

DRIED PRUNE MART IN WEAK POSITION

December Stagnation Still Prevails; Statistics are More Promising

The dried prune market is apparently in a weaker position at this time, than at any period during the 1931-32 marketing season to date. The stagnation that prevailed during the entire month of December has continued through all of January, and is still ruling up to this date, according to the U. S. department of agriculture.

Statistically, and according to European stocks on hand, Pacific coast dried prunes should be in a fairly satisfactory position. Lack of foreign buying power outweighs all other considerations, however, resulting in ruinously low prices and almost complete lack of demand.

Any mention of dried prune markets must recognize the fact that nearly 75 per cent of the northwestern production is ordinarily consumed in Europe. Therefore, although some European inquiry is being maintained, lack of buying power has effectively stifled shipping activity. Most exporters feel justified in demanding irrevocable letters of credit from abroad, and these have not yet been forthcoming.

Northwestern producers and packers have been practically out of the market for over two months, with only an occasional cash purchase from growers, in fulfillment of immediate transactions. The following nominal price-schedule is issued by some packers: 35-40c 3c per lb.; 40-45c 2 1/2c; 45-50c 2 1/4c; 50-55c 2 1/2c; 55-60c 2 1/4c; 60-65c 2 1/4c; 65-70c 2 1/4c; 70-75c 2 1/4c; 75-80c 2 1/4c; 80-85c 2 1/4c; 85-90c 2 1/4c; 90-95c 2 1/4c; 95-100c 2 1/4c; 100-105c 2 1/4c; 105-110c 2 1/4c; 110-115c 2 1/4c; 115-120c 2 1/4c; 120-125c 2 1/4c; 125-130c 2 1/4c; 130-135c 2 1/4c; 135-140c 2 1/4c; 140-145c 2 1/4c; 145-150c 2 1/4c; 150-155c 2 1/4c; 155-160c 2 1/4c; 160-165c 2 1/4c; 165-170c 2 1/4c; 170-175c 2 1/4c; 175-180c 2 1/4c; 180-185c 2 1/4c; 185-190c 2 1/4c; 190-195c 2 1/4c; 195-200c 2 1/4c; 200-205c 2 1/4c; 205-210c 2 1/4c; 210-215c 2 1/4c; 215-220c 2 1/4c; 220-225c 2 1/4c; 225-230c 2 1/4c; 230-235c 2 1/4c; 235-240c 2 1/4c; 240-245c 2 1/4c; 245-250c 2 1/4c; 250-255c 2 1/4c; 255-260c 2 1/4c; 260-265c 2 1/4c; 265-270c 2 1/4c; 270-275c 2 1/4c; 275-280c 2 1/4c; 280-285c 2 1/4c; 285-290c 2 1/4c; 290-295c 2 1/4c; 295-300c 2 1/4c; 300-305c 2 1/4c; 305-310c 2 1/4c; 310-315c 2 1/4c; 315-320c 2 1/4c; 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1980-1985c 2 1/4c; 1985-1990c 2 1/4c; 1990-1995c 2 1/4c; 1995-2000c 2 1/4c; 2000-2005c 2 1/4c; 2005-2010c 2 1/4c; 2010-2015c 2 1/4c; 2015-2020c 2 1/4c; 2020-2025c 2 1/4c; 2025-2030c 2 1/4c; 2030-2035c 2 1/4c; 2035-2040c 2 1/4c; 2040-2045c 2 1/4c; 2045-2050c 2 1/4c; 2050-2055c 2 1/4c; 2055-2060c 2 1/4c; 2060-2065c 2 1/4c; 2065-2070c 2 1/4c; 2070-2075c 2 1/4c; 2075-2080c 2 1/4c; 2080-2085c 2 1/4c; 2085-2090c 2 1/4c; 2090-2095c 2 1/4c; 2095-2100c 2 1/4c; 2100-2105c 2 1/4c; 2105-2110c 2 1/4c; 2110-2115c 2 1/4c; 2115-2120c 2 1/4c; 2120-2125c 2 1/4c; 2125-2130c 2 1/4c; 2130-2135c 2 1/4c; 2135-2140c 2 1/4c; 2140-2145c 2 1/4c; 2145-2150c 2 1/4c; 2150-2155c 2 1/4c; 2155-2160c 2 1/4c; 2160-2165c 2 1/4c; 2165-2170c 2 1/4c; 2170-2175c 2 1/4c; 2175-2180c 2 1/4c; 2180-2185c 2 1/4c; 2185-2190c 2 1/4c; 2190-2195c 2 1/4c; 2195-2200c 2 1/4c; 2200-2205c 2 1/4c; 2205-2210c 2 1/4c; 2210-2215c 2 1/4c; 2215-2220c 2 1/4c; 2220-2225c 2 1/4c; 2225-2230c 2 1/4c; 2230-2235c 2 1/4c; 2235-2240c 2 1/4c; 2240-2245c 2 1/4c; 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