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November 10, 1997

FLORIDA: The forecast of avocados for certified shipments is continued at 950,000 bushels. If realized, this will be almost four percent more than the 918,000 bushels shipped in the 1996-97 season.

Through October, 756,200 bushels were shipped, the most to date since the 1991-92 season. While summer varieties have produced a large crop, winter varieties are

reported to have less fruit than last season.

CALIFORNIA: The preliminary season total shipments for 1996-97 are 6,449,000 bushel equivalents, only slightly less than the previous season. Early season forecasts for the 1997-98 season which began November 1 are for slightly less shipments.

FLORIDA: Estimated certified shipments of avocados, 1997-98 season,

with comparisons - Season: April 1 - March 31

Season	Shipments	Remaining to	Total		
	through October	be shipped	shipments		
	Bushels				
Certified:					
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		
1996-97	621,700	296,300	918,000		
Estimated:					
1997-98	756,200	193,800	950,000		

CALIFORNIA: Estimated avocado shipments, 1997-98 season, with

comparisons - Season: November 1 - October 31

Variety	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	Estimated shipments for 1997-98 season		
	Bushels 1/					
Fuerte	168,000	157,000	197,000	142,000		
Hass	5,062,000	5,628,000	5,521,000	5,524,000		
Other	854,000	750,000	731,000	734,000		
Total	6,084,000	6,535,000	6,449,000	6,400,000		

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