



Oct. 29, 2024

For immediate release

Contacts: Lisa Herbert, Sutter County Agricultural Commissioner, 530-822-7500
Stephen Scheer, Yuba County Agricultural Commissioner, 530-749-5400

‘Walnut-Buying Period’ announced in Yuba-Sutter

Sutter and Yuba County Agricultural Commissioners Lisa Herbert and Stephen Scheer announced today the walnut-buying period will begin Friday, Nov. 1, beginning a window period that will end April 30, 2025, pursuant to the Counties' Walnut Theft Prevention ordinances.

The ordinances were established to deter thefts from commercial walnut growers by creating a timeframe for walnut purchases, as well as the use of documentation to identify walnut growers.

Walnuts are one of the highest-valued agricultural commodities in both Yuba and Sutter Counties. According to the Sutter County 2023 Crop Report there were 37,000 harvested acres in Sutter County with a market value of \$51,649,000. The Yuba County 2023 Crop Report reported 16,309 harvested acres with a market value of \$25,844,000.

“The Walnut Theft Prevention ordinances are intended to deter theft, and proof of ownership is a mandatory requirement of the ordinances,” stated Herbert.

The walnut-buying period is the declared conclusion of harvest of the Chandler variety of walnuts by the Agricultural Commissioner, after consultation with walnut growers, during which non-processing walnut buying operations within Sutter and Yuba County may lawfully purchase and receive walnuts that have not been dried or processed.

For more information or to access a proof of ownership form approved by these offices please see the Agricultural Commissioner’s website: (Sutter County - <https://bit.ly/2G7wsja>) (Yuba County - <https://bit.ly/2HAXNKW>).

There are similar ordinances in place in Butte, Tehama, and Glenn counties, and in several counties to the south.

###