Crop Production

Crop Reporting Board
Statistical Reporting Service

United States Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

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HIGHLIGHTS

CITRUS production is forecast at 10.2 million tons (9.30 million metric tons), fractionally below February 1 and 3 percent less than last season.

ORANGE production is forecast at 160 million boxes (6.14 million metric tons), 1 percent less than February 1 and 6 percent below the 1983-84 season.

GRAPEFRUIT production, excluding the California "Other Areas" crop is forecast at 49.8 million boxes (1.85 million metric tons), unchanged from February 1 and 1 percent more than last season.

LEMON production, at 25.8 million boxes (890 thousand metric tons), is unchanged from February 1 but 21 percent more than last season's utilized production.

WINTER POTATO production is forecast at 2.69 million cwt (122 thousand metric tons), down 6 percent from February 1, but 2 percent above last year.

SPRING POTATOES are planted on an estimated 90.9 thousand acres (36.8 thousand hectares), a gain of 3 percent from last year and 11 percent above 1983.

For Information Call: (202) 447-2127

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

CROP	1983-84	INDICATED 1984-85	
		FEB 1	MAR 1
	1,000 BOXES		
ORANGES	169,310	160,650	159,650
LEMONS	21,250	25,800	25,800

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

POTATOES

SEASONAL GROUP	AREA PLANTED		AREA HARVESTED	
	1984	INDICATED 1985	1984	INDICATED 1985
	1,000 ACRES			
WINTER	13.2	13.2	13.0	13.2
SPRING	88.1	90.9	86.6	89.8

SEASONAL GROUP	YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION		
	1984	INDICATED 1985	1984	INDICATED 1985	
				FEB 1	MAR 1
	CWT		1,000 CWT		
WINTER	203	204	2,640	2,856	2,691
SPRING	275	APR 10	23,798	APR 10	

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:

John R Block

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

CROP	1983-84	INDICATED 1984-85	
		FEB 1	MAR 1
	METRIC TONS		
ORANGES	6 566 200	6 173 390	6 139 830
LEMONS	732 100	889 950	889 950

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

POTATOES

SEASONAL GROUP	AREA PLANTED		AREA HARVESTED	
	1984	INDICATED 1985	1984	INDICATED 1985
	HECTARES			
WINTER	5 340	5 340	5 260	5 340
SPRING	35 650	36 790	35 050	36 340

	YIELD PER HECTARE		PRODUCTION		
	1984	INDICATED 1985	1984	INDICATED 1985	
				FEB 1	MAR 1
	METRIC TONS				
WINTER	22.77	22.86	119 750	129 550	122 060
SPRING	30.80	APR 10	1 079 450	APR 10	

FEBRUARY WEATHER SUMMARY

The full fury of winter prevailed over the Nation during the first half of the month. Freezing temperatures reached into the Gulf of Mexico, and frost nipped at orchards in southern California and Arizona. Snow cover reached into most of Arizona and New Mexico, north central Texas, central Mississippi, through the Appalachians, and the Northeast. The Nation warmed rapidly after midmonth and deluges of rain fell from south central Oklahoma and northwestern Arkansas to central Missouri; heavy rain fell from south central Texas to the St. Lawrence Valley. Combined with melting snow, serious flooding resulted. Most streams in these areas overflowed their banks, and standing water filled the low places. Florida, the northern Plains, and much of the West recorded well-below-normal precipitation. As the month ended, another cold outbreak pushed into the northern Great Plains bringing chilling temperatures, high winds, and snow. (Prepared by NOAA/USDA Joint Agricultural Weather Facility.)

