

Crop Production



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Washington, D.C.

Released March 10, 1995, by the Agricultural Statistics Board. Forecasts refer to March 1, 1995.

Orange Production Unchanged

All **orange** production remains at 11.6 million tons, unchanged from the previous forecast but 13 percent above last season. Production of early, mid, and Navel varieties decreased, while production of Valencia oranges increased. Florida's forecast of early and mid-season varieties decreased by 1 million boxes to 120 million boxes (5.40 million tons), based primarily on reduced recorded utilization. That level is down 1 percent from last month but 12 percent above last year. The Florida Valencia forecast increased to 83.0 million boxes (3.74 million tons), up 1 percent from February and up 24 percent from last season. The size of the Valencia fruit is very large and the amount of fruit dropping continues far below normal.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice yield for the 1994-95 season is forecast at 1.51 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix. This forecast is unchanged from last month but down from last seasons's final yield of 1.57 gallons per box. The projected yield for early and mid-season varieties is 1.44 gallons per box, down from 1.52 gallons per box last season. The Valencia crop is expected to yield 1.63 gallons per box, down from 1.66 gallons per box a year ago. The forecast projects the final yield reported by the Florida Citrus Processors Association.

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,
1994 and Forecasted March 1, 1995
(Domestic Units)

Crop and Unit	Production		
	1994	Feb 1, 1995	Mar 1, 1995
		1,000	
	1993-94	1994-95	1994-95
Oranges <u>1</u> / Ton	10.281	11.634	11.634

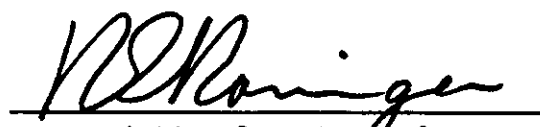
1/ Harvest begins with the bloom of the first year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year.

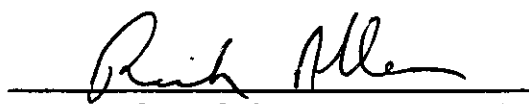
Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States,
1994 and Forecasted March 1, 1995
(Metric Units)

Crop and Unit	Production		
	1994	Feb 1, 1995	Mar 1, 1995
		Metric Tons	
	1993-94	1994-95	1994-95
Oranges <u>1</u> / Ton	9,326,770	10,554,190	10,554,190

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

This report was approved on March 10, 1995, by the Acting Secretary of Agriculture and the National Agricultural Statistics Service's Agricultural Statistics Board.


 Acting Secretary of
 Agriculture
 Richard E. Rominger


 Agricultural Statistics Board
 Chairperson
 Rich Allen

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested,
United States, 1993-94 (Domestic Units)

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1993	1994	1993	1994
	1,000 Acres			
Sugarcane for Sugar and Seed			948.3	935.3

Crop Summary: Yield per Acre and Production,
United States, 1992-94 (Domestic Units)

Crop	Yield per Acre			Production	
	1993	1994	1992	1993	1994
	Tons			1,000 Tons	
Sugarcane for Sugar and Seed	32.8	34.0	30,363	31,101	31,816

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested,
United States, 1993-94 (Metric Units)

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1993	1994	1993	1994
	Hectares			
Sugarcane for Sugar and Seed			383,770	378,510

Crop Summary: Yield per Hectare and Production,
United States, 1992-94 (Metric Units)

Crop	Yield per Hectare			Production	
	1993	1994	1992	1993	1994
	Metric Tons				
Sugarcane for Sugar and Seed	73.52	76.25	27,544,850	28,214,350	28,862,990

Citrus Fruit: Utilized Production by Crop, State, and United States,
1993-94 and Forecasted March 1, 1995 ^{1/}

