AVOCADOS FILE COPY



December 11, 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 last season's shipments and 28 percent more than the 1995-96 season.

Through November, shipments total 860,400 bushels, the most to this time in several seasons. Advanced maturity and good demand for summer and fall fruit led to this fast

harvest. Winter varieties are light set on the trees with the lowest indicated amount remaining to be shipped in many seasons.

CALIFORNIA: Shipments for the first month of the 1997-98 season at 185,000 bushel equivalents are slightly less than last season to the same date with a total crop expected to be near the same as last season.

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

with comparisons - Season: April 1 - March 31

Season	Shipments through November	Remaining to be shipped	Total shipments
	Bushels		
Certified:			
1987-88	768,800	361,200	1,130,000
1988-89	854,300	203,700	1,058,000
1989-90	1,031,600	268,400	1,300,000
1990-91	651,200	100,800	752,000
1991-92	896,300	214,700	1,111,000
1992-93	274,700	9,300	284,000
1993-94	123,000	52,000	175,000
1994-95	618,900	160,100	779,000
1995-96	633,400	110,600	744,000
1996-97	738,600	179,400	918,000
Estimated:			
1997-98	860,400	89,600	950,000

CALIFORNIA: Estimated avocado shipments, 1997-98 season, with comparisons - Season: November 1 - October 31

1996-97 1997-98 season **Shipments** Remaining Estimated Variety Total through to be total shipments November shipped shipments Bushels 1/ **Fuerte** 197,000 21,900 120,100 142,000 Hass 5,521,000 74,800 5,449,200 5,524,000 Other 731,000 88,300 645,700 734,000 Total 6,449,000 185,000 6,215,000 6,400,000

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