

Crop Production



National
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Service

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Agriculture

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U.S. Orange Production Up Slightly

All orange production is forecast at 11.7 million tons, up slightly from the previous forecast but 13 percent above last season. Production of early, mid-season, and Navel oranges decreased for the second straight month. Production of Valencia oranges increased for the fourth straight month. Florida's production of all oranges is 204 million boxes (9.17 million tons), up slightly from March's forecast and 17 percent above last season. Early and mid-season varieties were adjusted to 120 million boxes (5.39 million tons), down slightly from last month but 12 percent above last year. Harvest of early, mid, and Navel varieties ended in March. The Valencia forecast, at 84.0 million boxes (3.78 million tons), was up 1 percent from March and up 26 percent from last season. California's orange production is forecast at 64.0 million boxes (2.40 million tons), unchanged from January but 2 percent above last season. Early, mid, and Navel varieties are expected to produce 37.0 million boxes (1.39 million tons), unchanged from the last forecast but up 1 percent from last year. Valencia production is expected to total 27.0 million boxes (1.01 million tons), also unchanged from January but up 4 percent from a year ago.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice yield for the 1994-95 season is forecast at 1.50 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix. This forecast decreased slightly from the 1.51 level last month and remained below last season's final yield of 1.57 gallons per box. The final yield for early and mid-season varieties averaged 1.44 gallons per box, down from 1.52 in the previous season. The Valencia crop is expected to yield 1.58 gallons per box, down from 1.63 gallons per box in March and 1.66 gallons per box a year ago. The forecast projects the final yield reported by the Florida Citrus Processors Association.

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 April 1, 1995
(Domestic Units)


Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1994	1995	1994	1995
	1,000 Acres			
Potatoes Spring	91.6	88.6	90.4	87.0


Crop Summary: Yield per Acre and Production, United States,
1994 and Forecasted April 1, 1995
(Domestic Units)

Crop and Unit	Yield per Acre:			Production	
	1994	1995	1994	Mar 1, 1995	Apr 1, 1995
	1,000				
Potatoes Spring	251	261	22,646		22,701
Citrus Fruits ^{1/}			1993-94	1993-94	1994-95
Oranges	Ton		10,281	11,634	11,663
Grapefruit ^{2/}	"		2,655		2,860
Lemons	"		984		931

^{1/} Season begins with the bloom of the first year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year.
^{2/} 1994 revised.

This report was approved on April 11, 1995, by the Secretary of Agriculture and the National Agricultural Statistics Service's Agricultural Statistics Board.


Secretary of
Agriculture
Dan Glickman


Agricultural Statistics Board
Acting Chairperson
Frederic A. Vogel

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

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1994	1995	1994	1995
	Hectares			
Potatoes Spring	37,070	35,860	36,580	35,210

Crop Summary: Yield per Hectare and Production, United States,
1994 and Forecasted April 1, 1995
(Metric Units)

Crop	Yield per Hectare:		Production	
	1994	1995	1994	Apr 1, 1995
	Metric Tons			
Potatoes Spring	28.08	29.24	1,027,210	1,029,700
Citrus Fruits <u>1/</u>			1993-94	1994-95
Oranges			9,326,770	10,554,190
Grapefruit <u>2/</u>			2,408,580	2,594,550
Lemons			892,670	844,590

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

2/ 1994 revised.

Grapefruit: Acreage, Production, Price, and Value,
California and United States, 1993-94 1/

State, Crop, and Season	Bearing Acreage	Yield per Acre	Utilization of Production					
			Fresh	Processed	Total			
	Acres	Boxes	1,000 Boxes <u>2/</u>					
CA								
Desert Valley 1993-94	7,700	429	2,210	1,090	3,300			
Other Areas 1993-94	10,300	563	3,740	2,060	5,800			
All CA 1993-94	18,000	506	5,950	3,150	9,100			
US Total 1993-94	154,960	419	31,746	33,154	64,900			
			Price per Box <u>3/</u> <u>4/</u>		Value of Production			
			Fresh	Processed	All	Fresh	Processed	Total
			Dollars		1,000 Dollars			
CA								
Desert Valley 1993-94	5.47	-0.44	3.52	12,089	-480	11,609		
Other Areas 1993-94	8.77	-0.22	5.58	32,800	-453	32,347		
All CA 1993-94	7.54	-0.30	4.83	44,889	-933	43,956		
US Total 1993-94	7.57	2.70	5.05	239,464	87,061	326,525		

1/ California normally revises previous year production and price by utilization for "Other Areas" at this time due to the availability of new data. This year, the data showed that a revision was not necessary. Therefore this table re-issues data originally issued on September 23, 1994, in the "Citrus Fruits" report.

