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# Crop Production



National  
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Washington, D.C.

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## HIGHLIGHTS

**CITRUS** production as of February 1, is forecast at 9.92 million tons, 3 percent greater than last month but 23 percent below the 1988-89 season. This significant reduction is due to the severe freezing temperature in the Florida and Texas citrus belts during late December. Fruit droppage continues to be heavy in most areas of Florida but salvage operations have progressed rapidly and amount salvaged exceeded earlier expectations. Texas harvest has ended. It is too early to assess tree loss but significant wood damage has occurred in Texas while some wood damage is evident in the upper interior and central areas of Florida.

**ORANGE** production is forecast at 169 million boxes, up 7 percent from January 1 but 19 percent below last season. This decline is due mostly to Florida's 32 percent decrease from 1988-89. The severe freeze in Florida's citrus belt on December 24-25 further reduced an already short orange crop. The increase from last month reflects better than expected salvage operations in Florida and increased expectations in California.

**ALL GRAPEFRUIT** production, including California's Desert grapefruit but excluding California's "Other Areas" crop is 41.6 million boxes, 9 percent below the January 1 forecast and 36 percent less than last season. This decline is due to the freezing weather in Florida and Texas during late December. Higher than expected fruit droppage in Florida due to the freeze is a main reason for this continued decline.

**WINTER POTATO** production is forecast at 2.37 million cwt, down 14 percent from last year and 9 percent below 1988.

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\* \*  
\* The next issue of this report will be published \*  
\* **March 9, 1990.** \*  
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UNITED STATES CROP SUMMARY  
(DOMESTIC UNITS)

CROP	AREA PLANTED		AREA HARVESTED	
	1989	INDICATED 1990	1989	INDICATED 1990
1,000 ACRES				
POTATOES WINTER	13.1	13.5	13.1	13.2

UNITED STATES CROP SUMMARY - YIELD PER ACRE AND PRODUCTION  
(DOMESTIC UNITS)

CROP AND UNIT	YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION		
	1989	INDICATED 1990	1989	INDICATED 1990	
				JAN 1	FEB 1
POTATOES WINTER CWT	211	180	2,764	2,371	2,371
			1988-89	1989-90	1989-90
ORANGES 1/ BOX			208,950	157,950	168,905

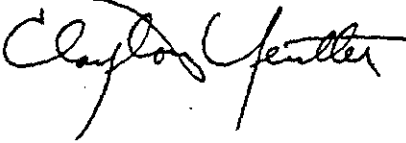
1/ HARVEST BEGINS WITH BLOOM OF THE FIRST YEAR AND ENDS WITH THE COMPLETION OF HARVEST THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

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\* The CROP PRODUCTION report contains State and National estimates with \*  
\* related information on selected agricultural commodities. These data \*  
\* were prepared and adopted by the Agricultural Statistics Board which \*  
\* consists of commodity statisticians from the field offices and Washington \*  
\* headquarters. \*

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**UNITED STATES CROP SUMMARY  
(METRIC UNITS)**

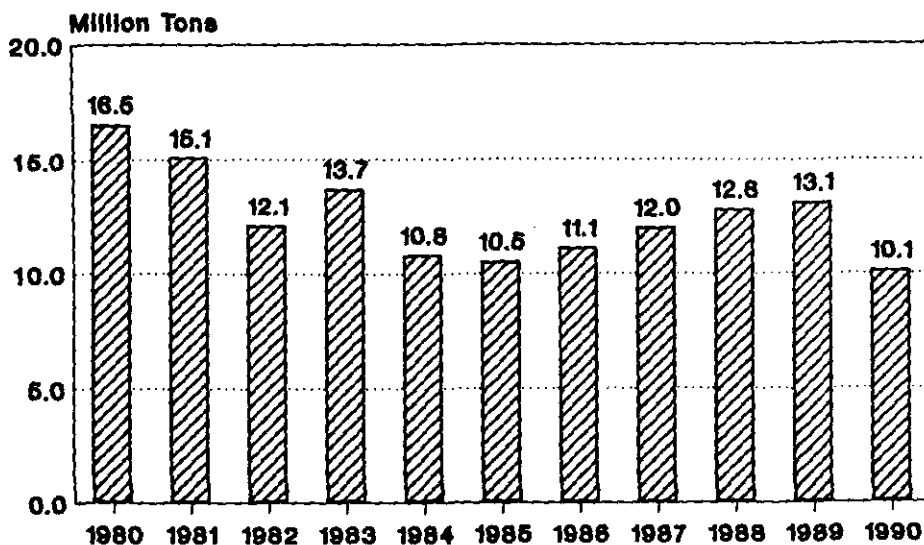
CROP	AREA PLANTED		AREA HARVESTED	
	1989	INDICATED 1990	1989	INDICATED 1990
HECTARES				
POTATOES WINTER	5,300	5,460	5,300	5,340

