

# crop production



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## HIGHLIGHTS OF U. S. CROP REPORT AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 1971

Citrus production is expected to be 12 percent more than last season. Declines from January 1 for grapefruit, tangelos, tangerines, and temples more than offset an increase for oranges.

Orange production is forecast at 207.9 million boxes, 2.1 million boxes (1 percent) more than January 1 and 22.2 million boxes (12 percent) above last season. Prospects in Florida and Texas are unchanged from a month ago; however, a larger forecast for California more than offset a smaller forecast in Arizona.

Grapefruit production is placed at 59.8 million boxes, down 4.3 million boxes (7 percent) from January 1 but 5.9 million boxes (11 percent) above the 1969-70 crop. Production forecasts are down from a month earlier in Florida and Arizona but unchanged in California and Texas.

Lemon production at 18.0 million boxes is the same as a month earlier and 16 percent (2.5 million boxes) more than last season.

Winter potato production is estimated at 3.3 million cwt., 6 percent (212,000 cwt) below last month and 7 percent less than last year. Intended plantings of 83,000 acres for early summer potatoes are down slightly from 83,400 planted last year.

Winter Wheat growth was limited by cold, dry weather over much of the Nation. Soil moisture remained short in the Southern Plains.

SEE PAGE 5 FOR  
INTERNAL DAMAGE  
REPORT ON FLORIDA ORANGES

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE CROP REPORTING BOARD

Cr Pr. 2-2 (2-71)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

CITRUS FRUITS PRODUCTION 1/

Crop	1968-69	1969-70	Indicated 1970-71	
			Jan. 1	Feb. 1
1,000 boxes				
Oranges	183,880	185,660	205,800	207,000
Grapefruit	54,170	53,910	64,100	59,800
Lemons	15,810	15,520	18,000	18,000

1/ Season begins with bloom of the first year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year.

IRISH POTATOES

Seasonal group	Acreage		Yield per harv. acre			Production				
	Harv. 1970	For harv. 1971	1969	1970	Indicated 1971	1969	1970	Indicated 1971	Jan. 1	Feb. 1
		1,000 acres		Cwt.		1,000 cwt.				
Winter	18.8	17.7	193	191	188	3,828	3,582	3,541	3,329	
		Planted acreage		Yield per planted acre			Production			
				Indi-						
				cated						
				1969						
				1970						
				1971						
		1,000 acres		Cwt.		1,000 cwt.				
Early spring	33.0	30.0	29.7	172	159	5,687	4,757	Apr. 9		
Late spring	92.3	81.5	83.0	231	259	21,308	21,070	May 10		
Early summer	86.2	83.4	83.0	156	156	13,487	13,006	June 10		

APPROVED:



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## GENERAL CROP SUMMARY AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 1971

Cold, wintry weather dominated much of the Nation during January. Freezing temperatures damaged citrus and vegetable crops in Florida, California and Arizona, according to the Crop Reporting Board. Topsoil moisture remains short in the Southern Great Plains and Southwest. Agricultural activity was at a low level during the month. Livestock herds needed extra feed and additional care to remain healthy during the various cold periods of the month.

### January - Cold And Stormy

Temperatures during January were colder than normal in the area east and north of a line from central Alabama to northwestern Montana. Readings were mostly 3 to 9 degrees below normal. Above average temperatures occurred from the Southern Great Plains to the West Coast. However, record low temperatures were set early in the month at some stations in this area with Albuquerque, New Mexico registering 17° below zero. Some areas in the Colorado Rockies were 40° to 50° below zero.

The New Year started off with heavy snow from the Southern Appalachians to New England and from the Rocky Mountains to the Great Lakes -- record one-day snowfalls were recorded at Moline, Illinois and La Crosse, Wisconsin. Snow, wind and bitter cold throughout the month slowed marketings of farm products and made caring for livestock difficult from the Northern Great Plains to New England.

Florida temperatures dipped well below freezing on January 20 and 21, causing damage to both citrus and vegetable crops. Earlier in the month freezing temperatures also hit citrus and vegetable crops in California and Arizona.

Precipitation for January was very light across the south from California to Louisiana -- also in Florida. The brunt of the dry conditions center in Texas, with New Mexico and western areas of both Oklahoma and Kansas also affected.

Pacific storms through most of the month brought generous rains to coastal areas of Washington and Oregon. An intensive storm pounded the area the weekend of January 15, when winds gusted to 109 M.P.H. at Cape Blanco, Oregon.

