

crop production



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HIGHLIGHTS

CITRUS production is expected to total 14.3 million tons, down 1 percent from January 1 and 2 percent below the 1974-75 crop.

ORANGE production is forecast at 230.7 million boxes, down slightly from the January 1 forecast, and 3 percent (7.3 million boxes) below last season's record crop of 237.9 million boxes.

GRAPEFRUIT production is forecast at 69.8 million boxes, unchanged from January 1, and 14 percent (8.4 million boxes) above last season.

LEMON crop prospects at 19.3 million boxes are down 3 percent (0.5 million boxes) from January 1 and are 34 percent below the previous season.

POTATOES - Winter production for 1976 is forecast at 3.1 million cwt., 5 percent above January 1 and 8 percent above a year earlier.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE CROP REPORTING BOARD

CrPr 2-2 (2-76)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

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

CROP	1974-75	INDICATED 1975-76	
		JAN 1	FEB 1
		1,000 BOXES	
ORANGES	237,910	230,700	230,650
GRAPEFRUIT	61,370	69,800	69,800
LEMONS	29,400	19,800	19,300

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

POTATOES

SEASONAL GROUP	AREA HARVESTED		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION		
	INDI-		INDI-		INDICATED 1976		
	1975	CATED	1975	CATED	1975	JAN	FEB
	1,000 ACRES		CWT		1,000 CWT		
WINTER	14.3	14.6	202	214	2,887	2,977	3,123

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

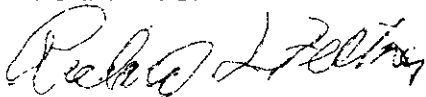
CROP	1974-75	INDICATED 1975-76	
		JAN 1	FEB 1
		1,000 METRIC TONS	
ORANGES	9,294	9,046	9,044
GRAPEFRUIT	2,264	2,586	2,586
LEMONS	1,014	682	665

POTATOES

SEASONAL GROUP	AREA HARVESTED		YIELD PER HECTARE		PRODUCTION		
	INDI-		INDI-		INDICATED 1976		
	1975	CATED	1975	CATED	1975	JAN	FEB
	1,000 HECTARES		QUINTALS		1,000 METRIC TONS		
WINTER	5.8	5.9	226	241	131	135	142

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:



ACTING SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

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JANUARY WEATHER

The most notable feature of the January weather was below normal precipitation over most of the Nation. The Southern Plains, the Southwest and California were hurt by the dry month. Exceptions to the dryness were the Northeast and North Central Plains where heavy snows occurred, and portions of the Southeast and the Pacific Northwest where rainfall was normal or better. Temperatures averaged below normal east of the Mississippi River Valley and above normal to the west with the exception of the Central and Southern Rockies where temperatures averaged 3 to 5 degrees below normal. Elsewhere in the West, temperature averages ranged from near normal along the central coastline to 10 to 12 degrees above normal in Montana.

The shortage of January precipitation following a dry December was especially serious in California, where January is the mid-month of their three month rainy season. The winter rain and snow in the California mountains normally supplies most of the irrigation water used during the rest of the year. Also serious is the lack of snow cover in the Central Plains where temperature has been above normal and precipitation below normal. The dry, bare ground is subject to severe wind erosion.

January began with a powerful winter storm that moved from the Pacific Northwest into the Central Rockies and then spread into the Northern Plains, creating blizzard to near blizzard conditions over much of the western two-thirds of the Nation. Temperatures averaged 10 to 12 degrees below normal in the Central Rockies. Elsewhere, heavy precipitation focused along the Appalachians, lower Mississippi Valley and central Gulf States. By the end of the week freezing temperatures pushed all the way to the Gulf of Mexico and zero weather encompassed most of the Rocky Mountains and upper Plains to Lake Michigan. During the second week of the month nearly all of the area from the Rockies eastward had below normal temperatures with the greatest departures of 10 to 12 degrees below normal occurring in the Northern Plains and along the Appalachians and 12 to 15 degrees below normal in New England. The southern limit of zero degrees fell along a line from southern New England to the Texas Panhandle and northern New Mexico and northward along the Rockies. Freezing weather pushed into central Florida. The heaviest precipitation occurred in the Pacific Northwest with more than five inches along the Oregon Coast, along the Appalachians and in the Southeast. Early in the week blustery winter wind and swirling snow spread misery from Kansas through Iowa and into Michigan and then on through New England but by the end of the week the wind and warming weather had cleared the shortlived snow cover from the Central Plains.

Temperatures warmed in the Central Plains during the third week of the month and all areas west of the Mississippi River averaged above normal. Departures ranged from 3 degrees above normal in Texas to 12 degrees above in parts of Kansas and Nebraska to 18 degrees above normal in north central Montana. East of the Mississippi averages ranged from 3 to 9 degrees below normal. Precipitation was sparse nationwide. Large areas of the West and Southwest recorded no precipitation at all. An exception was the heavy snow squall that dumped 15 inches of snow near Oswego, N. Y., this is not too unusual for western New York at this time of year.

