



# Crop Production

---

Released February 11, 2003, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Crop Production" call (202) 720-2127, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

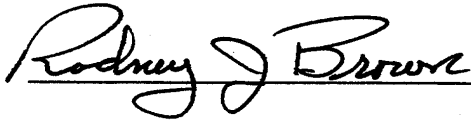
## All Orange Production Up 1 Percent from January

**The U.S. all orange** February 1 forecast for the 2002-03 crop is 11.3 million tons, up 1 percent from the January 1 forecast but 10 percent below last season's final utilization. Florida's all orange forecast is increased to 199 million boxes (8.96 million tons), 1 percent above the January 1 forecast but 13 percent below the previous season. Early and midseason varieties in Florida are forecast at 113 million boxes (5.09 million tons), unchanged from last month but 12 percent below last season. Harvest is over 80 percent complete. Florida's Valencia forecast is 86.0 million boxes (3.87 million tons), up 2 percent from the previous forecast but 16 percent below the previous season. Despite the cold weather, fruit size measurements indicate that the fruit continues to grow and are the largest in the fruit measurement series dating back to 1960. The larger fruit size more than offset above average droppage resulting in an increased amount of fruit available for harvest. Temperatures in January were generally colder than normal in the citrus production areas, but the below freezing temperatures experienced in late January did not adversely affect the 2002-03 citrus crop. Arizona, California, and Texas orange production forecasts are carried forward from the January forecasts.

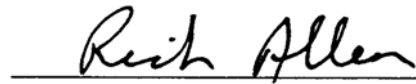
**Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ)** yield for the 2002-03 season is forecast at 1.57 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix. This is unchanged from last month's projection. The early and midseason portion is projected at 1.50 gallons per box, down from 1.52 in January. The Valencia portion remains unchanged at 1.67 gallons. 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 February 11, 2003.



Acting Secretary of  
Agriculture  
Rodney J. Brown



Agricultural Statistics Board  
Chairperson  
Rich Allen

## Contents

	<b>Page</b>
Citrus .....	5
Crop Comments .....	13
Crop Summary .....	6
Information Contacts .....	16
Papayas .....	4
Reliability .....	15
Sugarcane .....	4
Weather Summary .....	12

**Sugarcane: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production  
by Use, State, and United States, 2001-2002**

Use and State	Area Harvested		Yield <sup>1</sup>		Production <sup>1</sup>	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
For Sugar						
FL	445.0	442.0	35.1	38.2	15,620	16,884
HI <sup>2</sup>	19.3	23.6	97.3	94.3	1,878	2,225
LA <sup>2</sup>	460.0	465.0	29.0	29.0	13,340	13,485
TX <sup>2</sup>	46.0	43.8	42.1	37.7	1,937	1,651
US	970.3	974.4	33.8	35.1	32,775	34,245
For Seed						
FL	20.0	19.0	35.9	38.0	718	722
HI <sup>2</sup>	1.5	1.5	36.2	39.1	54	59
LA <sup>2</sup>	35.0	30.0	29.0	29.0	1,015	870
TX <sup>2</sup>	1.0	1.2	25.0	30.0	25	36
US	57.5	51.7	31.5	32.6	1,812	1,687
For Sugar and Seed						
FL	465.0	461.0	35.1	38.2	16,338	17,606
HI <sup>2</sup>	20.8	25.1	92.9	91.0	1,932	2,284
LA <sup>2</sup>	495.0	495.0	29.0	29.0	14,355	14,355
TX <sup>2</sup>	47.0	45.0	41.7	37.5	1,962	1,687
US	1,027.8	1,026.1	33.7	35.0	34,587	35,932

<sup>1</sup> Net tons.

<sup>2</sup> Estimates are carried forward from the 2002 Crop Production Summary.

**Papayas: Area and Fresh Production, by Month, Hawaii, 2002-2003**

Month	Area				Fresh Production <sup>1</sup>	
	Total in Crop		Harvested		2002	2003
	2002	2003	2002	2003		
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
Dec	2,075		1,495		3,685	
Jan	2,575	2,080	1,830	1,505	3,345	3,865

<sup>1</sup> Utilized fresh production.

