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For Immediate Release

## Butte County Walnut Buying Period Announced

October 25, 2017

Butte County Agricultural Commissioner Louie Mendoza Jr. announced today that November 1, 2017 will be the beginning of the “walnut buying period” to allow the purchasing of walnuts by non-processing buyers, pursuant to the Butte County Nut Theft Ordinance. This period will begin at the conclusion of the Chandler Walnut harvest, and is set in consultation with a committee of walnut growers.

Walnuts are the highest valued agricultural commodity in Butte County. According to the Butte County 2016 Crop Report there were over 49,000 harvested acres in Butte County with a market value of \$234 million. “The walnut industry has been vulnerable to theft, the Nut Theft Ordinance is intended to deter such activities”, stated Mendoza.

The Butte County Board of Supervisors adopted the revised Nut Theft Ordinance in 2014. In addition to establishing the buying period, the ordinance also provides requirements for the transportation and identification of walnuts.

If you have any questions, please call or email our office at [Butteag@buttecounty.net](mailto:Butteag@buttecounty.net). Or visit our website at: <http://www.buttecounty.net/agriculturalcommissioner/Home.aspx>

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