



Crop Production

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All Orange Production Down from January

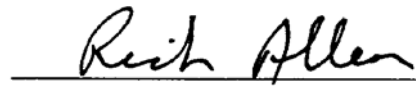
The U.S. all orange February forecast for the 2003-04 crop is 13.3 million tons, down 1 percent from the January forecast but 15 percent above last season's final utilization. Florida's all orange forecast is reduced to 246 million boxes (11.1 million tons), 2 percent below the January 1 forecast but 21 percent above the previous season. The early and mid-season varieties forecast is lowered 4 million boxes to 128 million boxes (5.76 million tons), 3 percent lower than last month but 14 percent above last season. Results from the row count survey, combined with estimated utilization, indicated a reduction from the January forecast. The fruit size and droppage measurements, finalized in January, also support the reduction. Harvest of Florida's Navel oranges, a component of the early-midseason varieties, has decreased as crystallization has been observed in the fruit. Crystallization causes the fruit to dry out from the top making it unusable for fresh shipments. The Valencia forecast is unchanged from January at 118 million boxes (5.31 million tons) but is 30 percent above last season's final utilization. Fruit size continues to be above average but not as large as last season. Fruit droppage remains near the minimum of the previous 10-seasons. Arizona, California, and Texas orange production forecasts are carried forward from the January forecasts.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield for the 2003-04 season is forecast at 1.53 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix, unchanged from last month but slightly below last season's final estimate of 1.54 gallons per box. The early-midseason portion is projected to yield 1.47 gallons, down from 1.49 for the 2002-03 crop. Valencia's are projected to yield 1.60 gallons as compared to 1.61 gallons for last season. All projections of yield assume that the processing relationship this year will be similar to those of the past several years.

This report was approved on February 10, 2004.



Acting Secretary of
Agriculture
J. B. Penn



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
Rich Allen

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**Sugarcane: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production
by Use, State, and United States, 2002-2003**

Use and State	Area Harvested		Yield ¹		Production ¹	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<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	442.0	421.0	38.3	40.0	16,929	16,840
HI ²	21.3	20.5	99.0	99.2	2,109	2,034
LA ²	465.0	450.0	28.3	27.0	13,160	12,150
TX ²	43.6	42.4	39.1	37.0	1,705	1,569
US	971.9	933.9	34.9	34.9	33,903	32,593
For Seed						
FL	19.0	20.0	38.1	40.0	724	800
HI ²	1.4	1.5	35.5	37.6	50	56
LA ²	30.0	40.0	28.3	27.0	849	1,080
TX ²	0.9	1.4	30.0	35.0	27	49
US	51.3	62.9	32.2	31.6	1,650	1,985
For Sugar and Seed						
FL	461.0	441.0	38.3	40.0	17,653	17,640
HI ²	22.7	22.0	95.1	95.0	2,159	2,090
LA ²	495.0	490.0	28.3	27.0	14,009	13,230
TX ²	44.5	43.8	38.9	36.9	1,732	1,618
US	1,023.2	996.8	34.7	34.7	35,553	34,578

¹ Net tons.

² Estimates are carried forward from the 2003 Crop Production Summary.

Papayas: Area and Fresh Production, by Month, Hawaii, 2003-2004

Month	Area				Fresh Production ¹	
	Total in Crop		Harvested		2003	2004
	2003	2004	2003	2004		
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
Dec	2,210		1,345		3,010	
Jan	2,080	2,210	1,505	1,345	3,935	3,635

¹ Utilized fresh production.