**Citrus Fruits: Utilized Production by Crop, State, and United States,  
2000-2001, 2001-2002 and Forecasted February 1, 2003 <sup>1</sup>**

Crop and State	Utilized Production Boxes			Utilized Production Ton Equivalent		
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
	<i>1,000 Boxes <sup>2</sup></i>	<i>1,000 Boxes <sup>2</sup></i>	<i>1,000 Boxes <sup>2</sup></i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
Oranges						
Early Mid & Navel <sup>3</sup>						
AZ <sup>4</sup>	480	270	200	18	10	8
CA <sup>4</sup>	35,500	34,000	40,000	1,331	1,275	1,500
FL	128,000	128,000	113,000	5,760	5,760	5,085
TX <sup>4</sup>	2,000	1,530	1,500	85	65	64
US	165,980	163,800	154,700	7,194	7,110	6,657
Valencia						
AZ <sup>4</sup>	420	250	250	16	9	9
CA <sup>4</sup>	19,000	22,000	21,000	713	825	788
FL	95,300	102,000	86,000	4,288	4,590	3,870
TX <sup>4</sup>	235	210	180	10	9	8
US	114,955	124,460	107,430	5,027	5,433	4,675
All						
AZ <sup>4</sup>	900	520	450	34	19	17
CA <sup>4</sup>	54,500	56,000	61,000	2,044	2,100	2,288
FL	223,300	230,000	199,000	10,048	10,350	8,955
TX <sup>4</sup>	2,235	1,740	1,680	95	74	72
US	280,935	288,260	262,130	12,221	12,543	11,332
Temples						
FL	1,250	1,550	1,400	56	70	63
Grapefruit						
White Seedless <sup>5</sup>						
FL	18,700	18,900	16,000	795	803	680
Colored Seedless						
FL	27,300	27,800	24,000	1,160	1,182	1,020
All						
AZ <sup>4</sup>	250	160	100	8	5	3
CA <sup>4</sup>	6,300	6,000	5,600	211	201	188
FL	46,000	46,700	40,000	1,955	1,985	1,700
TX <sup>4</sup>	7,200	5,900	5,600	288	236	224
US	59,750	58,760	51,300	2,462	2,427	2,115
Tangerines						
AZ <sup>4 6</sup>	650	620	450	24	23	17
CA <sup>4 6</sup>	2,200	2,200	2,500	83	83	94
FL <sup>7</sup>	5,600	6,600	5,000	266	314	238
US	8,450	9,420	7,950	373	420	349
Lemons <sup>4</sup>						
AZ	3,600	2,800	2,800	137	106	106
CA	22,600	19,000	23,000	859	722	874
US	26,200	21,800	25,800	996	828	980
Tangelos						
FL	2,100	2,150	2,400	95	97	108
K-Early Citrus <sup>8</sup>						
FL	40	30		2	1	

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

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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

<sup>4</sup> Estimates for current year carried forward from previous forecast.

<sup>5</sup> Includes seedy.

<sup>6</sup> Includes tangelos and tangors.

<sup>7</sup> 2000-01 through 2001-02 includes Robinson, Fallglo, Sunburst, Dancy, and Honey varieties; 2002-03 includes Fallglo, Sunburst, and Honey varieties only.

<sup>8</sup> Estimates discontinued as of the 2002-03 crop.

**Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 2002-2003**  
(Domestic Units) <sup>1</sup>

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	5,073.0		4,135.0	
Corn for Grain <sup>2</sup>	79,054.0		69,313.0	
Corn for Silage			7,490.0	
Hay, All			64,497.0	
Alfalfa			23,135.0	
All Other			41,362.0	
Oats	5,005.0		2,098.0	
Proso Millet	450.0		220.0	
Rice	3,240.0		3,207.0	
Rye	1,395.0		286.0	
Sorghum for Grain <sup>2</sup>	9,580.0		7,299.0	
Sorghum for Silage			352.0	
Wheat, All	60,358.0		45,817.0	
Winter	41,735.0	44,246.0	29,651.0	
Durum	2,909.0		2,703.0	
Other Spring	15,714.0		13,463.0	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1,459.0		1,275.0	
Cottonseed				
Flaxseed	785.0		704.0	
Mustard Seed	191.0		175.0	
Peanuts	1,358.0		1,296.7	
Rapeseed	3.4		3.1	
Safflower	219.0		196.0	
Soybeans for Beans	73,758.0		72,160.0	
Sunflowers	2,585.0		2,205.0	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All	13,962.6		12,413.3	
Upland	13,719.0		12,171.0	
Amer-Pima	243.6		242.3	
Sugarbeets	1,427.9		1,361.0	
Sugarcane			1,026.1	
Tobacco			430.3	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	21.5		11.6	
Dry Edible Beans	1,922.1		1,726.9	
Dry Edible Peas	302.7		279.7	
Lentils	221.0		209.0	
Wrinkled Seed Peas				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			6.2	
Ginger Root (HI)			0.3	
Hops			29.3	
Peppermint Oil			80.2	
Potatoes, All	1,310.8		1,276.5	
Winter	15.8	15.6	15.7	15.5
Spring	87.8		86.1	
Summer	63.0		59.9	
Fall	1,144.2		1,114.8	
Spearmint Oil			18.0	
Sweet Potatoes	97.2		83.3	
Taro (HI) <sup>3</sup>			0.4	

<sup>1</sup> Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2003 crop year.

