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December 2022 Almond Position Report

December 2022 shipments were 206.35 million pounds. This is +9.3% compared to December 2021 shipments of 188.81 million pounds.

2022 Almond Supply

Carry-in from the 2021 crop:	837 million pounds
Estimated 2022 crop size:	2.60 billion pounds
Less 2% loss / exempt:	52 million pounds
Less shipments to date:	1.042 billion pounds
Less commitments:	720 million pounds
Remaining unsold supply:	1.623 billion pounds

Receipts, Shipments & Inventory v. 2021 Season

Receipts:	-10.56%
Total supply v. 2021 season:	-1.44%
Shipments v. 2021 season:	-1.87%
Uncommitted inventory:	+4.86%

Receipts & Shipments

2022 crop receipts are 2.376 billion pounds, which is -10.56% compared to 2021 crop receipts of 2.657 billion pounds. December shipments of 206.35 million pounds are 17.54 million pounds more than December 2021 shipments of 188.81 million pounds.

Commitments (Almonds that are sold, but not yet shipped)

Domestic commitments of 330 million pounds are -1.77% and export commitments of 389 million pounds are -17.99% compared to December 2021. New sales during the month of December were about 235 million pounds.

Domestic Shipments

Domestic shipments were -18.4% at 52.47 million pounds. This is 11.83 million pounds less than the record set last year of 64.30 million pounds. New domestic sales for the month of December were about 73 million pounds.

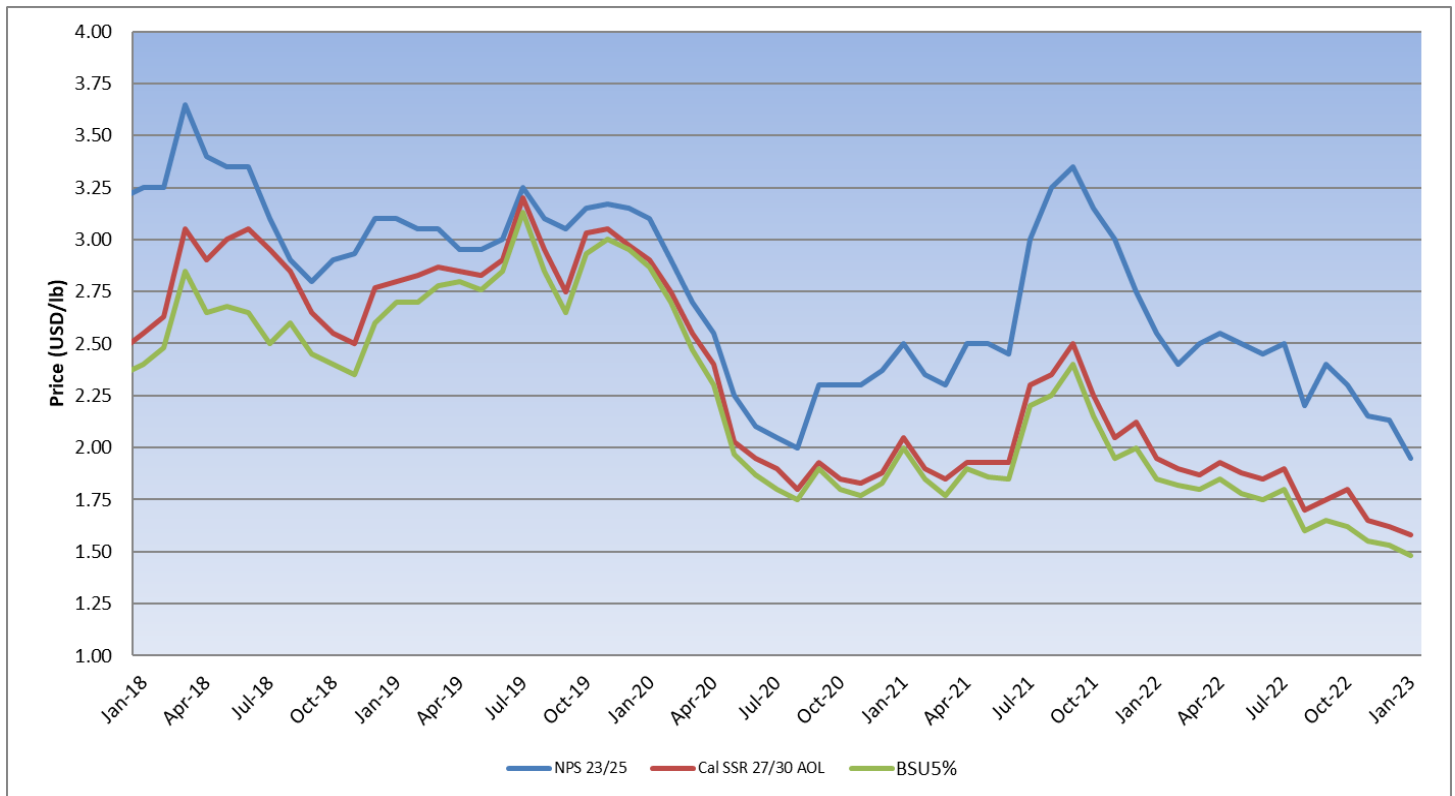
Export Shipments

Export shipments were +23.6% at 153.88 million pounds. This is 29.38 million pounds more than last year, but 42.26 million pounds less than the record set in December 2020. New export sales for the month of December were about 162 million pounds.

