



Crop Production

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All Orange Production Virtually Unchanged

The U.S. all orange January 1 forecast for the 2001-02 crop is 12.5 million tons, virtually unchanged from the December 1 forecast but up 1 percent from last season's final utilization. Florida's all orange forecast remains at 231 million boxes (10.4 million tons), 3 percent more than the previous season. Weather conditions until the last of December had been mostly dry and warm. Early and midseason varieties in Florida are forecast at 131 million boxes (5.90 million tons), the same as the December forecast. If realized, this production will be 2 percent higher than last season. Fruit size is the third smallest of the 10-season series. Loss from droppage is slightly above average. Florida's Valencia forecast is 100 million boxes (4.50 million tons), unchanged from the previous forecast but 5 percent higher than last season's final utilization. Fruit size is slightly below average. Loss from droppage is below average.

The all orange forecast for California, at 54.0 million boxes (2.03 million tons), is the same as the October 1 forecast but down 8 percent from the previous season. California's Navel orange harvest is 20 percent complete. Fruit size is larger than last season. The Texas all orange forecast is 1.90 million boxes (81,000 tons), down 300,000 boxes from the initial October forecast and 335,000 boxes less than last season. Arizona's all orange utilization is forecast at 700,000 boxes (26,000 tons), a decrease of 50,000 boxes from the previous forecast and 200,000 boxes below the final 2000-01 utilization. If realized, it will be the fifth consecutive season of declining utilization.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield is projected at 1.58 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix. This is an increase from December's projection of 1.55 gallons per box. The early and midseason portion is projected at 1.52 gallons per box, the same as last season. The Valencia portion is projected to yield 1.68 gallons per box versus last season's 1.65 final yield. All projections of yield assume that the processing relationships this year will be similar to those of the past several years.

This report was approved on January 11, 2002.



Acting Secretary of
Agriculture
J. B. Penn



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
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Contents

	Page
Citrus	5
Crop Comments	15
Crop Summary	7
Information Contacts	18
Hay Stocks	6
Papayas	4
Potatoes	4
Reliability	17
Weather Summary	14
U.S. Weather Maps	13

**Potatoes: Area Planted, Harvested, Yield, and Production
by Seasonal Group, State, and United States, 2000-2002**

Seasonal Group and State	Area				Yield		Production		
	Planted		Harvested		2001	2002	2000	2001	2002
	2001	2002	2001	2002					
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	
Winter									
CA	9.0	7.0	9.0	7.0	310	300	2,880	2,790	2,100
FL	7.8	6.8	5.0	6.5	265	275	2,080	1,325	1,788
Total	16.8	13.8	14.0	13.5	294	288	4,960	4,115	3,888
Spring ¹									
AZ	8.2		8.2		270		2,520	2,214	
CA	15.5		15.5		390		7,426	6,045	
FL	25.6		25.0		319		6,343	7,970	
Hastings	18.5		18.0		330		4,868	5,940	
Other FL	7.1		7.0		290		1,475	2,030	
NC	19.5		18.5		190		3,400	3,515	
TX	9.5		9.0		230		2,232	2,070	
Total	78.3		76.2		286		21,921	21,814	

¹ 2001 revised.

Papayas: Area and Fresh Production, by Month, Hawaii, 2000-2001

Month	Area				Fresh Production ¹	
	Total in Crop		Harvested		2000	2001
	2000	2001	2000	2001		
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
Nov ²	2,720	2,710	1,695	1,930	4,430	4,100
Dec	2,695	2,575	1,875	1,835	4,710	3,575

¹ Utilized fresh production.

² 2001 revised.

**Citrus Fruits: Utilized Production by Crop, State, and United States,
1999-2000, 2000-2001 and Forecasted January 1, 2002¹**

Crop and State	Utilized Production Boxes			Utilized Production Ton Equivalent		
	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
	<i>1,000 Boxes²</i>	<i>1,000 Boxes²</i>	<i>1,000 Boxes²</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
Oranges						
Early Mid & Navel ³						
AZ	600	480	350	22	18	13
CA	40,000	36,000	32,000	1,500	1,350	1,200
FL	134,000	128,000	131,000	6,030	5,760	5,895
TX	1,460	2,000	1,700	62	85	72
US	176,060	166,480	165,050	7,614	7,213	7,180
Valencia						
AZ	500	420	350	19	16	13
CA	24,000	23,000	22,000	900	862	825
FL	99,000	95,300	100,000	4,455	4,289	4,500
TX	200	235	200	9	10	9
US	123,700	118,955	122,550	5,383	5,177	5,347
All						
AZ	1,100	900	700	41	34	26
CA	64,000	59,000	54,000	2,400	2,212	2,025
FL	233,000	223,300	231,000	10,485	10,049	10,395
TX	1,660	2,235	1,900	71	95	81
US	299,760	285,435	287,600	12,997	12,390	12,527
Temples						
FL	1,950	1,250	1,400	88	56	63
Grapefruit						
White Seedless ⁴						
FL	20,900	18,700	19,000	888	795	808
Colored Seedless						
FL	31,900	27,300	28,000	1,356	1,160	1,190
Other ⁴						
FL	600			25		
All						
AZ	450	250	200	15	8	7
CA	7,200	6,500	6,200	241	218	208
FL	53,400	46,000	47,000	2,269	1,955	1,998
TX	5,930	7,200	7,300	237	288	292
US	66,980	59,950	60,700	2,762	2,469	2,505
Tangerines						
AZ ⁵	850	650	650	32	24	24
CA ⁵	2,500	2,100	2,300	94	79	86
FL	7,000	5,600	6,400	332	266	304
US	10,350	8,350	9,350	458	369	414
Lemons						
AZ	3,100	3,600	3,100	118	137	118
CA	19,000	22,700	22,000	722	863	836
US	22,100	26,300	25,100	840	1,000	954
Tangelos						
FL	2,200	2,100	2,300	99	95	104
K-Early Citrus						
FL	110	40	30	5	2	1