**Citrus Fruits: Utilized Production by Crop, State, and United States,
2001-2002, 2002-2003 and Forecasted February 1, 2004 ¹**

Crop and State	Utilized Production Boxes			Utilized Production Ton Equivalent		
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
	<i>1,000 Boxes ²</i>	<i>1,000 Boxes ²</i>	<i>1,000 Boxes ²</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
Oranges						
Early Mid & Navel ³						
AZ ⁴	270	200	220	10	8	8
CA ⁴	32,000	41,000	39,000	1,200	1,538	1,463
FL	128,000	112,000	128,000	5,760	5,040	5,760
TX ⁴	1,530	1,350	1,300	65	57	55
US	161,800	154,550	168,520	7,035	6,643	7,286
Valencia						
AZ ⁴	250	270	250	9	10	9
CA ⁴	19,500	21,000	19,000	731	788	713
FL	102,000	91,000	118,000	4,590	4,095	5,310
TX ⁴	210	220	230	9	9	10
US	121,960	112,490	137,480	5,339	4,902	6,042
All						
AZ ⁴	520	470	470	19	18	17
CA ⁴	51,500	62,000	58,000	1,931	2,326	2,176
FL	230,000	203,000	246,000	10,350	9,135	11,070
TX ⁴	1,740	1,570	1,530	74	66	65
US	283,760	267,040	306,000	12,374	11,545	13,328
Temples						
FL	1,550	1,300	1,400	70	59	63
Grapefruit						
White Seedless ⁵						
FL	18,900	16,200	16,000	803	689	680
Colored Seedless						
FL	27,800	22,500	24,000	1,182	956	1,020
All						
AZ ⁴	160	130	100	5	4	3
CA ⁴	5,900	5,600	5,200	198	188	174
FL	46,700	38,700	40,000	1,985	1,645	1,700
TX ⁴	5,900	5,650	5,300	236	226	212
US	58,660	50,080	50,600	2,424	2,063	2,089
Tangerines						
AZ ^{4 6}	620	430	600	23	16	23
CA ^{4 6}	2,200	2,500	2,500	83	94	94
FL ⁷	6,600	5,500	5,900	314	261	280
US	9,420	8,430	9,000	420	371	397
Lemons ⁴						
AZ	2,800	3,000	3,200	106	114	122
CA	18,300	24,000	23,000	695	912	874
US	21,100	27,000	26,200	801	1,026	996
Tangelos						
FL	2,150	2,350	1,300	97	106	59

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 & 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 Estimates for current year carried forward from previous forecast.

⁵ Includes seedy.

⁶ Includes tangelos and tangors.

