

Crop Production



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Washington, D.C.

Released on February 10, 1993, by the Agricultural Statistics Board. Forecasts refer to February 1, 1993.

Orange Production Up 27 Percent

Orange production is forecast at 11.3 million tons, unchanged from January 1 but 27 percent more than last season's crop. A significant increase in the size of the Florida orange crop is the primary reason for the rise.

Grapefruit production, including California Desert grapefruit but excluding the California "Other Areas" crop, is 2.54 million tons, up slightly from the January 1 forecast and 26 percent more than last season. The increase over last season is primarily due to a much larger grapefruit crop in Florida.

Winter potato production is forecast at 2.59 million cwt, down 7 percent from a month ago and 14 percent below last year. Early harvest started in California the first part of December. Steady rains during January left fields wet and delayed harvest. Heavy rains in south Florida drowned some potato fields and reduced yields. Harvest is underway with fair quality and size.

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,
1992 and Forecasted February 1, 1993
(Domestic Units)


Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1992	1993	1992	1993
	1,000 Acres			
Potatoes Winter	13.4	13.3	13.4	13.0

Crop Summary: Yield per Acre and Production, United States,
1992 and Forecasted February 1, 1993
(Domestic Units)

Crop and Unit	Yield per Acre:			Production	
	1992	1993	1992	Jan 1, 1993	Feb 1, 1993
	----- 1,000 -----				
Potatoes Winter Cwt	224	199	2,998	2,780	2,592
			1991-92	1992-93	1992-93
Oranges <u>1/</u> Ton			8,906	11,298	11,298

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 10, 1993, by the Secretary of Agriculture and the National Agricultural Statistics Service's Agricultural Statistics Board.



Secretary of
Agriculture
Mike Espy



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
Rich Allen

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States,
1992 and Forecasted February 1, 1993
(Metric Units)

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1992	1993	1992	1993
	Hectares			
Potatoes Winter	5,420	5,380	5,420	5,260

Crop Summary: Yield per Hectare and Production, United States,
1992 and Forecasted February 1, 1993
(Metric Units)

Crop	Yield per Hectare:			Production	
	1992	1993	1992	Jan 1, 1993	Feb 1, 1993
	Metric Tons				
Potatoes Winter	25.09	22.35	135,990	126,100	117,570
			1991-92	1992-93	1992-93
Oranges <u>1</u> /			8,079,390	10,249,370	10,249,370

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, 1991-92
(Domestic Units)

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1991	1992	1991	1992
	1,000 Acres			
Sugarcane for Sugar and Seed			896.9	934.5

Crop Summary: Yield per Acre and Production, United States, 1990-92
(Domestic Units)

Crop	Yield per Acre			Production	
	1991	1992	1990	1991	1992
	----- Tons -----			----- 1,000 Tons -----	
Sugarcane for Sugar and Seed	33.7	33.0	28,136	30,252	30,852

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 1991-92
(Metric Units)

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1991	1992	1991	1992
	Hectares			
Sugarcane for Sugar and Seed			362,970	378,180

Crop Summary: Yield per Hectare and Production, United States, 1990-92
(Metric Units)

Crop	Yield per Hectare			Production	
	1991	1992	1990	1991	1992
	Metric Tons				
Sugarcane for Sugar and Seed	75.61	74.01	25,524,550	27,444,150	27,988,460

Sugarcane: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production,
by Use, State, and United States, 1990-92

Use and State	Area Harvested		Yield <u>1/</u>		Production <u>1/</u>		
	1991	1992	1991	1992	1990	1991	1992
	-- 1,000 Acres -		--- Tons ---		----- 1,000 Tons -----		
For Sugar							
FL	428.0	434.0	34.9	33.5	14,874	14,937	14,539
HI <u>2/</u>	67.4	64.0	86.9	91.0	6,538	5,857	5,824
LA <u>2/</u>	321.0	345.0	22.1	22.5	4,150	7,090	7,763
TX <u>2/</u>	33.2	37.4	32.4	35.0	913	1,076	1,309
US	849.6	880.4	34.1	33.4	26,475	28,960	29,435
For Seed							
FL	15.0	16.0	34.9	33.5	533	524	536
HI <u>2/</u>	6.6	6.5	30.9	26.0	185	204	169
LA <u>2/</u>	24.0	30.0	22.1	22.5	906	530	675
TX <u>2/</u>	1.7	1.6	20.0	23.0	37	34	37
US	47.3	54.1	27.3	26.2	1,661	1,292	1,417
For Sugar and Seed							
FL	443.0	450.0	34.9	33.5	15,407	15,461	15,075
HI <u>2/</u>	74.0	70.5	81.9	85.0	6,723	6,061	5,993
LA <u>2/</u>	345.0	375.0	22.1	22.5	5,056	7,620	8,438
TX <u>2/</u>	34.9	39.0	31.8	34.5	950	1,110	1,346
US	896.9	934.5	33.7	33.0	28,136	30,252	30,852

