
Crop Production



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HIGHLIGHTS

CITRUS production is forecast at 10.3 million tons (9.33 million metric tons), down 7 percent from January 1 and 3 percent less than last season.

ORANGE production is forecast at 161 million boxes (6.17 million metric tons), down 8 percent from January 1 and 5 percent less than last season.

GRAPEFRUIT production, excluding California "other areas" crop, is forecast at 49.8 million boxes (1.85 million metric tons), down 4 percent from January 1, but 1 percent above last season.

LEMON production is forecast at 25.8 million boxes (890 thousand metric tons), down 3 percent from the January 1 forecast, but 21 percent more than 1983-84 season.

WINTER POTATO production is forecast at 2.86 million cwt (130 thousand metric tons), down 5 percent from January 1, but 8 percent above a year ago.

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

CROP	1983-84	INDICATED 1984-85	
		JAN 1	FEB 1
		1,000 BOXES	
ORANGES	169,310	175,550	160,650
LEMONS	21,250	26,500	25,800

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

WINTER POTATOES

AREA PLANTED		AREA HARVESTED		
1984	INDICATED	1984	INDICATED	
	1985		1985	
			1,000 ACRES	
13.2	13.2	13.0	13.1	
YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION		
1984	INDICATED	1984	INDICATED 1985	
	1985		JAN 1 : FEB 1	
			1,000 CWT	
203	218	2,640	2,998	2,856

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 field offices and Washington headquarters.

A P P R O V E D:

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

CROP	1983-84	INDICATED 1984-85	
		JAN 1	FEB 1
METRIC TONS			
ORANGES	6 566 200	6 782 110	6 173 390
LEMONS	732 100	913 540	889 950

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

WINTER POTATOES

AREA PLANTED		AREA HARVESTED	
1984	INDICATED 1985	1984	INDICATED 1985
HECTARES			
5 340	5 340	5 260	5 300
YIELD PER HECTARE		PRODUCTION	
1984	INDICATED 1985	1984	INDICATED 1985
			JAN 1 : FEB 1
METRIC TONS			
22.77	24.44	119 750	135 990 129 550

JANUARY WEATHER SUMMARY

Abnormally cold, dry weather prevailed over much of the Nation. It was 8 degrees colder than usual across the Delta States, the Ohio Valley, and from Idaho to eastern Oregon. Several cities had their coldest temperatures ever recorded. An unusually bitter cold outbreak prevented the outdoor Presidential inauguration and severely froze much of Florida's citrus and vegetables on the 1st-23rd. A week later, heavy snow and ice was dumped across a wide strip in the South from Arkansas to Alabama and northward into West Virginia. Thick ice stopped transportation and toppled trees, power lines, and roofs in northern Alabama. The Nation was relatively dry during the month, especially in the Pacific Northwest, and parts of the northern Plains and East Coast where precipitation was less than 25 percent of normal. (Prepared by NOAA/USDA Joint Agricultural Weather Facility.)

WINTER WHEAT

Winter wheat rated mostly good throughout the Nation. Ample snow cover protected most wheat fields from the bitter cold temperatures which pushed as far south as Texas just after midmonth. Growth was virtually halted by the extreme low temperatures, especially in the southeast and southwest. Precipitation in the form of rain or snow maintained adequate soil moisture in nearly all areas.

Heavy snow, followed by bitter cold temperatures retarded growth of most wheat in Texas. Growth virtually ceased from the cold, frigid temperatures and the lack of fertilizer. As the month ended, fields were showing signs of slowly recovering from the adverse weather. Snow cover on Kansas' wheat fields receded until there was little or no snow on the ground in western and south central areas. Wheat in the northern half of U.S. spent most of the month under snow, protected from the bitter cold.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

A heavy snow covered Texas' citrus and vegetable producing areas the second week of January, causing light damage to citrus. Vegetables suffered more from the cold, especially in the San Antonio-Winter Garden area. A hard freeze hit Florida citrus and vegetables, severely damaging both. Vegetable shipments declined substantially, with production expected to be light in most areas until Spring.