⁷ 2001-02 includes Robinson, Fallglo, Sunburst, Dancy, and Honey varieties; 2002-03 through 2003-04 includes Fallglo, Sunburst, and Honey varieties only.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 2003-2004
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	5,299.0		4,688.0	
Corn for Grain ²	78,736.0		71,139.0	
Corn for Silage			6,528.0	
Hay, All			63,342.0	
Alfalfa			23,578.0	
All Other			39,764.0	
Oats	4,601.0		2,224.0	
Proso Millet	730.0		620.0	
Rice	3,022.0		2,997.0	
Rye	1,368.0		339.0	
Sorghum for Grain ²	9,420.0		7,798.0	
Sorghum for Silage			343.0	
Wheat, All	61,700.0		52,839.0	
Winter	44,945.0	43,464.0	36,541.0	
Durum	2,915.0		2,869.0	
Other Spring	13,840.0		13,429.0	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1,082.0		1,068.0	
Cottonseed				
Flaxseed	595.0		583.0	
Mustard Seed	110.0		107.0	
Peanuts	1,344.0		1,312.0	
Rapeseed	1.3		1.2	
Safflower	221.0		212.0	
Soybeans for Beans	73,404.0		72,321.0	
Sunflowers	2,344.0		2,197.0	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All	13,483.1		12,058.0	
Upland	13,304.0		11,880.0	
Amer-Pima	179.1		178.0	
Sugarbeets	1,365.4		1,347.9	
Sugarcane			996.8	
Tobacco			416.2	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	21.1		15.6	
Dry Edible Beans	1,406.1		1,346.9	
Dry Edible Peas	337.5		328.5	
Lentils	246.0		237.0	
Wrinkled Seed Peas				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			5.9	
Ginger Root (HI)			0.2	
Hops			28.7	
Peppermint Oil			78.2	
Potatoes, All	1,275.0		1,250.3	
Winter	14.6	14.2	14.3	14.0
Spring	88.6		84.7	
Summer	64.2		59.3	
Fall	1,107.6		1,092.0	
Spearmint Oil			15.8	
Sweet Potatoes	95.6		92.4	
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 2004 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, 2003-2004
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Unit	Yield		Production	
		2003	2004	2003	2004
				<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Grains & Hay					
Barley	Bu	58.9		276,087	
Corn for Grain	"	142.2		10,113,887	
Corn for Silage	Ton	16.2		105,864	
Hay, All	"	2.48		157,123	
Alfalfa	"	3.24		76,307	
All Other	"	2.03		80,816	
Oats	Bu	65.0		144,649	
Proso Millet	"	18.5		11,450	
Rice ²	Cwt	6,645		199,157	
Rye	Bu	27.3		9,254	
Sorghum for Grain	"	52.7		411,237	
Sorghum for Silage	Ton	10.4		3,552	
Wheat, All	Bu	44.2		2,336,526	
Winter	"	46.7		1,707,069	
Durum	"	33.7		96,637	
Other Spring	"	39.7		532,820	
Oilseeds					
Canola	Lb	1,416		1,512,250	
Cottonseed ³	Ton			6,694.0	
Flaxseed	Bu	17.9		10,426	
Mustard Seed	Lb	723		77,372	
Peanuts	"	3,159		4,144,150	
Rapeseed	"	949		1,139	
Safflower	"	1,286		272,555	
Soybeans for Beans	Bu	33.4		2,417,565	
Sunflower	Lb	1,213		2,665,226	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops					
Cotton, All ²	Bale	725		18,224.0	
Upland ²	"	719		17,795.0	
Amer-Pima ²	"	1,157		429.0	
Sugarbeets	Ton	22.7		30,605	
Sugarcane	"	34.7		34,578	
Tobacco	Lb	1,997		831,204	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils					
Austrian Winter Peas ²	Cwt	1,115		174	
Dry Edible Beans ²	"	1,672		22,515	
Dry Edible Peas ²	"	1,584		5,202	
Lentils ²	"	1,030		2,442	
Wrinkled Seed Peas ³	"			673	
Potatoes & Misc.					
Coffee (HI)	Lb	1,470		8,700	
Ginger Root (HI)	"	37,500		6,000	
Hops	"	1,903		54,565.1	
Peppermint Oil	"	89		6,924	
Potatoes, All	Cwt	367		459,045	
Winter	"	282	274	4,027	3,840
Spring	"	288		24,433	
Summer	"	324		19,199	
Fall	"	377		411,386	
Spearmint Oil	Lb	113		1,778	
Sweet Potatoes	Cwt	172		15,921	
Taro (HI) ³	Lb			5,000	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2004 crop year.

² Yield in pounds.

³ Yield is not estimated.

Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 2002-2004
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Unit	Production		
		2002	2003	2004
		<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Citrus ²				
Grapefruit	Ton	2,424	2,063	2,089
K-Early Citrus (FL) ³	"	1		
Lemons	"	801	1,026	996
Oranges	"	12,374	11,545	13,328
Tangelos (FL)	"	97	106	59
Tangerines	"	420	371	397
Temples (FL)	"	70	59	63
Noncitrus				
Apples	1,000 Lbs	8,525.4	9,014.6	
Apricots	Ton	90.0	97.9	
Bananas (HI)	Lb	19,500.0	22,000.0	
Grapes	Ton	7,339.0	6,477.9	
Olives (CA)	"	103.0	118.0	
Papayas (HI)	Lbs	45,900.0	43,000.0	
Peaches	1,000 Lbs	2,574.9	2,523.1	
Pears	Ton	868.5	923.1	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	"	172.0	176.0	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	"	15.7	16.9	
Nuts & Misc.				
Almonds (CA)	Lb	1,090,000	1,020,000	
Hazelnuts	Ton	19.5	35.0	
Pecans	Lb	172,900	262,200	
Pistachios (CA)	"	303,000	116,000	
Walnuts (CA)	Ton	282.0	325.0	
Maple Syrup	Gal	1,393	1,239	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2004 crop year.