1/ Net tons.

2/ Current estimate carried forward from earlier forecast.

Winter Potatoes: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production, by State
and United States, 1991-92 and Forecasted February 1, 1993

State	Area Harvested		Yield		Production		
	1992	1993	1992	1993	1991	1992	1993
	1,000 Acres		--- Cwt ---		----- 1,000 Cwt -----		
CA	5.3	5.6	260	225	1,127	1,378	1,260
FL	8.1	7.4	200	180	1,482	1,620	1,332
US	13.4	13.0	224	199	2,609	2,998	2,592

Citrus Fruit: Utilized Production by Crop, State and United States,
1990-91 and Forecasted February 1, 1993 1/

Crop and State	Utilized Production Boxes			Utilized Production Ton Equivalent		
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
	----- 1,000 Boxes <u>2/</u> -----			----- 1,000 Tons -----		
Oranges						
Early Mid & Navel <u>3/</u>						
AZ <u>4/</u>	550	780	850	20	29	32
CA	15,800	35,100	47,000	593	1,317	1,763
FL	87,500	83,400	116,000	3,937	3,753	5,220
TX <u>5/</u>		20	400		1	17
US	103,850	119,300	164,250	4,550	5,100	7,032
Valencia						
AZ <u>4/</u>	1,200	1,600	1,300	45	60	49
CA	9,800	32,200	26,000	368	1,208	975
FL	64,100	56,400	72,000	2,885	2,538	3,240
TX <u>5/ 6/</u>		10	50			2
US	75,100	90,210	99,350	3,298	3,806	4,266
All						
AZ <u>4/</u>	1,750	2,380	2,150	65	89	81
CA	25,600	67,300	73,000	961	2,525	2,738
FL	151,600	139,800	188,000	6,822	6,291	8,460
TX <u>5/</u>		30	450		1	19
US	178,950	209,510	263,600	7,848	8,906	11,298
Temples						
FL	2,500	2,350	2,700	113	106	122
Grapefruit						
White Seedless						
FL	21,700	19,100	25,000	922	812	1,063
Colored Seedless						
FL	21,800	22,100	27,000	927	940	1,148
Other						
FL	1,600	1,200	2,000	68	51	85
All						
AZ <u>4/</u>	2,400	2,800	2,400	77	89	77
CA <u>4/ 7/</u>						
Desert	3,500	3,500	3,500	112	112	112
Other Areas	4,500	6,500		150	217	
Total	8,000	10,000		262	329	
FL	45,100	42,400	54,000	1,917	1,803	2,296
TX <u>5/</u>		65	1,300		3	52
US	55,500	55,265		2,256	2,224	
Tangerines						
AZ <u>4/</u>	600	1,200	900	23	45	34
CA <u>4/</u>	1,350	2,400	2,700	51	90	101
FL	1,950	2,600	2,700	92	123	128
US	3,900	6,200	6,300	166	258	263
Lemons <u>4/</u>						
AZ	4,100	5,100	5,200	156	194	198
CA	14,800	15,100	18,000	563	574	684
US	18,900	20,200	23,200	719	768	882
Tangelos						
FL	2,650	2,600	3,000	119	117	135
K-Early Citrus						
FL	160	165	185	7	7	8

Citrus Fruit 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, K-Early Citrus & 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 Dec 1989, TX had no commercial production for the 1990-91 season.
- 6/ TX estimated at 425 tons for 1991-92.
- 7/ The first forecast for CA grapefruit "Other Areas" will be as of April 1.