ORANGES: The U.S. all orange crop is forecast at 161 million boxes (6.17 million metric tons) for the 1984-85 season, down 8 percent from the January 1 forecast, and 5 percent less than the 1983-84 season. Florida's all orange crop is now estimated at 104 million boxes, down 13 percent from the January 1 estimate and 11 percent less than last season's crop. Production prospects for early and mid-season oranges in Florida is 56.0 million boxes, 5 percent less than last month, and 20 percent below 1983-84. The Valencia crop in Florida is forecast at 48.0 million boxes, down 20 percent from January 1, but 2 percent more than the 1983-84 season.

Harvest of all U.S. oranges as of February 1 was about 34 percent complete, compared with 43 percent a year earlier. Harvest of Florida early and mid-season varieties was 74 percent complete, the Valencia crop harvest has not yet started.

California production, at 54.0 million boxes, is unchanged from January 1, but 12 percent more than last season's production. The Navel orange output is forecast at 28.0 million boxes, unchanged from the January 1 estimate, and 16 percent less than the 1983-84 harvest. As of February 1, 43 percent of California's Navel crop had been harvested. California's Valencia orange crop is forecast at 26.0 million boxes, unchanged from a month ago, and 73 percent above last season's small crop. The all orange forecast for Arizona is expected to total 2.65 million boxes, up 4 percent from the January 1 forecast, and 47 percent above last season's production. Arizona's harvest is about 15 percent complete.

Changes in U.S. orange production between the February 1 forecast and final production averaged 6.70 million boxes over the past ten seasons, ranging from a low of 270 thousand boxes in 1980-81 to a high of 17.1 million boxes in 1981-82.

FLORIDA FROZEN CONCENTRATED JUICE YIELD: Florida's FCOJ yield for 1984-85 is forecast at 1.33 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix equivalent. The yield forecast is an estimate of the season average which will be reported at end of the season by the Florida Citrus Processors Association. The FCOJ yield projection last month was 1.46 gallons per box. Final season average yield for 1983-84 was 1.28931 gallons per box and 1.48305 gallons per box for 1982-83 at 42.0 degrees Brix equivalent.

GRAPEFRUIT: The February 1 forecast, excluding California's "other areas" grapefruit, is 49.8 million boxes (1.85 million metric tons), down 4 percent from January 1 forecast, but 1 percent above last season. Production for the California "other areas" crop, which will be forecast as of April 1, accounted for 3.10 million boxes last season. The California "Desert Valley" crop forecast is 4.10 million boxes, 8 percent above January 1 and 23 percent more than the 1983-84 season. The Florida all grapefruit forecast is 42.0 million boxes, down 6 percent from last month but 3 percent above last season. Droppage has been lighter than last season, with better pick performance. Harvest at 39 percent complete, is ahead of last year's volume. The forecast for Arizona is 3.70 million boxes, up 6 percent from January 1 and 76 percent more than last season. Harvest is 16 percent complete.

LEMONS: Production in Arizona and California is expected to total 25.8 million boxes (890 thousand metric tons), down 3 percent from January 1, but 21 percent above last season's utilized production. Harvest is 38 percent complete. The California forecast is 20.6 million boxes, 3 percent below January 1, but 19 percent above last season. Picking in California is 28 percent complete. The forecast for Arizona continues at 5.20 million boxes, 30 percent higher than last season. Harvest is 76 percent complete. Cold weather during January resulted in only minor damage.

TANGELOS: The Florida crop, excluding K-early citrus fruit, at 3.70 million boxes (152 thousand metric tons), is the same as January 1 and 3 percent above last season. Harvest advanced rapidly during January and was 91 percent finished by the end of the month.

TANGERINES: The U.S. production forecast is 3.65 million boxes (134 thousand metric tons), down 8 percent from January 1 and 24 percent below last season. The Florida crop estimate is 1.10 million boxes, 21 percent below last month and 45 percent less than the 1983-84 season. Harvest is nearly complete. The California crop forecast remains at 1.80 million boxes, down 3 percent from last season. The Arizona crop forecast continues at 750 thousand boxes, 21 percent less than 1983-84.

