105	95-105	100-105
30	95-100	--	70-75	--	70-75	--	--	--	100-105	--
Dec. 2	95-100	--	70-75	--	70-75	--	--	--	100-105	--
7	95-100	--	70-75	--	70-75	--	--	--	--	--
9	95-100	--	70-75	--	70-75	--	--	--	--	--
14	95-100	--	70-75	--	70-75	--	--	--	--	--

TEXAS

Production and Harvest: The 1976 Texas pecan crop was among the shortest since the 1962 crop of 14 million pounds. Weather conditions during the fall and winter ranged from fair to very poor. Cold rainy weather persisted for such a long period during harvest that many pecans were left in the fields. The Statistical Reporting Service placed the final 1976 utilized production at 20 million pounds, sharply lower than the 68 million pounds produced in 1975.

Quality: Quantities of good quality native and improved varieties were hard to find in 1976. This was blamed not only on the decreased production but also on the adverse weather conditions that restricted harvesting during most of the season.

Marketing: The first Texas Pecan Market News report was released on October 19, 1976. The final report was released on January 4, 1977. Prices for natives ranged from a low of 40 cents per pound in October to a season's high of 90 cents in January 1977. The improved varieties ranged from a low of 60 cents in mid November to a high of \$1.10 in January 1977. The final average prices according to SRS for the 1976 crop were 65 cents for natives and 88 cents for improved varieties. This was sharply higher than the 1975 crop average prices of 36 cents for natives and 54 cents for improved varieties.

Varieties: The 1976 crop consisted of about 55 percent improved varieties and 45 percent natives. This compares with 1975 crop percentages of about 81 percent for natives and 19 percent for improved varieties.

Prices Paid To Growers, Delivered To Door Of Buyer

<u>Date - 1976</u>	<u>Natives</u>	<u>Improved Varieties</u>
Oct. 19	40-50	65-80
21	40-55	65-85
26	40-55	85-95
28	40-55	70-80
Nov. 2	40-55	70-90
4	40-55	60-95
9	45-60	60-95
16	45-60	60-95
18	45-60	60-95
23	45-60	60-95
30	50-65	60-95
Dec. 7	55-65	70-95
14	60-70	75-97
21	70-75	75-97
28	75-85	85-100
Jan. 4-1977	70-90	90-110

PECAN PRICES AT TERMINAL MARKETS  
(Wholesale Prices Per Pound)

<u>Date -76</u>	<u>CHICAGO</u>				<u>CLEVELAND</u>		
	<u>Stuarts</u>	<u>Moneymakers</u>	<u>Schleys</u>	<u>Blends</u>	<u>UNSHELLED - 50 lb Sacks</u>	<u>Stuarts</u>	<u>Moneymakers</u>
Nov. 10	105-112	87-92	--	--	Nov. 1	\$ 55.00	\$ 50-55.00
15	102-112	87-92	--	--	3	55.00	50-55.00
17	--	--	--	--	8	55.00	50-55.00
23	110-120	90-92	--	91-93	10	55.00	50-55.00
29	115-122	95-99	120-125	91-93	15	\$60-61.00	50-55.00
Dec. 1	115-122	95-99	120-125	91-93	17	60-61.00	50-55.00
6	--	--	--	--	23	60-61.00	50-55.00
8	118-122	--	--	--	29	60-61.00	50-55.00
					Dec. 1	60-61.00	50-55.00
					6	60-61.00	50-55.00
					8	60-61.00	50-55.00
					13	60-65.00	--

PECAN PRICES AT TERMINAL MARKETS  
(Wholesale Prices Per Pound)

CINCINNATI  
UNSHELLED - 50 lb Sacks

<u>Date-1976</u>	<u>Stuarts</u>
Nov. 1	\$ 54.00
3	--
8	54.00
10	--
15	--
17	--
22	--
29	59.50
Dec. 1	59.50
6	59.50
9	59.50
13	59.50

ST LOUIS  
UNSHELLED - 50 lb Sacks

<u>Stuarts</u>
--
--
--
--
\$ 58.00
--
57.50-58.00
58.00
--
--
57.50-58.00
--

LOS ANGELES  
PER LB  
UNSHELLED      SHELLED HALVES

<u>Stuarts</u>	<u>Stuarts</u>
90-92	230-235
90-92	230-235
90-92	230-235
90-92	230-235
90-92	230-235
90-92	230-235
90-92	230-235
90-92	230-235
90-92	230-235
90-92	230-235
100	230-235
100	230-235

NEW YORK

UNSHELLED

<u>Date-76</u>	<u>Blends &amp; Unknown Varieties</u>		<u>Stuarts</u>	<u>Moneymakers</u>
Nov. 1	110-125	--	--	
3	--	--	--	
8	120-125	--	--	
10	--	--	--	
15	120-125	--	--	
17	100	115-125	100-105	
22	105-110	115-125	100-105	
29	105-110	115-125	100-105	
Dec. 1	106	120-125	100-115	
6	105-110	110-121	100	
18	--	--	--	
13	106	110-121	100	

SHELLED - STUART HALVES

<u>Mammoth</u>	<u>Junior Mammoth</u>	<u>Jumbo</u>	<u>Extra Large-</u>		<u>Medium</u>	<u>Select</u>
			<u>Large</u>			
250-275	260	250-260	--	--	--	--
--	--	--	--	--	--	250-285
--	250-260	230-270	225-260	240	--	--
--	--	--	--	--	--	--
--	250-260	230-270	--	240	250-285	--
275-290	--	290	240-290	--	--	--
285-350	--	290-305	290-305	--	--	--
285-350	--	290-305	290-305	--	--	--
285-350	--	290-305	290-305	--	--	--
300-350	--	305-320	305-320	305	--	--
--	--	--	--	--	--	--
325-375	--	320-350	320-350	350	--	--