2/ Net lbs per box: 67.

3/ Equivalent packinghouse door returns.

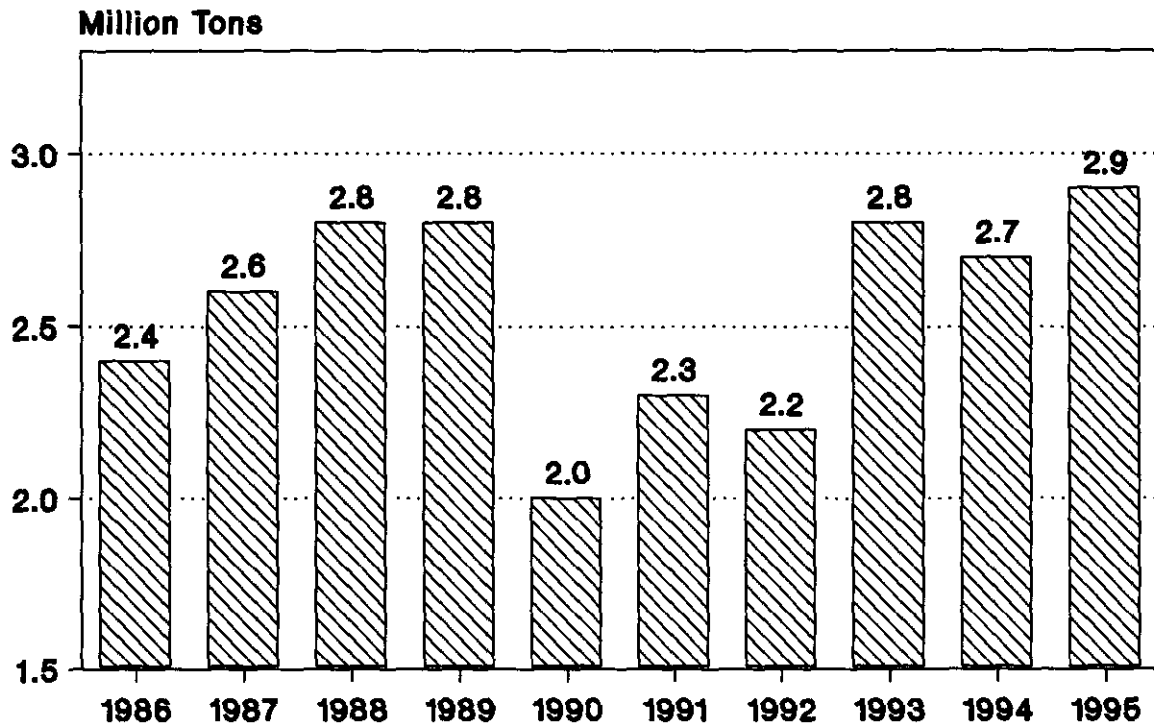
4/ U.S. marketing year average prices are derived by weighting the state marketing year average prices per box by the respective box weights.

Citrus: Acreage, Production, Use, and Value,
California and United States, 1993-94 ^{1/}

Crop, State, and Season	Bearing Acreage	Production	Utilization of Production:		Value of Production
			Fresh	Processed	
	Acres	1,000 Tons	1,000 Tons	1,000 Dollars	
Total Citrus					
CA 1993-94	256,900	3,525	2,405	1,120	740,669
US 1993-94	978,610	14,508	4,390	10,118	2,276,472

^{1/} California normally revises previous year production and price by utilization for "Other Areas" grapefruit at this time due to the availability of new data. This year, the data showed that a revision was not necessary. Therefore this table re-issues data originally issued on September 23, 1994, in the "Citrus Fruits" report.

