U.S. Orange Production Unchanged

All oranges production forecast for 1999-00 remains at 12.5 million tons, up 26 percent from last season. Florida's all orange forecast is 219 million boxes (9.86 million tons), 18 percent higher than the 186 million boxes (8.36 million tons) utilized last season. Early and midseason varieties in Florida are forecast at 127 million boxes (5.72 million tons), 13 percent higher than last season. Fruit size has continued slightly above average and loss from droppage remains well below average. Florida’s Valencia forecast of 92.0 million boxes (4.14 million tons) is 25 percent higher than last season’s final utilization. Fruit size is above average and growth continues at a rate slightly above average. Loss from droppage remains well below average and is lower than any of the previous nine seasons.

Texas orange production is forecast at 1.60 million boxes (68,000 tons), up 12 percent from last season. California’s all orange production forecast of 67.0 million boxes (2.51 million tons) is carried forward from January and is 76 percent higher than last season’s freeze-damaged crop. The Arizona orange forecast, also carried forward from January, is 1.05 million boxes (40,000 tons), down 9 percent from last season’s final utilization.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield for the 1999-00 season is 1.54 gallons per box of 42.0 degree Brix concentrate, down from January’s projected yield of 1.57 gallons. The early and midseason portion is projected at 1.48 gallons per box, down from 1.50 last month. The Valencia portion is projected at 1.64 gallons per box, down from 1.68 last month. The final all orange yield for last season as reported by the Florida Citrus Processors Association was a record high 1.63 gallons per box. Last season’s early and midseason yield was 1.58 and the Valencia portion was 1.75, both record highs.
This report was approved on February 11, 2000.

Acting Secretary of Agriculture
Richard E. Rominger

Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
Frederic A. Vogel
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contents</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California Nut Crops</td>
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<td>Citrus</td>
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<td>Crop Comments</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
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<td>Information Contacts</td>
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<td>Papayas</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pecans</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugarcane</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather Summary</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
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</table>
**Sugarcane: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production**
by Use, State, and United States, 1998-99

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use and State</th>
<th>Area Harvested</th>
<th>Yield ¹</th>
<th>Production ¹</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>For Sugar</td>
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<td>443.0</td>
<td>40.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>30.3</td>
<td>32.7</td>
<td>90.0</td>
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<td>400.0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>32.0</td>
<td>28.7</td>
<td>32.9</td>
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<td>US</td>
<td>888.3</td>
<td>939.4</td>
<td>36.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>For Seed</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>40.1</td>
</tr>
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<td>HI</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>32.4</td>
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<td>TX</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>18.3</td>
</tr>
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<td>US</td>
<td>58.8</td>
<td>51.8</td>
<td>33.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>For Sugar and Seed</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>447.0</td>
<td>460.0</td>
<td>40.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HI</td>
<td>32.5</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>86.1</td>
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<td>435.0</td>
<td>465.0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>31.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>947.1</td>
<td>991.2</td>
<td>36.6</td>
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¹ Net tons.
² Current estimates carried forward from earlier forecast.