<sup>2</sup> Area planted for all purposes.

<sup>3</sup> Area is total acres in crop, not harvested acreage.

**Crop Summary: Yield and Production, United States, 2002-2003**  
(Domestic Units) <sup>1</sup>

Crop	Unit	Yield		Production	
		2002	2003	2002	2003
				<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Grains & Hay					
Barley	Bu	54.9		226,873	
Corn for Grain	"	130.0		9,007,659	
Corn for Silage	Ton	14.0		104,979	
Hay, All	"	2.34		150,962	
Alfalfa	"	3.19		73,824	
All Other	"	1.86		77,138	
Oats	Bu	56.8		119,132	
Proso Millet	"	12.5		2,755	
Rice <sup>2</sup>	Cwt	6,578		210,960	
Rye	Bu	24.4		6,985	
Sorghum for Grain	"	50.7		369,758	
Sorghum for Silage	Ton	9.5		3,360	
Wheat, All	Bu	35.3		1,616,441	
Winter	"	38.5		1,142,802	
Durum	"	29.4		79,450	
Other Spring	"	29.3		394,189	
Oilseeds					
Canola	Lb	1,218		1,552,520	
Cottonseed <sup>3</sup>	Ton			6,419.3	
Flaxseed	Bu	17.9		12,569	
Mustard Seed	Lb	705		123,450	
Peanuts	"	2,561		3,320,490	
Rapeseed	"	1,461		4,530	
Safflower	"	1,520		297,980	
Soybeans for Beans	Bu	37.8		2,729,709	
Sunflower	Lb	1,133		2,497,236	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops					
Cotton, All <sup>2</sup>	Bale	663		17,145.0	
Upland <sup>2</sup>	"	651		16,496.0	
Amer-Pima <sup>2</sup>	"	1,286		649.0	
Sugarbeets	Ton	20.2		27,550	
Sugarcane	"	35.0		35,932	
Tobacco	Lb	2,068		889,632	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils					
Austrian Winter Peas <sup>2</sup>	Cwt	1,414		164	
Dry Edible Beans <sup>2</sup>	"	1,736		29,974	
Dry Edible Peas <sup>2</sup>	"	1,517		4,242	
Lentils <sup>2</sup>	"	1,200		2,508	
Wrinkled Seed Peas <sup>3</sup>	"			457	
Potatoes & Misc.					
Coffee (HI)	Lb	1,370		8,500	
Ginger Root (HI)	"	45,000		14,400	
Hops	"	1,990		58,336.6	
Peppermint Oil	"	85		6,818	
Potatoes, All	Cwt	363		463,214	
Winter	"	268	268	4,206	4,153
Spring	"	271		23,294	
Summer	"	309		18,486	
Fall	"	374		417,228	
Spearmint Oil	Lb	108		1,942	
Sweet Potatoes	Cwt	150		12,498	
Taro (HI) <sup>3</sup>	Lb			6,100	

<sup>1</sup> Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2003 crop year.

<sup>2</sup> Yield in pounds.

<sup>3</sup> Yield is not estimated.

**Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 2001-2003**  
(Domestic Units) <sup>1</sup>

Crop	Unit	Production		
		2001	2002	2003
		<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Citrus <sup>2</sup>				
Grapefruit	Ton	2,462	2,427	2,115
K-Early Citrus (FL) <sup>3</sup>	"	2	1	
Lemons	"	996	828	980
Oranges	"	12,221	12,543	11,332
Tangelos (FL)	"	95	97	108
Tangerines	"	373	420	349
Temples (FL)	"	56	70	63
Noncitrus				
Apples	1,000 Lbs	9,428.7	8,592.1	
Apricots	Ton	82.5	90.1	
Bananas (HI)	Lb	28,000.0	19,000.0	
Grapes	Ton	6,569.6	7,144.0	
Olives (CA)	"	134.0	99.0	
Papayas (HI)	Lbs	55,000.0	45,500.0	
Peaches	1,000 Lbs	2,433.3	2,575.4	
Pears	Ton	1,001.8	911.5	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	"	150.0	158.0	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	"	21.2	15.9	
Nuts & Misc.				
Almonds (CA)	Lb	830,000	1,060,000	
Hazelnuts	Ton	49.5	18.0	
Pecans	Lb	338,500	178,400	
Pistachios (CA)	"	161,000	300,000	
Walnuts (CA)	Ton	305.0	282.0	
Maple Syrup	Gal	1,049	1,356	