Crop and State	Utilized Production Boxes			Utilized Production Ton Equivalent		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
	----- 1,000 Boxes ^{2/} -----			----- 1,000 Tons -----		
Oranges						
Early Mid & Navel ^{3/}						
AZ ^{4/}	700	700	600	26	26	23
CA ^{4/}	43,800	36,600	37,000	1,642	1,372	1,388
FL	114,300	107,300	120,000	5,143	4,829	5,400
TX	450	480	1,000	20	21	43
US	159,250	145,080	158,600	6,831	6,248	6,854
Valencia						
AZ ^{4/}	1,150	1,200	750	43	45	28
CA ^{4/}	23,000	26,000	27,000	863	975	1,013
FL	72,300	66,900	83,000	3,253	3,010	3,735
TX	60	70	100	2	3	4
US	96,510	94,170	110,850	4,161	4,033	4,780
All						
AZ ^{4/}	1,850	1,900	1,350	69	71	51
CA ^{4/}	66,800	62,600	64,000	2,505	2,347	2,401
FL	186,600	174,200	203,000	8,396	7,839	9,135
TX	510	550	1,100	22	24	47
US	255,760	239,250	269,450	10,992	10,281	11,634
Temples						
FL	2,500	2,250	2,600	113	102	117
Grapefruit						
White Seedless						
FL	25,700	24,500	25,000	1,093	1,042	1,063
Colored Seedless						
FL	27,700	25,500	29,000	1,177	1,084	1,233
Other						
FL	1,750	1,050	1,000	74	45	43
All						
AZ ^{4/}	2,150	1,750	1,600	69	59	54
CA ^{4/ 5/}						
Desert	3,500	3,300	3,400	112	111	114
Other Areas	5,700	5,800		191	194	
Total	9,200	9,100		303	305	
FL	55,150	51,050	55,000	2,344	2,171	2,339
TX	1,875	3,000	4,300	75	120	172
US	68,375	64,900		2,791	2,655	
Tangerines						
AZ ^{4/}	950	1,000	700	35	37	26
CA ^{4/}	2,100	2,300	2,300	79	86	86
FL	2,800	4,100	3,500	133	195	166
US	5,850	7,400	6,500	247	318	278
Lemons ^{4/}						
AZ	4,400	5,200	4,000	167	197	152
CA	20,400	20,700	20,500	775	787	779
US	24,800	25,900	24,500	942	984	931
Tangelos						
FL	3,050	3,350	3,200	137	150	144
K-Early Citrus						
FL	185	210	120	8	9	5

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 in 1992-93 and earlier, 67-starting in 1993-94. 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 the current year carried forward from an earlier forecast.
- 5/ The first forecast for California grapefruit "Other Areas" will be as of April 1, 1995.

Papayas: Area and Fresh Production, by Month, Hawaii, 1994-95

Month	Area				Fresh Production	
	Total in Crop		Harvested		1994	1995
	1994	1995	1994	1995		
	----- Acres -----				-- 1,000 Pounds --	
Jan	3,375	3,620	2,345	2,345	5,295	4,000
Feb	3,315	3,660	2,345	2,395	4,100	3,720

Sugarcane: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production
by Use, State, and United States, 1992-94

State	Area Harvested		Yield <u>1/</u>		Production <u>1/</u>	
	1993	1994	1993	1994	1993	1994
	-- 1,000 Acres --		---- Tons -----		--- 1,000 Tons --	
For Sugar						
FL	425.0	428.0	34.1	35.3	14,512	15,120
HI <u>2/</u>	64.8	61.5	85.0	89.5	5,508	5,504
LA <u>2/</u>	360.0	352.0	22.8	24.0	8,220	8,448
TX <u>2/</u>	43.5	42.5	32.5	30.6	1,412	1,301
US	893.3	884.0	33.2	34.4	29,652	30,373
For Seed						
FL	19.0	17.0	33.7	37.1	640	630
HI <u>2/</u>	5.1	5.0	19.2	23.0	98	115
LA <u>2/</u>	30.0	28.0	22.8	24.0	684	672
TX <u>2/</u>	0.9	1.3	30.0	20.0	27	26
US	55.0	51.3	26.3	28.1	1,449	1,443
For Sugar and Seed						
FL	444.0	445.0	34.1	35.4	15,152	15,750
HI <u>2/</u>	69.9	66.5	80.2	84.5	5,606	5,619
LA <u>2/</u>	390.0	380.0	22.8	24.0	8,904	9,120
TX <u>2/</u>	44.4	43.8	32.4	30.3	1,439	1,327
US	948.3	935.3	32.8	34.0	31,101	31,816

1/ Net tons.

2/ Current estimate carried forward from earlier forecast.

February Weather Summary: Like January, February featured a record-setting period of warmth sandwiched between modest cold spells; below-normal snowfall for the majority of the Plains; and locally heavy precipitation in the Southwest. The month was highlighted by a shift to drier-than-normal weather in northern California; a powerful early-month snow storm in the Northeast; and a minor-to-moderate freeze in central Florida.

Below-normal temperatures (up to 3 degrees F) were confined to the Northeastern States. From the Great Basin into the Plains, monthly temperatures averaged 5 to 10 degrees F above normal. February records for warmth were established at several observation sites:

Location	Avg. Temp. (degrees F)	Former Record/Year
Los Angeles, CA	65.3	64.6 in 1980
Las Vegas, NV	58.6	55.9 in 1991
Reno, NV	46.0	45.4 in 1907
Grand Junction, CO	43.4 tied	43.4 in 1907
Ely, NV	37.9	36.8 in 1963

In addition, it was the second warmest February on record in Winslow, AZ, and Lompoc, CA.