U.S. Grapefruit Production 1986-1994 and Forecasted 1995



Up 8% from last year

Citrus Fruit: Utilized Production by Crop, State, and United States,
1993-94 and Forecasted April 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 <u>2/</u> -----			----- 1,000 Tons -----		
Oranges						
Early Mid & Navel <u>3/</u>						
AZ	700	700	500	26	26	19
CA	43,800	36,600	37,000	1,642	1,372	1,388
FL	114,300	107,300	119,700	5,143	4,829	5,387
TX	450	480	950	20	21	40
US	159,250	145,080	158,150	6,831	6,248	6,834
Valencia						
AZ	1,150	1,200	800	43	45	30
CA	23,000	26,000	27,000	863	975	1,013
FL	72,300	66,900	84,000	3,253	3,010	3,780
TX	60	70	130	2	3	6
US	96,510	94,170	111,930	4,161	4,033	4,829
All						
AZ	1,850	1,900	1,300	69	71	49
CA	66,800	62,600	64,000	2,505	2,347	2,401
FL	186,600	174,200	203,700	8,396	7,839	9,167
TX	510	550	1,080	22	24	46
US	255,760	239,250	270,080	10,992	10,281	11,663
Temples						
FL	2,500	2,250	2,550	113	102	115
Grapefruit						
White Seedless						
FL	25,700	24,500	25,000	1,093	1,042	1,063
Colored Seedless						
FL	27,700	25,500	28,500	1,177	1,084	1,211
Other						
FL	1,750	1,050	1,300	74	45	55
All						
AZ	2,150	1,750	1,400	69	59	47
CA						
Desert	3,500	3,300	3,300	112	111	111
Other Areas	5,700	5,800	6,000	191	194	201
Total	9,200	9,100	9,300	303	305	312
FL	55,150	51,050	54,800	2,344	2,171	2,329
TX	1,875	3,000	4,300	75	120	172
US	68,375	64,900	69,800	2,791	2,655	2,860
Tangerines						
AZ	950	1,000	650	35	37	24
CA	2,100	2,300	2,300	79	86	86
FL	2,800	4,100	3,550	133	195	169
US	5,850	7,400	6,500	247	318	279
Lemons						
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	3,150	137	150	142
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.

Potatoes: Area Planted, Harvested, Yield, and Production
by Seasonal Group, State, and United States, 1993-95

Seasonal Group and State	Area				Yield		Production		
	Planted		Harvested		1994	1995	1993	1994	1995
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995	1993	1994	1995
	1,000 Acres				Cwt		1,000 Cwt		
Winter									
CA	4.5	5.0	4.5	5.0	215	260	1,040	968	1,300
FL	8.4	7.8	7.8	7.6	180	170	1,512	1,404	1,292
Total	12.9	12.8	12.3	12.6	193	206	2,552	2,372	2,592
Spring									
AL	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5	175	170	419	438	425
AZ	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	265	290	1,485	1,670	1,827
CA	20.5	18.0	20.5	18.0	380	400	7,508	7,790	7,200
FL	39.2	39.0	38.6	38.0	222	237	6,068	8,588	9,020
Hastings	29.5	28.5	29.0	28.0	220	240	4,680	6,380	6,720
Other FL	9.7	10.5	9.6	10.0	230	230	1,388	2,208	2,300
NC	17.3	17.5	17.0	17.2	180	195	3,114	3,060	3,354
TX	5.7	5.2	5.5	5.0	200	175	1,060	1,100	875
Total	91.6	88.6	90.4	87.0	251	261	19,654	22,646	22,701
Summer									
AL	7.2		7.0		170		639	1,190	
CA	5.7		5.7		370		1,584	2,109	
CO	9.2		9.0		325		2,542	2,925	
DE	4.9		4.8		170		750	816	
IL	5.1		5.0		290		1,170	1,450	
IA	1.6		1.6		205		105	328	
MD	2.5		2.5		100		322	250	
MI	14.0		13.0		210		3,500	2,730	
MN	7.7		7.6		300		2,130	2,280	
MO	7.2		6.8		255		1,508	1,734	
NE	4.5		4.4		320		630	1,408	
NJ	2.9		2.8		210		627	588	
NM	3.7		3.4		320		1,290	1,088	
NC	1.5		1.4		90		120	126	
TX	7.8		7.5		240		1,875	1,800	
VA	10.0		9.5		150		1,760	1,425	
Total	95.5		92.0		242		20,552	22,247	