<sup>1</sup> Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2003 crop year.

<sup>2</sup> Production years are 2000-2001, 2001-2002, and 2002-2003.

<sup>3</sup> Estimates discontinued as of the 2002-03 crop.



**Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 2002-2003**  
(Metric Units) <sup>1</sup>

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	2,052,990		1,673,390	
Corn for Grain <sup>2</sup>	31,992,360		28,050,280	
Corn for Silage			3,031,130	
Hay, All <sup>3</sup>			26,101,290	
Alfalfa			9,362,500	
All Other			16,738,790	
Oats	2,025,470		849,040	
Proso Millet	182,110		89,030	
Rice	1,311,200		1,297,840	
Rye	564,540		115,740	
Sorghum for Grain <sup>2</sup>	3,876,930		2,953,830	
Sorghum for Silage			142,450	
Wheat, All <sup>3</sup>	24,426,280		18,541,680	
Winter	16,889,740	17,905,910	11,999,460	
Durum	1,177,240		1,093,880	
Other Spring	6,359,300		5,448,340	
Oilseeds				
Canola	590,440		515,980	
Cottonseed				
Flaxseed	317,680		284,900	
Mustard Seed	77,300		70,820	
Peanuts	549,570		524,760	
Rapeseed	1,380		1,250	
Safflower	88,630		79,320	
Soybeans for Beans	29,849,130		29,202,430	
Sunflowers	1,046,120		892,340	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All <sup>3</sup>	5,650,520		5,023,540	
Upland	5,551,940		4,925,480	
Amer-Pima	98,580		98,060	
Sugarbeets	577,860		550,780	
Sugarcane			415,250	
Tobacco			174,130	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	8,700		4,690	
Dry Edible Beans	777,850		698,860	
Dry Edible Peas	122,500		113,190	
Lentils	89,440		84,580	
Wrinkled Seed Peas				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			2,510	
Ginger Root (HI)			130	
Hops			11,860	
Peppermint Oil			32,460	
Potatoes, All <sup>3</sup>	530,470		516,590	
Winter	6,390	6,310	6,350	6,270
Spring	35,530		34,840	
Summer	25,500		24,240	
Fall	463,050		451,150	
Spearmint Oil			7,280	
Sweet Potatoes	39,340		33,710	
Taro (HI) <sup>4</sup>			170	

<sup>1</sup> Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2003 crop year.

<sup>2</sup> Area planted for all purposes.

<sup>3</sup> Total may not add due to rounding.

<sup>4</sup> Area is total hectares in crop, not harvested hectares.