Despite a relatively low number of heavy-precipitation days in the Southwest (February 13-14) and the Southeast (February 15-17 and 27-28), monthly totals were generally above normal. In contrast, precipitation was less than 25 percent of normal in northern California, the upper Midwest, and parts of the Plains. Only 0.19 inches of rain fell in Sacramento, CA, the fifth-lowest February total on record. A mere 0.04 inches fell in Oklahoma City, OK, their third-driest February. Madison, WI, observed its driest (0.06 inches), fourth least-snowy (0.7 inches) February. Negligible snow also fell in locations such as Dubuque, IA (0.5 inches), Concordia, KS (0.6 inches), and Missoula, MT (0.9 inches).

Snowfall in the North-Central and Central States was most prevalent on February 12-14 and again at month's end, in tandem with the month's Arctic outbreaks. Enough snow fell in Cheyenne, WY (23.3 inches) to set a February record and more than double their season-to-date accumulation. Farther east, the unusually ice-free Great Lakes contributed to above-normal monthly snow totals in South Bend, IN (25.8 inches) and Rochester, NY (23.6 inches). In the Northeast, the season's first widespread snow storm struck on February 4-5, dumping the majority of the month's powder. In the storm's wake, a series of high-pressure systems moved southeastward, culminating in a freeze into central Florida on February 9. Some spring crops were damaged and subsequently replanted. Farther west, winter wheat broke dormancy by February 25 as far north as the central Plains, the result of a week-long warm spell. Cold air returned as March began, preceded and accompanied by snowfall that provided wheat with insulation and beneficial moisture.

In Alaska, above-normal temperatures prevailed except during the week (February 19-25) that the Lower 48 was in the midst of its warm spell. Monthly temperatures averaged 6 to 8 degrees F above normal across central and western areas. Precipitation was above normal in the south and west, continuing

winter's trend. In fact, by month's end, seasonal snowfall reached 107.5 inches in Nome, breaking the 1931-32 record.

In Hawaii, the islands of Kauai and Oahu received significant drought relief. Both Lihue and Honolulu recorded more than 5 inches of rain, breaking 4- to 5-month dry spells. However, dryness persisted at Kahului, Maui (winter-long drought), and Hilo, (3-month dry spell).

General Crop Comments: February began with rain in northern California that left standing water in low-lying fields, resulting in yellowing of small grains. Rain along the northern Pacific Coast saturated small grain fields and hampered fieldwork. In early February, mild weather allowed Texas wheat producers to apply fertilizer and top-dress wheat fields. Snow, sleet, and rain in the Midwest early in the month produced wet conditions that limited field activities, while the south-central Great Plains enjoyed mild weather. February began with less-than-adequate snow cover in Montana and Wyoming. North Dakota's snow cover was adequate to protect the wheat crop but was below last year's snow cover. Spring-like weather in mid-February in the Northwestern States stimulated fruit tree buds to swell and raised the possibility for freeze damage. By mid-month, dryland wheat fields in the Texas Plains remained in critical need of moisture. Surplus soil moisture across the Southeastern States delayed land preparation and nitrogen application to wheat fields. Snowfall from the High Plains to the Midwest protected winter wheat from a mid-month gust of Arctic air. Toward the end of the month, rains and wet soils delayed fieldwork in California, where flood damage to wheat fields became evident as waters receded. In the Southwestern States, the small grains were established and over half of the wheat fields were jointing. Mild weather in the lower Mississippi Valley and the Midwest let early fieldwork begin, while snow melting in Kansas benefited the small grains. By the end of February, wheat broke dormancy and was greening from the southern to the central Great Plains. At month's end, temperatures well above normal depleted most of the snow cover in the Northern States. In the Midwest, the warm weather and lack of significant precipitation allowed farmers to begin tilling and topdressing small grains. Irrigation of small grains in Texas continued whereas most dryland fields showed little growth and remained in need of moisture. Overall, the mild weather during the month improved the wheat across the Nation, with wheat condition generally reported as mostly good to fair.

Grapefruit: The March 1 forecast of the 1994-95 U.S. grapefruit crop (excluding California's "Other Areas") is 2.68 million tons, down slightly from last month but up 9 percent from last season. Last year, California's "Other Areas" produced 194,000 tons (5.80 million boxes). The first forecast for that type of grapefruit will be April 1, 1995.