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 --		
Feb	3,315	3,660	2,345	2,395	4,100	3,720
Mar	3,300	3,715	2,350	2,485	3,780	4,325

Peanuts for Nuts: Farm Marketing Percents by Month, State, and United States, 1993 and 1994 Crop Years

State and Crop Year	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Percent							
1993 Crop							
AL		44.3	51.7	3.5	0.4	0.1	
FL	0.3	54.3	39.5	5.2	0.4	0.3	
GA	0.1	40.6	47.6	9.4	2.1	0.2	
NC		2.0	64.5	19.2	3.2	10.7	0.4
TX	0.4	2.1	29.0	57.0	10.6	0.9	
VA		6.4	64.3	15.2	5.1	7.7	1.3
US	0.1	29.4	47.0	18.0	3.6	1.8	0.1
1994 Crop							
AL	0.3	59.1	36.2	4.2	0.2		
FL	1.6	63.1	32.0	2.9	0.3	0.1	
GA	0.1	51.8	39.3	8.1	0.7		
NC		2.1	71.6	19.0	4.8	2.5	
TX	0.7	5.1	33.4	46.1	13.4	1.3	
VA		4.3	51.3	22.8	16.4	5.2	
US	0.3	36.2	42.6	15.7	4.3	0.9	

Peanuts for Nuts: Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production
by State and United States, 1993-94

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1993	1994	1993	1994
----- 1,000 Acres -----				
AL	240.0	223.0	239.0	222.0
FL	98.0	92.0	84.0	84.0
GA	702.0	652.0	697.0	649.0
NM	22.0	21.0	21.8	21.0
NC	152.0	151.0	143.0	151.0
OK	105.0	102.0	102.0	100.0
SC	14.5	13.0	14.0	12.5
TX	305.0	295.0	295.0	287.0
VA	95.0	92.0	94.0	92.0
US	1,733.5	1,641.0	1,689.8	1,618.5
	Yield		Production	
	1993	1994	1993	1994
----- Pounds ----- ----- 1,000 Pounds -----				
AL	1,980	2,010	473,220	446,220
FL	2,320	2,470	194,880	207,480
GA	1,985	2,870	1,383,545	1,862,630
NM	2,600	2,460	56,680	51,660
NC	2,095	3,215	299,585	485,465
OK	2,290	2,610	233,580	261,000
SC	1,750	2,900	24,500	36,250
TX	1,865	2,110	550,175	605,570
VA	1,875	3,165	176,250	291,180
US	2,008	2,624	3,392,415	4,247,455

Peanuts for Nuts: Price and Value by State
and United States, 1993-94

State	Price per Pound		Value of Production	
	1993	1994	1993	1994
	----- Dollars -----		----- 1,000 Dollars -----	
AL	0.308	0.323	145,752	144,129
FL	0.296	0.281	57,684	58,302
GA	0.310	0.286	428,899	532,712
NM	0.335	0.336	18,988	17,358
NC	0.317	0.276	94,968	133,988
OK	0.262	0.310	61,198	80,910
SC	0.285	0.274	6,983	9,933
TX	0.296	0.285	162,852	172,587
VA	0.304	0.275	53,580	80,075
US	0.304	0.290	1,030,904	1,229,994

March Weather Summary: California's abundant rain and snow highlighted the weather picture in March, as precipitation totaled more than twice normal across the western third of the Nation. Above normal rain and snow also covered much of the northern and southern Plains, while heavy rains drenched the Gulf coast. For the fourth consecutive month, the bulk of the lower 48 States recorded above normal temperatures.

It was the wettest March on record in San Luis Obispo, CA (16.48 inches), breaking the record of 12.82 inches set in 1991. Near-record March wetness was observed in Santa Maria, CA (7.72 inches, third wettest) and Santa Barbara, CA (10.76 inches, fourth wettest). All-time high-water marks were set on March 9 on the Napa River at Napa and the Salinas River at Bradley and Spreckels. Data from California's Department of Water Resources indicated that, on April 1, the traditional peak snow pack date, the water content of snow in the Sierra Nevada ranged from about 165 to 180 percent of normal. In addition, heavy rain and low-elevation snow melt produced enough runoff to already fill the state's reservoirs to above-normal levels by the end of March.