**Papayas: Area and Fresh Production, by Month, Hawaii, 1999-00**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Area Total in Crop</th>
<th>Harvested</th>
<th>Fresh Production</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acres</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>3,740</td>
<td>2,190</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Utilized Production</th>
<th>Utilized Production</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boxes(^1) (1,000)</td>
<td>Boxes(^1) (1,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Oranges</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Mid &amp; Navel (^3)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AZ (^4)</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA (^4)</td>
<td>44,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>140,000</td>
<td>112,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>1,350</td>
<td>1,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>185,700</td>
<td>134,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valencia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AZ (^4)</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA (^4)</td>
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<td>17,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>104,000</td>
<td>73,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>TX</td>
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<td>180</td>
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<td>US</td>
<td>129,825</td>
<td>91,480</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>All</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>AZ (^4)</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,150</td>
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<td>CA (^4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>244,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>1,525</td>
<td>1,430</td>
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<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>315,525</td>
<td>226,280</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Temples</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>2,250</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grapefruit</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Seedless</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL (^5)</td>
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<td>17,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Colored Seedless</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL (^5)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL</td>
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<td>550</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>All</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AZ (^4)</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA (^4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FL (^5), (^6)</td>
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<td>47,050</td>
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<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>4,800</td>
<td>6,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>63,150</td>
<td>61,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tangerines</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>AZ (^4), (^7)</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA (^4), (^7)</td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>5,200</td>
<td>4,950</td>
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<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>8,200</td>
<td>7,400</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lemons</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>2,600</td>
<td>3,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA</td>
<td>21,000</td>
<td>16,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>23,600</td>
<td>19,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tangelos</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>2,850</td>
<td>2,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>K-Early Citrus</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1 The crop year begins with the bloom of the first year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year.  
2 Net lbs. per box: oranges-AZ & CA-75, FL-85, TX-80; grapefruit-AZ & CA-67, FL-85, TX-80; lemons-76; tangelos, K-Early Citrus & Temples-90; tangerines-AZ & CA-75, FL-95.  
3 Navel and miscellaneous varieties in AZ and CA. Early (including Navel) and midseason varieties in FL and TX. Small quantities of tangerines in TX.  
4 Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.  
5 Excludes White Seedless economic abandonment of 5,000,000 boxes in 1997-98.  
6 Excludes Colored Seedless economic abandonment of 1,000,000 boxes in 1997-98.  
7 Includes tangelos and tangors.
## California Nut Crops: Bearing Acreage, Yield, Production, Price, and Value by Crop, 1997-98 and Revised 1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Bearing Acreage</th>
<th>Yield per Acre</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Price per Unit</th>
<th>Value of Utilized Production</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acres</td>
<td>Acres</td>
<td>Tons 1</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walnuts</td>
<td>193,000</td>
<td>193,000</td>
<td>193,000</td>
<td>1.39</td>
<td>1.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(English)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tons 2</td>
<td>Tons 3</td>
<td>Tons 4</td>
<td>Dollars per Ton</td>
<td>Dollars per Pound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.18</td>
<td>1.47</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pistachios</td>
<td>65,400</td>
<td>68,000</td>
<td>71,000</td>
<td>2.750</td>
<td>2.760</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pounds 1</td>
<td>Pounds 2</td>
<td>Pounds 3</td>
<td>Dollars per Pound</td>
<td>Dollars per Pound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.750</td>
<td>2.760</td>
<td>1.730</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almonds</td>
<td>442,000</td>
<td>460,000</td>
<td>480,000</td>
<td>1.720</td>
<td>1.130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,000 Pounds 2</td>
<td>1,000 Pounds 3</td>
<td>1,000 Pounds 4</td>
<td>Dollars per Pound</td>
<td>Dollars per Pound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,720</td>
<td>1,130</td>
<td>1,730</td>
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### Production

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walnuts</td>
<td>269,000</td>
<td>227,000</td>
<td>283,000</td>
<td>1,430</td>
<td>1,050</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(English)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,000 Pounds 2</td>
<td>1,000 Pounds 3</td>
<td>1,000 Pounds 4</td>
<td>Dollars per Pound</td>
<td>Dollars per Pound</td>
<td>Dollars per Pound</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pistachios</td>
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<td>188,000</td>
<td>123,000</td>
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<td>1.03</td>
<td>1.31</td>
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<td>1,000 Pounds 5</td>
<td>Dollars per Pound</td>
<td>Dollars per Pound</td>
<td>Dollars per Pound</td>
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<tr>
<td>Almonds</td>
<td>579,000</td>
<td>520,000</td>
<td>830,000</td>
<td>1.56</td>
<td>1.41</td>
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### Value of Utilized Production

<table>
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<th>1997</th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>1999</th>
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<tr>
<td>Walnuts</td>
<td>384,670</td>
<td>238,350</td>
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<tr>
<td>(English)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pistachios</td>
<td>203,400</td>
<td>193,640</td>
<td>161,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almonds</td>
<td>1,160,640</td>
<td>703,590</td>
<td>677,280</td>
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1. Yield based on utilized production.
2. In-shell basis.
3. Shelled basis.
6. Price and value estimates are based on the edible portion of the crop only. Included in production are inedible quantities of no value as follows: 1997 - 15.0 million pounds, 1998 - 21.0 million pounds, 1999 - 33.2 million pounds.
### Pecans: Utilized Production by Variety, State, and United States, 1997-99

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Utilized Production</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,000 Pounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Improved Varieties</strong>&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>AL</td>
<td>7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AZ</td>
<td>18,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AR</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA</td>
<td>77,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS</td>
<td>2,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>NM</td>
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<td>SC</td>
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<td>40,000</td>
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<tr>
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<td>202,900</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Native &amp; Seedling</strong></td>
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<td>6,000</td>
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<td>AR</td>
<td>2,300</td>
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<td>FL</td>
<td>1,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>GA</td>
<td>23,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>4,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>LA</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS</td>
<td>1,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC</td>
<td>600</td>
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<td>OK</td>
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<td>SC</td>
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<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>50,000</td>
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<td>US</td>
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<td><strong>All Pecans</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>13,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>AZ</td>
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<td>AR</td>
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<tr>
<td>CA</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>4,200</td>
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<td>LA</td>
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<td>MS</td>
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<td>NM</td>
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<tr>
<td>OK</td>
<td>35,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>3,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>335,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<sup>1</sup> Budded, grafted, or topworked varieties.
## Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 1999-00