Little field work was accomplished during January as wintry weather limited field activity. Some late cotton picking occurred in California and Arizona. A small acreage of both cotton and soybeans remains to be harvested in Arkansas. Heavy supplemental feeding of livestock was necessary during the month. Feed supplies are generally plentiful, but shortages of feed grains are noted in local areas.

Snow cover on February 1 was not as widespread as a year earlier -- especially in the West where many areas are bare.

### Southern Plains Wheat Needs Moisture

Growth of winter grains during January was limited by cold, dry weather over most of the Nation. However, a lot of the acreage remained dormant and moisture requirements were low. January temperatures averaged below normal over all areas except Texas, Oklahoma, and most of the Western States. Precipitation was well below normal in the Southern Plains and the Southwest. Much of the winter wheat crop in the Plains is vulnerable to wind erosion but only limited damage has occurred to date.

Despite little growth in January, Kansas wheat showed some greening during a warm period late in the month. January precipitation was heavy in east central and southeastern Kansas counties but moderately below normal in most other districts. Topsoil moisture is short in many western areas and in parts of south central Kansas. Subsoil moisture was short in about half of the extreme western and a number of central counties. Early January precipitation benefited wheat in Oklahoma, but in the western third the crop is in poor condition and additional moisture is badly needed. The crop is in generally fair to good condition in the remainder of the State. Grazing of small grains was limited. The extreme drouth that has prevailed in Texas since October continued unabated, and January was one of the warmest and driest on record. Wheat prospects are poor on dryland fields. Irrigated wheat, aided by above normal temperatures, recovered somewhat from the effects of early January freezing weather. Western Nebraska fields started to green in late January. Wind erosion damaged some fields with limited cover. Colorado's winter wheat remains in good condition except those fields damaged by blowing soil. Topsoil in the Eastern part of the State was dry and subsoil moisture was rated from short to adequate in all areas.

Montana received heavy snow that protected wheat from below normal temperatures during the first half of January. A warming trend then reduced the snow cover and an ice crust formed in some fields causing concern. Precipitation was normal or above normal over most of the Pacific Northwest. Runoff of rain and rapidly melting snow in the Northwest during the latter half of the month caused some erosion. Cold, dry weather prevailed in Missouri and the Eastern Corn Belt during January. Snowcover was lacking except in the northernmost counties of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio.

ORANGES: The Nation's 1970-71 orange crop, as of February 1, is forecast at a record high 207.9 million boxes, 2.1 million more than the forecast a month earlier -- 12 percent above last season and 13 percent more than the 1968-69 crop. Over the past 6 seasons, the February 1 orange forecasts have differed from actual production, an average of 6.8 million boxes, ranging from 2.1 to 11.7 million boxes.

Prospective production of oranges in Florida is record high, at 160.0 million boxes, unchanged from a month earlier, 16 percent above last season and well above the previous record of 139.5 million boxes. It is too early to fully assess the fruit damage and losses caused by the January 21 freeze, but the following table indicates the damage to be minimal. In the past 6 seasons, during which forecasting methods were comparable, Florida's February 1 forecasts have differed from actual production, an average of 5.0 million boxes, ranging from 1.5 to 7.7 million boxes. As a result of the January 21 freeze, tree condition varies from good to poor depending on location. The morning of January 21 was the coldest since December 1962. Most of the new foliage was killed in the colder areas. Damage is spotted in the major producing areas. Younger trees suffered severest defoliation. Warm days and dry winds accelerated foliage dehydration which was started by the January freeze. However, general rains February 7 and 8 may have alleviated dry conditions.

Florida Oranges: Cold Damage of Fruit on Trees, 1970-71  
Crop, with Comparisons

Fruit Type and Date of Cold Damage	No	Damage	Damage	Damage at Center Cut	
	Damage	at	at	Minor	Major
	: Apparent:	$\frac{1}{4}$ " Cut	$\frac{1}{2}$ " Cut	:	:
<u>Early and Midseason</u>		P e r c e n t			
December 12-13, 1957 .....	27	10	16	--- 47 ---	
December 13, 1962 .....	1/8	8	13	24	47
January 30-31, 1966 .....	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/
December 16-17, 1968 .....	43	25	16	10	6
January 8-11, 1970 .....	48	17	19	11	5
January 20-21, 1971 .....	44	16	17	11	12
<u>Valencias</u>					
December 12-13, 1957 .....	47	11	14	--- 28 ---	
December 13, 1962 .....	32	16	16	19	17
January 30-31, 1966 .....	63	20	10	6	1
December 16-17, 1968 .....	70	13	11	4	2
January 8-11, 1970 .....	70	14	10	5	1
January 20-21, 1971 .....	67	9	8	8	8

1/ Includes 1 percent rind damage.

