



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

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## France

## Tree Nuts

## Update

## 2005

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U.S. Embassy

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**Report Highlights:**

In 2004, French walnut production increased to 26,290 MT, following the short crop of 2003 due to severe drought. Although there is no estimate yet available for 2005 harvest, France is facing another year of severe drought conditions, which is likely to have a negative impact on production. Partial trade data for MY 2004/05 indicate an increase in French exports of in-shell walnuts (principally to Germany) and a decline in French imports of shelled walnuts (mainly from Moldova, where French walnuts are exported to be shelled). U.S. exports to France of in-shell walnuts declined significantly in MY 04/05, as a result of the increased domestic production.

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Includes PSD Changes: Yes  
Includes Trade Matrix: Yes  
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## Executive Summary

In 2004, French walnut production increased to 26,290 MT, following the short crop of 2003 due to severe drought conditions. There is no estimate yet available for 2005 harvest, although current drought is likely to negatively impact production. Partial trade data for MY 2004/05 indicate an increase in French exports of in-shell walnuts (principally to Germany) and a decline in French imports of shelled walnuts (mainly from Moldova, where French walnuts are exported to be shelled). U.S. exports to France of in-shell walnuts declined significantly in MY 04/05, as a result of the increased domestic production.

## SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

According to preliminary estimates from the French Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food and Rural Affaires, French production of walnuts increased to 26,290 MT in 2004 over 23,350 MT in 2003. An increase was expected, as a result of the abnormally low production in 2003 caused by severe drought conditions. There are no estimates yet published for 2005, but production is likely to be affected by the lack of rain and a large quantity of small grade nuts.

In 2004/05, higher domestic production logically resulted in reduced imports and larger exports, as is indicated in the partial MY trade data (October/April, see statistical section below). Increased exports mainly included larger shipments of in-shell walnuts to Germany and Spain, while imports of in-shell walnuts significantly declined from the United States, and imports of shelled walnuts declined from Moldova.

The main French importers of U.S. walnuts are the following:

Alimentation Fine de France (AFF)  
Jean-Francois Vaucelle, PDG  
Bergerac  
[info@aff.fr](mailto:info@aff.fr)  
tel: (33-5) 53 74 40 80  
fax: (33-5) 58 14 83

Kerry Produits Jaeger  
Annie Danquigny  
Goussainville  
Tel: (33-1) 34 38 87 87  
Fax: (33-1) 39 92 92 71

La Noix Gaillarde  
M. Soularue  
Brive-la-Gaillarde  
[contact@french-walnuts.com](mailto:contact@french-walnuts.com)  
Tel: (33-5) 55 86 03 85  
Fax: (33-5) 55 88 28 38

Production "La Prade"  
Olivia Dumons  
Toulouse  
Tel: (33-5) 62 48 52 51  
Fax: (33-5) 61 42 15 55

Société Soreau  
Eric Soreau  
Ivry-sur-Seine

[Morgane.david@soreau.fr](mailto:Morgane.david@soreau.fr)

Tel: (33-1) 46 70 10 66

Fax: (33-1) 46 70 28 37

## STATISTICAL TABLES

### PS&D Table

PSD Table							
Country	France						
Commodity	Walnuts, Inshell Basis				(HA)(1000 TREES)(MT)		
	2003	Revised	2004	Estimate	2005	Forecast	UOM
	USDA Official [Old]	Post Estimate [New]	USDA Official [Old]	Post Estimate [New]	USDA Official [Old]	Post Estimate [New]	
Market Year Begin		10/2003		10/2004		10/2005	MM/YYYY
Area Planted	20200	20050	20400	20080	0	20080	(HA)
Area Harvested	15600	15600	15900	15960	0	15960	(HA)
Bearing Trees	1600	1600	1600	1600	0	1600	(1000 TREES)
Non-Bearing Trees	450	450	450	450	0	450	(1000 TREES)
Total Trees	2050	2050	2050	2050	0	2050	(1000 TREES)
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0	(MT)
Production	23350	23350	25000	26290	0	26300	(MT)
Imports	17950	15490	16000	14000	0	14000	(MT)
TOTAL SUPPLY	41300	38840	41000	40290	0	40300	(MT)
Exports	16300	18750	16000	20000	0	20000	(MT)
Domestic Consumption	25000	20090	25000	20290	0	20300	(MT)
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0	(MT)
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	41300	38840	41000	40290	0	40300	(MT)

Sources: French Customs, French MinAg

### Trade Matrices

Shelled and In-Shell Trade Data, MY 2000/01 and MY 2001/02 (according to French Customs):

French exports of in-shell walnuts (08023100), MT, product weight:

Countries	Oct 03/ April 04	Oct 04/April 05
Total	12079	13796
U.S.	0	0
Germany	3196	3663
Spain	3281	3497
Moldova	2774	2865
Italy	683	1844
Portugal	659	647
Switzerland	423	381
Belgium	235	325

French Imports of in-shell walnuts (08023100), MT, product weight:

Countries	Oct 03/ April 04	Oct 04/April 05
Total	763	236
U.S.	419	52
Netherlands	224	82
Moldova	22	19

French exports of shelled walnuts (08023200), MT, product weight:

Countries	Oct 03/ April 04	Oct 04/April 05
Total	1552	1885
U.S.	0	0
Germany	604	659
Switzerland	313	436
Netherlands	94	132
Italy	83	129
Portugal	39	106
Belgium	117	102
Spain	80	100

French imports of shelled walnuts (08023200), MT, product weight:

Countries	Oct 03/ April 04	Oct 04/April 05
Total	5965	4931
U.S.	0	0
Moldova	3769	3015
Ukraine	659	782
India	174	319
Hungary	298	145
Italy	74	117
Greece	104	93
China	230	89
Spain	97	88

<b>Export Trade Matrix</b>			
<b>Country</b>	France		
<b>Commodity</b>	Walnuts, Inshell Basis		
<b>Time Period</b>	Oct/April	Units:	MT
<b>Exports for:</b>	2003		2004
U.S.	0	U.S.	0
Others		Others	
Germany	4404	Germany	4981
Spain	3441	Spain	3697
Moldova	2822	Moldova	2865
Switzerland	1049	Italy	2102
Italy	849	Switzerland	1253
Portugal	737	Portugal	859
Belgium	469	Belgium	529
Denmark	378	Denmark	398
Netherlands	210	Netherlands	290
Austria	137		
Total for Others	14496		16974
Others not Listed	687		592
Grand Total	15183		17566

<b>Import Trade Matrix</b>			
<b>Country</b>	France		
<b>Commodity</b>	Walnuts, Inshell Basis		
<b>Time Period</b>	Oct/April	Units:	MT
<b>Imports for:</b>	2003		2004
U.S.	487	U.S.	132
Others		Others	
Moldova	7560	Moldova	6049
Ukraine	1328	Ukraine	1564
Hungary	596	India	638
China	464	Hungary	290
India	348	Italy	251
Slovakia	348	Spain	195
		China	183
Total for Others	10644		9170
Others not Listed	1562		796
Grand Total	12693		10098