### (Domestic Units) 1

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<th>Crop</th>
<th>Area Planted</th>
<th>Area Harvested</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1999 1,000 Acres</td>
<td>2000 1,000 Acres</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barley</td>
<td>5,223.0</td>
<td>4,758.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corn for Grain 2</td>
<td>77,431.0</td>
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</tr>
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1 Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2000 crop year.
2 Area planted for all purposes.
3 Area is total acres in crop, not harvested acreage.
Crop Summary: Yield and Production, United States, 1999-00  
(Domestic Units)  

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<th>Yield 2000</th>
<th>Production 1999</th>
<th>Production 2000</th>
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<td>69.7</td>
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<td>33.2</td>
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<td>Spearmint Oil</td>
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<tr>
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1 Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2000 crop year. 2 Yield in pounds. 3 Yield is not estimated.
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1 Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2000 crop year.
2 Production years are 1997-98, 1998-99, and 1999-00.
## Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 1999-00

(Metric Units)  

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<td>Hectares</td>
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<td>Grains &amp; Hay</td>
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1 Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2000 crop year.  
2 Area planted for all purposes.  
3 Total may not add due to rounding.  
4 Area is total hectares in crop, not harvested hectares.
### Crop Summary: Yield and Production, United States, 1999-00  
**Metric Units**

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<th>Production 1999</th>
<th>Production 2000</th>
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1 Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2000 crop year.  
2 Production may not add due to rounding.  
3 Yield is not estimated.
## Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 1998-00
### (Metric Units) 1

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1 Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2000 crop year.
2 Production years are 1997-98, 1998-99, and 1999-00.
January Weather Summary

A month that began remarkably mild turned increasingly cold and stormy across the Midwest, South, and East. Due to early-month warmth, however, temperatures averaged 2 to 6 degrees F above normal in the Mississippi Valley and were within 2 degrees F of normal along the East Coast. Nevertheless, a late-month cold snap dropped temperatures to near the freezing mark on January 27 as far south as Florida’s northern citrus and cool-season vegetable areas. In contrast, January ended with 3 weeks of warm weather across California and the Intermountain West, propelling monthly temperatures as much as 10 degrees F above normal in the latter region.

Beneficial precipitation fell in several areas during January, easing long-term drought in the Ohio Valley, Southeast, and portions of the upper Midwest. In the West, a southward shift in the storm trajectory delivered much-needed precipitation to areas from northern and central California to the central Rockies. The moisture favored dryland crops and eased irrigation requirements in California’s Central Valley, and significantly improved high-elevation Sierra Nevada snow packs. Farther south, however, areas from southern California to western Texas remained extremely dry for a fourth consecutive month, resulting in further declines in range, pasture, and dryland crop conditions. Unfavorably dry conditions also persisted throughout most of the Plains, western Corn Belt, and lower Mississippi Valley, raising concerns about a lack of moisture for winter grains and the availability of moisture during the upcoming planting season.

General Crop Comments: Dry weather and above-normal temperatures prevailed across most of the Nation as the new year began. The western Corn Belt and Great Plains remained dry with temperatures averaging well above normal throughout the month, but most of the East experienced cold weather with a mixture of wintery precipitation, especially after mid-month.

The hard red winter wheat crop lacked snow cover across most of the Great Plains, but winterkill was minimal due to above-normal temperatures. However, the warm weather also promoted insect activity in the central and southern Plains and reduced the quality of piled sugar beets in the northern Plains. Record-high temperatures near mid-month stimulated winter wheat growth where moisture was available in the southern Great Plains, lower Mississippi Valley, and Southeast. In Texas, germination and emergence of wheat and oats was boosted by mid-month precipitation. However, spotty wheat stands and seedling death continued in parts of the central and southern Plains due to dry soils. Early-month field activities rapidly progressed in California, including seeding of wheat, barley, and oats. However, dry soils forced some growers to irrigate wheat fields to germinate seeds.

