

Crop Production



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Washington, D.C.

Released February 11, 1992, by the Agricultural Statistics Board. Forecasts refer to February 1, 1992.

Oranges Up 2 Percent

Citrus production is forecast at 11.7 million tons, a 1 percent increase from January 1 and 6 percent above the 1990-91 season. This month's increase is due to a 4 percent increase in the Florida early and mid-season orange crop. Overall, citrus quality is good this season.

Orange production is forecast at 8.59 million tons, up 2 percent from January 1 and up 9 percent from last season. This month's change is due to an increase in the Florida early and mid-season orange crop. The increase from last year is primarily due to more production in California following last year's reduced crop caused by the December 1990 freeze.

Grapefruit production including California's Desert grapefruit but excluding California's "Other Areas" crop, is 1.97 million tons, virtually unchanged from the January 1 forecast but 6 percent less than last season. The decrease from last year is mainly due to reduced production in Florida.

Winter Potato production is forecast at 2.72 million cwt, down 5 percent from a month ago but up 4 percent from last year and 16 percent above 1990. Early harvest started in California the first part of December. Light tuber sets have now pushed yields lower than a month ago. South Florida harvest began in mid-January and is gaining momentum. Quality and tuber size are good as a result of favorable weather during the growing season.

Index and report features are located at the end of this report. For information call (202) 720-2127. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States,
1991 and Forecasted February 1, 1992
(Domestic Units)

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1991	1992	1991	1992
	1,000 Acres			
Potatoes Winter	13.2	13.2	12.2	13.1

Crop Summary: Yield per Acre and Production, United States,
1991 and Forecasted February 1, 1992
(Domestic Units)

Crop and Unit	Yield per Acre		Production		
	1991	1992	1991	Jan 1, 1992	Feb 1, 1992
	----- 1,000 -----				
Potatoes Winter Cwt	214	208	2,609	2,872	2,722
			1990-91	1991-92	1991-92
Oranges <u>1/</u> Ton			7,843	8,453	8,586

1/ Season begins with the bloom of the first year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year.

This report was approved on February 11, 1992, by the Acting Secretary of Agriculture and the National Agricultural Statistics Service's Agricultural Statistics Board.

Daniel A. Sumner

Acting Secretary of
Agriculture
Daniel A. Sumner

Rich Allen

Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
Rich Allen

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States,
1991 and Forecasted February 1, 1992
(Metric Units)

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1991	1992	1991	1992
	Hectares			
Potatoes Winter	5,340	5,340	4,940	5,300

Crop Summary: Yield per Hectare and Production, United States,
1991 and Forecasted February 1, 1992
(Metric Units)

Crop	Yield per Hectare:			Production	
	1991	1992	1991	Jan 1, 1992	Feb 1, 1992
	Metric Tons				
Potatoes Winter	23.96	24.58	118,340	130,270	123,470
			1990-91	1991-92	1991-92
Oranges <u>1/</u>			7,115,050	7,668,430	7,789,090

1/ Season begins with the bloom of the first year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 1990-91
(Domestic Units)

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1990	1991	1990	1991
1,000 Acres				
Sugarcane for Sugar and Seed			794.2	898.6

Crop Summary: Yield per Acre and Production, United States, 1989-91
(Domestic Units)

Crop	Yield per Acre		Production	
	1990	1991	1989	1990
----- Tons ----- 1,000 Tons -----				
Sugarcane for Sugar and Seed	35.4	33.7	29,426	28,136
			30,257	

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 1990-91
(Metric Units)

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1990	1991	1990	1991
Hectares				
Sugarcane for Sugar and Seed			321,400	363,650

Crop Summary: Yield per Hectare and Production, United States, 1989-91
(Metric Units)

Crop	Yield per Hectare:		Production	
	1990	1991	1989	1990
Metric Tons				
Sugarcane for Sugar and Seed	79.42	75.48	26,694,820	25,524,550
			27,448,690	

Sugarcane: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production,
by Use, State, and United States, 1989-91