² Production years are 2001-2002, 2002-2003, and 2003-2004.

³ Estimates discontinued as of the 2002-03 crop.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 2003-2004
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	2,144,450		1,897,190	
Corn for Grain ²	31,863,670		28,789,240	
Corn for Silage			2,641,820	
Hay, All ³			25,633,870	
Alfalfa			9,541,780	
All Other			16,092,090	
Oats	1,861,980		900,030	
Proso Millet	295,420		250,910	
Rice	1,222,970		1,212,860	
Rye	553,620		137,190	
Sorghum for Grain ²	3,812,180		3,155,770	
Sorghum for Silage			138,810	
Wheat, All ³	24,969,370		21,383,410	
Winter	18,188,790	17,589,450	14,787,780	
Durum	1,179,670		1,161,060	
Other Spring	5,600,910		5,434,580	
Oilseeds				
Canola	437,870		432,210	
Cottonseed				
Flaxseed	240,790		235,930	
Mustard Seed	44,520		43,300	
Peanuts	543,900		530,950	
Rapeseed	530		490	
Safflower	89,440		85,790	
Soybeans for Beans	29,705,860		29,267,590	
Sunflowers	948,590		889,100	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All ³	5,456,480		4,879,750	
Upland	5,384,000		4,807,720	
Amer-Pima	72,480		72,030	
Sugarbeets	552,560		545,480	
Sugarcane			403,390	
Tobacco			168,440	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	8,540		6,310	
Dry Edible Beans	569,030		545,080	
Dry Edible Peas	136,580		132,940	
Lentils	99,550		95,910	
Wrinkled Seed Peas				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			2,390	
Ginger Root (HI)			60	
Hops			11,600	
Peppermint Oil			31,650	
Potatoes, All ³	515,980		505,980	
Winter	5,910	5,750	5,790	5,670
Spring	35,860		34,280	
Summer	25,980		24,000	
Fall	448,230		441,920	
Spearmint Oil			6,390	
Sweet Potatoes	38,690		37,390	
Taro (HI) ⁴			170	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2004 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, 2003-2004
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Yield		Production	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	3.17		6,011,080	
Corn for Grain	8.92		256,904,560	
Corn for Silage	36.35		96,038,210	
Hay, All ²	5.56		142,539,590	
Alfalfa	7.25		69,224,550	
All Other	4.56		73,315,040	
Oats	2.33		2,099,570	
Proso Millet	1.03		259,680	
Rice	7.45		9,033,610	
Rye	1.71		235,060	
Sorghum for Grain	3.31		10,445,900	
Sorghum for Silage	23.21		3,222,320	
Wheat, All ²	2.97		63,589,820	
Winter	3.14		46,458,800	
Durum	2.27		2,630,030	
Other Spring	2.67		14,500,980	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1.59		685,950	
Cottonseed ³			6,072,690	
Flaxseed	1.12		264,830	
Mustard Seed	0.81		35,100	
Peanuts	3.54		1,879,750	
Rapeseed	1.06		520	
Safflower	1.44		123,630	
Soybeans for Beans	2.25		65,795,340	
Sunflowers	1.36		1,208,930	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All ²	0.81		3,967,810	
Upland	0.81		3,874,400	
Amer-Pima	1.30		93,400	
Sugarbeets	50.90		27,764,390	
Sugarcane	77.76		31,368,630	
Tobacco	2.24		377,030	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	1.25		7,890	
Dry Edible Beans	1.87		1,021,260	
Dry Edible Peas	1.77		235,960	
Lentils	1.15		110,770	
Wrinkled Seed Peas ³			30,530	
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)	1.65		3,950	
Ginger Root (HI)	42.03		2,720	
Hops	2.13		24,750	
Peppermint Oil	0.10		3,140	
Potatoes, All ²	41.15		20,821,930	
Winter	31.56	30.74	182,660	174,180
Spring	32.33		1,108,260	
Summer	36.29		870,850	
Fall	42.23		18,660,160	
Spearmint Oil	0.13		810	
Sweet Potatoes	19.31		722,160	
Taro (HI) ³			2,270	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2004 crop year.