¹ The crop year begins with the bloom of the first year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year.

² Net lbs. per box: oranges-AZ & CA-75, FL-90, TX-85; grapefruit-AZ & CA-67, FL-85, TX-80; lemons-76; tangelos, K-Early Citrus & Temples-90; tangerines-AZ & CA-75, FL-95.

³ Navel and miscellaneous varieties in AZ and CA. Early (including Navel) and midseason varieties in FL and TX. Small quantities of tangerines in TX.

⁴ "Other" seedy grapefruit estimates discontinued after 1999-2000 crop. Included with white seedless beginning with the 2000-01 crop.

⁵ Includes tangelos and tangors.

**Hay: Stocks on Farms by State and United States,
December 1 and May 1, 1999-2001**

State	Dec 1			May 1	
	1999	2000 ¹	2001	2000	2001
	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
AL	1,472	1,000	2,100	202	100
AZ	184	250	223	27	33
AR	1,900	2,150	2,280	500	270
CA	2,285	1,954	1,961	381	180
CO	2,900	1,770	1,990	690	286
CT	47	82	59	8	21
DE	15	29	16	6	4
FL	550	450	510	80	25
GA	1,245	950	1,599	240	190
ID	2,617	2,857	2,568	257	265
IL	1,600	1,700	1,600	410	340
IN	1,316	1,629	1,311	290	342
IA	4,700	4,500	4,300	1,150	700
KS	5,800	4,500	5,600	1,400	500
KY	4,006	5,316	4,214	577	1,439
LA	502	415	1,096	91	30
ME	138	145	137	23	40
MD	300	525	355	65	61
MA	84	108	105	17	30
MI	2,110	3,460	3,450	1,170	1,000
MN	5,490	4,446	4,213	1,570	960
MS	1,350	850	1,833	135	45
MO	5,997	5,392	6,989	1,445	799
MT	4,448	3,168	3,600	1,011	427
NE	4,900	3,500	4,800	1,500	500
NV	867	801	776	290	112
NH	65	66	50	11	14
NJ	109	156	90	28	47
NM	595	600	600	185	75
NY	1,900	2,280	2,250	385	625
NC	1,090	1,300	1,215	255	277
ND	5,291	5,212	5,020	1,430	1,120
OH	1,830	3,390	3,591	430	835
OK	4,200	3,700	3,300	1,000	450
OR	2,245	1,766	1,901	128	241
PA	1,700	2,800	2,100	440	1,200
RI	8	11	8	1	2
SC	410	518	448	88	100
SD	9,500	8,200	8,235	3,100	1,550
TN	2,655	3,405	4,140	607	804
TX	6,568	7,104	7,477	2,627	1,450
UT	1,540	1,150	1,470	320	200
VT	229	280	288	60	70
VA	1,883	2,900	2,384	257	745
WA	1,377	1,303	1,513	165	195
WV	524	1,144	939	40	276
WI	5,900	4,800	4,300	3,000	1,980
WY	2,480	1,550	1,506	725	151
US	108,922	105,582	110,510	28,817	21,106