**Crop Summary: Yield and Production, United States, 2002-2003**  
(Metric Units)<sup>1</sup>

Crop	Yield		Production	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>
<b>Grains &amp; Hay</b>				
Barley	2.95		4,939,580	
Corn for Grain	8.16		228,805,080	
Corn for Silage	31.42		95,235,350	
Hay, All <sup>2</sup>	5.25		136,950,420	
Alfalfa	7.15		66,972,010	
All Other	4.18		69,978,420	
Oats	2.04		1,729,200	
Proso Millet	0.70		62,480	
Rice	7.37		9,568,990	
Rye	1.53		177,430	
Sorghum for Grain	3.18		9,392,290	
Sorghum for Silage	21.40		3,048,140	
Wheat, All <sup>2</sup>	2.37		43,992,310	
Winter	2.59		31,101,970	
Durum	1.98		2,162,270	
Other Spring	1.97		10,728,070	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola	1.36		704,210	
Cottonseed <sup>3</sup>			5,823,490	
Flaxseed	1.12		319,270	
Mustard Seed	0.79		56,000	
Peanuts	2.87		1,506,150	
Rapeseed	1.64		2,050	
Safflower	1.70		135,160	
Soybeans for Beans	2.54		74,290,500	
Sunflowers	1.27		1,132,730	
<b>Cotton, Tobacco &amp; Sugar Crops</b>				
Cotton, All <sup>2</sup>	0.74		3,732,880	
Upland	0.73		3,591,580	
Amer-Pima	1.44		141,300	
Sugarbeets	45.38		24,992,940	
Sugarcane	78.50		32,596,960	
Tobacco	2.32		403,530	
<b>Dry Beans, Peas &amp; Lentils</b>				
Austrian Winter Peas	1.58		7,440	
Dry Edible Beans	1.95		1,359,600	
Dry Edible Peas	1.70		192,410	
Lentils	1.35		113,760	
Wrinkled Seed Peas <sup>3</sup>			20,730	
<b>Potatoes &amp; Misc.</b>				
Coffee (HI)	1.54		3,860	
Ginger Root (HI)	50.44		6,530	
Hops	2.23		26,460	
Peppermint Oil	0.10		3,090	
Potatoes, All <sup>2</sup>	40.67		21,011,030	
Winter	30.03	30.03	190,780	188,380
Spring	30.32		1,056,600	
Summer	34.59		838,510	
Fall	41.95		18,925,140	
Spearmint Oil	0.12		880	
Sweet Potatoes	16.82		566,900	
Taro (HI) <sup>3</sup>			2,770	

<sup>1</sup> Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2003 crop year.

<sup>2</sup> Production may not add due to rounding.

<sup>3</sup> Yield is not estimated.

**Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 2001-2003**  
(Metric Units) <sup>1</sup>

Crop	Production		
	2001	2002	2003
	<i>Metric tons</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>
Citrus <sup>2</sup>			
Grapefruit	2,233,490	2,201,740	1,918,700
K-Early Citrus (FL) <sup>3</sup>	1,810	910	
Lemons	903,560	751,150	889,040
Oranges	11,086,700	11,378,820	10,280,220
Tangelos (FL)	86,180	88,000	97,980
Tangerines	338,380	381,020	316,610
Temples (FL)	50,800	63,500	57,150
Noncitrus			
Apples	4,276,790	3,897,310	
Apricots	74,810	81,770	
Bananas (HI)	12,700	8,620	
Grapes	5,959,840	6,480,930	
Olives (CA)	121,560	89,810	
Papayas (HI)	24,950	20,640	
Peaches	1,103,730	1,168,180	
Pears	908,800	826,850	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	136,080	143,340	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	19,230	14,380	
Nuts & Misc.			
Almonds (CA)	376,480	480,810	
Hazelnuts	44,910	16,330	
Pecans	153,540	80,920	
Pistachios (CA)	73,030	136,080	
Walnuts (CA)	276,690	255,830	
Maple Syrup	5,240	6,780	

<sup>1</sup> Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2003 crop year.

<sup>2</sup> Production years are 2000-2001, 2001-2002, and 2002-2003.

<sup>3</sup> Estimates discontinued as of the 2002-03 crop.

## January Weather Summary

The influence of El Niño on mainland U.S. weather patterns temporarily waned during January, despite the continuation of warm-episode conditions in the central equatorial Pacific Ocean. In fact, the Nation experienced its second-driest January on record, according to preliminary data from the National Climatic Data Center. Unusually wet weather was confined to parts of the Northwest, but drought remained a major concern elsewhere from the Rockies westward. East of the Sierra Nevada and Cascades, dismal runoff prospects for the remainder of 2003, low reservoir levels, and drought-damaged rangelands were among the most serious effects of long-term Western precipitation deficits. Unfavorably dry weather also persisted on the drought-affected northern and central High Plains. Just enough snow fell on the northern Plains in advance of a mid- to late-month cold outbreak to help protect winter wheat from temperatures as low as -30°F. In contrast, mild weather prevailed for the entire month on the central Plains, benefiting overwintering wheat despite dry soils and minimal snow. Dry weather and developing drought in the Corn Belt had little effect on Midwestern agriculture, but hampered upper Mississippi Valley river traffic due to low water levels and curtailed snow-dependent recreational activities. Meanwhile in the South, dry weather permitted an acceleration of fieldwork, following an excessively wet spell in late 2002. Farther north, heavy, early-month precipitation in the Northeast was followed by cold weather and several, mostly light, snowfalls.