A series of winter storms provided beneficial moisture from mixed precipitation in the Ohio Valley, Appalachians, Piedmont, and parts of the Southeast and Atlantic Coastal Plains. A blast of cold, arctic air pushed southward through the Great Lakes region and into the eastern Corn Belt and Atlantic Coast States shortly after mid-month. Snow covered most wheat fields in the eastern Corn Belt and protected plants from sub-zero temperatures and dangerous wind chills. Persistent storms continued in the Pacific Northwest, dumping unneeded rain along the coast and heavy snow in the Cascade and interior Rocky Mountain ranges.

Some precipitation extended into dry areas of northern and central California after mid-month, halting fieldwork, but stimulating forage growth and aiding germination and emergence of small grains. In central and southern parts of the State, irrigation continued in vineyards and orchards due to moisture shortages. Dry weather aided grapefruit and lemon picking, which was active in southern California. In the San Joaquin Valley, the navel orange harvest gained momentum, alfalfa seeding continued, and corn planting began.

In Florida, topsoil moisture remained short throughout the State, and citrus growers continued to irrigate daily to maintain good tree and fruit condition. New growth and bloom buds formed on young well-cared-for trees in the southern part of the State. Early and midseason fruit had good color, and Valencias were beginning to color in some early bloom groves. Harvest of oranges for processing was very active due to nearly ideal weather. Sugarcane grinding and planting were also active. Temperatures briefly dipped below freezing as far south as central Florida late in the month, as a cold front passed through the State. However, damage to crops was minimal due to the short duration of sub-freezing temperatures.
Sugarcane: Production is estimated at a record high 35.7 million tons, 3 percent above the previous record of 34.7 million tons set last year. Harvested acres is estimated at a record high 991,200 acres for sugar and seed, 5 percent more than the 1998 final harvested acres. The record high acreage is due to a 30,000 acre expansion in Louisiana and a 13,000 acre increase in Florida. Yield is estimated at 36.0 tons per acre, slightly below the 1998 yield of 36.6 tons. Louisiana’s estimated yield, at 33.0 tons per acre is a record high, 3.3 tons above the previous record high set in 1998. Grinding was active in Florida, as the sugarcane harvest progressed with few delays.

Temples: Florida’s 1999-00 Temple forecast remains at 2.10 million boxes (94,500 tons), 17 percent higher than the 1.80 million boxes recorded last season. Harvest is in its early stages. The crop has lagged in maturity and, as usual, has more later blooms than most citrus. Fruit size and droppage are both well below average.

Grapefruit: The forecast of the 1999-00 grapefruit crop for the United States is continued at 2.47 million tons and is down 2 percent from last season. The Florida grapefruit forecast remains at 46.0 million boxes (1.96 million tons). The white seedless forecast, at 18.5 million boxes (786,000 tons), is unchanged from last month but up 4 percent from last year. The colored seedless utilization is expected at 27.0 million boxes (1.15 million tons), also unchanged, but 6 percent less than the 1998-99 season. Fruit size is below average for both white and colored seedless grapefruit. Normal droppage has occurred on the white seedless, but slightly above normal droppage has occurred on the colored seedless. The irregular bloom this season may be affecting both the average size and drop at this point of the season. The seedy grapefruit crop is expected to total 500,000 boxes (21,000 tons), unchanged from the previous forecast but 9 percent below last season. Seedy fruit size is slightly above average, but loss from droppage is well below average. Final utilization is dependent on load tickets at the processing plant since this variety is only recorded as processed use.

The February 1 forecast of Texas grapefruit is unchanged at 5.50 million boxes (220,000 tons) and is down 10 percent from last season. The California and Arizona forecasts are carried forward from earlier forecasts.

Tangerines: The 1999-00 U.S. tangerine crop forecast is unchanged at a record large 441,000 tons, up 35 percent from the freeze-damaged crop last season. Florida’s tangerine forecast remains at 6.60 million boxes (314,000 tons), 33 percent larger than last season. Harvest of the early tangerines, Robinson and Fallglo varieties, is complete. Harvest of Sunburst and Dancy varieties is rapidly declining. The cooler weather has aided in holding quality. The Honey tangerine harvest is underway. The Honey crop has more “off bloom” than normal and more spot picking has occurred. The loss from droppage has been very low and fruit size is smaller than average. The California and Arizona tangerine forecasts are carried forward from earlier forecasts.

Tangelos: The 1999-00 tangelo forecast from Florida is decreased to 2.60 million boxes (117,000 tons), 7 percent lower than last month but 2 percent higher than last season’s final utilization. The reduction is based on the Row Count Survey conducted at the end of January. Harvest is almost two-thirds complete.