WINTER WHEAT

Winter wheat was in mostly good condition during February except in Florida. Florida's wheat spent most of the month slowly recovering from the cold weather and the lack of moisture. Unusual warmth melted snow, leaving most of the wheat unprotected from cold temperatures during the second half of February. Warmer-than-normal temperatures kept damage to a minimum. By the end of February, wheat was greening as far North as the Corn Belt States. Wetness limited topdressing throughout most of the month in the Southeast. Kansas' wheat was good; moisture and warm temperatures promoted growth. Snow virtually vanished from all wheat. Dryness in Florida continued to hold wheat back. Near the end of the month, Texas wheat responded to the milder temperatures and moisture. Greening and new growth prevailed from the High Plains to the Coastal Bend. Topdressing was completed in many areas. Despite poor snow cover during most of February, Northern and Central Plains wheat was good. Wind damage was light.

FEBRUARY FIELDWORK

Land preparation progressed rapidly for planting spring crops in California and Arizona. Wet weather and melting snow hampered field activity in most other areas of the Nation. Cold and wetness continually delayed early planting in the Southeast. However, corn planting did get underway later in the month in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, and Louisiana. Producers pruned and applied dormant-spray to orchards in the Northwest and the South. Florida's and Texas' vegetable growers spent much of February replanting vegetables that were frozen in January. Vegetable harvest was active in the Southwest. Salvage harvest continued in Florida.

ORANGES: The U.S. all orange crop is forecast at 160 million boxes (6.14 million metric tons) for the 1984-85 season, 1 percent less than the February 1 forecast and 6 percent below the 1983-84 season. Florida's all orange crop is estimated at 104 million boxes, unchanged from the February 1 estimate, but 11 percent less than last season's crop. Production prospects for early and mid-season oranges in Florida is 56.0 million boxes, unchanged from February 1, but 20 percent below 1983-84. The Valencia crop in Florida is forecast at 48.0 million boxes, unchanged from a month ago, but 2 percent more than the 1983-84 season.

Harvest of all U.S. oranges as of March 1 was about 51 percent complete compared with 60 percent a year earlier. Harvest of Florida early and mid-season varieties was 96 percent complete, and Valencias about 21 percent complete.

California all orange production, at 53.0 million boxes, is down 2 percent from February 1, but 10 percent more than last season. The Navel orange output is forecast at 27.0 million boxes, down 4 percent from February 1 and 19 percent less than the 1983-84 harvest. As of March 1, 63 percent of California's Navel crop had been harvested. California's Valencia orange crop is forecast at 26.0 million boxes, unchanged from the forecast 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, unchanged from February 1 and 47 percent above last season's production. Arizona harvest is about 20 percent complete.

Changes in U.S. orange production between the March 1 forecast and final production averaged 5.54 million boxes over the past ten seasons, ranging from a low of 170 thousand boxes in 1980-81 to a high of 12.2 million boxes in 1981-82.

FLORIDA FROZEN CONCENTRATED JUICE YIELD: Florida's FCOJ yield for the 1984-85 season is forecast at 1.36 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix equivalent. The yield forecast is an estimate of the season average which will be reported at the end of the season by the Florida Citrus Processors Association. The FCOJ yield projection last month was 1.33 gallons per box. The final season average yield was 1.28931 gallons per box for 1983-84 and 1.48305 gallons per box for 1982-83 at 42.0 degrees Brix equivalent.

GRAPEFRUIT: The 1984-85 grapefruit crop, excluding California "Other Areas" grapefruit, is forecast at 49.8 million boxes (1.85 million metric tons), unchanged from February 1 and 1 percent more than last season. Florida's forecast is 42.0 million boxes, unchanged from February 1 and 3 percent above last season. California's "Desert Valley" grapefruit production forecast continues at 4.10 million boxes, 23 percent above 1983-84. The forecast for Arizona's crop remains at 3.70 million boxes, 76 percent above last season.

The grapefruit harvest was 56 percent complete on March 1, compared with 58 percent on the same date a year ago. Picking in Florida is 60 percent complete, compared with 59 percent on March 1 last year. Harvest is 34 percent complete in Arizona and 44 percent complete in California's Desert Valley.