The month ended with precipitation falling mostly from the Appalachians to the East Coast where 2 inches or better fell during the last week. Westward, amounts ranged from 0.3 inches to none. Temperatures were colder than normal only in the Great Lakes area and in the extreme South.

WINTER WHEAT

Winter wheat prospects during January lagged behind other recent years in most areas of the Nation, and by February 1 stands in the major winter wheat areas were below normal.

In the Southern Great Plains, wheat was mostly dormant during the coldest part of January. As temperatures increased later in the month, growth began at a very slow rate because soil moisture was short. Moderate temperatures also increased greenbug and cutworm activity. The Oklahoma crop is fair to poor. Greenbugs were thick, requiring relatively heavy control measures. Dryland wheat in the Panhandle is in trouble. Some irrigating was done during January on irrigated fields. Late planted acreage is susceptible to blowing dust and wind erosion. Kansas wheat prospects are good in the eastern third of the State but poor to fair elsewhere. Low topsoil moisture and short vegetative cover left many wheat fields subject to erosion from strong winds. Texas wheat on the High and Low Plains made little growth with most stands in the dormant stage.

Wheat in the Northern Great Plains varied from fair to good depending on temperatures and protective snow cover. In Nebraska, the condition was mostly fair. South Dakota wheat was in fair to good condition in the central, northern, and eastern parts of the winter wheat belt and poor to fair elsewhere. Spring-like weather eliminated the snow cover in the winter wheat belt the last half of January.

In the Pacific Northwest a light snow cover and mild temperatures near the end of January made the crop vulnerable to cold temperatures, but the crop was in good condition on February 1.

In the East North Central States wheat was in good condition. Near the end of January, ice in Indiana created a chance of some smothering of the crop. In Illinois a light snow cover sufficiently protected the wheat to keep it in good condition.

ORANGES: The 1975-76 U.S. orange crop is forecast at 230.7 million boxes, down slightly from last month and 3 percent below last season. In Florida prospects continue to indicate a crop of 172.0 million boxes, unchanged from last month but 1 percent below last season. Early and mid-season oranges at 98.0 million boxes are 1 percent above last season. Harvest of early and mid-season oranges is about 70 percent complete. The Valenica orange crop in Florida at 74.0 million boxes is 4 percent below last season.

The California February 1 forecast, at 49.0 million boxes, is unchanged from last month but 11 percent below last season. Navel production is set at 26.0 million boxes, also unchanged from last month and off 7 percent from last season. Prospects on February 1 for Valencia oranges, at 23.0 million boxes, are 15 percent below last season. Texas orange prospects at 5.8 million boxes are unchanged from last month but 28 percent above last season's short crop. Arizona orange production is now forecast at 3.9 million boxes, 23 percent less than the 1974-75 season.

Changes in U.S. production between the February 1 forecast and final production have averaged 6.6 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 juice yield for 1975-76 is projected at 1.31 gallons of 45 degree brix concentrate per box. Final yield from the 1974-75 crop was 1.31 gallons per box.

GRAPEFRUIT: U. S. production of grapefruit is forecast at 69.8 million boxes, unchanged from last month but 14 percent above last season. Florida growers expect to harvest 50.0 million boxes, 12 percent above the 1974-75 season. The Texas crop, forecast at 11.0 million boxes, is 51 percent above last season's short crop. The California crop at 5.7 million boxes is 15 percent below last season. Arizona prospects at 3.1 million boxes are 12 percent above last season.

Harvest of grapefruit in the U. S. was 34 percent complete on February 1 compared with 35 percent last season. In Florida, harvest is 37 percent complete compared with 38 percent last season. Harvest is underway in Arizona and California where 13 and 6 percent, respectively, of the crop has been harvested.

Changes in the U. S. production between the February 1 forecast and final production have averaged 2.1 million boxes over the past ten years, ranging from 0.5 million boxes in 1965-66 to 4.3 million boxes in 1968-69.

LEMONS: Prospects in California at 17.0 million boxes are down 3 percent from last month and 23 percent below the 1974-75 crop. Crop prospects in Arizona are unchanged from last month at 2.3 million boxes but are 68 percent less than last season.

Picking of the California lemon crop is virtually complete in the Desert Valleys, over half complete in the central area and about 15 percent complete elsewhere. The Arizona crop is about 85 percent harvested. Sizes are generally small.

TANGELOS: Production in Florida is forecast at a record 5.5 million boxes, unchanged from last month but 17 percent above the previous record set last season. Harvest is nearing 90 percent completion.

TANGERINES: The U. S. tangerine production is expected to total 5.6 million boxes, 6 percent above the 1974-75 crop. The Florida production of 3.4 million boxes is for that portion of the crop expected to be utilized. (The total crop that reached 210 size or larger was 5.3 million boxes.) Harvest is virtually complete in Florida. The crops in California and Arizona, at 1.5 million and 0.7 million boxes, respectively, are unchanged from last month.