**UNITED STATES CROP SUMMARY - YIELD PER HECTARE AND PRODUCTION  
(METRIC UNITS)**

CROP	YIELD PER HECTARE		PRODUCTION		
	1989	INDICATED 1990	1989	INDICATED 1990	
				JAN 1	FEB 1
METRIC TONS					
POTATOES WINTER	23.65	20.14	125,370	107,550	107,550
			1988-89	1989-90	1989-90
ORANGES 1/			8,115,670	6,005,560	6,433,750

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

## US CITRUS PRODUCTION 1980 through 1990



DOWN 23% FROM 1989  
UP 3% FROM JANUARY 1990 FORECAST

CITRUS FRUIT 1/

CROP AND STATE	PRODUCTION BOXES			PRODUCTION TON EQUIVALENT		
	UTILIZED		IND	UTILIZED		IND
	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
	1,000 UNITS 2/			1,000 UNITS		
ORANGES, EARLY MID & NAVEL	3/					
AZ	4/	610	550	500	23	21
CA		31,500	34,000	41,000	1,182	1,275
FL		78,500	85,300	68,000	3,532	3,839
TX		940	1,200	1,050	40	51
U S		111,550	121,050	110,550	4,777	5,186
ORANGES, VALENCIA						
AZ	4/	1,210	1,150	1,200	45	43
CA		27,500	24,800	25,000	1,031	930
FL		59,500	61,300	32,000	2,677	2,759
TX		490	650	155	21	28
U S		88,700	87,900	58,355	3,774	3,760
ALL ORANGES						
AZ	4/	1,820	1,700	1,700	68	64
CA		59,000	58,800	66,000	2,213	2,205
FL		138,000	146,600	100,000	6,209	6,598
TX		1,430	1,850	1,205	61	79
U S		200,250	208,950	168,905	8,551	8,946
TEMPLES						
FL		3,550	3,750	1,500	160	169
GRAPEFRUIT, WHITE SEEDLESS						
FL		29,200	27,700	16,500	1,241	1,177
GRAPEFRUIT, COLORED SEEDLESS						
FL		21,900	23,700	16,000	930	1,007
OTHER GRAPEFRUIT						
FL		2,750	3,350	1,500	117	142
ALL GRAPEFRUIT						
AZ	4/	1,950	1,950	1,900	63	63
CA	4/ 5/					
DESERT		4,200	3,500	3,700	134	112
OTHER AREAS		4,900	5,000		164	168
TOTAL		9,100	8,500		298	280
FL		53,850	54,750	34,000	2,288	2,326
TX		3,800	4,800	2,000	152	192
U S		68,700	70,000		2,801	2,861
TANGERINES	6/					
AZ	4/	600	650	650	23	25
CA	4/	2,090	2,040	1,750	78	76
FL		2,450	2,900	1,800	117	138
U S		5,140	5,590	4,200	218	239
LEMONS	4/					
AZ		3,650	3,800	3,000	139	144
CA		17,000	16,200	16,500	646	615
U S		20,650	20,000	19,500	785	759
TANGELOS						
FL		4,200	3,800	3,000	189	171

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-CA & AZ-75, FL-90, TX-85; GRAPEFRUIT-CA DESERT & AZ-64, CA OTHER-67, FL-85, TX-80; LEMONS-76; TANGELOS & TEMPLES-90; TANGERINES - CA & AZ-75, FL-95. 3/ NAVEL AND MISCELLANEOUS VARIETIES IN CA AND AZ. EARLY AND MID-SEASON VARIETIES IN FL AND TX, INCLUDING SMALL QUANTITIES OF TANGERINES IN TX. 4/ ESTIMATES CARRIED FORWARD FROM EARLIER FORECAST. 5/ THE FIRST FORECAST FOR CA GRAPEFRUIT "OTHER AREAS" WILL BE AS OF APRIL 1. 6/ FL "ALL TANGERINES" INCLUDE SUNBURST TANGERINES BEGINNING WITH THE 1989-90 SEASON.

PAPAYAS - HAWAII 1/

MONTH	AREA				FRESH PRODUCTION		
	TOTAL IN CROP		HARVESTED		1989	1990	FORECAST
	1989	1990	1989	1990			1990
	ACRES				1,000 POUNDS		
DEC	4,100		2,745		6,070		
JAN	4,530	4,120	2,450	2,810	4,425	5,080	
FEB	4,460		2,295		4,165		4,000
MAR	4,240		2,360		4,830		4,700
APR	4,245		2,345		5,945		5,400
MAY	4,265		2,410		5,475		4,700

1/ 1989 REVISED.