¹ Revised.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 2001-2002
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	4,967.0		4,289.0	
Corn for Grain ²	75,752.0		68,808.0	
Corn for Silage			6,148.0	
Hay, All			63,511.0	
Alfalfa			23,812.0	
All Other			39,699.0	
Oats	4,403.0		1,905.0	
Proso Millet	650.0		580.0	
Rice	3,335.0		3,314.0	
Rye	1,328.0		255.0	
Sorghum for Grain ²	10,252.0		8,584.0	
Sorghum for Silage			336.0	
Wheat, All	59,617.0		48,653.0	
Winter	41,078.0	41,031.0	31,295.0	
Durum	2,910.0		2,789.0	
Other Spring	15,629.0		14,569.0	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1,494.0		1,455.0	
Cottonseed				
Flaxseed	585.0		578.0	
Mustard Seed	45.8		44.2	
Peanuts	1,543.0		1,400.5	
Rapeseed	3.7		3.1	
Safflower	188.0		177.0	
Soybeans for Beans	74,105.0		73,000.0	
Sunflowers	2,653.0		2,580.0	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All	15,787.8		13,810.0	
Upland	15,527.0		13,551.0	
Amer-Pima	260.8		259.0	
Sugarbeets	1,371.1		1,243.7	
Sugarcane			1,029.2	
Tobacco			432.6	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	15.9		7.1	
Dry Edible Beans	1,429.9		1,243.0	
Dry Edible Peas	211.8		196.8	
Lentils	201.0		197.0	
Wrinkled Seed Peas				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			6.3	
Ginger Root (HI)			0.4	
Hops			35.9	
Peppermint Oil			78.5	
Potatoes, All	1,267.1		1,241.3	
Winter	16.8	13.8	14.0	13.5
Spring	78.3		76.2	
Summer	60.9		58.6	
Fall	1,111.1		1,092.5	
Spearmint Oil			19.5	
Sweet Potatoes	97.9		93.5	
Taro (HI) ³			0.4	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2002 crop year.

² Area planted for all purposes.

³ Area is total acres in crop, not harvested acreage.

Crop Summary: Yield and Production, United States, 2001-2002
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Unit	Yield		Production	
		2001	2002	2001	2002
				<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Grains & Hay					
Barley	Bu	58.2		249,590	
Corn for Grain	"	138.2		9,506,840	
Corn for Silage	Ton	16.6		102,352	
Hay, All	"	2.47		156,703	
Alfalfa	"	3.37		80,266	
All Other	"	1.93		76,437	
Oats	Bu	61.3		116,856	
Proso Millet	"	33.2		19,250	
Rice ²	Cwt	6,429		213,045	
Rye	Bu	27.3		6,971	
Sorghum for Grain	"	59.9		514,524	
Sorghum for Silage	Ton	11.1		3,728	
Wheat, All	Bu	40.2		1,957,643	
Winter	"	43.5		1,361,479	
Durum	"	30.0		83,556	
Other Spring	"	35.2		512,608	
Oilseeds					
Canola	Lb	1,374		1,998,515	
Cottonseed ³	Ton			7,533.0	
Flaxseed	Bu	19.8		11,455	
Mustard Seed	Lb	930		41,106	
Peanuts	"	3,027		4,239,450	
Rapeseed	"	1,306		4,050	
Safflower	"	1,365		241,665	
Soybeans for Beans	Bu	39.6		2,890,572	
Sunflowers	Lb	1,349		3,480,696	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops					
Cotton, All ²	Bale	698		20,084.0	
Upland ²	"	687		19,406.0	
Amer-Pima ²	"	1,257		678.0	
Sugarbeets	Ton	20.7		25,754	
Sugarcane	"	33.8		34,801	
Tobacco	Lb	2,314		1,000,936	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils					
Austrian Winter Peas ²	Cwt	1,366		97	
Dry Edible Beans ²	"	1,572		19,541	
Dry Edible Peas ²	"	1,920		3,779	
Lentils ²	"	1,471		2,898	
Wrinkled Seed Peas ³	"			640	
Potatoes & Misc.					
Coffee (HI)	Lb	1,210		7,600	
Ginger Root (HI)	"	45,000		16,200	
Hops	"	1,861		66,832.1	
Peppermint Oil	"	81		6,343	
Potatoes, All	Cwt	358		444,766	
Winter	"	294	288	4,115	3,888
Spring	"	286		21,814	
Summer	"	309		18,110	
Fall	"	367		400,727	
Spearmint Oil	Lb	105		2,052	
Sweet Potatoes	Cwt	154		14,355	
Taro (HI) ³	Lb			6,400	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2002 crop year.

² Yield in pounds.

³ Yield is not estimated.

Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 2000-2002
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Unit	Production		
		2000	2001	2002
		<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Citrus ²				
Grapefruit	Ton	2,762	2,469	2,505
K-Early Citrus (FL)	"	5	2	1
Lemons	"	840	1,000	954
Oranges	"	12,997	12,390	12,527
Tangelos (FL)	"	99	95	104
Tangerines	"	458	369	414
Temples (FL)	"	88	56	63
Non-Citrus				
Apples	1,000 Lbs	10,648.7	9,560.4	
Apricots	Ton	98.9	81.2	
Bananas (HI)	Lb	29,000.0		
Grapes	Ton	7,658.0	6,471.9	
Olives (CA)	"	53.0	125.0	
Papayas (HI)	Lb	54,500.0		
Peaches	1,000 Lbs	2,599.8	2,537.3	
Pears	Ton	967.2	915.5	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	"	219.0	155.0	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	"	23.9	23.2	
Nuts & Misc.				
Almonds (CA)	Lb	703,000	850,000	
Hazelnuts	Ton	22.5	48.0	
Pecans	Lb	209,850	318,300	
Pistachios (CA)	"	243,000	200,000	
Walnuts (CA)	Ton	239.0	280.0	
Maple Syrup	Gal	1,231	1,049	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2002 crop year.