Use and State	Area Harvested		Yield <u>1/</u>		Production <u>1/</u>		
	1990	1991	1990	1991	1989	1990	1991
	- 1,000 Acres -		--- Tons ---		----- 1,000 Tons -----		
For Sugar							
FL	419.0	429.0	35.5	34.3	12,717	14,874	14,715
HI <u>2/</u>	72.0	66.5	90.8	87.3	7,082	6,538	5,805
LA <u>2/</u>	201.0	321.0	20.6	23.0	7,440	4,150	7,383
TX <u>2/</u>	34.4	34.9	26.5	31.5	830	913	1,099
US	726.4	851.4	36.4	34.1	28,069	26,475	29,002
For Seed							
FL	15.0	14.0	35.5	34.3	471	533	480
HI <u>2/</u>	7.0	7.5	26.4	25.2	195	185	189
LA <u>2/</u>	44.0	24.0	20.6	23.0	643	906	552
TX <u>2/</u>	1.8	1.7	20.6	20.0	48	37	34
US	67.8	47.2	24.5	26.6	1,357	1,661	1,255
For Sugar and Seed							
FL	434.0	443.0	35.5	34.3	13,188	15,407	15,195
HI <u>2/</u>	79.0	74.0	85.1	81.0	7,277	6,723	5,994
LA <u>2/</u>	245.0	345.0	20.6	23.0	8,083	5,056	7,935
TX <u>2/</u>	36.2	36.6	26.2	31.0	878	950	1,133
US	794.2	898.6	35.4	33.7	29,426	28,136	30,257

1/ Net tons.

2/ Current estimates carried forward from earlier forecast.

Winter Potatoes: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production, by State
and United States, 1990-91 and Forecasted February 1, 1992

State	Area Harvested		Yield		Production		
	1991	1992	1991	1992	1990	1991	1992
	1,000 Acres		--- Cwt ---		----- 1,000 Cwt -----		
CA	4.6	5.1	245	220	1,265	1,127	1,122
FL	7.6	8.0	195	200	1,078	1,482	1,600
US	12.2	13.1	214	208	2,343	2,609	2,722

Citrus Fruit: Production, by State and United States, 1990-92 1/

Crop and State	Production Boxes			Production Ton Equivalent		
	Utilized		1991-92	Utilized		1991-92
	1989-90	1990-91		1989-90	1990-91	
	----- 1,000 Boxes <u>2/</u> -----			----- 1,000 Tons -----		
Oranges, Early Mid & Navel <u>3/</u>						
AZ <u>4/</u>	390	550	720	14	20	27
CA	44,300	15,800	32,000	1,661	593	1,200
FL	68,100	87,500	83,000	3,064	3,937	3,735
TX <u>5/</u>	1,050		20	44		1
US	113,840	103,850	115,740	4,783	4,550	4,963
Oranges, Valencia						
AZ <u>4/</u>	1,220	1,200	1,400	45	45	53
CA	27,100	9,800	28,000	1,016	368	1,050
FL	42,100	64,000	56,000	1,894	2,880	2,520
TX <u>5/ 7/</u>	155		10	7		
US	70,575	75,000	85,410	2,962	3,293	3,623
All Oranges						
AZ <u>4/</u>	1,610	1,750	2,120	59	65	80
CA	71,400	25,600	60,000	2,677	961	2,250
FL	110,200	151,500	139,000	4,958	6,817	6,255
TX <u>5/</u>	1,205		30	51		1
US	184,415	178,850	201,150	7,745	7,843	8,586
Temples						
FL	1,400	2,500	2,600	63	113	117
Grapefruit, White Seedless						
FL	18,000	21,700	20,000	765	922	850
Grapefruit, Colored Seedless						
FL	16,300	21,800	20,500	693	926	871
Other Grapefruit						
FL	1,400	1,600	1,500	60	68	64
All Grapefruit						
AZ <u>4/</u>	2,200	2,400	2,300	70	77	74
CA <u>4/ 6/</u>						
Desert	3,500	3,500	3,500	112	112	112
Other Areas	5,900	4,500		198	150	
Total	9,400	8,000		310	262	
FL	35,700	45,100	42,000	1,518	1,916	1,785
TX <u>5/</u>	2,000		65	80		3
US	49,300	55,500		1,978	2,255	
Tangerines						
AZ <u>4/</u>	600	600	850	22	23	32
CA <u>4/</u>	1,650	1,300	1,500	62	49	56
FL	1,700	1,950	2,430	80	92	115
US	3,950	3,850	4,780	164	164	203
Lemons <u>4/</u>						
AZ	2,800	4,100	4,600	106	156	175
CA	15,800	14,900	13,500	600	566	513
US	18,600	19,000	18,100	706	722	688
Tangelos						
FL	2,950	2,650	2,700	132	119	122