WINTER POTATOES

STATE	AREA HARVESTED		YIELD		PRODUCTION		
	1989	1990	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990
	1,000 ACRES		CWT		1,000 CWT		
CA	5.5	5.5	240	235	1,196	1,320	1,293
FL	7.6	7.7	190	140	1,420	1,444	1,078
U S	13.1	13.2	211	180	2,616	2,764	2,371

## JANUARY WEATHER SUMMARY

After experiencing one of the coldest Decembers on record, abnormally warm weather persisted over much of the United States. Except for the southwestern portion of the country, temperatures averaged from 4 to 16 degrees Fahrenheit above normal. Huron and Sioux Falls, SD; Rochester, MN; Portland, ME; Atlantic City, NJ; and Miami Beach, FL, reported their warmest January ever. Rochester also went through the entire month without any subzero temperatures for the first time in more than 100 years of record. Frontal systems brought heavy precipitation from the lower Mississippi Valley to the middle and northern Atlantic coast. A series of winter storms pounded the northern Pacific coast with strong winds and drenching rain. These storms also brought needed moisture into California and the Northwest. At mid-month, storms also gave much needed precipitation to parts of the hard red winter wheat region in the central and southern Plains. Dry conditions remained over portions of the northern and central Plains, upper Mississippi Valley, and southern Florida.

### WINTER WHEAT

Early in January, lack of snow cover and inadequate soil moisture concerned winter wheat producers in most of the Great Plains. Montana's crop was good to fair with adequate snow cover. In Texas, lack of moisture combined with wind and freezing nighttime temperatures stressed winter wheat in the High Plains. During the third week of the month, precipitation fell in the Great Plains from Texas to central Nebraska, providing much needed snow cover and moisture. In portions of Texas and Oklahoma, many fields broke dormancy due to above-normal temperatures and rain. The last week of January, brought above-normal temperatures, which melted snow cover in the central and southern Great Plains and caused additional fields to break dormancy, leaving them vulnerable to freeze damage. Greenbugs were active in the Blacklands and central Texas. Montana's crop was good despite limited snow cover. In the Corn Belt, winter wheat was good with limited snow cover during January. Warm weather caused fields to begin greening late in the month. Winter wheat was good to fair in the Delta and Southeast during the month. In Oregon and Washington, crop condition was good to fair. Warm weather aided stand establishment for late seedings in the Columbia Basin of Oregon. In California, seeding continued throughout the month. Near the end of January, Russian wheat aphids were a problem, especially in the Sacramento Valley.

**ORANGES:** The U.S. all orange crop is forecast at 169 million boxes for the 1989-90 season, up 7 percent from the January 1 forecast but 19 percent less than 1988-89. Florida's all orange crop is estimated at 100 million boxes as of February 1, 9 percent above last month's forecast but 32 percent less than last season. Production prospects for early and mid-season oranges in Florida are 68.0 million boxes, 13 percent above last month but 20 percent less than 1988-89. The Valencia crop in Florida is forecast at 32.0 million boxes, unchanged from a month ago but 48 percent below the 1988-89 season. Harvest of Florida early mid-season varieties is 93 percent complete, while the Valencia crop harvest is about 8 percent finished.

The California all orange forecast, at 66.0 million boxes, is 5 percent above last month and 12 percent greater than last season's production. The Navel orange forecast, is a record high 41.0 million boxes, 8 percent above last month and 21 percent greater than the 1988-89 harvest. As of February 1, 38 percent of California's Navel crop had been harvested.

The California Valencia orange crop forecast, at 25.0 million boxes, is the same as a month ago but 1 percent above last season's crop. Harvest has not begun. The all orange forecast for Arizona, which was carried forward from last month, is expected to total 1.70 million boxes, unchanged from last season's production. The Texas all orange forecast is 1.21 million boxes, down 4 percent from last month and 35 percent below last season.

Changes in U.S. production between the February 1 forecast and final production averaged 7.68 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:** The 1989-90 forecast of yield for all Frozen Concentrated Orange Juice for Florida is 1.29 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix equivalent, down from last month's projection of 1.30 gallons per box. The forecast is projected to estimate the final yield as reported by the Florida Citrus Processors Association. The 1988-89 yield for all fruit used in FCOJ was 1.53 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix.

**TEMPLES:** The Florida forecast, at 1.50 million boxes, is down 25 percent from January 1 and 60 percent below the previous season. Harvest as of February 1 was about 31 percent complete.

