

AVOCADO IN ISRAEL 2003

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A condensed overview of the avocado industry in Israel is presented, updated to April 2003. The main topics touched upon are:

1. Production. (Increased to 83,000 ton in 2001/02, reduced to 50,000 ton in 2002/03).
- 2 Trends in planting. (Planted area has stabilized: 5,500 in 2002/3).
3. Cultivars present ratio. ('Ettinger'- 28 %; 'Hass'- 32 %; 'Fuerte'- 15 %; 'Pinkerton' -10 %; 'Reed' - 7 %; 'Ardith' – 5 %; others – 3 %).
4. Common irrigation methods and practices.
5. Common fertilization practices.
6. Management of tree crowding.
7. Pollenizers and pollinator. (Principal pollenizer - 'Ettinger')
8. Main pests and diseases.
9. Exporting (28,000 tons in 2002/03 [est.] – 39% less than in 2001/02).
10. Present principal production problems. (Fruit size in 'Hass'; insufficient national yield/ha; scarcity of irrigation water; increasing water salinity).