TEMPLES: Florida's temple crop is forecast at 5.5 million boxes, unchanged from last month but 4 percent above last season. Harvest is 32 percent complete compared with 29 percent last year.

POTATOES: Output of winter crop potatoes in California and Florida is now forecast at 3.1 million cwt., 5 percent above the January 1 forecast and 8 percent higher than the 1975 crop.

California's production is estimated at 1.20 million cwt., up 13 percent from 1975. Yields are expected to average 230 cwt. per acre, an improvement from both last month and a year ago. Digging is well along in Kern and Riverside Counties and has started in the central San Joaquin area. Grade-out has been variable due to earlier frost damage.

The Florida crop is now forecast at 1.93 million cwt., 5 percent above both last month and 1975 due to record setting yields. The crop is in good condition in spite of cold January temperatures. Harvest is increasing, mostly in Everglades and Martin Counties. Digging of reds will get underway in the Southwest in early February and in Dade County later in the month.

POTATOES

SEASONAL GROUP AND STATE	AREA HARVESTED			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
	1974	1975	:INDICATED: 1976	1974	1975	:INDICATED: 1976	1974	1975	:INDICATED: 1976
	1,000 ACRES			CWT			1,000 CWT		
WINTER:									
CALIF	4.4	4.9	5.2	265	215	230	1,166	1,054	1,196
FLA	9.3	9.4	9.4	190	195	205	1,767	1,833	1,927
TOTAL	13.7	14.3	14.6	214	202	214	2,933	2,887	3,123

CITRUS FRUIT 1/

CROP AND STATE	PRODUCTION BOXES			PRODUCTION TON EQUIVALENT		
	UTILIZED	INDICATED		UTILIZED	INDICATED	
	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76
	1,000 UNITS		2/	1,000 UNITS		
ORANGES, EARLY MID & NAVAL 3/						
ARIZ	450	920	750	17	35	28
CALIF	21,900	23,000	26,000	821	1,050	975
FLA	92,100	96,600	98,000	4,145	4,347	4,410
TEX	4,200	2,930	3,800	179	125	162
U S	118,650	128,450	128,550	5,162	5,557	5,575
ORANGES, VALENCIA						
ARIZ	2,960	4,050	3,100	111	152	116
CALIF	18,500	27,100	23,000	694	1,016	863
FLA	73,700	76,700	74,000	3,317	3,452	3,330
TEX	2,400	1,610	2,000	102	68	85
U S	97,560	109,460	102,100	4,224	4,688	4,394
ALL ORANGES						
ARIZ	3,410	4,970	3,850	128	187	144
CALIF	40,400	55,100	49,000	1,515	2,066	1,838
FLA	165,800	173,300	172,000	7,462	7,799	7,740
TEX	6,600	4,540	5,800	281	193	247
U S	216,210	237,910	230,650	9,386	10,245	9,969
TEMPLES						
FLA	5,300	5,300	5,500	239	239	248
GRAPEFRUIT, WHITE SEEDLESS						
FLA	25,900	25,900	28,000	1,101	1,101	1,190
GRAPEFRUIT, PINK SEEDLESS						
FLA	12,200	11,500	13,000	519	489	553
GRAPEFRUIT, OTHER						
FLA	10,000	7,200	9,000	425	306	383
ALL GRAPEFRUIT						
ARIZ	2,050	2,770	3,100	66	89	99
CALIF						
DESERT	2,360	3,750	3,200	76	120	102
OTHER AREAS	2,290	2,950	2,500	77	99	84
TOTAL	4,650	6,700	5,700	153	219	186
FLA	48,100	44,600	50,000	2,045	1,896	2,126
TEX	10,700	7,300	11,000	428	292	440
U S	65,500	61,370	69,800	2,692	2,496	2,851
TANGERINES						
ARIZ	680	610	650	26	23	24
CALIF	1,360	1,540	1,500	51	58	56
FLA	2,300	3,100	3,400	133	147	162
U S	4,840	5,250	5,550	210	228	242
LEMONS						
ARIZ	2,900	7,200	2,300	110	274	87
CALIF	14,900	22,200	17,000	566	844	646
U S	17,800	29,400	19,300	676	1,118	733
TANGELOS						
FLA	3,700	4,700	5,500	167	212	248

- 1/ THE CROP YEAR BEGINS WITH THE BLOOM OF THE FIRST YEAR SHOWN AND ENDS WITH YEAR HARVEST IS COMPLETED.
- 2/ NET LBS PER BOX: ORANGES- CALIF & ARIZ-75, FLA-90, TEX-85; GRAPEFRUIT- CALIF DESERT & ARIZ-64, CALIF OTHER-67, FLA-85, TEX-80; LEMONS-76; TANGELOS & TEMPLES-90; TANGERINES- CALIF & ARIZ-75, FLA-95.
- 3/ NAVAL AND MISCELLANEOUS VARIETIES IN CALIFORNIA AND ARIZONA, EARLY AND MIDSEASON VARIETIES IN FLORIDA AND TEXAS, INCLUDING SMALL QUANTITIES OF TANGERINES IN TEXAS.

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