**GRAPEFRUIT:** U.S. prospects for the 1989-90 season, including California's "Desert" grapefruit but excluding California's "Other Areas" grapefruit, is 41.6 million boxes, down 9 percent from the January 1 forecast and 36 percent below last season. Production for the California "Other Areas" crop, which will be forecast as of April 1, accounted for 5.00 million boxes during the 1988-89 season. The California "Desert Valley" crop forecast is 3.70 million boxes, 6 percent above last season. The Florida all grapefruit forecast is 34.0 million boxes, 11 percent below the January 1 forecast and 38 percent less than last season. Harvest in Florida is 56 percent complete. Arizona's forecast is 1.90 million boxes, 3 percent below the 1988-89 crop. In Texas, the forecast remains at 2.00 million boxes, 58 percent less than last season.

**TANGERINES:** The U.S. production forecast is 4.20 million boxes, up 2 percent from the previous forecast but 25 percent below last season's utilized production. This forecast includes the Dancy, Robinson, Honey, and Sunburst varieties of tangerines in Florida, as well as production of California and Arizona tangerines. Beginning with the 1989-90 season, Florida Sunburst tangerines, are included in the State and U.S. totals. Production estimates shown for previous seasons do not include this new varietal tangerine.

The Florida forecast is 1.80 million boxes, up 6 percent from January 1 but 38 percent below 1988-89. Florida harvest as of February 1 was about 85 percent complete. The California crop forecast remains at 1.75 million boxes, down 14 percent from last season. The Arizona crop forecast is 650 thousand boxes, unchanged from both last month and the 1988-89 utilized production.

**TANGELOS:** The Florida crop, excluding K-early citrus fruits, at 3.00 million boxes, is unchanged from January 1 but 21 percent below the 1988-89 season. Harvest was very active during January and was 95 percent finished by the end of the month.

**FLORIDA CITRUS:** Most of the citrus trees in this State have been recovering from the pre-Christmas freeze. Above average temperatures caused growers to start irrigating. Trees have started to put out new growth and bloom buds. The new growth is about a month early and vulnerable to frost or freezing temperatures, should either arrive. All areas are dry and need rain badly.

Most weather stations in the citrus belt have recorded the lowest amount of rainfall in recent history for the first month of the year. Salvage harvesting of early and mid-season oranges peaked the first week of January when more than 10 million boxes were picked. The orange harvest had slowed considerably by the end of the month as supplies were running low. Movement of all seedless grapefruit increased by the end of the month with the addition of available orange picking crews. Honey tangerine and tangelo harvest was active during January; however, there was limited temple movement as a large part of this mature crop was damaged by the December freeze.

**TEXAS CITRUS:** The extent of Texas citrus tree damage due to the December 1989 freeze continues to be uncertain. Opinions vary, with some industry sources being certain that tree losses will be more severe than the 1983 freeze while others are just as certain losses will be less.

Harvest of freeze-damaged fruit for processing extended into January but was completed before February 1. No commercial production is expected for the 1990-91 crop and only limited supplies for 1991-92.

**PAPAYAS:** Hawaii fresh papaya production is forecast at 4.00 million pounds for February, 4 percent lower than February 1989. Output for the next 2 months is anticipated to be higher, with 4.70 million pounds for March followed by 5.40 million pounds for April. Production in May is forecast at 4.70 million pounds.

Fresh utilization in January is estimated at 5.08 million pounds, 16 percent lower than December 1989 but 15 percent higher than January.

After an unusually dry and sunny November and December, January weather conditions appeared to follow the "normal" winter pattern. Although the first week was generally fair, succeeding weeks were overcast with rainfall ranging from constant but light to heavy downpours. Winds were gusty but caused very light overall damage to orchards.

Production area totaled 4120 acre in January, up slightly from December 1989 but 9 percent lower than last January. Harvested area, totaling 2810 acres in January, was 2 percent more than last month and 15 percent more than a year ago.

**CALIFORNIA FRUIT & NUTS:** Winter cultural practices continued throughout the State. Pruning, tying grape vines, weed control, dormant spraying, and grafting were common in orchards and vineyards. Occasional rain slowed some field activities during the month. Avocado harvest continued. Bud break was reported in desert table grapes and some peaches. Almond pruning was completed with early bud swell stages prominent in most orchards near the end of the month. Beekeepers prepared for the upcoming pollination season. Date harvest was completed. Navel oranges continued to be picked despite slowdowns from fog and rain. Desert grapefruit, lemons, mandarins, and tangelos were harvested. Citrus crops were being exported to Japan, New Zealand, and Australia. Lemon harvest was near completion in the desert area by February 1.

**WINTER POTATOES:** Production is forecast at 2.37 million cwt, dropping 14 percent from 1989 and 9 percent below 1988. Area for harvest, at 13.2 thousand acres, is up 1 percent from 1989, but yields are sharply lower due to freeze damage to early Florida fields in December.

Harvest has started in Florida but remains slow. Early yields are light and sizes small on frost damaged fields. Later fields that escaped frost damage should have normal yields and sizes. In California, near normal harvest of winter potatoes continues.