Elsewhere, Spokane, WA (3.81 inches) and Dallas-Ft. Worth, TX (6.69 inches) reported March-record rainfalls. Much-needed precipitation fell in winter wheat areas of Montana, where March totals represented more than 75 percent of the year-to-date accumulations at locations such as Great Falls and Havre. Farther south, beneficial precipitation fell across most wheat areas, but dryness persisted through month's end in eastern New Mexico and western Texas.

The Plains were subjected to sharp temperature swings and significant snowfall early in the month. On March 8, the low of -32 degrees F in Aberdeen, SD, was a March record while readings of -15 degrees F in Sioux Falls, SD, and -28 degrees F in Bismarck, ND, were the lowest of the winter. Only 3 days later, Pierre, SD, notched a high of 80 degrees F, marking the beginning of a mid- to late-month warm spell that spanned the Nation and pushed temperatures above 90 degrees F as far north as Amarillo, TX, and Tulsa, OK. But during the first 9 days of the month, snow cover reached deep into the South and East, with a total of 5 inches measured in Amarillo, TX (on March 1-2) and nearly 9 inches in Charleston, WV (mostly on March 8). In Dodge City, KS, the monthly snowfall of 11.3 inches represented more than half of the season-to-date total. Monthly snowfalls topped 20 inches in locations such as Bismarck, ND, and Aberdeen, SD.

In the East, precipitation was scarce after March 8, except along the Gulf Coast. Monthly totals were less than 50 percent of normal in a strip from Georgia to New York, and Harrisburg, PA (0.95 inches) noted its driest March on record. Worcester, MA, had its first March without measurable snow since 1954, while Atlantic City, NJ, ended the month with a seasonal accumulation of 0.8 inches, their second-lowest total on record. Dry weather also encompassed Hawaii, where monthly totals ranged from 17 to 65 percent of normal. The year-to-date rainfall deficit in Hilo, HI, approached 25 inches by the end of March.

General Crop Comments: The month began with heavy rainfall in California bringing fieldwork to a standstill and flooding crops, vegetables, and small grain fields. Warm weather and moisture early in March caused the winter wheat to lose its cold hardiness and green quickly in the central Great Plains. Snow, early in the month, insulated winter wheat in the northern States from a cold blast of Canadian air. Mild March temperatures across the Southeastern States boosted small grain growth but rain slowed fieldwork. Midwestern fields in early March were too wet to support farm equipment, while in Texas wheat fields needed moisture.

By mid-month, small grains in the Southwest progressed ahead of normal, while wheat in Kansas remained semi-dormant. In the Midwest, bitter cold, rain, and snow restricted field activities. Rain-soaked fields and low soil temperatures in the Southeastern States slowed planting. Continued rain in California and saturated fields limited fieldwork and delayed cotton planting in the San Joaquin Valley. As the month progressed, unseasonably warm, dry weather in the midwest warmed soils, allowed spring fieldwork to begin, and encouraged wheat growth. March temperature fluctuations gave way to mild weather by mid-month in the Central States, pushing the small grains development ahead of normal.

Toward the end of March, snow across Montana and the High Plains brought much needed moisture to wheat fields. In the Midwest, mild weather permitted spring tillage to begin, while in the Great Lakes region fields remained too wet to work. Wheat in the Texas Plains needed moisture but hot, dry weather continued until the end of the month. Cool weather and heavy rains in the Gulf Coast States delayed spring planting and slowed rice and winter wheat growth at month's end. Dry weather across the Central States allowed fieldwork to progress, but rain and snow in the Midwest limited fieldwork. The month ended with wet, wintry weather in the Northern States that left fields saturated and delayed ground preparation. Fields dried enough for land preparation to begin in the Ohio Valley, but low soil temperatures prevented planting. By the end of March, fieldwork for cotton was in full swing in the Southeastern States. Overall, March weather improved the Nation's wheat crop, and allowed spring fieldwork to begin slightly ahead of normal.

Grapefruit: The April 1 forecast of grapefruit produced in 1994-95 is 2.86 million tons, up 8 percent from last season.

