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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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‘Walnut-Buying Period’ announced in Yuba-Sutter

Sutter and Yuba County Agricultural Commissioners Lisa Herbert and Stephen Scheer announced today the walnut-buying period will begin Saturday, Nov. 1, beginning a window period that will end April 30, 2026, pursuant to the Counties' Walnut Theft Prevention ordinances.

The ordinances were established to deter thefts from commercial walnut growers by creating a timeframe for walnut purchases, as well as the use of documentation to identify walnut growers.

Walnuts are one of the highest-valued agricultural commodities in both Yuba and Sutter Counties. According to the Sutter County 2024 Crop Report, there were 36,400 harvested acres in Sutter County with a market value of \$106,471,000. The Yuba County 2024 Crop Report reported 16,180 harvested acres with a market value of \$51,287,000.

“The Walnut Theft Prevention ordinances are intended to deter theft, and proof of ownership is a mandatory requirement of the ordinances,” said Herbert.

The walnut-buying period is the declared conclusion of harvest of the Chandler variety of walnuts by the Agricultural Commissioner, after consultation with walnut growers, during which non-processing walnut buying operations within Sutter County and Yuba County may lawfully purchase and receive walnuts that have not been dried or processed.

For more information or to access a proof of ownership form approved by these offices please see the Agricultural Commissioner’s website: (Sutter County - <https://bit.ly/2G7wsja>) (Yuba County - <https://bit.ly/2HAXNKW>).

There are similar ordinances in place in Butte, Tehama, and Glenn counties, and in several counties to the south.

"Our coordinated approach with neighboring counties and local law enforcement helps ensure that walnut theft is not tolerated anywhere in the region," said Scheer.

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