² Production years are 1999-2000, 2000-2001, and 2001-2002.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 2001-2002
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	2,010,100		1,735,720	
Corn for Grain ²	30,656,080		27,845,910	
Corn for Silage			2,488,030	
Hay, All ³			24,222,320	
Alfalfa			9,636,480	
All Other			16,065,790	
Oats	1,781,850		770,930	
Proso Millet	263,050		234,720	
Rice	1,349,640		1,341,140	
Rye	537,430		103,200	
Sorghum for Grain ²	4,148,880		3,473,860	
Sorghum for Silage			135,980	
Wheat, All ³	24,126,400		19,689,380	
Winter	16,623,860	16,604,840	12,664,770	
Durum	1,177,650		1,128,680	
Other Spring	6,324,900		5,895,930	
Oilseeds				
Canola	604,610		588,820	
Cottonseed				
Flaxseed	236,740		233,910	
Mustard Seed	18,530		17,890	
Peanuts	624,440		566,770	
Rapeseed	1,500		1,250	
Safflower	76,080		71,630	
Soybeans for Beans	29,989,550		29,542,370	
Sunflowers	1,073,640		1,044,100	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All ³	6,389,160		5,588,770	
Upland	6,283,620		5,483,950	
Amer-Pima	105,540		104,810	
Sugarbeets	554,870		503,310	
Sugarcane			416,510	
Tobacco			175,090	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	6,430		2,870	
Dry Edible Beans	578,670		503,030	
Dry Edible Peas	85,710		79,640	
Lentils	81,340		79,720	
Wrinkled Seed Peas				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			2,550	
Ginger Root (HI)			150	
Hops			14,530	
Peppermint Oil			31,770	
Potatoes, All ³	512,780		502,340	
Winter	6,800	5,580	5,670	5,460
Spring	31,690		30,840	
Summer	24,650		23,710	
Fall	449,650		442,120	
Spearmint Oil			7,890	
Sweet Potatoes	39,620		37,840	
Taro (HI) ⁴			180	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2002 crop year.

² Area planted for all purposes.

³ Total may not add due to rounding.

⁴ Area is total hectares in crop, not harvested hectares.

Crop Summary: Yield and Production, United States, 2001-2002
(Metric Units)¹

Crop	Yield		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	3.13		5,434,180	
Corn for Grain	8.67		241,484,860	
Corn for Silage	37.32		92,852,170	
Hay, All ²	5.53		142,158,570	
Alfalfa	7.56		72,816,090	
All Other	4.32		69,342,480	
Oats	2.20		1,696,160	
Proso Millet	1.86		436,580	
Rice	7.21		9,663,560	
Rye	1.72		177,070	
Sorghum for Grain	3.76		13,069,510	
Sorghum for Silage	24.87		3,381,980	
Wheat, All ²	2.71		53,278,310	
Winter	2.93		37,053,390	
Durum	2.01		2,274,020	
Other Spring	2.37		13,950,900	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1.54		906,510	
Cottonseed ³			6,833,820	
Flaxseed	1.24		290,970	
Mustard Seed	1.04		18,650	
Peanuts	3.39		1,922,980	
Rapeseed	1.46		1,840	
Safflower	1.53		109,620	
Soybeans for Beans	2.66		78,668,480	
Sunflowers	1.51		1,578,820	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All ²	0.78		4,372,780	
Upland	0.77		4,225,160	
Amer-Pima	1.41		147,620	
Sugarbeets	46.42		23,363,640	
Sugarcane	75.80		31,570,940	
Tobacco	2.59		454,020	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	1.53		4,400	
Dry Edible Beans	1.76		886,360	
Dry Edible Peas	2.15		171,410	
Lentils	1.65		131,450	
Wrinkled Seed Peas ³			29,030	
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)	1.35		3,450	
Ginger Root (HI)	50.44		7,350	
Hops	2.09		30,310	
Peppermint Oil	0.09		2,880	
Potatoes, All ²	40.16		20,174,250	
Winter	32.94	32.28	186,650	176,360
Spring	32.09		989,470	
Summer	34.64		821,460	
Fall	41.11		18,176,670	
Spearmint Oil	0.12		930	
Sweet Potatoes	17.21		651,130	
Taro (HI) ³			2,900	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2002 crop year.

² Production may not add due to rounding.

³ Yield is not estimated.

Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 2000-2002
(Metric Units) ¹

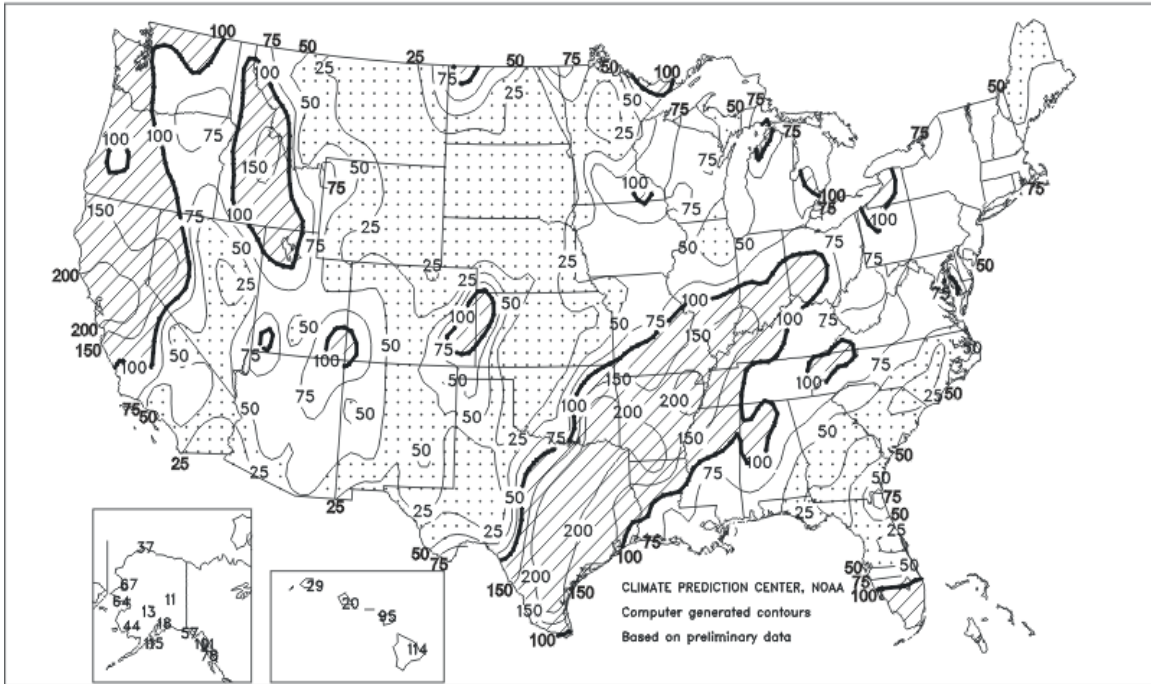
Crop	Production		
	2000	2001	2002
	<i>Metric tons</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>
Citrus ²			
Grapefruit	2,505,640	2,239,840	2,272,500
K-Early Citrus (FL)	4,540	1,810	910
Lemons	762,040	907,180	865,450
Oranges	11,790,680	11,240,020	11,364,300
Tangelos (FL)	89,810	86,180	94,350
Tangerines	415,490	334,750	375,570
Temples (FL)	79,830	50,800	57,150
Non-Citrus			
Apples	4,830,170	4,336,520	
Apricots	89,720	73,660	
Bananas (HI)	13,150		
Grapes	6,947,190	5,871,210	
Olives (CA)	48,080	113,400	
Papayas (HI)	24,720		
Peaches	1,179,250	1,150,900	
Pears	877,380	830,530	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	198,670	140,610	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	21,680	21,050	
Nuts & Misc.			
Almonds (CA)	318,880	385,550	
Hazelnuts	20,410	43,540	
Pecans	95,190	144,380	
Pistachios (CA)	110,220	90,720	
Walnuts (CA)	216,820	254,010	
Maple Syrup	6,150	5,240	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2002 crop year.

² Production years are 1999-2000, 2000-2001, and 2001-2002.