2/ Most of crop harvest at time of survey.

California's orange production is placed at 39.0 million boxes, 3.5 million boxes more than on January 1. This is the same as last season but 12 percent below the 1968-69 output. The freezing temperatures in early January caused some damage to both Navel and Valencias crops. It appears that the overall crop will not be affected since most of the damaged fruit will probably go to processing outlets. Harvest of Navels continued at a moderate pace during January with quality of packed fruit good. Maturity is advancing and degreening has been discontinued.

Production of Texas oranges remains at 5.1 million boxes, 21 percent more than produced last year. Harvest of Early and Midseason varieties continued active during January and light harvest of Valencia oranges began in late January. Irrigation is active in the Lower Valley, as very little rainfall has been received since early October. In groves not adequately irrigated, fruit did not size well during January.

Arizona's 1970-71 orange crop is forecast at 3.8 million boxes, 1.4 million less than the January 1 forecast, 20 percent below last season's output. Most of the decline from last month is in forecast of the Valencia crop. A severe freeze in Arizona began on the night of January 3 and continued for several nights, causing some defoliation and new stem growth to be frozen back in colder areas. Fruit damage varied and it is still too early to fully assess the extent of fruit damage and losses.

FLORIDA FROZEN CONCENTRATED ORANGE JUICE YIELD: The projection of yield of frozen concentrated orange juice per box in Florida will not be made this month. The next projection will be published March 10. The relatively low yield of frozen concentrated orange juice per box reported by the Florida Cannery Association through January indicates the season average will fall below the 1.32 gallons per box projected a month ago.

GRAPEFRUIT: The Nation's 1970-71 grapefruit crop is expected to total 59.8 million boxes, down 4.3 million boxes from the January 1 estimate. Production at this level is 11 percent above last season's output and 10 percent above the 1968-69 production. Changes in the U. S. production between the February 1 forecast and the final production have averaged 2.27 million boxes over the past 6 seasons, ranging from 0.5 million to 4.38 million.

Production in Florida is forecast at 43.0 million boxes, 4.0 million less than forecast on January 1. This is still 15 percent more than produced last season and 8 percent above the 1968-69 production. Changes in Florida's grapefruit production between the February 1 forecast and the final production over the past 6 seasons, using comparable methods of forecasting, have averaged 1.58 million boxes, ranging from 0.1 million to 4.1 million boxes. Harvest in Florida has been running far ahead of last year and previous seasons. Due to the freeze and drought, condition of trees and fruit varies from good to poor depending on location. The freeze on January 21, 1971, was the coldest weather since December 1962. On February 1 all citrus areas were in need of rain and irrigation was in full swing, where equipment was available. Warm days and dry winds accelerated foliage dehydration--started by the January freeze. However, general rains fell the first weekend in February and may have alleviated the drought conditions.

The Texas crop, forecast at 8.5 million boxes, is unchanged from last month, 0.4 million boxes above last season. Grapefruit harvest is expected to continue active in February. Dry weather continued through January, and fruit in groves not adequately irrigated did not size well during the month.

Arizona's grapefruit prospects, at 2.9 million boxes, are 0.3 million boxes less than the January 1 forecast and 8 percent below last season. Arizona had a severe freeze from the evening of January 3 and continuing for several nights. A quick warming trend followed the freeze causing dehydration and some losses of fruit. Defoliation was severe to moderate and, in the colder areas, some new stem growth was frozen back.

California's grapefruit crop is placed at 5.4 million boxes, unchanged from January 1 and 3 percent above last season. In the Desert Valleys some frost damage is showing up, but shippers are selecting their fruit carefully. The overall fruit quality is good, and damaged fruit is being converted to processing. There was no fruit damage to the Other Areas crop, where the crop is developing well although sizes are somewhat smaller than is normal.

LEMONS: Lemon production prospects in California and Arizona remain at 18.0 million boxes, 16 percent more than last season. In California, picking of the new crop increased sharply in late January. The cold weather in early January caused some damage to the crop in the Central Valley, but there was virtually no damage to the Southern California crop. Rains and wet conditions this season, have hindered the harvest which is somewhat behind schedule. In Arizona, most of the crop was harvested prior to the freeze, but there has been some defoliation of trees and some stem growth frozen back.