Florida's grapefruit forecast is 55.0 million boxes (2.34 million tons), down 1 percent from the February 1 forecast but up 8 percent from last season. This month's decline came from a drop in the seedy variety from 1.50 million boxes last month to 1.00 million boxes (43,000 tons). Utilization has been as strong as expected. The white seedless variety remained at 25.0 million boxes (1.06 million tons) as did the colored seedless at 29.0 million boxes (1.23 million tons).

The Texas grapefruit forecast increased to 4.30 million boxes (172,000 tons), up 8 percent from last month and 43 percent more than last season. The forecast for California desert grapefruit is carried forward from January 1, at 3.40 million boxes (114,000 tons), up 3 percent from last season. The Arizona grapefruit forecast is also carried forward at 1.60 million boxes (54,000 tons), down 9 percent from last season.

Tangelos: The Florida tangelo forecast remained 3.20 million boxes (144,000 tons), unchanged from last month but 4 percent smaller than last year. Movement of tangelos is almost complete for the season with nearly 3.00 million boxes utilized.

Tangerines: The 1994-95 tangerine crop is forecast at 278,000 tons, unchanged from February and 13 percent less than last season. The Florida tangerine forecast is 3.50 million boxes (166,000 tons), unchanged from last month but down 15 percent from last year. More than 800,000 boxes of Florida's honey tangerines were picked, with movement continuing at a steady pace. Harvest of all other Florida tangerines ended for this season. The California tangerine forecast was carried forward from January at 2.30 million boxes (86,000 tons) and the Arizona forecast was carried forward at 700,000 boxes (26,000 tons).

Temples: The March 1 forecast for the 1994-95 Florida Temple production was unchanged from February at 2.60 million boxes (117,000 tons), 16 percent above last season's production. Harvest was active in February. Slightly more than 2.20 million boxes were used to date.

Florida Citrus: Most of Florida's citrus groves were in good condition in February. The month was drier than average with two or more mornings of freezing temperatures and frost. The cold weather caused little tree damage. Some leaf burn occurred in cold pockets and lowlands but was insignificant on an industry basis. By the end of February, there was an abundance of swelling bloom buds with a few open flowers. Harvesting of early and midseason oranges slowed during February as supplies shrank by the end of the month with almost 113 million boxes certified. Valencia utilization for fresh and processing totaled almost 4.00 million boxes at the end of the month. Movement of all grapefruit increased with almost 32.0 million boxes used.

Texas Citrus: Harvesting of early and midseason oranges was virtually complete with the harvest of Valencias getting underway. Grapefruit harvest progressed without delay and passed the halfway point. In spite of good fruit quality, markets remained depressed. Some insect problems existed in parts of the Valley.

California Fruit and Nuts: The Central Valley experienced an extremely foggy February following January's wet weather. Little rain fell and temperatures were warmer than normal throughout the month. Activities included orchard and vineyard pruning, brush shredding, and vine tying. Dormant sprays were applied aerially, in some places because of saturated soil. Early grapes showed signs of budding and leafing out. Bees were moved into almond orchards for pollination. By the end of the month, almond bloom was nearly complete. Early variety peaches, prunes, apricots, and nectarines also bloomed. Growers sprayed stone fruit for blossom rot. Apples were packed from cold storage. The avocado harvest continued. Preparations continued for spring strawberry picking but production remained slow.

California Citrus: Citrus growers harvested navel oranges and lemons for the domestic and export markets. The Navel orange grade-out increased as the end of the month neared. The Valencia orange harvest started and the desert grapefruit harvest continued.

Papayas: Hawaii fresh papaya production is estimated at 3.72 million pounds for February, 7 percent lower than January and 9 percent lower than a year ago.

Weather conditions during February were variable with only light showers over major papaya producing areas. Soil moisture levels are low. The majority of papaya orchards are not irrigated and need moisture to avoid adverse effects in the future.

Area devoted to papaya production totaled 3,660 acres, 1 percent more than January and 10 percent more than a year ago. Harvested area, totaling 2,395 acres, was 2 percent more than both last month and last February.

Changes to the Hawaii papaya table reflect the end of monthly papaya forecasts. This resulted from elimination of Hawaii State and Papaya Industry funding for the objective measurement survey which provided data for the forecast.

Sugarcane: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 1994 is estimated at a record high of 31.8 million tons. This is unchanged from the February "**Crop Production**" report but represents a 2 percent increase from last year's output. The Florida forecast was evaluated and resulted in no change to production. Cold temperatures in Florida for early February did not affect the sugarcane yields. The delays early in the season did not slow the harvest as much as anticipated and the mills are expected to close on time this year. The forecast from Hawaii, Louisiana, and Texas were carried forward from an earlier forecast.

Report Features

The next "Crop Production" report will be released at 8:30 a.m. ET on April 11, 1995.

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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