

crop production



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HIGHLIGHTS

CITRUS production at a record 14.1 million tons is virtually unchanged from the January 1 forecast but 6 percent above last season.

ORANGE production is forecast at a record 233.6 million boxes, virtually unchanged (down 0.3 million boxes) from January 1, but 8 percent (17.1 million boxes) above last season. As of February 1 about 30 percent of the oranges had been harvested.

GRAPEFRUIT production is forecast at 58.8 million boxes, 2 percent (0.9 million boxes) below the January 1 forecast and 10 percent (6.3 million boxes) below the 1973-74 crop. About 37 percent of the crop had been harvested by February 1.

LEMON production at a record 25.5 million boxes is up 2 percent (0.5 million boxes) from January 1 and 46 percent (8 million boxes) above last season.

POTATOES - Winter production for 1975 is forecast at 2.9 million cwt., 3 percent above January 1, but virtually unchanged from a year earlier.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE CROP REPORTING BOARD

CrPr 2-2 (2-75) WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

UNITED STATES CROP SUMMARY
(DOMESTIC UNITS)
CITRUS FRUITS, PRODUCTION 1/

CROP	1973-74	INDICATED 1974-75	
		JAN 1	FEB 1
		1,000 BOXES	
ORANGES	216,510	233,900	233,600
GRAPEFRUIT	65,100	59,700	58,800
LEMONS	17,500	25,000	25,500

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 ACRE		PRODUCTION		
	HAR-VESTED	FOR HARVEST	1974	INDI-CATED	INDICATED 1975		
	1974	1975	1974	1975	1974	JAN	FEB
	1,000 ACRES		CWT		1,000 CWT		
WINTER	13.7	14.6	214	200	2,933	2,849	2,921

UNITED STATES CROP SUMMARY
(METRIC UNITS)
CITRUS FRUITS, PRODUCTION 1/

CROP	1973-74	INDICATED 1974-75	
		JAN 1	FEB 1
		1,000 METRIC TONS	
ORANGES	8,524	9,166	9,154
GRAPEFRUIT	2,428	2,213	2,177
LEMONS	603	862	879

1/ SEASON BEGINS WITH BLOOM OF THE FIRST YEAR SHOWN AND ENDS WITH THE COMPLETION OF HARVEST THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

IRISH POTATOES

SEASONAL GROUP	AREA		YIELD PER HECTARE		PRODUCTION		
	HARVESTED		1974	1975	1974	INDICATED 1975	
	1974	1975	1974	1975	1974	JAN	FEB
	1,000 HECTARES		QUINTALS		1,000 METRIC TONS		
WINTER	5.5	5.9	242	224	133	129	132

The CROP PRODUCTION report contains State and National estimates with related information on selected agricultural commodities. These data were prepared and adopted by the Crop Reporting Board which consists of commodity statisticians from the Statistical Reporting Service's field offices and Washington headquarters.

APPROVED:

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ACTING SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

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California Freeze Damage

Citrus in the San Joaquin Valley received sub-freezing temperatures for the third time this season. On the nights of January 27 through 30 temperatures dropped as low as 20 degrees for up to an hour at one recording station in Tulare County, the major Navel orange production area. Temperatures were at or below 27 degrees for as long as 11 hours. It is too early to determine the extent of damage from the latest freeze but it appears to be confined to the same locality which experienced sub-freezing temperatures during December 23-26 and December 30 - January 2.

Sub-freezing temperatures were also received in the southern citrus areas. Minimum temperatures in this area were 22 degrees for up to an hour and were at or below 27 degrees up to 9 hours. Temperatures varied greatly as did the duration of the cold. Wet conditions and frost protection devices appear to have held damage in the southern citrus areas to relatively slight amounts.

Texas Freeze Damage

Temperatures as low as 22-23 degrees were received in the lower Rio Grande citrus area on January 13 and 14, with temperatures at or below 27 degrees lasting 6-7 hours. Some mid-season oranges sustained damage, but these will be diverted to processors. Little damage occurred to grapefruit and Valencia oranges.