LEMONS: Production in Arizona and California is expected to total 25.8 million boxes (890 thousand metric tons), unchanged from February 1, 21 percent more than last season's utilized production. The California crop forecast continues at 20.6 million boxes, 19 percent more than the utilized crop of the 1983-84 season. In Arizona, the forecast remains at 5.20 million boxes, 30 percent above last season's utilized crop. Harvest is about 91 percent complete in Arizona and 39 percent in California.

TEMPLES: The Florida Temple forecast continues at 3.40 million boxes (139 thousand metric tons), unchanged from February 1, but 17 percent above last season. Harvest was 79 percent complete as of March 1.

TANGERINES: The U.S. crop forecast, at 3.55 million boxes (131 thousand metric tons), is down 3 percent from last month and 26 percent less than the 1983-84 crop. The Florida forecast is for 1.05 million boxes, 47 percent below last season. Harvest as of March 1 was 98 percent complete. The California forecast remains at 1.80 million boxes, down 3 percent from last season. The Arizona forecast is 700 thousand boxes, off 26 percent from the 1983-84 season.

TANGELOS: The Florida crop, excluding K-early citrus fruit, at 3.70 million boxes (152 thousand metric tons), is the same as the February 1 forecast and 3 percent above last season. Harvest as of March 1 was 94 percent complete.

PAPAYAS: Hawaii fresh papaya production in March is forecast at 4.60 million pounds (2090 metric tons), 23 percent below production last March, but an increase of 15 percent from last month. Fresh production is expected to decrease to 4.20 million pounds (1910 metric tons) in April, then level off at 3.90 million pounds (1770 metric tons) in May and June.

Fresh production in February is estimated at 4.00 million pounds (1810 metric tons), up 8 percent from the previous month, but 19 percent below production last February. Total crop area decreased in February to 3930 acres (1590 hectares), while harvested area declined to 2820 acres (1140 hectares).

FLORIDA GENERAL CITRUS: Citrus groves in all areas of Florida were dry during most of February. The majority of caretakers were irrigating with various types of equipment to supply the necessary supplemental moisture. There is much new growth showing on trees of all ages. Bloom buds are forming and there are a few groves with some spotty, open bloom. Most of the trees in healthy blocks that were defoliated by the January 21-23 freezes are putting out new leaves. Trees in the northern part of the citrus belt that were badly frozen by the December 25-26, 1983 freezes currently look poor as a result of this year's freezes. Harvest of early and mid-season oranges was almost over by the end of February. Picking of grapefruit increased, as crews became available when they completed their early orange harvest. Movement of Temples continues active, primarily on the lower east coast. Salvage of cold-damaged Valencia oranges, which will meet maturity standards, is active.

TEXAS GENERAL CITRUS: The 1985 citrus tree inventory survey has been completed and results were released on March 1, 1985. Net acres of all citrus have decreased 56 percent from 1983 to 30,600 acres.

Grapefruit net acres decreased 57 percent to 19,110. Net acres of all oranges decreased 54 percent to 11,380. Other citrus accounted for 110 net acres. Total number of all citrus trees decreased from 8,072,640 to 3,769,400 which represents a 53 percent decrease. Grapefruit trees decreased 54 percent and orange trees decreased 52 percent. A nursey stock survey was also completed which showed that 1,225,406 budded trees would be available for planting between January 1, 1985 and June 30, 1986. In addition, rootstock available for budding before July 1, 1985 totaled 1,248,172. Currently, citrus is making good regrowth with only minor leaf defoliation from cold temperatures received during January.

POTATOES: Winter potatoes are forecast at 2.69 million cwt (122 thousand metric tons), up 2 percent from last year and 23 percent above 1983. The March 1 forecast is 6 percent below the February 1 forecast, reflecting the effects of Florida freeze damage in January. Yield estimates of 204 cwt per acre are down 14 cwt from February 1, but are holding slightly above last year.

