CALIFORNIA CLINGSTONE CROP UP 25 PERCENT

California Clingstone peach production is now forecast at 1,620 million pounds (810 thousand tons), 25 percent above the 1973 crop of 1,294 million pounds (647,000 tons). Production figures quoted above include peaches used or to be used for pickles, drying, fresh shipment and on farm as well as for canning.

This special forecast for California is based upon objective measurements of yield data collected in the field from May 14 through June 15, 1974.

Fruit set per tree is a record high -- 38 percent above last year and about 29 percent more than the 1968-72 average. Harvest sizes are expected to be smaller than last year but well above other recent years. Bearing acreage is nearly 2,500 acres above last year.

This supplemental forecast for California Clingstone peaches is 50 million pounds or 3 percent above the June 1 forecast of 1,570 million pounds (785,000 tons).