Papayas: Area and Fresh Production, Hawaii,
by Month, 1992 and Forecasted February 1, 1993

Month	Area				Fresh Production	
	Total in Crop		Harvested		1992	1993
	1992	1993	1992	1993	:	:
	----- Acres -----				-- 1,000 Pounds --	
Dec	3,645		2,770		5,070	
Jan	3,955	3,605	2,025	2,725	5,055	5,130
Feb	3,855		2,150		4,785	
Mar	3,945		2,160		4,010	
Apr	3,875		2,190		3,960	
May	3,795		2,190		4,445	

January Weather and Crop Summary: A rampage of storms guaranteed California's Sierra Nevada mountains of above-normal snowpack and runoff for the upcoming snowmelt season, but major flooding affected parts of southern California and Arizona. Several western stations realized seasonal record snowfall totals, in part due to the January storms. Farther east, cool weather and a combination of rain, ice, and snow hampered residual fieldwork activities in the central and southern Plains and the Midwest. Rainy weather plagued the Southeast. But in parts of the Northwest, precipitation was less than half of normal despite above-normal snowfall, renewing drought concerns. Less than half of the normal rainfall covered the Hawaiian islands, but this month's conditions were preceded by very wet weather in December.

Frigid air hung over the northwestern quarter of the Nation until mid-month, but ample snow cover protected winter wheat from readings as low as -25 degrees F in Montana and -5 degrees F in eastern Washington. Cold air never escaped the West's interior valleys, resulting in monthly temperatures averaging as much as 13 degrees F below normal in eastern Oregon. Farther south, a strong sub-tropical jet stream limited cold air intrusions. Temperatures averaged up to 6 degrees F above normal in parts of the Southwest and the Southeast.

Heavy precipitation washed across California on January 1 and 6-10 and on almost a daily basis between January 12 and 21. Statewide monthly average precipitation was nearly 9.5 inches, which was about 200 percent of normal. Only northwestern coastal portions of the State received below-normal amounts. Serious flooding affected southern California and Arizona, as well as neighboring portions of northwestern Mexico. Problems ranged from widespread flash flooding (as normally dry washes overflowed) to river flooding and mudslides. A warm, dry spell during the last 10 days of the month permitted the Southwest to dry, and allowed for considerable snowmelt in the Sierra foothills. Fortunately, much of the melting snow was captured by the State's reservoir system.

By February 1, California's 155 largest reservoirs contained 18.0 million acre feet (5.87 trillion gallons) of water, which is 77 percent of the long-term average. Last year, on February 1, 1992, reservoir storage stood at only 13.0 million acre feet (4.24 trillion gallons), or 55 percent of normal. In addition, the moisture content of the high elevation Sierra snowpack, based upon the observations of more than 100 automated sensors, was 175 percent of normal on February 1, promising additional hefty spring runoff. Even if no snow falls in the Sierras between now and April 1 (the traditional peak snowpack date), the water content of the snow would wind up at approximately 115 percent of normal.

Elsewhere, several stations, including Fairbanks, AK, and Klamath Falls, OR, surpassed seasonal snowfall records during January. This season's total of 78.0 inches of snow at Klamath Falls is 10 times the amount (7.8 inches) that fell during 1991-92. Salt Lake City, UT, had its snowiest month ever. But in the East, most of the precipitation fell as rain. Beckley, WV, had its least snowy January on record, noting only 0.4 inches. Hollywood, FL, had more than its share of rain early in the month, setting a monthly rainfall record by January 11. A monthly rainfall record was also set in Miami Beach, where nearly 10 inches fell. Many locations in Arizona and southern California set

January rainfall records, including San Diego, CA (second wettest month ever), and Tucson, AZ.

The relative quietude of the month's final 10 days was welcomed not only in California, but throughout the Nation as well. In the Nation's southeastern quadrant, mild, dry weather allowed fieldwork to resume after 3 stormy weeks. Warmer weather in the northern Plains eased stress on livestock, but also melted much of the winter wheat crop's protective snow cover from Montana southeastward to Colorado and Kansas.

In contrast, Alaskan weather turned sharply colder after mid-month. In Nome, AK, the temperature failed to rise above -10 degrees F after the 19th, and their -46 degrees F reading on January 30 was their coldest since January 28, 1989.