January temperatures ranged from 4 to 12 degrees F above normal across most of the West and High Plains, and averaged as much as 4 degrees F above normal in the upper Midwest. In contrast, monthly readings ranged from 4 to 10 degrees F below normal in Florida and were as much as 6 degrees F below normal elsewhere in the South. Cool January weather helped to acclimate Florida's citrus trees in advance of the January 24-25 freezing temperatures and added beneficial chill hours for fruit trees elsewhere in the Southeast. Monthly temperatures were mostly 2 to 8 degrees F below normal across the eastern one-third of the Nation, including the eastern Corn Belt and the Northeast.

## January Crop Summary

Stormy weather persisted in the Pacific Northwest most of the month, delivering several inches of rain to low-lying coastal areas and significant snowfall to coastal mountain ranges. Significant amounts of precipitation also spilled over to inland mountains and valleys, improving topsoil moisture supplies, reducing long-term moisture deficits, and boosting irrigation reserves. The stormy weather ended drought conditions along the coast, but subsoil moisture reserves remained abnormally low in interior areas.

The storms produced little precipitation as they moved into the Great Plains, maintaining abnormally dry subsoils and leaving winter wheat fields on the northern High Plains exposed to potentially damaging winds and extreme temperature fluctuations. However, the threat of heaving and winter kill was minimal, as temperatures averaged well above normal over the Rocky Mountains and northern High Plains most of the month, including an early-month period of record and near-record daily highs.

The western Corn Belt and adjacent parts of the upper Mississippi Valley and central and northern Great Plains experienced mostly dry weather with alternating periods of above and below normal temperatures. Slightly colder and wetter weather prevailed in the eastern Corn Belt and Northeast, but total precipitation remained below average.

In the southern Great Plains, warm days and cool nights supported growth of winter grains and forages most of the month. Soil moisture supplies were also adequate to support development, although dry, windy weather rapidly depleted moisture reserves on the Texas High Plains, while parts of central and southeast Texas experienced periods of excessively wet weather.

Temperatures remained below normal across the Southeast during most of the month, with below freezing temperatures recorded as far south as central Florida, along the Gulf Coast, and into the southern Great Plains. Sub-freezing overnight temperatures frequently reached Florida's citrus region, producing some minor bloom injury on young citrus trees. However, there was no significant leaf burn or wood damage, and maturing fruit experienced very little damage.

During the coldest nights, some damage was seen on vegetable crops and new plantings of sugarcane in the Everglades region. Also, strawberry producers ran overhead sprinklers to form protective ice caps on plants

and immature fruit. Farther north, the cold weather provided beneficial chill hours for dormant fruit trees across the interior Southeast.

In California, precipitation periodically interrupted field and orchard work in the central and northern valleys, but the delays were mostly brief. The precipitation, combined with above-normal temperatures, contributed to vigorous crop growth. Irrigated winter crops also flourished in the abnormally warm weather.

**Sugarcane:** Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed for 2002 is estimated at 35.9 million tons, 4 percent above last year. Acres harvested and to be harvested for sugar and seed are estimated at 1.03 million for the 2002 crop year, slightly less than last year's harvested area. Yield is estimated at 35.0 tons per acre, 1.3 tons above 2001. In Florida, acres harvested and to be harvested for sugar and seed are down 1 percent from last year's record high acreage. The Florida harvest continues with dry, favorable weather.

**Grapefruit:** The forecast of the 2002-03 U.S. grapefruit crop is 2.12 million tons, unchanged from the January 1 forecast but 13 percent less than the previous season. The Florida grapefruit forecast remains unchanged at 40.0 million boxes (1.70 million tons) but 14 percent below last season. The crop was not affected by below freezing temperatures that occurred in late January. The all white grapefruit forecast remains at 16.0 million boxes (680,000 tons), 15 percent below last season. The colored grapefruit utilization is forecast at 24.0 million boxes (1.02 million tons), 14 percent less than the previous season. The projected fruit size and droppage are unchanged from January, with average sizes above the 10-season average and slightly less droppage than the 10-season average. Arizona, California, and Texas grapefruit forecasts are carried forward from the January forecasts.

**Tangerines:** The 2002-03 U.S. tangerine crop is forecast at 349,000 tons, down 1 percent from the January 1 forecast and 17 percent below last season's utilization of 420,000 tons. Florida's tangerine crop forecast, at 5.00 million boxes (238,000 tons), is down 2 percent from last month and 24 percent lower than last season's utilization. Harvest of the Fallglo variety is complete and Sunburst tangerine harvest is virtually complete. Harvest is active for the late season Honey variety. Fruit size is smaller than last month which may be the result of cold weather inhibiting growth. The 2002-03 Florida tangerine forecast only includes the Fallglo, Sunburst, and Honey tangerines. It does not include the Robinson and Dancy varieties as in previous seasons. This program change was implemented because of the declassification of Robinson and Dancy tangerines by the Florida Citrus Commission. Arizona and California tangerine forecasts are carried forward from the January forecasts.