Citrus Fruits Footnotes

- 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 and Temples-90; tangerines-CA and 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 for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.
- 5/ Due to the severe freeze of December 1989, TX had no commercial production for the 1990-91 season.
- 6/ The first forecast for CA grapefruit "Other Areas" will be as of April 1.
- 7/ TX production forecast at 425 tons for 1991-92.

Papayas: Area and Fresh Production, Hawaii, by Month, 1991-92

Month	Area				Fresh Production	
	Total in Crop		Harvested		1991	1992
	1991	1992	1991	1992	:	:
	Acres				-- 1,000 Pounds --	
Dec	4,010		2,115		5,610	
Jan	3,315	3,955	2,165	2,120	4,665	5,135
Feb	3,195		2,035		3,365	
Mar	3,330		2,020		3,155	
Apr	3,435		1,905		3,890	
May	3,310		1,925		3,350	

January Weather Summary: January's weather was highlighted by excessive rainfall in the Gulf Coast States and incredible warmth in the North Central States. Elsewhere, California's rainy season sputtered after the 7th, and the Plains' snow cover was scarce due to warmth and lack of storminess.

Five stormy periods plagued the area from Texas to the Georgia-Florida border (January 7-8, 11-13, 17-19, 21-23, and 25-29). Rainfall was far more welcome in northern Florida, where rainfall had been below normal since October 1, than in eastern Texas, which had endured record December rainfall and flooding. Farther west and north, most of the precipitation surpluses were achieved early in the month. Rainfall effectively ceased in the Southwest after the 7th, and one of the month's few major snowstorms trekked from the Great Basin to the Great Lakes between the 6th and the 9th. Monthly precipitation was much below normal in the Northwest except west of the Washington Cascades, where heavy rain fell toward month's end. The dryness extended as far south as northern California, which faces a potential sixth consecutive year of drought.

Preliminary data indicate that California's statewide precipitation since October 1, 1991, is about 60 percent of normal, compared with 25 percent of normal at this time last year. However, snowpack in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, headwaters for many major reservoirs, is only 45 percent of normal (last year: 20 percent of normal on February 1). The State's reservoirs hold 55 percent of their normal water volume, which is 5 percent higher than on February 1, 1991. The improvement is primarily due to heavy precipitation during March 1991.

Monthly temperature departures were greater than 10 degrees F above normal from Kansas northward through Montana, the Dakotas, and Minnesota. As a result, the Plains remained devoid of snow cover for most of the month. Though the 1992 winter wheat crop was vulnerable to winter kill, no severe cold materialized. The stagnant, high-pressure system that fueled the northern Plains' warmth also allowed cold air to drain into interior Western valleys. In many basins, including California's agricultural San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys, persistent fog formed, reducing solar heating. The only other significant area of cooler-than-normal weather was along the Gulf coast, where cloud cover and wet ground suppressed daytime temperatures.