Crop Progress: At the beginning of January, the winter wheat crop was in *generally good condition in most areas except in Texas*. Early in the month, precipitation across the nation brought ample snow cover to the Northwest and Northern Great Plains and excessive moisture to the South. The wet conditions in the South hurt stands and caused yellowing of grain fields. Although excessive moisture helped control a greenbug and mite outbreak in Texas, their crop condition still compared unfavorably to last year. Warmer temperatures and sunny weather were needed at the end of the month to dry out fields in the South. Mild weather over the Northwest and Northern Great Plains the second part of the month melted some of that area's snow cover, but at the end of the month, the winter wheat was under generally adequate cover. Nationally, the condition of the winter wheat crop was rated fair to good.

In early January, the citrus harvest advanced in Florida and California. Rain in the West most of the month hindered or delayed harvests in California and Arizona. Mid-month rains delayed harvests in Florida. By the end of the month, citrus groves were drying out and harvests were advancing in all major areas.

Rain and snow hindered the harvests of cotton, corn, and soybeans the first half of the month. The mild weather the end of the period allowed the corn harvest to advance in the Midwest, the soybean harvest to finish in the Southeast, and the cotton harvest to be completed in Texas and the Southeast.

Sugarcane: The 1992 production of sugarcane for sugar and seed is forecast at a record high 30.9 million tons. This is unchanged from the last forecast published in the "Crop Production 1992 Summary" released in mid-January, and represents a 2 percent increase from last year's output. The Florida forecast was evaluated and resulted in no change in production. The forecasts for Hawaii, Louisiana, and Texas were carried forward from an earlier forecast.

Winter Potatoes: Production of winter potatoes is forecast at 2.59 million cwt, down 7 percent from the January 1 forecast. The expected 1993 output is down 14 percent from last year and 1 percent below

1991. Area for harvest, at 13,000 acres, is down 3 percent. The average yield forecast is 199 cwt per acre, down 12 cwt from a month ago and 25 cwt below last year.

In California, harvest is well along in the Riverside and Imperial Valley areas with some growers finished. Progress in Kern County was slowed during January by steady rains and wet fields. Florida harvest is underway with fair quality and tuber size. Heavy rain in January drowned some acreage and reduced yields.

Oranges: The February 1 forecast of U.S. orange production is 11.3 million tons, unchanged from last month but up 27 percent from last season.

The forecast for all Florida oranges is 188 million boxes, unchanged from January 1 but up 34 percent from last season. Production of early and mid-season varieties is forecast at 116 million boxes, also unchanged from last month but up 39 percent from last year. Harvest is approximately 66 percent complete. Over 7 million boxes of fruit were harvested per week during January. Florida Valencia production is expected to total 72.0 million boxes, unchanged from last month but 28 percent more than last season's crop. Fruit set is heavy this year but sizes of all oranges are smaller than normal.

California's 1992-93 all orange forecast is 73.0 million boxes, unchanged from last month but 8 percent more than last year. The Navel crop in California is expected to total a record high 47.0 million boxes, also unchanged from January 1 but 34 percent more than last season. Cold night temperatures during January resulted in some fruit droppage. Fruit set is heavy but continues to size well. California's Valencia forecast is 26.0 million boxes, unchanged from January 1 but down 19 percent from last season's large crop. The crop is maturing well but fruit set is lighter than a year ago.

The Arizona all orange crop is expected to total 2.15 million boxes, down 10 percent from last season. The Arizona forecast was carried forward from January 1. The 1992-93 Texas all orange forecast is 450,000 boxes, unchanged from last month. Last season's production was only 30,000 boxes as trees recovered from the December 1989 freeze.

The February 1 U.S. all orange production forecast has deviated from the final production by an average of 333,000 tons over the past 10 seasons, ranging from a low of 31,000 tons in 1982-83 to a high of 653,000 tons in 1989-90.

Florida Frozen Concentrated Juice Yield: All orange FCOJ projected yield has been increased to 1.55 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix concentrate. The projected yield for early and mid-season varieties has also been increased to 1.50 gallons per box. The 1991-92 season's final yield was 1.47 gallons per box. The Valencia yield of 1.64 gallons per box is also up this month. Last season's final yield for Valencias was a record high 1.70 gallons per box.

Temples: The February 1 forecast for the 1992-93 Florida Temple crop is 2.70 million boxes, unchanged from January 1 but 15 percent more than last season. Harvest is approximately 25 percent complete with good quality fruit reported.