In California, light digging continues in the West Riverside and Kern Districts, with good sizes reported. Florida harvest is in full swing and should peak by mid-March. The January freeze reduced yield prospects of late acreage.

Spring plantings are estimated at 90.9 thousand acres (36.8 thousand hectares), a gain of 3 percent over last year and 11 percent above 1983. Harvest is expected from 89.8 thousand acres (36.3 thousand hectares), up 4 percent from last year.

In California, spring planting is nearly finished in the Kern District. Cold growing weather has inhibited growth and may reduce yield potential. Arizona growers have increased plantings 6 percent from last year. In Texas, planting is on schedule, and growing weather is good. Alabama planting is more than half completed, but some replanting was done in wet fields.

In Florida, planting finished in early March in the Hastings area. The January freeze had little or no affect on the spring crop. First harvest is expected by mid-April. Planting in other Florida areas is complete, except in the Panhandle. Harvest should begin in early April. In North Carolina, planting started in coastal counties in late February and is about on schedule.

POTATOES

SEASONAL GROUP AND STATE	AREA PLANTED 1984	AREA PLANTED IND 1985	AREA HARVESTED 1984	AREA HARVESTED IND 1985	YIELD 1984	YIELD IND 1985	PRODUCTION 1983	PRODUCTION 1984	PRODUCTION IND 1985
	1,000 ACRES				CWT		1,000 CWT		
WINTER									
CALIF	5.6	5.4	5.6	5.4	260	260	1,269	1,456	1,404
FLA	7.6	7.8	7.4	7.8	160	165	924	1,184	1,287
TOTAL	13.2	13.2	13.0	13.2	203	204	2,193	2,640	2,691
SPRING 1/									
ALA	4.7	5.4	4.6	5.3	140		513	644	
ARIZ	5.4	5.7	5.4	5.7	305		1,274	1,647	
CALIF	28.5	29.5	28.5	29.5	390		8,330	11,115	
FLA									
HASTINGS	26.0	26.5	25.0	26.0	260		4,935	6,500	
OTHER	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.3	200		186	240	
LA	1.1	.7	1.0	.6	60		50	60	
N C	14.7	15.0	14.7	14.9	160		1,958	2,352	
TEX	6.4	6.7	6.2	6.5	200		1,092	1,240	
TOTAL	88.1	90.9	86.6	89.8	275		18,338	23,798	

1/ YIELD AND PRODUCTION FOR 1985 TO BE RELEASED APRIL 10,1985.

PAPAYAS - HAWAII

MONTH	AREA TOTAL IN CROP 1984	AREA TOTAL IN CROP 1985	AREA HARVESTED 1984	AREA HARVESTED 1985	FRESH PRODUCTION 1984	FRESH PRODUCTION 1985	FRESH PRODUCTION FORECAST 1985
	ACRES				1,000 POUNDS		
JAN	3,675	3,980	2,330	2,950	5,026	3,700	
FEB	3,660	3,930	2,370	2,820	4,965	4,000	
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
JUN	3,860		2,620		5,020		3,900
CUMULATIVE FRESH PRODUCTION JAN-FEB					9,991	7,700	

CITRUS FRUIT 1/

CROP AND STATE	PRODUCTION BOXES			PRODUCTION TON EQUIVALENT		
	UTILIZED		INDICATED	UTILIZED		INDICATED
	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
	1,000 UNITS 2/			1,000 UNITS		
ORANGES,EARLY MID & NAVEL 3/						
ARIZ	1,050	550	950	39	21	36
CALIF	40,200	33,300	27,000	1,508	1,249	1,013
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	83,950	4,858	4,508	3,569
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	53,000	2,854	1,812	1,988
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	159,650	9,519	7,238	6,768
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	700	41	35	26
CALIF	2,150	1,850	1,800	81	70	68
FLA	2,250	2,000	1,050	107	95	50
U S	5,500	4,800	3,550	229	200	144
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/ NAVEL 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.