² Production may not add due to rounding.

³ Yield is not estimated.

Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 2002-2004
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Production		
	2002	2003	2004
	<i>Metric tons</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>
Citrus ²			
Grapefruit	2,199,020	1,871,520	1,895,110
K-Early Citrus (FL) ³	910		
Lemons	726,650	930,770	903,560
Oranges	11,225,500	10,473,450	12,090,960
Tangelos (FL)	88,000	96,160	53,520
Tangerines	381,020	336,570	360,150
Temples (FL)	63,500	53,520	57,150
Noncitrus			
Apples	3,867,060	4,088,950	
Apricots	81,680	88,800	
Bananas (HI)	8,850	9,980	
Grapes	6,657,830	5,876,650	
Olives (CA)	93,440	107,050	
Papayas (HI)	20,820	19,500	
Peaches	1,167,960	1,144,460	
Pears	787,840	837,380	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	156,040	159,660	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	14,200	15,330	
Nuts & Misc.			
Almonds (CA)	494,420	462,660	
Hazelnuts	17,690	31,750	
Pecans	78,430	118,930	
Pistachios (CA)	137,440	52,620	
Walnuts (CA)	255,830	294,840	
Maple Syrup	6,960	6,190	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports.

² Production years are 2001-02, 2002-03, and 2003-04.

January Weather Summary

The coldest weather in many years gripped the Northeast, accompanied by occasional snowfall in the northern Mid-Atlantic States and relentless snow squalls downwind of the Great Lakes. While bitterly cold conditions were persistent in the Northeast, cold air made only two significant surges across the remainder of the United States. Across most of the Plains, the most impressive cold outbreak struck from January 4-6, followed by the Midwest's coldest spell toward month's end. On the Plains, significant precipitation was confined to a few relatively small geographic areas. Much-needed precipitation, mostly rain, spread onto the southern Plains from January 15-17, followed by a major snow storm across the east-central Plains on January 25-26. Farther north, the last week of January featured heavy snow in northeastern Montana and parts of North Dakota. However, mostly dry conditions persisted on the High Plains from eastern Colorado and western Kansas northward into southern Montana, leaving a portion of the wheat crop regularly exposed to gusty winds and temperature fluctuations. In contrast, heavy rain soaked the Ohio Valley early in the month, causing some flooding in lowlands planted to winter wheat. Elsewhere in the eastern Corn Belt, soil moisture remained adequate to locally excessive. Farther west, however, unfavorably dry conditions persisted across the northwestern Corn Belt, although late-month snowfall provided beneficial moisture. Meanwhile, January precipitation was well below normal from the Delta to the southern Atlantic region, although the combination of cool weather and sporadic showers limited stress on pastures and winter grains. January rainfall was heavier in the western Gulf Coast region, while late-month downpours reduced irrigation demands in Florida's winter agricultural areas. In the West, mild, tranquil weather prevailed for most of the month, following some early-January storminess. However, cold air remained trapped in many snow-covered valleys across the Intermountain West, resulting in persistently cold, foggy weather and air-stagnation problems. Prospects for winter grains continued to improve in the Northwest, where widespread precipitation and a late-month warming trend melted snow and boosted soil moisture reserves.

January temperatures averaged as much as 5 degrees F above normal on the central and southern High Plains and across the south-central United States. In contrast, readings approached 5 degrees F below normal in eastern Montana and western North Dakota, and were slightly below normal across the northern Plains, northern Corn Belt, and southern Atlantic States. Even more impressively cold weather was noted in parts of the Intermountain West, where temperatures averaged at least 5 degrees F below normal in some locations, and the Northeast, where readings ranging from 5 to 10 degrees F below normal were widespread.

January Crop Summary

Along the Atlantic Coast, temperatures were mostly below normal throughout the month, while precipitation was light to moderate. Late in the month, a series of Arctic cold fronts brought snow and ice to the Northeast and middle Atlantic regions. Freezing temperatures reached into northern Florida, but missed the citrus-growing regions of central and southern Florida.

