January 9, 1997

## **AVOCADOS**

FLORIDA: The forecast of avocados for certified shipments is continued at 850,000 bushels. The season ends in March. This is 14 percent more than last season's 744,000 bushels shipped.

Shipments through December at 830,300 bushels are 19 percent greater than last season and the most to date

for any season since the storm in August 1992.

CALIFORNIA: Shipments for the 1996-97 season which began in November are 593,000 bushel equivalents. Early season projections are for the largest crop in several seasons.

FLORIDA: Estimated certified shipments of avocados, 1996-97 season,

with comparisons - Season: April 1 - March 31

Season	Shipments through December	Remaining to be shipped	Total shipments			
	Bushels					
Certified:						
1986-87	800,100	156,900	957,000			
1987-88	912,600	217,400	1,130,000			
1988-89	968,700	89,300	1,058,000			
1989-90	1,188,200	111,800	1,300,000			
1990-91	721,600	30,400	752,000			
1991-92	1,019,600	91,400	1,111,000			
1992-93	274,700	9,300	284,000			
1993-94	156,400	18,600	175,000			
1994-95	711,500	67,500	779,000			
1995-96	698,700	45,300	744,000			
Estimated:						
1996-97	830,300	19,700	850,000			

CALIFORNIA: Estimated avocado shipments, 1996-97 season, with

comparisons - Season: November 1 - October 31

Variety	1995-96	1996-97 season				
	Total shipments	Shipments through December	Remaining to be shipped	Estimated total shipments		
	Bushels 1/					
Fuerte	157,000	48,000	142,000	190,000		
Hass	5,628,000	378,000	5,350,000	5,728,000		
Other	750,000	167,000	675,000	842,000		
Total	6,535,000	593,000	6,167,000	6,760,000		

1/ Pounds converted to bushels at 50 pound equivalents.