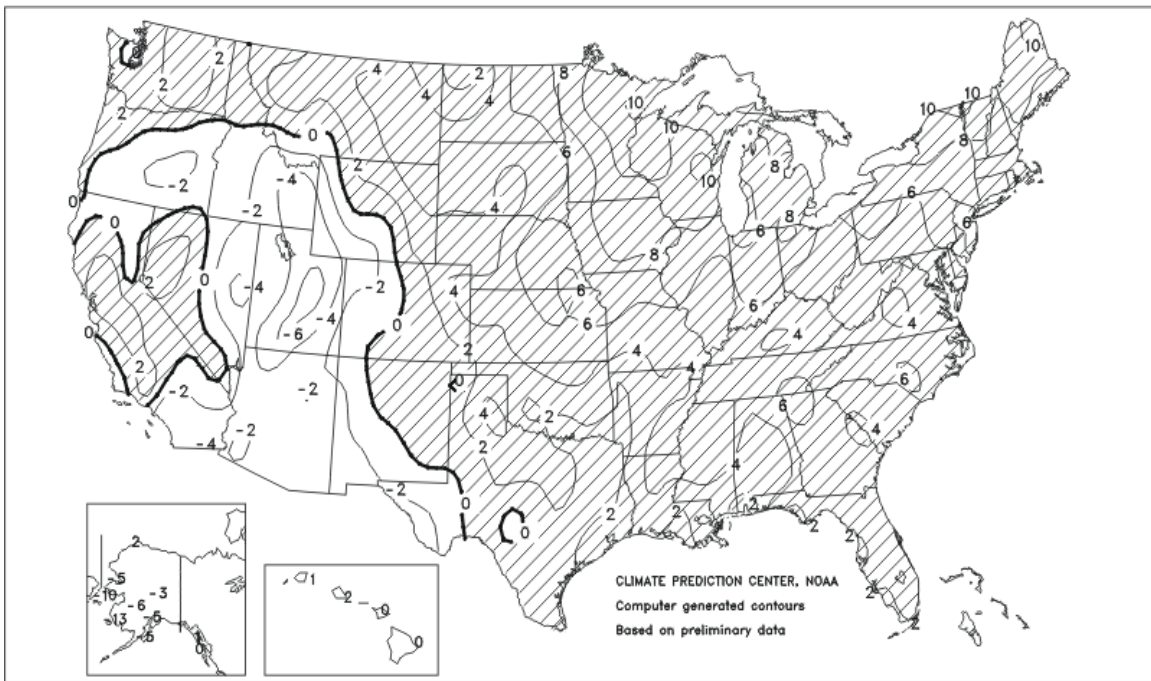
Percent Of Normal Precipitation

December 2001



Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

December 2001



December Weather Summary

Near-record to record warmth carried over from November into the first 3 weeks of December, followed by the first large-scale cold outbreak of the season. Meanwhile, several precipitation anomalies from late November were repeated in early- to mid-December. These included unfavorably dry weather in the East, torrential rainfall from the western Gulf Coast region to the lower Ohio Valley, and drought-easing precipitation in northern California and the Northwest.

Dry weather in the East, which was particularly severe in the southern Atlantic Coast Plain, further stressed pastures and winter grains. In sharp contrast, lowland flooding, standing water, and submerged winter wheat fields were concerns from eastern Texas to the lower Ohio Valley. Portions of the Delta netted more than 20 inches of rain in less than 4 weeks. However, little precipitation was observed on the Plains, keeping winter wheat's protective snow cover at a minimum and leaving the northern High Plains and much of the southern half of the region in need of moisture. In the Southwest, a drying trend during the second half of the year began to raise concerns about water supplies in 2002, but additional improvement was noted in much of California and the Northwest, where drought developed during the spring of 2000.

Despite colder weather during the last week of December, monthly temperatures were above normal at nearly all locations east of the Rockies and averaged at least 10 degrees F above normal in portions of Minnesota and Wisconsin. Temperatures were within a few degrees of normal across most of the West, although some readings in some interior valley locations averaged as much as 6 degrees F below normal, in part due to a substantial snow cover.

December Crop Summary

Above-normal temperatures prevailed across most of the Nation during December, stimulating vegetative growth of winter crops and forages in the southern Great Plains, lower Mississippi Valley, and Southeast. Many winter wheat fields in the Corn Belt and central Great Plains remained green until after midmonth, although vegetative growth was slow due to sub-freezing nighttime temperatures.

The abnormally warm weather also delayed the onset of freezing soil temperatures and extended the period for winter wheat root development. Parts of the central and northern Great Plains received light snowfall, but the warm weather pattern prevented accumulation of an adequate protective cover. As a result, most winter wheat fields were exposed to wind-blown soil and remained vulnerable to an outbreak of bitter-cold temperatures.

Several storms struck the Pacific Northwest during December, producing heavy rainfall that boosted reservoirs and benefited development of winter crops in low-lying coastal areas as far south as central California. The wet weather also hampered field and orchard activities in California's central and northern valleys.

As the storms tracked inland, they produced abundant snow accumulations in the coastal and interior mountain ranges, increasing irrigation water reserves for the 2002 summer crops. However, the systems produced very little precipitation as they crossed the Great Plains. Consequently, moisture shortages increased in most areas of the Great Plains and limited the winter wheat crop's response to the favorable temperatures.

The storm systems reorganized over the western Gulf Coast, accessed moisture from the Gulf of Mexico, and moved across the interior Mississippi Delta and into the Ohio Valley. Many winter wheat fields in the lower Mississippi Valley and adjacent areas of the southern Great Plains, Southeast, and southern Corn Belt were stressed by the unfavorably wet weather that saturated soils and flooded low-lying areas along rivers and streams. Farther to the north and east, widespread precipitation near midmonth maintained soil moisture supplies in the central and eastern Corn Belt, and supported development of the soft red winter wheat crop.

A few light showers provided much-needed moisture for winter grains and forages along the eastern Gulf Coast and Atlantic Coastal Plain, but soils remained unfavorably dry. In Florida, warm, dry weather hastened ripening of fruits and vegetables, aided the sugarcane harvest, and supported other field and orchard activities.