Florida's grapefruit forecast of 54.8 million boxes (2.33 million tons), was down slightly from March 1 but was 7 percent above last season. The decline came from a one-half million box drop in the colored seedless variety to 28.5 million boxes (1.21 million tons). The white seedless variety remained at 25.0 million boxes (1.06 million tons). Seedy varieties increased from 1.00 million to 1.30 million boxes (55,000 tons).

The California Desert Valley is expected to produce 3.30 million boxes (111,000 tons) of grapefruit, down 3 percent from the last forecast but unchanged from last year. The first forecast for California "Other Areas" grapefruit is 6.00 million boxes (201,000 tons), up 3 percent from last season. Quality is good with only minimal decay. A full range of sizes is available.

The Texas grapefruit forecast is 4.30 million boxes (172,000 tons), unchanged from last month but 43 percent more than last season. Arizona's grapefruit forecast is 1.40 million boxes (47,000 tons), down 12 percent from the last forecast and 20 percent below last season.

California normally revises the previous year's "Other Area" grapefruit production at this time based on additional data from the California Citrus Research Board. This year the information showed that a revision was not necessary.

Lemons: The 1994-95 U.S. lemon crop is forecast at 931,000 tons, unchanged from the last forecast but down 5 percent from the 1993-94 crop.

The California lemon forecast, unchanged from January, was 20.5 million boxes (779,000 tons), down 1 percent from last year. Fruit quality, color, and flavor are good.

Arizona's lemon forecast also remained the same as the last forecast at 4.00 million boxes (152,000 tons). That level is off 23 percent from a year ago. Size was small due to extreme heat early in the year.

Tangerines: The 1994-95 tangerine crop is forecast at 279,000 tons, up slightly from March but 12 percent below last season. The Florida crop is 3.55 million boxes (169,000 tons), up 1 percent from last month but down 13 percent from last year. Honey tangerine harvest nearly ended by the end of March, when over 1.10 million boxes moved. Harvesting of all other Florida tangerines was complete for this season. The California forecast is 2.30 million boxes (86,000 tons), unchanged from the last forecast and the same as last season. Arizona tangerines totaled 650,000 boxes (24,000 tons), down 7 percent from the last forecast and 35 percent less than a year ago.

Tangelos: The Florida tangelo forecast is 3.15 million boxes (142,000 tons), down 2 percent from last month and 6 percent below last year. Movement of tangelos is complete for the season.

Temples: The April 1 forecast for Florida Temples decreased 2 percent from March to 2.55 million boxes (115,000 tons) but was 13 percent above last season's production. Harvest was finished by the end of March.

Florida Citrus: Groves, trees, and fruit were in very good to excellent condition. Moisture is short as March was the third month in a row with below average rainfall in most areas. Subsurface moisture remains adequate, however, from the tremendous rainfall during 1994. Citrus-bloom reached its peak toward the end of the month, when warm temperatures produced a bouquet bloom. Harvest of early and midseason oranges ended during mid-March with the last loads going to processors. Valencia movement increased with most also going to the processors. As of April 1, over 30.0 million boxes of Valencias had been picked. Harvest of white and colored seedless grapefruit was active during March. More than 23.0 million boxes of white grapefruit and almost 23.0 million boxes of colored moved in March. Little remains for harvest this season.

Texas Citrus: Harvesting of grapefruit wound down in many groves by the end of March. Overall, quality remained good. A cold spell in early March slowed the bloom cycle which was past peak by the end of March. New growth was excellent in both oranges and grapefruit.

California Citrus: Citrus harvest was delayed by wet weather through most of March but accelerated as weather cleared at the end of month. Quality, color, and flavor of tangerines were reported as good. Grapefruit quality is good at packing houses with minimal decay.

California Fruit and Nuts: March brought extreme rainfall, severe flooding, and temperatures generally above normal. Localized hail damage was noted in the Central Valley. Many almond trees blew over because of saturated soils and strong winds. The northern part of the State was particularly hard hit. Growers removed fallen trees when conditions permitted. In some cases, entire orchards were to be removed. As March began, the almond bloom was complete and the trees leafed out. Stone fruit growers anticipated serious problems with brown rot and other fungal diseases from

surplus moisture. Strawberry fields in major producing areas of Monterey and Santa Cruz counties were destroyed and harvest in other areas was delayed. Some grape vineyards in Napa and Sonoma counties were flooded. When the rains hit, grape vines were breaking dormancy and pushing buds. Stone fruit trees were at various stages of flowering, ranging from just beginning to petal fall.