TANGELOS: Florida's tangelo production is now forecast at 2.8 million boxes, down 0.5 million from January 1, but still 0.3 million above a year ago. The freeze on January 21 caused some damage to the fruit and trees. By February 1, most of the crop had been harvested.

TANGERINES: The estimated U. S. tangerine crop is now 4.7 million boxes, down 1.22 million boxes from January 1, but still 18 percent above last season's output. Prospects are down 1.2 million boxes from a month ago in Florida, reduced slightly in Arizona but unchanged in California. In both Arizona and Florida, harvest is nearly complete, although fruit on the trees at the time of the freeze was damaged.

TEMPLES: In Florida, a crop of 5.5 million boxes is expected, 1.0 million less than on January 1, but still 0.3 million above last season. This fruit was the hardest hit by the freezing temperatures and the remaining fruit was severely damaged. Some defoliation and wood damage has occurred to the trees.

POTATOES: Production of winter crop potatoes is forecast at 3,329,000 cwt., 7 percent less than 1970 production of 3,582,000 cwt. Florida's prospects are lower than a month earlier because of cold weather in late January. Harvesting of "red" types is underway in the Fort Myers area and continues in the Everglades. Digging is expected to get underway in Dade County by late February. Supplies in heavy volume are expected during March and April.

California's winter crop is estimated at 1,633,000 cwt., unchanged from a month ago but 16 percent less than the 1970 production of 1,955,000 cwt. Harvesting has been at a good pace, but only light to moderate digging is expected in the important Kern County area during February.

Prospective plantings of early summer potatoes in 1971 are estimated at 83,000 acres, slightly less than the 83,400 acres planted last year. Declines in acreage from a year earlier for Virginia, Alabama, and Texas more than offset the increased plantings forecast for Tennessee. In other States of the group, the 1971 acreage is equal to 1970 level. Virginia's Eastern Shore area is expected to plant 29,600 acres, the same as last year. Texas plantings of 18,000 acres are down from 18,500 acres for 1970.

#### CROP REPORTING BOARD

CITRUS FRUITS, PRODUCTION 1/

Crop and State :	1968-69 :	1969-70 :	Indicated:	1968-69 :	1969-70 :	Indicated
:	:	:	: 1970-71 :	:	:	: 1970-71
:	1,000 boxes 2/			Equivalent tons		
ORANGES:						
EARLY, MIDSEASON &						
NAVEL VARIETIES: 3/:						
Calif.	18,600	21,200	18,000	698,000	795,000	675,000
Fla.	69,700	72,900	89,000	3,136,000	3,281,000	4,005,000
Texas	2,800	2,800	3,500	126,000	126,000	158,000
Ariz.	1,270	1,120	900	47,600	42,000	33,800
Total Above						
Varieties	92,370	98,020	111,400	4,007,600	4,244,000	4,871,800
VALENCIAS:						
Calif.	25,700	17,800	21,000	964,000	668,000	788,000
Fla.	60,000	64,800	71,000	2,700,000	2,916,000	3,195,000
Texas	1,700	1,400	1,600	76,500	63,000	72,000
Ariz.	4,110	3,640	2,900	154,000	137,000	109,000
Total Valencias	91,510	87,640	96,500	3,894,500	3,784,000	4,164,000
ALL ORANGES:						
Calif.	44,300	39,000	39,000	1,662,000	1,463,000	1,463,000
Fla.	129,700	137,700	160,000	5,836,000	6,197,000	7,200,000
Texas	4,500	4,200	5,100	202,500	189,000	230,000
Ariz.	5,380	4,760	3,800	201,600	179,000	142,800
U. S. All Oranges	183,880	185,660	207,900	7,902,100	8,028,000	9,035,800
GRAPEFRUIT:						
Fla., All	39,900	37,400	43,000	1,695,000	1,590,000	1,828,000
Seedless	27,700	27,900	31,000	1,177,000	1,186,000	1,318,000
Pink	10,700	10,200	11,000	455,000	434,000	468,000
White	17,000	17,700	20,000	722,000	752,000	850,000
Other	12,200	9,500	12,000	518,000	404,000	510,000
Texas	6,700	8,100	8,500	268,000	324,000	340,000
Ariz.	2,510	3,160	2,900	80,300	101,000	92,800
Calif., All	5,060	5,250	5,400	165,300	171,500	176,400
Desert Valleys	3,260	2,950	3,300	105,000	94,400	106,000
Other Areas	1,800	2,300	2,100	60,300	77,100	70,400
U. S., All						
Grapefruit	54,170	53,910	59,800	2,208,600	2,186,500	2,437,200
LEMONS:						
Calif.	12,300	12,700	14,500	468,000	483,000	551,000
Ariz.	3,510	2,820	3,500	134,000	107,000	133,000
U. S. Lemons	15,810	15,520	18,000	602,000	590,000	684,000
TANGELOS: Fla.	1,800	2,500	2,800	81,000	113,000	126,000
TANGERINES:						
Fla.	3,400	3,000	3,700	162,000	143,000	176,000
Ariz.	170	220	200	6,380	8,250	7,500
Calif.	640	760	800	24,000	28,500	30,000
Total Tangerines	4,210	3,980	4,700	192,380	179,750	213,500
TEMPLES: Fla.	4,500	5,200	5,500	202,000	234,000	248,000