Winter Potatoes: Winter potato production for 2002 is forecast at 3.89 million cwt, down 6 percent from 2001 and 22 percent below 2000. Acreage for harvest in the two winter potato States (California and Florida) is estimated at 13,500 acres, down 4 percent from 2001 while the average forecast yield of 288 cwt per acre is down 6 cwt from a year ago. California's acreage for harvest is off 22 percent from a year ago, but crop progress is normal. Florida's acreage for harvest is up 30 percent from the previous season as a result of flood reduced acreage in 2001. Planting this season was interrupted in late October and November by the effects of Hurricane Michelle and some fields had to be replanted.

Spring Potatoes: Revised 2001 spring potato production of 21.8 million cwt, is up 12 percent from the May 1 forecast but down less than 1 percent from last year. Harvested area totaled 76,200 acres, up 1 percent from 2000, while the average yield of 286 cwt per acre decreased 4 cwt from 2000.

Boosted by heavy shipments, final Florida estimates are 34 percent above the May forecast and 26 percent above last year. North Carolina's production increased 3 percent from 2000. Spring potatoes in Arizona are 12 percent below a year ago and California's spring crop declined 19 percent, while the Texas crop is down 7 percent.

Papayas: Hawaii fresh papaya utilization is estimated at 3.58 million pounds for December, 13 percent lower than last month and 24 percent less than December 2000. Area in crop totaled 2,575 acres, 5 percent less than last month and 4 percent lower than a year ago. Harvested area, at 1,835 acres, was 5 percent lower than last month and 2 percent less than a year ago.

Weather during December was variable. Windy conditions during the beginning of December were followed by a mid-month winter storm which brought heavy rains to papaya producing areas. Fungal diseases were noticeable with the wetter weather. Drier conditions returned during the later part of the month.

Grapefruit: The forecast of the 2001-02 grapefruit crop for the United States is 2.51 million tons, down 1 percent from the December 1 forecast but 1 percent higher than the previous season. The Florida grapefruit forecast is 47.0 million boxes (2.00 million tons), unchanged from the December 1 forecast but 2 percent above last season. The all white grapefruit forecast continues at 19.0 million boxes (808,000 tons). The colored seedless utilization is forecast at 28.0 million boxes (1.19 million tons), the same as the December 1 forecast, but 3 percent more than the previous season. Loss from droppage is average, but fruit size is smaller than all of the previous 10 seasons except 1992.

The Texas grapefruit forecast is 7.30 million boxes (292,000 tons), 6 percent less than the October 1 forecast but 1 percent higher than last season's final utilization. Harvest began late this season. Fruit size and quality are better than last season. The California grapefruit forecast increased to 6.20 million boxes (208,000 tons), 3 percent more than the previous forecast but 5 percent below the final 2000-01 utilization. Harvesting is active in the desert areas and quality is very good. Arizona's grapefruit forecast remains at 200,000 boxes (6,700 tons), 20 percent less than last season. The harvest is just getting underway. Fruit size is average and good quality is evident.

Lemons: The 2001-02 lemon forecast for the United States is 954,000 tons, down 4 percent from the initial October forecast. If realized, it will be down 5 percent from last season. California production is forecast at 22.0 million boxes (836,000 tons), down 4 percent from October and 3 percent less than the previous season. Harvest is active in all three producing areas of California. Overall, quality is very good. The Arizona lemon crop is forecast at 3.10 million boxes (118,000 tons), the same as the October forecast but down 14 percent from last season. A lighter fruit set is evident and fruit size is larger than last season. The crop is in good condition.

Tangelos: Florida's 2001-02 tangelo forecast is held at 2.30 million boxes (104,000 tons), 10 percent more than last season's utilized production. More than a third of the crop has been utilized as of the end of December.

Tangerines: The 2001-02 U.S. tangerine crop is forecast at 414,000 tons, down 2 percent from the December 1 forecast but 12 percent higher than last season's utilization of 369,000 tons. Florida's tangerine forecast remains at 6.40 million boxes (304,000 tons) and is 14 percent higher than last season. Harvest is virtually complete on the early season tangerines. The later season Honey tangerines are larger on average

than in any of the previous 10 seasons. Loss from droppage is projected to be average. California's forecast of tangerine production is 2.30 million boxes (86,000 tons), down 8 percent from the October forecast but 10 percent above last season. Fruit size is larger than average and quality is very good. The Satsuma harvest is wrapping up and the harvests of Minneolas and Fairchilds are active. The Arizona forecast of tangerine production is 650,000 boxes (24,000 tons), 8 percent higher than the October forecast but the same as last season. Fruit size is small and quality is average. Harvest is less than 50 percent complete.

Temples: Florida's 2001-02 Temple forecast is continued at 1.40 million boxes (63,000 tons), unchanged from December. If realized, it will be the second smallest crop ever recorded, but 12 percent higher than the record low 1.25 million boxes (56,000 tons) utilized last season. Average fruit size is the smallest in the 10-season series. Loss from droppage is slightly below the average.