Grapefruit: The 1992-93 U.S. grapefruit crop (excluding California Other Areas) is forecast at 2.54 million tons, up slightly from last month and 26 percent over last year. The 1991-92 California "Other Areas" grapefruit crop totaled 217,000 tons (6.50 million boxes). The first forecast for that type of grapefruit will be made as of April 1, 1993. The February 1 forecast for all grapefruit in Florida remains at 54.0 million boxes, unchanged from January 1 but 27 percent more than last year. Harvest is over 31 percent complete as of February 1.

The Florida white seedless grapefruit forecast is 25.0 million boxes, unchanged from January 1 but up 31 percent from last season. The colored seedless forecast is 27.0 million boxes, unchanged from the previous forecast but 22 percent more than the 1991-92 crop. The seedy grapefruit crop is expected to reach 2.00 million boxes, a 67 percent increase over last season. Movement of white and colored grapefruit averaged almost 1.50 million boxes per week during January. Harvest of seedless grapefruit is approximately 32 percent complete.

The California Desert and Arizona forecasts of 3.50 million boxes and 2.40 million boxes, respectively, were carried forward from January 1.

The Texas grapefruit forecast has been increased 18 percent from last month to 1.30 million boxes. The Texas citrus industry continues to recover from devastating freezes during the 1980's. Fruit sizes are smaller than normal but fruit set is heavy. Harvest slowed during January due to low prices and rainy weather.

Tangerines: The 1992-93 U.S. tangerine crop forecast is 263,000 tons, unchanged from January 1 but up 2 percent from last season.

The Florida tangerine forecast is 2.70 million boxes, unchanged from the previous month but up 4 percent from last season's crop. The early and Dancy tangerine harvest is virtually complete. The Honey tangerine harvest is 36 percent complete, while the all tangerine harvest is 70 percent finished. The California and Arizona forecasts of 2.70 million boxes and 900,000 boxes, respectively, were carried forward from January 1.

Tangelos: The 1992-93 Florida tangelo crop is forecast at 3.00 million boxes, unchanged from January 1 but 15 percent more than last season. Harvest is approximately 91 percent complete.

Florida Citrus: Groves, trees, and fruit in all areas of the citrus belt were in good to excellent condition. Moisture was adequate with the lower east coast receiving more rain than other areas. Warm temperatures in early January produced new growth and swelling bloom buds but cooler weather by the end of the month slowed growth and development. Harvest of early and midseason oranges was active during January. The weekly harvest for early and midseason oranges was more than 7 million boxes per week. Movement of white and colored grapefruit averaged almost 1.50 million boxes a week during January. A little more than 68 percent of the seedless varieties remain to be picked. The early and Dancy tangerine harvests were virtually complete by the

end of the month as near perfect weather conditions prevailed throughout most of the harvest period. Harvest of tangelos in all areas was about 90 percent complete at the end of the month. Harvest of Temples and Honey tangerines increased with adequate supply of quality fruit remaining. Caretakers were busy cutting cover crops, unbanking, and unwrapping young trees in the warmer locations. Growers on the east coast were busy pumping water out of wet groves.

Texas Citrus: Harvest slowed during January due to low prices and intermittent light rain. Grapefruit quality and color has held up well. Orange quality deteriorated following harvest. Normal activities occurred in the groves despite scattered wet conditions.

Papayas: Hawaii fresh papaya production is estimated at 5.13 million pounds for January, 1 percent higher than both last month and January 1992. Strong winds and heavy rains at the beginning of the month caused heavy losses to some acreages but overall damage to the industry was light. Cool January temperatures slowed crop development.

Area devoted to papaya production totaled 3,605 acres, 1 percent lower than December and 9 percent lower than a year ago. Harvested area, totaling 2,725 acres, was 2 percent lower than the previous month but 35 percent more than last January.

California Fruits and Nuts: Pruning, tying vines, weed control, dormant spraying, grafting, and other common winter cultural practices continued in orchards and vineyards throughout the State. Rain slowed field activities during the month. Navel oranges continued to be picked despite delays from fog and rain. Desert grapefruit, lemons, and tangelos were harvested. Avocado harvest continued. Date harvest was completed. Almond pruning was completed with early bud swell in most orchards near the end of the month. Peach bud break was reported in some orchards.

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Special Features

The next "Crop Production" report will be released at 3:00 p.m. ET on March 10, 1993.

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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