Small Grains: Winter grain seeding was active in Arizona and California during the first part of January, and was completed in Arizona later in the month. Across much of the country, snow cover was considered inadequate for the protection of overwintering small grains, but unusually mild temperatures during January spared the crops from significant freeze damage. Periodic rains boosted crop prospects along both coasts and in the central and southern Great Plains, while excess moisture caused some yellowing of wheat fields in rain-soaked Texas. Broadleaf weed control was ongoing in California, and early topdressing of small grains was underway in the Southeast. Winter wheat condition was reported as fair to good across most of the Nation. Grain marketings from North Dakota were slowed by rail car shortages during the second half of the month.

Oranges: U.S. all orange production is forecast at 8.59 million tons for February 1, up 2 percent from the January 1 forecast and 9 percent greater than the 1990-91 season's crop. Florida's all orange crop is estimated at 139 million boxes, 2 percent above last month's forecast but 8 percent below last season. Production prospects for early and mid-season oranges in Florida are 83.0 million boxes, 4 percent or 3 million boxes above last month but 5 percent below the 1990-91 production. The Florida Valencia crop is forecast at 56.0 million boxes, unchanged from a month ago but down 12 percent from the 1990-91 season. Harvest of Florida early and mid-season varieties is 93 percent complete, while the Valencia crop harvest is just beginning. Throughout the season, fruit quality has remained good.

The California all orange forecast, at 60.0 million boxes, is unchanged from January 1 and is 134 percent higher than last year's freeze damaged crop. The Navel orange forecast is 32.0 million boxes, unchanged from last month and 103 percent more than the 1990-91 harvest. As of February 1, 32 percent of California's Navel crop had been harvested. The California Valencia orange crop forecast, at 28.0 million boxes, is unchanged from a month ago but 186 percent above last season's crop. Harvest has not begun. The California orange sizes are smaller than normal but with good quality reported. The all orange forecast for Arizona, which was carried forward from last month, is expected to total 2.12 million boxes, up 21 percent from last season's production. The Texas crop is expected to total 30,000 boxes. Texas had no commercial production last season due to the December 1989 freeze.

Changes in U.S. production between the February 1 forecast and final production averaged 8.74 million boxes over the past ten seasons, ranging from a low of 730,000 boxes in 1982-83 to a high of 17.1 million boxes in 1981-82.

Florida Concentrated Juice Yield: The 1991-92 forecast of all Frozen Concentrated Orange Juice Yield (FCOJ) for Florida is 1.51 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix. The forecast projects the final yield as reported by the Florida Citrus Processors Association. The final 1990-91 yield for all fruit used in FCOJ was 1.45 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix.

Temples: The Florida forecast, at 2.60 million boxes, is unchanged from January 1 but up 4 percent from last year. Harvest, as of February 1, was about 30 percent complete with good fruit size reported.

Grapefruit: Prospects as of February 1 for the 1991-92 season indicate a crop of 1.97 million tons, down slightly from the January 1 forecast and 6 percent below last season's production. This forecast includes California's "Desert" grapefruit but excludes California's "Other Areas" grapefruit. The grapefruit crop from California's "Other Areas" accounted for 150,000 tons (4.50 million boxes) last season. The first forecast for that area will be as of April 1, 1992.

Florida's grapefruit forecast is 42.0 million boxes, unchanged from January 1 but 7 percent less than the 1990-91 crop. The Florida white seedless grapefruit forecast is 20.0 million boxes, unchanged from the January 1 forecast but 8 percent below the previous season; colored seedless at

20.5 million boxes, remains unchanged from last month's forecast but 6 percent less than the 1990-91 crop; seedy grapefruit, at 1.50 million boxes, is unchanged from January 1 but 6 percent below last season. Acreage fruit size is good this season and harvest is 51 percent complete.

The California Desert and Arizona forecasts of 3.50 million boxes and 2.30 million boxes, respectively, are carried forward from January 1.

The Texas crop is forecast at 65,000 boxes. Last season, Texas had no commercial production due to the severe December 1989 freeze. Harvest is virtually complete.

Tangerines: The U.S. all tangerine forecast is 203,000 tons, up slightly from the previous forecast and 24 percent above 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.