1/ The crop year begins with the bloom of the first year shown and ends with completion of harvest the following year. 2/ Net content of box varies. Approximate averages are as follows: Oranges - California and Arizona, 75 lbs.; Florida and other States, 90 lbs.; Grapefruit- California, Desert Valleys, and Arizona, 64 lbs.; other California areas, 67 lbs.; Florida 85 lbs. and Texas 80 lbs.; Lemons - 76 lbs.; Tangerines - 90 lbs.; Tangerines - California and Arizona, 75 lbs.; Florida, 95 lb.; and Temples - 90 lbs. 3/ Navel and Miscellaneous varieties in California and Arizona. Early and Midseason varieties in Florida and Texas, including small quantities of tangerines in Texas.

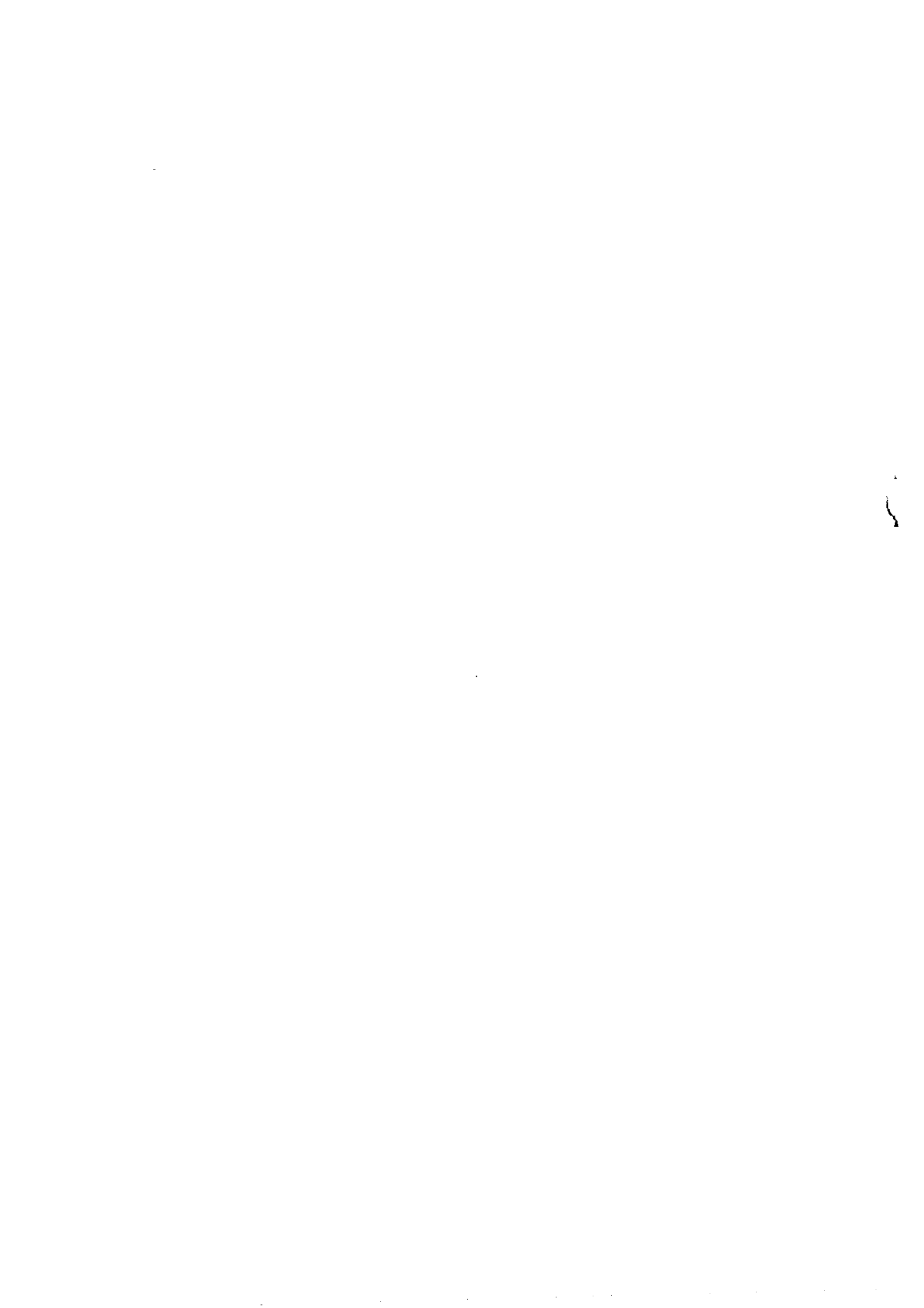


IRISH POTATOES 1971 CROP

Seasonal group and State	Acreage			Yield per harv. acre			Production		
	Harvested	For	harvest			Indi-			Indi-
	1969	1970	1971	1969	1970	cated	1969	1970	cated
	1,000 acres			Cwt.			1,000 cwt.		
<u>WINTER:</u>									
Fla.	11.0	10.3	10.6	180	158	160	1,980	1,627	1,696
Calif.	8.8	8.5	7.1	210	230	230	1,848	1,955	1,633
Total	19.8	18.8	17.7	193	191	188	3,828	3,582	3,329

IRISH POTATOES 1971 CROP Continued

Seasonal group and State	Planted acreage			Yield per Planted acre			Production		
			Indi-						
	1969	1970	cated	1969	1970	1971	1969	1970	1971
	1,000 acres			Cwt.			1,000 cwt.		