Winter Potatoes: Production of winter potatoes is forecast at 2.59 million cwt, a drop of 6 percent from January but 9 percent above last year. Area for harvest, at 12,600 acres, is up 2 percent from last year. The average yield is forecast at 206 cwt per acre, up 13 cwt from last year. Growers in Dade County, Florida, had to re-plant all of their potatoes resulting in much later shipments than normal. Other acreage was also damaged. California's winter potatoes came through in good condition. However, rains washed soil off some hills resulting in more green ends than usual.

Spring Potatoes: Production for 1995 is forecast at 22.7 million cwt, up slightly from last year and 16 percent above 1993. Area for harvest is estimated at 87,000 acres, down 4 percent from a year ago but 4 percent above two years ago. The average yield is forecast at 261 cwt per acre, a gain of 10 cwt over last year.

California's acreage dropped 12 percent, primarily in russet and chip varieties. Harvest should start in mid-April with only slight damage from rain. Arizona's fields are wet with harvest expected to start in May. Yields in Texas are down somewhat after two good years. The Florida spring crop is looking great in the Hastings area after some delay from early frost. Growers expect a mid-April harvest start. Some freeze damage did occur in "other" Florida areas where fields were within a month of harvest during a February cold spell. Most northern Florida areas were not hurt. Early harvest began in late March.

Summer Potatoes, 1994 Final: The 1994 estimate was 22.2 million cwt, up 8 percent from a year earlier and 4 percent above 1992. Harvest covered 92,000 acres, up 3 percent from the previous year. The average yield of 242 cwt per acre was up 12 cwt.

Papayas: Fresh papaya production from Hawaii is estimated at 4.33 million pounds for March, 16 percent higher than February and 14 percent higher than March 1994.

Weather conditions were mixed over major growing areas. Sunshine and little rainfall dominated the first half of the month. Overcast skies and increased rainfall replenished soil moisture levels in the second half of March.

Area devoted to papaya production is estimated at 3,715 acres, 2 percent higher than last month and 13 percent higher than a year ago. Harvested area, at 2,485 acres, was 4 percent more than February and 6 percent more than last March.

Peanuts, 1994 Revised: Peanut production in crop year 1994 totaled 4.25 billion pounds, 25 percent above the drought-reduced 1993 crop but 1 percent below the 1992 crop. Growers planted 1.64 million acres, down 5 percent from last year. Harvested area totaled 1.62 million acres, down 4 percent from 1993 and 3 below two years ago. Yields averaged 2,624 pounds per acre, 616 pounds above 1993 and the highest peanut yield since 1985.

Production in the Southeastern States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina) totaled 2.55 billion pounds in 1994, up 23 percent from 1993. Production rose significantly over 1993 despite a drop in planted and harvested acreages in the 4-State area. Planted area, at 980,000 acres, dropped 7 percent from last year. Acreage harvested during 1994 totaled 967,500 acres, down 6 percent. The average yield of 2,638 pounds per acre, increased 630 pounds per acre from the 1993 level.

Virginia and North Carolina growers produced 777 million pounds of peanuts in 1994, a jump of 63 percent from last year's short crop. Planted area, at 243,000 acres, was down 2 percent from 1993, while harvested acreage showed an increase of 3 percent. Yield per harvested acre, at 3,196 pounds, was 1,188 pounds above the 1993 average.

Peanut production in the Southwest (New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) totaled 918 million pounds, up 9 percent from 1993. Planted and harvested acreages at 418,000 and 408,000 acres, respectively, were both down 3 percent from a year ago. Yields averaged 2,251 pounds per acre, 244 pounds above 1993.

Report Features

The next "Crop Production" report will be released at 8:30 a.m. ET on May 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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Roger Latham - Cotton, Hay (202) 720-5944
Linda McMillan - Nuts, Grapes (202) 720-4215
Dave Mueller - Fresh and Processing Vegetables (202) 720-2157
Blair Smith - Citrus, Tropical Fruits (202) 720-5412
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