Regional Shipments

	<u>Aug. 2022 - Dec. 2022</u>		<u>Aug. 2021 - Dec. 2021</u>		<u>% Change</u>
	<u>Shelled</u>	<u>Inshell</u>	<u>Shelled</u>	<u>Inshell</u>	
<u>EUROPE</u>					
France	9,159,569	0	7,487,327		22%
Germany	42,087,720	64,305	42,206,736	30,600	0%
Italy	28,437,318	1,000,889	30,000,214	991,352	-5%
Netherlands	33,892,214	0	33,322,509	0	2%
Spain	77,912,877	540,374	66,587,225	425,429	17%
U.K.	9,334,632	12,242	12,194,859	62,767	-24%
<u>MIDDLE EAST</u>					
Israel	4,322,211	650,412	3,829,495	541,985	14%
Jordan	9,634,675	395,950	4,864,500	436,410	89%
Saudi Arabia	8,535,050	114,952	3,751,050	29,597	129%
Turkey	22,846,242	7,817,424	13,835,984	10,788,888	25%
UAE	52,856,469	9,266,663	38,484,968	7,930,364	34%
<u>ASIA</u>					
China/HK	22,296,167	41,631,201	22,652,550	61,576,352	-24%
Japan	27,301,518	3,610	33,531,949	47,646	-19%
South Korea	18,063,860	0	29,440,963	0	-39%
Vietnam	7,014,539	1,181,690	10,397,505	477,173	-25%
India	1,444,827	153,622,224	6,037,519	165,065,373	-9%

Historical Pricing



Conclusion

December shipments were on the higher end of expectations at 206.35 million pounds compared to 188.81 million pounds a year ago. Domestic shipments were down 18.4% at 52.47 million pounds for December and are down 8.72% YTD. Export shipments were up 23.6% at 153.88 million pounds for December and are up 1.16% YTD. Total shipments of 1.042 billion pounds are down 1.87% or about 20 million pounds less than last season at this time. Domestic commitments of 330 million pounds are down 1.77% and export commitments of 389 million pounds are down 17.99%. Total committed shipments of 720 million pounds are down 11.26% or about 91 million pounds less than last year. New domestic sales for December were about 73 million pounds and new export sales were about 162 million pounds. Total new sales during the month of December were 235 million pounds compared to 247 million pounds last December. Crop receipts increased by 226 million pounds during the month of December, bringing YTD receipts to 2.376 billion pounds – down 280 million pounds compared to last year. Based on a crop size of 2.60 billion pounds, California is 52% sold (commitments + shipments) compared to 54% sold at this time last season.

With a strong showing in December, YTD export shipments surpassed last season's YTD total by 8.5 million pounds. With the exception of Northeast and Southeast Asia, shipments to most other major regions were up for the month of December. December shipments to China/HK were down about 1.3 million pounds and are down 24% YTD. With Chinese New Year falling on January 22nd this year, most Chinese importers covered their CNY requirements earlier in the season. It is worth noting that Chinese demand for both inshell and kernels has been very strong in recent weeks for shipments February and later. Shipments to India in December were up 9.1 million pounds, but are still down 9% YTD. Activity remains stable out of India with an increase in demand for NPIS as opposed to mostly just Inshell Independence a month ago. December shipments to Europe were up 10.1 million pounds (largely due to the Netherlands and Spain) and are up 3% YTD. European buyers have returned from the holidays and are actively covering their Q1 and Q2 needs. Due to strong shipments to the U.A.E., Turkey and Jordan, the Middle East was up 11.4 million pounds for December and is up 38% YTD. Lastly, shipments to North Africa led by Morocco, Libya and Algeria, were up 4.9 million pounds for December and are up 212% YTD.

In the last few weeks, California has received an abundance of rain and snow bringing YTD totals well above average for this time of year. Several of the storms this past week have resulted in flooding in both cities and in some growing regions in California. With water concerns easing and the potential for a good crop next season – should we not experience adverse weather during bloom – sellers have been in the mood to sell. Global demand has been very strong in recent weeks – largely due to attractive pricing in California and a strong desire to increase sold positions. In the past couple weeks, Nonpareil and Independence kernel prices have arguably decreased the most – resulting in a flurry of activity out of China, the Middle East and the U.S. domestic market. Industrial prices have remained relatively unchanged this past month due to consistent demand from European and domestic buyers. With strong sales activity in recent weeks and with today's more encouraging report, we expect prices to at least remain stable – with some potential firmness from the cheapest prices recently concluded. As production schedules are quickly filling up for nearby shipment, we encourage buyers to cover their February/March requirements sooner rather than later.

As always, our teams in China, Dubai, India and California are at your service.