January Weather

January temperatures averaged above normal across the Nation except for the western Mountain States, much of California and the northern tip of Maine. The northern Great Plains and areas east of the Mississippi River averaged 4 to 6 degrees above normal, except over the Appalachians. Northeastern Montana temperatures averaged up to 10 degrees above normal. Temperatures averaged well above normal during the opening week of January over the eastern half of the Nation. Only the Southwestern quadrant averaged below normal. The week ending the 12th was quite similar in temperature distributions. Most of the Northeast averaged 6 to 15 degrees above normal. Record highs were set in many Eastern Corn Belt areas on the 10th and 11th while a severe blizzard was striking Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. The distribution of temperature departures reversed during the week of the 19th. The Western States were well above normal, while the Eastern States cooled markedly. Parts of Montana were as much as 18 degrees above normal. In the South, only the Galveston-Corpus Christi, Texas corridor and the southern half of Florida escaped freezing temperatures. The entire Nation averaged above normal during the week ending the 26th. The month ended with the Eastern States again well above normal and extremely cold temperatures in the Western States.

Precipitation amounts varied from only a trace at Yuma, Arizona to nearly 14 inches at Quillayute, Washington. Amounts were well above normal over most of the Country. Exceptions were the west central Great Plains, southern Florida, the Desert Southwest, all of California and northern Montana. Unusually wet areas included Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana, most of the Corn Belt except for eastern Iowa, and the northern Great Plains. The New Year began with moderate rainfall over the Eastern States and Deep South and snow blanketing the Great Lakes area. During the week ending the 12th, heavy rains again fell over the Deep South and a major blizzard moved across the Northern Plains. Rainfall totaling 5 inches or more fell over parts of Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Tornadoes ripped through the Southeast on the 10th, and over forty were reported through the central Gulf Coast. The blizzard in the upper Midwest dropped heavy amounts of snow driven by 30 to 70 mph winds. Snow depths ranged from 6 to 20 inches, although the winds generated high drifts. Precipitation was generally lighter during the following week, but over the weekend a winter storm moved off the Rockies and spread precipitation over most of the eastern United States. A powerful winter storm packed heavy snows around the Great Lakes during the week ending the 26th, as the Upper Peninsula was covered with over 40 inches of snow. As much as 2 feet of new snow fell in Minnesota. Heavy thunderstorm activity on the 24th and 25th dropped up to 2 inches of rain over the Southeast. The month ended with heavy rains across the Nation's midsection, totaling from 1 to 3 inches over sections of Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas.

Winter Wheat

Winter wheat prospects varied considerably on February 1 and the overall condition was fair to good in most major wheat States. Above normal temperatures in the Northern States helped ease the threat of damage from freezing temperatures.

In the southern Great Plains, wheat growth was halted until late in the month by bitter cold weather in northern Texas and Oklahoma. Warmer temperatures late in the month prompted new growth, but in many areas the growth quickly disappeared from grazing. Above normal precipitation fell in eastern Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas while the remaining areas were much below normal. In western Kansas the dry topsoil and sparse ground cover left many wheat fields subject to wind erosion. Elsewhere in the State, wheat prospects look very good.

Wheat in the northern Great Plains varied considerably. Little or no snow cover during the month left wheat fields dry and vulnerable to wind blowing in eastern Colorado and Wyoming and western Nebraska. Blizzard conditions accompanied by strong winds left much of eastern Nebraska and South Dakota under a heavy snow cover. Above normal precipitation for the month will help alleviate their dry soil conditions. Snow cover in Montana was good except over the eastern third of the State.

In the Pacific Northwest, snow cover in eastern Washington continued good in most areas. Warmer temperatures and rain late in the month caused some erosion.

Wheat in the eastern Corn Belt and southern Missouri was without snow cover on February 1, but above normal precipitation and temperatures prevailed throughout most of the area during January. Winter wheat was in mostly good condition as the warmer temperatures caused considerable greening but left the crop vulnerable to freeze damage. With surplus moisture and repeated freezing and thawing, there was concern over damage from heaving in some States.

ORANGES: The Nation's 1974-75 orange crop is forecast at 233.6 million boxes, virtually unchanged from last month's forecast but 8 percent above last season and 4 percent above the previous record set in 1972-73. In Florida, prospects continue to indicate a record crop of 174 million boxes, unchanged from January 1 but 5 percent above last season. Early and mid-season oranges are expected to total 97 million boxes, up 5 percent from the previous record set last season. Harvest of early and mid-season oranges is about 56 percent complete. Florida Valencia oranges at 77 million boxes are up 4 percent from last year but 3 percent below the previous record set in 1972-73.

In California, orange prospects remain unchanged from January 1 at 50 million boxes, the largest crop since 1946-47. The sub-freezing temperatures are not expected to reduce the quantity of fruit. Navel orange production at 25 million boxes is unchanged from last month but 14 percent above last season. Harvest is about 40 percent complete. Despite a large Navel orange crop and the diversion of damaged fruit to processing about 23 percent of the crop has been processed as of February 1 compared with a 5-year average of 24 percent of the crop utilized by processors.