Across the Corn Belt, temperatures were below normal through most of the month, though record high temperatures visited the western areas of the region toward mid-month, melting much of the protective snow cover on winter wheat fields. However, this snow cover was quickly replenished with snowfall late in the month. Precipitation for the month was above normal in the Ohio Valley, but below normal across the western and northern Corn Belt.

Light to moderate rain fell in the Southeast and Mississippi Delta and temperatures were mostly below normal. Freezing temperatures reached as far south as the Gulf Coast on several occasions.

In the Great Plains, conditions remained mostly dry throughout the month. Other than a mid-month spell of moderate to heavy rainfall in Texas and Oklahoma, only light, widely scattered precipitation fell in the region. Mild temperatures around the middle of the month melted snow cover in the northern and central parts of the region, causing some concern for winter wheat as bitterly cold temperatures visited the region late in the month.

Temperatures in the Rocky Mountains were below normal early in the month, but warmed up toward mid-month. Temperatures stayed above normal in the northern parts of the region through month's end, but dropped back to below normal in the central and southern areas. Across the central and southern portions of the region, precipitation was light and scattered. However, the northern areas of the region received widespread light to moderate precipitation in the second half of the month.

In the Pacific Northwest, rain and snowfall were moderate to heavy along the coastal areas, but lighter in the crop-producing areas farther inland. Average temperatures were below normal early in the month, but rose to

above normal in the second half of the month. Snow cover was adequate to protect winter wheat throughout the month.

The Great Basin was mostly dry throughout the month, with below normal temperatures. In California, temperatures were near normal, with little rainfall except in the northwest part of the State.

Sugarcane: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed for 2003 is estimated at 34.6 million tons, up 1 percent from last month but 3 percent below last year. Acres harvested and to be harvested for sugar and seed are estimated at 996,800 for the 2003 crop year, 3 percent less than last year's harvested area. Yield is estimated at 34.7 tons per acre, 0.2 ton above January but the same as the 2002 crop.

Estimates for all states, except Florida, are carried forward from January. Florida's yield, at 40.0 tons per acre, is 0.5 ton above the January estimate, 1.7 tons above 2002, and the highest since 1998. Production in Florida is estimated at 17.6 million tons for the 2003 crop year, 1 percent above the January estimate but slightly below 2002. The Florida harvest was active throughout January despite cold, wet weather in the second half of the month.

Grapefruit: The forecast of the 2003-04 U.S. grapefruit crop is 2.09 million tons, unchanged from the January 1 forecast but 1 percent above the previous season. Florida's grapefruit forecast remains unchanged at 40.0 million boxes (1.70 million tons) but 3 percent above last season's final utilization. The white grapefruit forecast is unchanged at 16.0 million boxes (680,000 tons) but 1 percent below last season. The size and drop survey indications are final and unchanged from the January forecasts. However, results indicate that fruit size is smaller and droppage is above average when compared to the October indications. The colored grapefruit forecast, at 24.0 million boxes (1.02 million tons), remains unchanged but 7 percent above last season's final utilization. The growth pattern is similar to last season when sizes were above normal early in the season and then leveled off. Droppage rates are above normal levels. Arizona, California, and Texas grapefruit forecasts are carried forward from the January forecasts.

Tangerines: The 2003-04 U.S. tangerine crop is forecast at 397,000 tons, down 9 percent from the January 1 forecast but up 7 percent from last season's final utilization of 371,000 tons. Florida's tangerine crop, at 5.90 million boxes (280,000 tons), is down 12 percent from last month but 7 percent above last season's utilization of 5.50 million boxes. The reduction was made in the early maturing varieties. The late maturing Honey variety component of the forecast is unchanged. Harvest of the early tangerine varieties slowed as fruit began to dry out and became unusable for fresh shipments. Honey tangerine harvest is underway. Average fruit size is larger than the 10-season average and droppage is expected to be slightly less than average. Arizona and California tangerine forecasts are carried forward from January.

