

>> During the winter of 2023 a deficient accumulation of chilling hours led to uneven bud break and flowering. Approximately two-thirds of the tree exhibited budding, while the upper third experienced a significant delay. Additionally, spring was colder than in previous years, impacting the degree-day accumulation negatively.





Crop Report 2024

Under the afore mentioned conditions, diverse flowering stages were observed in orchards, resulting in a dispersion of sizes. Furthermore, the uneven budding and flowering, coupled with excess of pollen, led to abortions, resulting in a reduced quantity of fruits per tree. This is compounded by the prevalence of both double and single fruits, with an absence of triples, as observed in previous seasons.

// TABLE N°1: CHILLING HOURS BY REGION

	Central zone	South-central zone	South zone
2021	701	850	1001,5
2022	799,5	1218,5	1021,5
2023	617	823	799,5
Variation % 2022/2023	-23%	-32%	-22%

Source: Own elaboration.



On the other hand, the precipitation throughout the year proved advantageous for walnut tree development. Increased snow reserves for the season, soil salinity washed away—particularly affecting the central region of Chile—and rivers supplying a greater quantity of high-quality water. These benefits are manifesting in the orchards, with good sizes and higher expected cracking yields, trees unscathed by salts, robust summer vegetative growth, and ample water for irrigation.





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// TABLE N°2: CUMULATIVE PRECIPITATION (MM) BY ZONE

	Central zone	South-central zone	South zone
2021	173,55	182,15	362,3
2022	240,55	253,4	382,6
2023	413,3	549	844,5
Variation % 2022/2023	72%	117%	121%

Source: Own elaboration.

// COMPARISON OF A TREE IN 2023 VS 2024



However, these climatic conditions are unfavorable for the southern region of the country. Together with certain orchard management practices, they create ideal conditions for pests and diseases, directly impacting yield.

Black Blight (Xanthomonas arboricola pv juglandis) and BAN (Brown apical necrosis) are the most common diseases observed in walnut orchards in the southern region, potentially resulting in a decline of up to 15% this season.

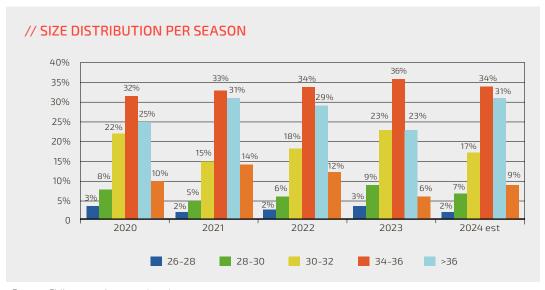






Estimations 2024

For the 2024 season, a production decrease of approximately 10% is anticipated compared to the 2023 season, moving from 180.000 metric tons approximately to around 160.000 metric tons. Nevertheless, improved quality is expected, with an augmentation in sizes distribution and cracking out yield.



Source: Chilenut and own estimation.





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