California Valencia oranges at 25 million boxes are 33 percent above last season.

The Texas crop is now expected to total 5.1 million boxes, 7 percent less than last month and 23 percent below last season. Harvest of early and mid-season varieties is about 80 percent complete. In Arizona, production at 4.5 million boxes is up 2 percent from January 1 and 32 percent more than last season.

Changes in U. S. production between the February 1 forecast and final production have averaged 7.0 million boxes over the past 10 seasons, ranging from 1.5 million boxes in 1971-72 to 18.3 million boxes in 1970-71.

FLORIDA FROZEN CONCENTRATED JUICE YIELD: The all orange yield for 1974-75 is projected at 1.29 gallons of 45 degree brix concentrate per box. Final yield from the 1973-74 crop was 1.30 gallons per box.

GRAPEFRUIT: U. S. production of grapefruit is forecast at 58.8 million boxes, 2 percent below the January 1 forecast and 10 percent below last season. With nearly three-quarters of the U. S. total, Florida now expects a crop of 43.0 million boxes, off 1 million from last month and 5.1 million boxes below last season. The Texas and California forecasts are unchanged from January 1. The Texas crop is expected to be down 27 percent from last season while California is up 29 percent. Arizona prospects at 2.5 million boxes improved from the 2.4 million boxes forecast last month and expectations now are for 22 percent more than the 1973-74 season.

Harvest of grapefruit in the U. S. was 37 percent complete on February 1 compared with 34 percent last season. Picking is ahead of last season with 39 percent completed in Florida and 55 percent harvested in Texas. In California, about 13 percent of the Desert Valley grapefruit crop has been harvested. The crop in "Other areas" is developing normally. Although recent January cold temperatures caused some damage to fruit in California, the extent of damage cannot yet be determined.

Changes in the U. S. production between the February 1 forecast and final production have averaged 1.9 million boxes over the past 10 years, ranging from 0.5 million boxes in 1965-66 to 4.3 million boxes in 1968-69.

LEMONS: Prospects in California and Arizona are for a record crop of 25.5 million boxes, up 2 percent from last month and 46 percent above last year. California's production of 19.5 million boxes is unchanged from last month and is one-third more than last season. Arizona's prospects improved during January and a record crop of 6.0 million boxes is now forecast, up 0.5 million boxes from January 1 and more than double last season.

Picking of the California lemon crop is nearly complete in the Desert Valleys and more than half complete in the San Joaquin Valley. Cold weather and lack of rainfall has caused some damage and small sizes. About 11 percent of the Arizona crop remains for harvest. Sizes are running larger due to late picking this year with about 70 percent of the current harvest going to processing.

TANGELOS: Production in Florida is forecast at a record 4.4 million boxes, unchanged from last month but 19 percent above the prior season. Harvest of the crop is nearing completion with 92 percent picked on February 1.

TANGERINES: The U. S. tangerine crop is expected to total 5.2 million boxes, up 13 percent from last month and 9 percent more than last season. As a result of favorable weather, Florida now expects a crop of 3.1 million boxes, an increase of 24 percent over the January 1 forecast. The harvest of tangerines continues active in central California with harvest more than half completed. Although January freezing temperatures in California may have caused some damage to the remaining crop of tangerines, it is too early to appraise the extent of damage.

TEMPLES: Florida's temple crop is forecast at 5.3 million boxes, unchanged from last month and the same as the 1973-74 season. Harvest as of February 1 is 28 percent complete compared with 25 percent last year.

POTATOES: Winter production in California and Florida is estimated at 2.9 million cwt.--3 percent above the January 1 forecast but virtually unchanged from the 1974 crop. The California crop is forecast at 1.08 million cwt., 8 percent below last year's production. Yields are substantially below last year's record. Harvesting is underway in Kern and Riverside Counties. Cullage is higher than normal, due to earlier frost damage.

The Florida crop is estimated at 1.84 million cwt., up 4 percent from last year. Crop conditions improved during January. Harvest is increasing with most activity centered in the Everglades. Digging is getting underway in Martin County and the Ft. Myers area. The Dade County harvest will begin in late February.