K-Early Citrus: The K-Early Citrus Fruit forecast for 2001-02 is 30,000 boxes (1,350 tons), unchanged from December and 10,000 boxes fewer than last season. If realized, this will be the smallest crop of record.

Florida Citrus: Florida's citrus belt was very dry during December. Rain is needed in all areas. Growers irrigated to maintain good tree and fruit condition. Temperatures during the first half of the month were above normal, but during the last ten days of December seasonally cooler temperatures prevailed. The early and midseason fruit are coloring well on the trees. Harvesting crews have been moving large quantities of early and midseason oranges to the processors. Fresh fruit packers worked long hours through the weekend before Christmas to meet holiday demand.

Caretakers were mowing, chopping, and discing cover crops prior to harvest and for fire protection. Growers continue to push and burn dead trees. Due to the unseasonably warm temperatures through mid-December, there have been some cleanup sprays applied to a few of the mid and late season fresh crops. A few young tree groves in the northern part of the citrus belt have been banked for cold protection. Heaters have been fueled and placed in some of the coldest locations.

Texas Citrus: Harvest started late this season for grapefruit but on schedule for oranges. Fruit quality and size are better than last year. Cold temperatures which occurred the first few days of January did not last long enough to damage any fruit. Some growers are still concerned about rust mite populations.

California Citrus: Picking of navel oranges continued throughout December and approximately 20 percent of the crop was harvested by month's end. Cool evening temperatures during late December enhanced fruit color. Pummelo and Oroblanco grapefruit harvests were active in the desert and very good quality was evident. Picking of lemons was active in the desert, central valley, and south coast areas. Quality is very good. Harvest of Satsuma, Minneola, and Fairchild tangerines was active during December. Fruit size is larger than average and quality is very good.

California Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts: Seasonal cultural activities such as pruning, grafting, cultivating, and dormant spraying continued in orchards and vineyards. Some older variety trees and vines have been removed in preparation for planting replacements. Harvest of table grapes was nearly complete by mid-December. Persimmons and pomegranates were picked. Walnuts were delivered to drying facilities. A few pecans were harvested in the San Joaquin Valley.

Hay Stocks on Farm: Stocks of all hay on farms December 1, 2001 totaled 111 million tons, 5 percent above the stocks on farms December 1, 2000. The 20 States with increases in hay stocks more than offset stocks decreases in 27 States. Increases in hay stocks in the Gulf Coast, central Great Plains and southern Corn Belt States in 2001 can be attributed to increases in hay production. The increases in stocks from these States ranged from 5 percent in Texas to 164 percent in Louisiana.

Reliability of January 1 Orange Forecast

Survey Procedures: The objective yield survey for oranges for the January 1 forecast was conducted in Florida, which produces about 75 percent of the U.S. production. In July and August, the number of bearing trees and the number of fruit per tree were determined. In subsequent months, fruit size measurement and fruit droppage surveys are conducted to develop the current forecast of production. Arizona, California, and Texas conduct grower and packer surveys on a quarterly basis in October, January, April, and July.

Estimating Procedures: State level objective yield estimates for Florida oranges were reviewed for errors, reasonableness, and consistency with historical estimates. Reports from growers and packers in Arizona, California, and Texas were also used for setting estimates. These four States submit their analyses of the current situation to the Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB). The ASB uses the survey data and the State analyses to prepare the published January 1 forecast.

Revision Policy: The January 1 production forecasts will not be revised. A new forecast will be made each month throughout the growing season. End-of-season estimates will be published in September's *Citrus Fruits Summary*. The production estimates are based on all data available at the end of the marketing season, including information from marketing orders, shipments, and processor records. Allowances are made for recorded local utilization and home use.

Reliability: To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the January 1 production forecasts, the "Root Mean Square Error," a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the January 1 production forecast and the final estimate is expressed as a percentage of the final estimate. The average of squared percentage deviations for the latest 20-year period is computed. The square root of the average becomes statistically the "Root Mean Square Error." Probability statements can be made concerning expected differences in the current forecast relative to the final end-of-season estimate, assuming that factors affecting this year's forecast are not different from those influencing recent years.

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the January 1 orange production forecast is 8.2 percent. However, if you exclude the six freeze seasons, the "Root Mean Square Error" is 4.4 percent. This means that chances are two out of three that the current orange production forecast will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 8.2 percent, or 4.4 percent excluding freeze seasons. Chances are nine out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 14.1 percent, or 7.8 percent excluding freeze seasons.

Changes between the January 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 509,000 tons (366,000 tons, excluding freezes), ranging from 33,000 tons to 1.89 million tons (33,000 tons to 739,000 tons, excluding freezes). The January 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 5 times and above 15 times (below 4 times and above 10 times, excluding freeze seasons). The difference does not imply that the January 1 forecasts this year are likely to understate or overstate final production.

Information Contacts

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