**Tangelos:** Florida's 2002-03 tangelo forecast remains at 2.40 million boxes (108,000 tons), unchanged from the January 1 forecast but 12 percent more than last season's utilized production. Over two-thirds of the crop has been harvested as of February 1.

**Temples:** Florida's Temples are forecast at 1.40 million boxes (63,000 tons) for the 2002-03 season, unchanged from January but 10 percent below last season. If realized, this forecast would equal the freeze affected 1989-90 crop as the second smallest on record. Expected average fruit size is unchanged from last month.

**K-Early Citrus:** K-Early citrus has been dropped from the citrus estimation program. This fruit type has been declassified by the Florida Citrus Commission and forecasts have been discontinued.

**Papayas:** Hawaii fresh papaya utilization is estimated at 3.87 million pounds for January, up 5 percent from last month and 16 percent above January 2002. Area in crop totaled 2,080 acres, virtually unchanged from last month but 19 percent below last January. Harvested area, at 1,505 acres, is 1 percent more than last month but 18 percent lower than January 2002. Weather conditions over major non-irrigated papaya orchards were mostly dry during January. Flowering and seedling growth were adversely affected by the lack of normal rainfall.

**Florida Citrus:** The first week of January saw cool, wet weather with the remainder of the month being dry and cold. On January 24, temperatures were at freezing or below in almost all areas of the citrus belt. Freezing temperatures combined with strong winds in the northern most area resulted in some fruit icing. However, most of the early and midseason oranges were already harvested in these locations and the small amount of fruit remaining on the trees was quickly harvested for processing before damage occurred.

Temperatures in the central and southern areas did not remain cold long enough to result in any damage. Processing plants limited deliveries to regulate processing in an orderly manner. The cold weather did not affect the grapefruit crop, which is grown mostly on the east coast where temperatures were not as low. Growers and caretakers irrigated the last half of the month to maintain groves. Caretakers were active mowing and chopping cover crops for fire prevention. Hedging and topping of harvested groves continued across all areas and dead trees continue to be removed and burned when permits can be obtained.

**California Citrus:** Picking of navel oranges continued in several areas. Lemon harvesting was winding down in some locations by month's end. Minneola tangelo harvesting increased steadily. Rio Red, Pummelo, and Oroblanco variety grapefruit were harvested in the desert area.

**California Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts:** Seasonal cultural activities such as pruning, grafting, cultivating, and dormant spraying continued in orchards and vineyards. Warm sunny weather during the middle of the month raised concerns that tree fruit buds would break dormancy too early. Tying, brush shredding, cultivation, and herbicide treatments continued in wine, raisin, and table grape vineyards. Orchard and vineyard removal continued with trees and vines piled for burning or chipping. Open ground was prepared for new plantings. Many tree fruit orchards were grafted with new fruit varieties. Weeding activity was underway in many strawberry fields in Fresno County. The strawberry plants continued to show steady growth, and harvesting began in some locations. Bee hives were placed in some stone fruit orchards in anticipation of bloom by month's end. Blooms were reported in a number of early variety peach and nectarine orchards in the Sanger, Selma, and Reedley districts. Buds began to swell in almond orchards, indicating that bloom was near.

## Reliability of February 1 Orange Forecast

**Survey Procedures:** The orange objective yield survey for the February 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 February 1 forecast.

**Revision Policy:** The February 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 February 1 production forecasts, the "Root Mean Square Error," a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the February 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 February 1 orange production forecast is 4.3 percent. However, if you exclude the five freeze seasons, the "Root Mean Square Error" is 3.9 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current orange production forecast will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 4.3 percent, or 3.9 percent excluding freeze seasons. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 7.4 percent, or 7.0 percent excluding freeze seasons.

Changes between the February 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 335,000 tons (336,000 tons, excluding freezes), ranging from 31,000 tons to 745,000 tons (31,000 tons to 745,000 tons, excluding freezes). The February 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 6 times and above 14 times (below 4 times and above 11 times, excluding freeze seasons). The difference does not imply that the February 1 forecasts this year are likely to understate or overstate final production.