The Florida forecast is 2.43 million boxes, up 1 percent from January 1 and 25 percent higher than the 1990-91 season. Florida harvest as of February 1 was approximately 73 percent complete. Harvest of Dancy tangerines is complete while 41 percent of the Honey tangerines has been picked. Fresh demand has been very good. The California crop forecast remains at 1.50 million boxes, 15 percent above last season. The Arizona forecast is 850,000 boxes, up 42 percent from the 1990-91 utilized production. Both the California and Arizona forecasts have been carried forward from January 1.

Tangelos: The Florida crop, excluding K-early citrus fruits, at 2.70 million boxes, is up 4 percent from January 1 and up 2 percent from the 1990-91 season. Harvest is virtually complete and fruit size has been good.

Florida Citrus: Groves and trees in all areas of the citrus belt are in good to excellent condition even with below average January rainfall. There were light showers weekly that provided sufficient moisture, which was augmented by low volume irrigation. Little new growth and only scattered bloom in isolated southern area groves are seen. Harvest of early and midseason fruit is 97 percent complete. The early-mid fruit quality has been good this season. Movement of all seedless grapefruit was active on the lower east coast during January. About 51 percent of the seedless grapefruit has been picked to date. Tangelo harvest is virtually complete. Harvest of Dancy tangerines is complete. Fresh demand has been good. Honey tangerine movement is increasing with most of this crop going for fresh use. Slightly more than 40 percent of the Honeys has been picked. Temple fruit size is better than average with 30 percent of this crop harvested.

Texas Citrus: Groves remained wet during January and, as a result, little activity occurred. Grapefruit and early orange harvest are virtually complete. Valencia harvest was slowed by wet conditions. Rainfall during the month benefited both new and older trees.

Papayas: Hawaii fresh papaya production is estimated at 5.14 million pounds for January, 8 percent lower than the revised December output, but 10 percent higher than January 1991.

Weather conditions were mixed during January. A mid-month storm caused some light tree losses and an increased flower drop in exposed areas. Seasonally cool temperatures slowed fruit ripening during the month.

Area devoted to papaya production totaled 3,955 acres in January, 1 percent lower than the revised December total, but 19 percent higher than a year ago. Harvested area of 2,120 acres was virtually unchanged from last month, but 2 percent lower than last January.

Sugarcane: The 1991 production of sugarcane for sugar and seed is forecast at 30.3 million tons. This is unchanged from the last forecast published in the "Crop Production Summary" released in mid-January, but 8 percent above the 1990 output. The Florida forecast was evaluated and resulted in no change in production. The forecasts for Hawaii, Louisiana, and Texas were carried forward from earlier forecast.

Winter Potatoes: Production of winter potatoes is forecast at 2.72 million cwt, down 5 percent from the January 1 forecast, but a gain of 4 percent from last year and 16 percent above two years ago. Area for harvest, estimated at 13,100 acres is up 7 percent from last year. The average yield is forecast at 208 cwt per acre, down 11 cwt from a month ago and 6 cwt below last year.

California harvest started in early December, but tuber sets were lighter than expected. No major weather or disease factors were reported. The California yield projection is down from a month ago. Florida harvest started in mid-January in the south and is gaining momentum. Good weather has produced a crop of good quality and size.

California Fruits and Nuts: Fog covered the inland valleys during most of the month of January. Throughout the State, winter cultural practices included dormant spraying, pruning, weed control, fumigating, and replanting of orchards. The harvest of Deglet Noor dates progressed in Riverside county. The Navel orange harvest gained momentum during January, with approximately one-third of the crop picked by the end of the month. Sizes were small, but quality was good. Valencia oranges were maturing well, but sizes remain small. Picking in the desert should begin in the next few weeks. Harvest was ongoing for lemons, grapefruit, tangerines, tangelos, tangors, and avocados.

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Report Features

In this issue, a new table is included providing the latest forecast of Sugarcane for sugar and seed area harvested, yield, and production for 1991 with comparisons for 1989 and 1990.

The next "Crop Production" report will be released at 3:00 p.m. ET on March 11, 1992.

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information.

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