TEMPLES: The Florida forecast at 3.40 million boxes (139 thousand metric tons), is 8 percent less than January 1, but 17 percent above last season. Harvest, as of February 1, was 39 percent complete.

GENERAL CITRUS:

ARIZONA: Cold arctic air pushed into the State just before the month ended. Temperatures dropped to 14 degrees below normal in some areas. Freezing temperatures were recorded in the central valley where citrus crops are grown. There was very little damage to citrus.

CALIFORNIA: Strong winds in southern California caused scar damage in some citrus orchards. Below freezing nighttime temperatures had growers operating wind machines and running water to protect citrus groves from frost damage. Minimal damage was reported. Ice marks on some Navel orange rinds have adversely affected quality in the San Joaquin Valley. Harvest of citrus fruit was active throughout the month with Valencia oranges beginning to show color.

FLORIDA: Florida's citrus industry had a major freeze on January 21 and 22 with temperatures below 28 degrees for several hours in most areas of the citrus belt. Varying degrees of ice were found in 89 percent of sample oranges cut January 22. About 70 percent of this year's orange crop is located in the areas surveyed. The nonsurveyed counties are in the southern part of the citrus growing region where there were reports of only light slush ice found in some of those fruit cut by growers and caretakers. Harvest of early and midseason fruit that was damaged by the freeze accelerated rapidly following the freeze. Most of the damaged fruit is being processed. There was a fresh fruit shipping embargo from January 28 through February 4, ending at 7 A.M. that day. Harvest of all processed fruit was very active the last week of January.

TEXAS: Two periods of sub-freezing temperatures hit the Texas Rio Grande Valley during January. The first freeze during the first week of January was accompanied by freezing precipitation, thereby providing a blanket effect and preventing serious damage. Temperatures did not remain too low for long hours. Some leaf burn and minor defoliation occurred. The next round of cold hit during the second week of January but it did not remain seriously cold for very long. Additional leaf burn occurred, with some reports of damage to nursery stock reported. Field work on the citrus tree inventory survey was completed in January. Results of this survey should be available by late February.

PAPAYAS: Hawaii fresh papaya production in February is forecast at 4.10 million pounds (1860 metric tons), 17 percent below production last February, but an increase of 11 percent from last month. Fresh production is expected to increase to 4.60 million pounds (2090 metric tons) during March, then decline to 4.20 million pounds (1910 metric tons) in April and 3.90 million pounds (1770 metric tons) in May. The forecasts for February, March, and April have been reduced from previous projections to account for losses caused by a mid-January windstorm. Approximately 10 percent of the trees were toppled or badly damaged. An additional 5 percent fruit loss attributable to fruit droppage, scarring, sunburning and other secondary effects is expected during the next four months.

Fresh production in January is estimated at 3.70 million pounds (1680 metric tons), unchanged from the month before, but 26 percent below the last January's output. Fresh production continues to be hampered by low prices. The situation has been aggravated by reports of hardened fruits, a problem apparently associated with the double-dip, hot water bath treatment which replaced EDB fumigation last September. Total crop area increased in January to 3980 acres (1610 hectares). All of the increase is occurring on Hawaii Island which presently accounts for 85 percent of the total.

POTATOES: Winter potatoes are forecast at 2.86 million cwt (130 thousand metric tons) for 1985, up 8 percent from last year, but 5 percent below the January 1 forecast. The average yield per acre expectation fell 11 cwt during the month to 218 cwt, but is 15 cwt above a year ago. Area for harvest, at 13.1 thousand acres (5300 hectares), remains 1 percent above a year ago. Freeze damage in Florida is largely responsible for the lower yield prospects.

Harvest is underway in Florida's Stuart area. Harvest of fields in Dade and Southwest areas should start in mid-February. The January 20th freezes had little effect on mature fields, except to aid in vine killing and push early harvest activity. Major damage was sustained in mid-season fields; while late planted fields were killed up for protection of newly emerged vines.

Wet weather slowed harvest in California at times during January. Growers in the Riverside area are nearly finished with harvest. Kern District digging was active through the last two-thirds of January with good quality potatoes going to market.