K-Early Citrus: The K-Early Citrus Fruit forecast for 1999-00 is now 100,000 boxes (4,500 tons), 10,000 more boxes than last month and 20,000 more boxes than the final utilization last season. Processed use has continued to trickle in at a few thousand boxes in recent weeks.
Florida Citrus: During January there were a wide variety of weather conditions. There were days when the temperatures were in the seventies followed by a period of overcast with drizzle and temperatures in the low sixties. In late January, temperatures dropped below freezing for a few hours but not low enough or long enough to do significant damage to citrus fruit or to foliage. There were a few low land cold pockets that had some outer foliage burned by the cold temperatures. Harvest of early and midseason oranges was very active during the month with most of the fruit going to the processors. Most processing plants were running 24 hours a day in order to utilize the seven to nine million boxes harvested each week. Most fresh fruit packinghouses were filling orders with early and midseason oranges, grapefruit, Temples, tangerines and tangelos. Caretakers were cutting cover crops prior to harvesting and for fire protection. Growers started fertilizing toward the end of the month. Hedging and topping were reported in all areas.

Texas Citrus: January weather conditions in the Rio Grande Valley have been cooler than normal but not as cold as it has been in Central and North Texas. Just over half of the grapefruit crop and 80 percent of the early, midseason orange crop have been harvested.

California Citrus: Picking of citrus crops was delayed in the San Joaquin Valley due to numerous rainy days during January. Harvests of lemons, grapefruit, tangerines, and navel oranges were active in southern California. Approximately one third of the navel orange crop had been picked by February 1. Growers were concerned with puff and crease. The Valencia orange crop was maturing well with picking expected to begin in the desert area soon.

Papayas: Hawaii fresh papaya output is estimated at 3.35 million pounds for January, unchanged from December but 12 percent higher than a year ago. Area in crop totaled 3,285 acres for January, 2 percent higher than December but 12 percent lower than January 1999. Harvested area totaled 1,670 acres, 3 percent higher than last month but 24 percent lower than a year ago. January weather conditions were variable with a mix of rain, cloudy skies, and some sunshine. Seasonally cool temperatures slowed fruit maturation.

California Non-Citrus Fruits and Nuts: During January, fruit and nut growers were pruning and removing trees, and planting cover crops when weather permitted. Above average rainfall alleviated the dry conditions of the orchards. Land was fumigated in preparation for new plantings of fruit and nut trees. Grape growers were pruning vines, tying canes, and spraying or cultivating for weed control.

Almonds: California almond production for 1999 is estimated at a record 830 million pounds, up 60 percent from 1998’s crop. The new record is 9 percent over the previous record of 759 million pounds set in 1997. Bearing acreage in 1999 was estimated at 480,000, 4 percent above 1998. The average price was $0.85 per pound (shelled basis), off sharply from 1998’s average of $1.41. Value of utilized production came to 677 million dollars, off 4 percent from 1998.

Pecans: The February revised estimate for 1999 pecan production is 342 million pounds, up 5 percent from the preliminary January estimate. This compares to last year’s 146 million pounds. Pecans, known for their alternate bearing pattern, were expected to yield a large 1999 crop. This is the first year a February revised estimate has been made, part of a program change to more adequately cover a harvest which stretches from the Southeast to the Southwest. Improved varieties are expected to account for 232 million pounds of the total while native and seedling varieties are projected to make up the difference of 110 million pounds.
The increase in estimated production is seen in the Western states where harvest was still underway when the January preliminary estimate was made. Oklahoma production increased 10 million pounds. Nine million pounds of the increase are allotted to a large native crop. The Texas crop also increased 5 million pounds, all on the native side. Continuing strong prices and good quality encouraged more producers to harvest native groves.

Arizona pecan production is now measured at 21.7 million pounds, up 11 percent from the January estimate. This is primarily due to growers being able to get a better idea of crop size now that harvest is almost completed.

**Walnuts:** California walnut production for 1999 is estimated at a record 283,000 tons, up 25 percent from the 1998 crop. The new record is 5 percent over the previous high of 269,000 tons set in 1997. Bearing acreage in 1999 was estimated at 193,000, unchanged for the third year. Estimates for the 1999 price and value will be published July 7, 2000.

**Pistachios:** Pistachio production for 1999 is estimated at 123 million pounds. This is down 35 percent from last year’s 188 million pounds. Bearing acreage in 1999 was estimated at 71,000, up from 1998’s revised 68,000 acres. Average in-shell price was $1.31 per pound, up from 1998’s average of $1.03. Total value of utilized production amounted to 161 million dollars, off 17 percent from 1998.
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