## Information Contacts

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

Mark Harris, Chief	(202) 720-2127
Field Crops Section	
Greg Thessen, Head	(202) 720-2127
Dave DeWalt - Cotton, Cotton Ginnings	(202) 720-5944
Herman Ellison - Soybeans, Minor Oilseeds	(202) 720-7369
Lance Honig - Wheat, Rye	(202) 720-8068
Darin Jantzi - Corn, Proso Millet	(202) 720-9526
Troy Joshua - Hay, Oats	(202) 690-3234
Roy Karkosh - Barley, Sorghum, Sugar Crops	(202) 690-8140
Mark E. Miller - Weekly Crop Weather	(202) 720-7621
Mark R. Miller - Peanuts, Rice	(202) 720-7688
Fruit, Vegetable & Special Crops Section	
Jim Smith, Head	(202) 720-2127
Arvin Budge - Dry Beans, Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes	(202) 720-4285
Kathy Broussard - Citrus, Tropical Fruits	(202) 720-5412
Debbie Flippin - Austrian Winter Peas, Dry Edible Peas, Lentils, Mint, Mushrooms, Peaches, Pears, Wrinkled Seed Peas	(202) 720-3250
Mike Miller - Berries, Grapes, Maple Syrup, Tobacco	(202) 720-7235
Terry O'Connor - Apples, Cherries, Cranberries, Plums, Prunes	(202) 720-4288
Kim Ritchie - Hops	(360) 902-1940
Betty Johnston - Floriculture, Nursery, Nuts	(202) 720-4215
Biz Wallingsford - Fresh and Processing Vegetables, Onions, Strawberries	(202) 720-2157



The next "Crop Production" report will be released at 8:30 a.m. ET on March 11, 2003.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## **ACCESS TO REPORTS!!**

---

For your convenience, there are several ways to obtain NASS reports, data products, and services:

### **INTERNET ACCESS**

All NASS reports are available free of charge on the worldwide Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and go to the NASS Home Page at: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>. Select "Today's Reports" or Publications and then Reports Calendar or Publications and then Search, by Title or Subject.

### **E-MAIL SUBSCRIPTION**

All NASS reports are available by subscription free of charge direct to your e-mail address. Starting with the NASS Home Page at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>, click on **Publications**, then click on the **Subscribe by E-mail** button which takes you to the page describing e-mail delivery of reports. Finally, click on **Go to the Subscription Page** and follow the instructions.

### **AUTOFAX ACCESS**

NASSFax service is available for some reports from your fax machine. Please call 202-720-2000, using the handset attached to your fax. Respond to the voice prompts. Document 0411 is a list of available reports.

-----

### **PRINTED REPORTS OR DATA PRODUCTS**

**CALL OUR TOLL-FREE ORDER DESK: 800-999-6779 (U.S. and Canada)**  
**Other areas, please call 703-605-6220      FAX: 703-605-6900**  
**(Visa, MasterCard, check, or money order acceptable for payment.)**

-----

### **ASSISTANCE**

For **assistance** with general agricultural statistics or further information about NASS or its products or services, contact the **Agricultural Statistics Hotline** at **800-727-9540**, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

---

# Competing in the 21st Century

---

## Agricultural Outlook Forum 2003



**February 20-21, 2003**

**Crystal Gateway**

**Marriott Hotel**

**Arlington, Virginia**

**2003 Commodity Prospects  
Emerging Export Competitors  
Farming under New Programs  
Coping with Regulations  
Shifting consumer Preferences  
Ensuring Food Safety  
Impact of El Nino**

Sharpen your strategic focus at USDA's 79th annual Agricultural Outlook Forum. Note experts, industry leaders and producers will discuss many facets of competing in domestic and world markets.

The program will examine growing competition from Central and Eastern Europe, Brazil and Asia, as well as progress in WTO negotiations.

Focus sessions will highlight many challenges producers face in the competitive arena, ranging from the growing complexity and cost of regulation, to dealing with food safety and changing eating habits.

As always, leading analysts will be on hand to debate planting, trade and price prospects for farm commodities for the year ahead. Attendees will receive new 10-year commodity projections from USDA.

Networking opportunities abound at the Forum, which attracted 1,400 attendees last February. Register now for the best value. See full details at [www.usda.gov/oce](http://www.usda.gov/oce).

**[www.usda.gov/oce](http://www.usda.gov/oce)   [agforum@oce.usda.gov](mailto:agforum@oce.usda.gov)   (877) 891-2208 toll free**