<u>E. SPRING:</u>									
Fla.									
Hastings	26.5	24.7	23.5	184	164		4,866	4,043	Apr. 9
Other	3.2	2.0	2.4	131	133		418	266	"
Texas	3.3	3.3	3.8	122	136		403	448	"
Total	33.0	30.0	29.7	172	159		5,687	4,757	"
<u>L. SPRING:</u>									
N. Carolina									
8 N. E. Counties	10.0	10.0	10.0	135	150		1,350	1,500	May 10
Other Counties	2.4	2.4	2.4	120	100		288	240	"
Ala.	10.5	7.9	8.7	107	130		1,120	1,027	"
Miss.	2.5	2.5	2.5	80	85		200	213	"
Ark.	1.8	1.4	1.4	70	65		126	91	"
La.	3.5	2.7	2.6	64	72		225	195	"
Texas	5.2	5.1	5.4	96	113		500	576	"
Ariz.	12.8	11.3	10.3	230	240		2,944	2,712	"
Calif.	43.6	38.2	39.7	334	380		14,555	14,516	"
Total	92.3	81.5	83.0	231	259		21,308	21,070	"
<u>E. SUMMER:</u>									
Mo.	1.1	.8	.8	100	96		110	77	June 10
Kans.	1.4	1.3	1.3	77	92		108	120	"
Del.	8.0	7.2	7.2	210	210		1,680	1,512	"
Md.	1.8	1.7	1.7	160	170		288	289	"
Va.									"
Eastern Shore	29.0	29.6	29.6	124	126		3,607	3,718	"
Other	2.3	2.0	1.9	100	100		230	200	"
N. C.	2.0	2.0	2.0	115	110		230	220	"
Ky.	2.7	2.5	2.5	73	66		197	165	"
Tenn.	3.8	3.8	4.1	93	95		353	361	"
Ala.	9.0	9.0	8.9	130	125		1,170	1,125	"
Texas	19.6	18.5	18.0	180	193		3,534	3,569	"
Calif.	5.5	5.0	5.0	360	330		1,980	1,650	"
Total	86.2	83.4	83.0	156	156		13,487	13,006	"





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

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