IRISH POTATOES

SEASONAL GROUP AND STATE	ACREAGE			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
	HARVESTED	FOR HARVEST	1975	1973	1974	1975	1973	1974	1975
	1973	1974	1975	1973	1974	1975	1973	1974	1975
	1,000 ACRES			CWT.			1,000 CWT.		
WINTER:									
CALIF	4.9	4.4	4.9	220	265	220	1,078	1,166	1,078
FLA	9.1	9.3	9.7	195	190	190	1,775	1,767	1,843
TOTAL	14.0	13.7	14.6	204	214	200	2,853	2,933	2,921

FERTILIZER USED ON SELECTED CROPS IN SELECTED STATES

is no longer being published in this report. This information is now published each December in the Fertilizer Situation Report prepared by the Economic Research Service. A copy of the report may be obtained by writing to:

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Economic Research Service
Division of Information
Publications Unit, Room 0054-So.
Washington, D. C. 20250

CITRUS FRUITS, PRODUCTION 1/

CROP AND STATE	1972-73	1973-74	INDICATED	1972-73	1973-74	INDICATED
	1,000 BOXES 2/			EQUIVALENT TONS		
<u>ORANGES:</u>						
<u>EARLY, MIDSEASON & NAVEL VARIETIES: 3/</u>						
ARIZ	1,060	450	900	39,800	16,900	33,800
CALIF	18,700	21,900	25,000	701,000	821,300	937,500
FLA	90,000	92,100	97,000	4,050,000	4,144,500	4,365,000
TEX	5,300	4,200	3,200	225,300	178,500	136,000
TOTAL ABOVE VARIETIES	115,060	118,650	126,100	5,016,100	5,161,200	5,472,300
<u>VALENCIAS:</u>						
ARIZ	4,000	2,960	3,600	150,000	111,000	135,000
CALIF	23,400	18,800	25,000	878,000	705,000	937,500
FLA	79,700	73,700	77,000	3,587,000	3,316,500	3,465,000
TEX	2,500	2,400	1,900	106,300	102,000	80,800
TOTAL VALENCIAS	109,600	97,860	107,500	4,721,300	4,234,500	4,618,300
<u>ALL ORANGES:</u>						
ARIZ	5,060	3,410	4,500	189,800	127,900	168,800
CALIF	42,100	40,700	50,000	1,579,000	1,526,300	1,875,000
FLA	169,700	165,800	174,000	7,637,000	7,461,000	7,830,000
TEX	7,800	6,600	5,100	331,600	280,500	216,800
U S ALL ORANGES	224,660	216,510	233,600	9,737,400	9,395,700	10,090,600
<u>GRAPEFRUIT:</u>						
ARIZ	2,640	2,050	2,500	84,500	65,600	80,000
CALIF, ALL	5,800	4,250	5,500	189,800	138,900	180,100
DESERT VALLEYS	3,000	2,350	2,800	96,000	75,200	89,600
OTHER AREAS	2,800	1,900	2,700	93,800	63,700	90,500
FLA, ALL	45,400	48,100	43,000	1,930,000	2,044,300	1,827,600
PINK SEEDLESS	11,700	12,200	11,500	497,000	518,500	488,800
WHITE SEEDLESS	23,500	25,900	22,500	999,000	1,100,800	956,300
OTHER	10,200	10,000	9,000	434,000	425,000	382,500
TEX	11,800	10,700	7,800	472,000	428,000	312,000
U S ALL GRAPEFRUIT	65,640	65,100	58,800	2,676,300	2,676,800	2,399,700
<u>LEMONS:</u>						
ARIZ	4,600	2,900	6,000	175,000	110,200	228,000
CALIF	17,600	14,600	19,500	669,000	554,800	741,000
U S LEMONS	22,200	17,500	25,500	844,000	665,000	969,000
<u>TANGELOS: 4/</u>						
FLA	3,100	3,700	4,400	139,500	166,500	198,000
<u>TANGERINES:</u>						
ARIZ	550	680	700	19,900	25,500	26,300
CALIF	1,600	1,310	1,400	60,000	49,100	52,500
FLA	3,000	2,800	3,100	143,000	133,000	147,300
TOTAL TANGERINES	5,130	4,790	5,200	222,900	207,600	226,100
<u>TEMPLES:</u>						
FLA	5,100	5,300	5,300	230,000	238,500	238,500

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, 90 LBS.; AND TEXAS, 85 LBS.; GRAPEFRUIT - CALIFORNIA DESERT VALLEYS, AND ARIZONA, 64 LBS.; OTHER CALIFORNIA AREAS, 67 LBS.; FLORIDA, 85 LBS.; AND TEXAS, 80 LBS.; LEMONS - 76 LBS.; TANGELOS - 90 LBS.; TANGERINES - CALIFORNIA AND ARIZONA, 75 LBS.; FLORIDA, 95 LBS.; 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. 4/ EXCLUDES K - EARLY CITRUS FRUITS.