Tangelos: Florida's 2003-04 tangelo forecast, at 1.30 million boxes (59,000 tons), is unchanged from January but 45 percent less than last season's utilized production and the smallest harvest since the 1965-66 season. Over half of the crop has been harvested as of February 1 but harvest activity is declining rapidly.

Temples: Florida's Temple forecast is 1.40 million boxes (63,000 tons) for the 2003-04 season, unchanged from January but 8 percent above last season's final utilization. If attained, the crop would be the third lowest since the freeze affected 1989-90 harvest. Fruit droppage and size are below average this season.

Papayas: Hawaii fresh papaya utilization is estimated at 3.64 million pounds for January, 21 percent higher than December but 8 percent below January 2003. Area in crop totaled 2,210 acres, unchanged from last month but 6 percent more than a year ago. Harvested area totaled 1,345 acres, unchanged from December but 11 percent lower than a year ago. Weather conditions were variable during the month of January. Soil moisture has been adequate in non-irrigated orchards with the majority of rainfall occurring in the first and last weeks of the month.

Florida Citrus: Weather patterns over Florida's citrus producing areas were generally typical for January with cool nights and moderate day temperatures. However, several cold fronts passed through the State, each bringing varying amounts of rainfall and low morning temperatures ranging from the mid to low 30's in some locations and mid 40's in others. Moderate frost was reported on several mornings in northern locations. No tree damage or fruit loss was reported. High temperatures of the cold fronts were generally in the 50's. Following the cold fronts, low temperatures were in the 50's. High temperatures warmed to the 70's and some days to the low 80's. Rainfall patterns were typical with most occurring prior to the passage of a cold front. Rainfall was prevalent the second and last week of January. One reporting station measured 1.8 inches of

rainfall in the second week. Rainfall amounts up to 1.5 inches occurred the last week of January as a slow moving low pressure system crossed over the State.

Picking of early-midseason oranges peaked in January when weekly harvest reached over 9 million boxes in a 2-week period. Navel orange harvest decreased during the month and shipments were cut short by crystallization in larger sizes. Small amounts of Valencia oranges were harvested primarily for fresh shipments. Grapefruit harvest for fresh shipments increased throughout January while processing harvest experienced an increase near the end of the month. Harvest of Sunburst tangerines decreased as the harvest of Honey tangerines increased. Excellent fruit sizes and color were reported for the Honey tangerine variety. Tangelo harvest neared completion and Temple harvest for fresh and processing usage was heavy.

California Citrus: Rains slowed harvest of Navel oranges and other citrus fruit. Ice marks were noted in many navel orange groves but the fruit did not suffer internal damage. Mandarin picking began winding down. Lemon harvest continued. Grapefruit, tangerines, Satsumas, Clementines, and pummelos were also harvested.

California Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts: Seasonal cultural activities, including pruning, grafting, cultivating, and dormant spraying continued in orchards and vineyards. Ground preparations were underway for young trees as weather permitted. Removal of old, unproductive, or unprofitable orchards and vineyards continued. Buds on stone fruit trees showed earlier than normal signs of swelling. Some tree fruit growers began placement of pheromone dispersal devices to disrupt the mating cycles of insect pests. Pruning, cane tying, and brush shredding continued in wine, raisin, and table grape vineyards. Foliar fertilizer and scale treatments were applied to cherry trees in the San Joaquin Valley. Strawberry plants showed new growth in many locations. New strawberry fields were planted in the Kerman district. Zutanos and Hass avocado varieties were harvested and packed as maturity advanced. Olive groves were pruned and suckered. Cold weather insured dormancy in pistachio orchards.

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. California also conducts objective measurement surveys in September for navel oranges and in March for Valencia oranges.

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 the *Citrus Fruits Summary* released in September. 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 4.0 percent. This means that chances are two out of three that the current orange production forecast will not be above or below the final estimates by more than 4.3 percent, or 4.0 percent excluding freeze seasons. Chances are nine 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 342,000 tons (341,000 tons, excluding freezes), ranging from 18,000 tons to 745,000 tons (18,000 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

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The next "*Crop Production*" report will be released at 8:30 a.m. ET on March 10, 2004.

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