FLORIDA AGRICULTURE

November 12, 1996

AVOCADOS

FLORIDA: The forecast of avocados for certified shipments is continued at 800,000 bushels. This is 7.4 percent more than last season's total shipments of 744,000 bushels. Last season's shipments were limited by unusually high amounts of theft from groves.

Shipments through October are the highest since the hurricane in 1992 with good quality fruit being shipped.

CALIFORNIA: Estimated total shipments for the just completed 1995-96 season are 6,535,000 bushel equivalents. This is slightly more than the previous two seasons. The California Avocado Commission estimates about 6,760,000 bushel equivalents to be shipped in the 1996-97 season. This would be a three percent increase from the 1995-96 season.

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

with comparisons - Season: April 1 - March 31

Season	Shipments through October	Remaining to be shipped	Total shipments			
	Bushels					
Certified:						
1986-87	548,700	408,300	957,000			
1987-88	605,400	524,600	1,130,000			
1988-89	711,400	346,600	1,058,000			
1989-90	842,300	457,700	1,300,000			
1990-91	550,300	201,700	752,000			
1991-92	759,400	351,600	1,111,000			
1992-93	274,700	9,300	284,000			
1993-94	92,600	82,400	175,000			
1994-95	505,800	273,200	779,000			
1995-96	526,900	217,100	744,000			
Estimated:						
1996-97	621,700	178,300	800,000			

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

comparisons - Season: November 1 - October 31

Variety	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	Estimated shipments for 1996-97 season		
	Bushels 1/					
Fuerte	163,000	168,000	157,000			
Hass	4,488,000	5,062,000	5,628,000			
Other	768,000	854,000	750,000			
Total	5,419,000	6,084,000	6,535,000	6,760,000		

^{1/} Pounds converted to bushels at 50 pound equivalents.