

Voluntary Report - public distribution

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## Chile

### Tree Nuts

### Almond Production

### 2003

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**Report Highlights:**

Almond production in Chile has been growing slowly but steadily for the last 6 years. It is expected that it will expand further in the coming years with the exception of CY2004, as a large production area was reportedly affected by heavy frost during this last winter.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Santiago [CI1]  
[CI]

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### Production

As a result of a moderate expansion in the almond planted area during the last 6 years, production is expected to expand in the coming years. But frost that affected an extended planted area during late winter, mainly in Region VI (Rancagua), is expected to reduce output in CY2004 when compared to the previous year. Nevertheless total almond production is expected to reach a level of 10,000 metric tons in 3 to 4 years. This forecast assumes normal weather conditions throughout the season. Industry sources have indicated that close to 80 percent of the planted area is in production. Although there is no official information on costs of production, an old publication (from early 1990) show production cost figures to be slightly over US\$1,200 per hectare after the 12<sup>th</sup> year, when orchards are in full production.

### Crop Area

Although almond trees are planted from the Region IV (La Serena) down to the Eight Region (Chillan), over 80 percent of total area is planted in the central regions, specifically Region Six (Rancagua) and the Metropolitan Region (Santiago). Almonds are planted in irrigated and non-irrigated land; average yields are estimated to be 1.8 metric ton per hectare.

### Trade

Almost all almonds exported are shelled. Brazil and Argentina are the main export markets for Chilean almonds. Small but increasing amounts of almonds are imported. The main supplier is the United States.

**Table 1: Almond Production Statistics**

Years	Area		Production (MT)	Exports (MT)	Imports (MT)	1/
	Planted (HA.)					
1997	5860		5800	2209	151	
1998	5742		5100	1940	549	
1999	5894		7400	3132	104	
2000	6036		8140	3823	864	
2001	6050		8600	4100	607	
2002	6086		9100	4733	1030	
2003	6095		9600	n/i	n/i	2/
2004	7000		8200	n/i	n/i	2/

Note: 1/ In Shell basis

2/ Estimates

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Central Bank

**Table 2: Almond Exports CY2002**

Shelled	Volume (IN Kg)	Value (in US\$)
US	0	0
Brazil	392,915	1,241,972
Netherlands	269,698	777,019
Spain	216,296	631,785
Venezuela	213,500	779,492
Argentina	201,790	714,295
Colombia	177,902	642,190
Mexico	172,424	809,479
United Arab E.	121,590	402,001
Russia	101,919	346,325
Others	521,650	1,782,515
TOTAL	2,389,683	22,248,867

## In Shell

US	0	0
India	740,941	1,656,488
Brazil	692,273	2,098,532
Netherlands	431,516	1,243,230
Spain	346,074	1,010,857
Venezuela	341,600	1,247,187
Argentina	322,864	1,142,871
Colombia	284,643	1,027,503
Mexico	275,878	1,295,167
United Arab E.	194,544	643,202
Others	1,102,307	3,615,347
TOTAL	4,732,640	14,980,385

Source: Central Bank

**Table 3: Almond Exports CY2001**

Shelled	Volume (in Kg)	Value (Thous. US\$)
US	0	0
Argentina	1,318,216	3,929
Brazil	638,552	1,907
Venezuela	197,020	620
Colombia	185,210	627
Uruguay	61,010	188
Ecuador	38,200	143
Peru	36,450	136
Paraguay	11,800	37
Costa Rica	9,500	26
Others	4,850	23
TOTAL	2,500,808	7,636

## In Shell

US	0	0
Brazil	91,500	161
Argentina	7,530	29
Brit.Territ.in America	3	
Others	0	0
TOTAL	99,033	190

Source: Central Bank

**Table 4: Almond Exports CY2000**

Shelled	Volume (in Kg)	Value (Thous. US\$)
US	6	0
Argentina	1,224,045	4,696
Brazil	452,097	1,790
Colombia	173,860	674
Venezuela	56,200	225
Uruguay	29,500	118
Germany	27,970	120
Peru	20,930	86
Ecuador	14,005	56
Paraguay	8,450	32
Others	7,740	30
TOTAL	2,014,803	7,827
In Shell		
US	0	0
India	403,748	998
Hong Kong	122,364	306
Brazil	63,729	155
Argentina	7,920	18
Bolivia	1,280	4
Others		
TOTAL	599,041	1,481

Source: Central Bank

**Table 5: Almond Imports (Shelled) in Kg.**

Country of Origin	2000	2001	2002
US	536,542	381,534	638,694
Netherlands	0	400	0
Canada	0	368	0
Spain	2,040	200	0
Argentina	10	0	0
Colombia	1	0	0
Morocco	0	1,000	0
India	0	0	10
Other, not specified	0	2,020	5,125
TOTAL	538,593	385,522	643,829
Source: Central Bank			