PAPAYAS - HAWAII

MONTH	AREA				FRESH PRODUCTION		
	TOTAL IN CROP		HARVESTED		1984	1985	FORECAST
	1984	1985	1984	1985			1985
	ACRES				1,000 POUNDS		
DEC	3,890		2,690		3,700		
JAN	3,675	3,980	2,330	2,950	5,026	3,700	
FEB	3,660		2,370		4,965		4,100
MAR	3,710		2,430		5,974		4,600
APR	3,810		2,455		6,697		4,200
MAY	3,910		2,570		5,893		3,900

WINTER POTATOES

STATE	AREA HARVESTED		YIELD		PRODUCTION		
	1984	IND	1984	IND	1983	1984	IND
	1984	1985	1984	1985	1983	1984	1985
	1,000 ACRES		CWT		1,000	CWT	
CALIF	5.6	5.4	260	265	1,269	1,456	1,431
FLA	7.4	7.7	160	185	924	1,184	1,425
U S	13.0	13.1	203	218	2,193	2,640	2,856

CITRUS FRUIT 1/

CROP	PRODUCTION			PRODUCTION		
	BOXES			TON EQUIVALENT		
AND	UTILIZED	INDICATED	UTILIZED	INDICATED	UTILIZED	INDICATED
STATE	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
	1,000 UNITS 2/			1,000 UNITS		
ORANGES, EARLY MID & NAVAL 3/:						
ARIZ	1,050	550	950	39	21	36
CALIF	40,200	33,300	28,000	1,508	1,249	1,050
FLA	70,200	69,700	56,000	3,159	3,136	2,520
TEX 4/:	3,590	2,400	0	152	102	0
U S	115,040	105,950	84,950	4,858	4,508	3,606
ORANGES, VALENCIA :						
ARIZ	2,750	1,250	1,700	103	47	64
CALIF	35,900	15,000	26,000	1,346	563	975
FLA	69,400	47,000	48,000	3,123	2,115	2,160
TEX 4/:	2,090	110	0	89	5	0
U S	110,140	63,360	75,700	4,661	2,730	3,199
ALL ORANGES :						
ARIZ	3,800	1,800	2,650	142	68	100
CALIF	76,100	48,300	54,000	2,854	1,812	2,025
FLA	139,600	116,700	104,000	6,282	5,251	4,680
TEX 4/:	5,680	2,510	0	241	107	0
U S	225,180	169,310	160,650	9,519	7,238	6,805
TEMPLES :						
FLA	4,700	2,900	3,400	211	130	153
GRAPEFRUIT, WHITE SEEDLESS :						
FLA	21,800	23,000	25,000	926	978	1,063
GRAPEFRUIT, PINK SEEDLESS :						
FLA	12,800	13,400	14,000	544	569	595
OTHER GRAPEFRUIT :						
FLA	4,800	4,500	3,000	204	191	128
ALL GRAPEFRUIT :						
ARIZ	2,700	2,100	3,700	87	67	118
CALIF 5/:						
DESERT	4,100	3,340	4,100	131	107	131
OTHER AREAS	3,200	3,100		107	104	
TOTAL	7,300	6,440		238	211	
FLA	39,400	40,900	42,000	1,674	1,738	1,786
TEX 4/:	11,200	3,200	0	448	128	0
U S	60,600	52,640		2,447	2,144	
TANGERINES :						
ARIZ	1,100	950	750	41	35	28
CALIF	2,150	1,850	1,800	81	70	68
FLA	2,250	2,000	1,100	107	95	52
U S	5,500	4,800	3,650	229	200	148
LEMONS :						
ARIZ	5,050	4,000	5,200	191	152	198
CALIF	20,300	17,250	20,600	772	655	783
U S	25,350	21,250	25,800	963	807	981
TANGELOS :						
FLA	3,800	3,600	3,700	171	162	167

- 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.
- 4/ DUE TO THE SEVERE FREEZE OF DECEMBER 1983, NO COMMERCIAL SUPPLIES ARE AVAILABLE THIS SEASON FOR THE 1984-85 TEXAS CITRUS CROPS.
- 5/ THE FIRST FORECAST FOR CALIF GRAPEFRUIT "OTHER AREAS" WILL BE AS OF APR 1.

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