

PRE HARVEST WALNUT CROP REPORT 2021

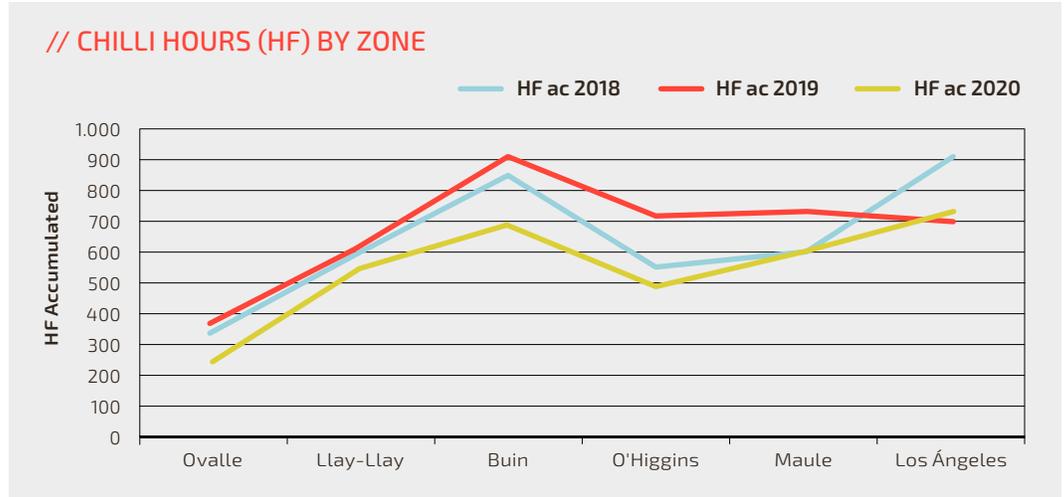
February 2021



>> During winter 2020 Chile had few rain events but those were concentrated in June, that helped to clean up the excess of salt and minerals accumulated in the soils from the previous year. Although the draught in Chile is not over and we have been facing already 10 years below normal rainfall's levels. This year we had enough accumulation of water and snow to ensure a proper irrigation for the agriculture in the central zone where walnut production is concentrated.

Winter was generally mild and accumulated chilli hours were below years 2018 and 2019 in most of the regions where walnuts are produced.

BORN IN



This was corrected in the farms by applying Hydrogenated Cyanamide or dormancy breakers in most of the orchards as farmers already manage this very well.

As said, rainfall during winter was closer to a normal year and the snowpack return to ensure good quality and quantity of water for irrigation during the dry period.

Spring had good and stable conditions. No mayor frost was reported and temperatures normal for that time of the year. The fruit set vary depending on the irrigation conditions of the previous year, those orchards that had problems of irrigation and high concentration of salts and minerals (Around 30% of the surface planted in the central area) are getting a production lower than regular with only single or doubles but rarely or none triples. Although the production in these orchards will be less than the potential the quality looks good and a lot better than last season.

In the other hand the orchards which were not affected are showing a potential increase in their production. If we go a bit southern from Curico valley to Ñuble the fruit set seems similar to last year and the growth should come from new orchards getting in bearing. Taking all together we can expect some growth, although it is hard to give a proper estimation, we expect a growth of 10% to 15% on volume but most important in quality.



Thanks to climate conditions and availability of water walnuts have developed properly and we can see a better caliber and healthy fruits.



January surprised us with the strongest rain recorded in the central zone of Chile for this month. Although it was a disaster for other agricultural products such as grapes, prunes, blueberries, and peaches, for walnuts it seems did not affect, no damages have been reported so far.

Now, we are getting ready for harvest, which should start around second week of March for SERR variety and Middle April for Chandler variety.

Any request and for further information do not hesitate to contact us.