



Crop Production

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All Orange Production Unchanged from January

The U.S. all orange February forecast for the 2004-05 season is 9.65 million tons, unchanged from the previous forecast but 25 percent below last season's final utilization. Florida's all orange forecast, at 162 million boxes (7.29 million tons), is unchanged from the January forecast but 33 percent below the 2003-04 season. The production of early-midseason varieties, at 84.0 million boxes (3.78 million tons), is unchanged from the January forecast.

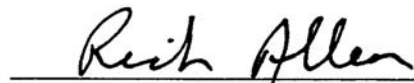
The row count survey, conducted January 25-26, 2005, shows harvest is lagging behind recent seasons. Florida's early-midseason harvest started late because of the smaller crop and lagging maturity level. The early-midseason fruit sized at an average rate during January. The drop rate, at 18 percent, is above the past 10 seasons' maximum for the early-midseason fruit. Approximately 40 percent of the crop remains to be harvested. The Valencia forecast, at 78.0 million boxes (3.51 million tons), is unchanged from the previous forecast but is 33 percent below last season's final utilization. Florida's Valencia average drop rate is increased from last month to 21 percent. Valencia fruit size increased from the January forecast and is projected to be near average. Arizona, California, and Texas orange production forecasts are carried forward from January.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield for the 2004-05 season is forecast at 1.58 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix, up from last month's 1.56 gallons per box. The early-midseason portion is projected to yield 1.52 gallons, higher than last season's final yield of 1.45 gallons per box. Valencias are projected to yield 1.66 gallons compared to 1.69 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 9, 2005.



Secretary of
Agriculture
Mike Johanns



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
Rich Allen

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**Sugarcane: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production
by Use, State, and United States, 2003-2004**

Use and State	Area Harvested		Yield ¹		Production ¹	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	<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	419.0	403.0	39.3	33.8	16,467	13,621
HI ²	19.9	21.5	102.0	96.0	2,030	2,064
LA ²	450.0	430.0	26.2	24.0	11,790	10,320
TX ²	41.7	42.7	39.7	40.0	1,655	1,708
US	930.6	897.2	34.3	30.9	31,942	27,713
For Seed						
FL	19.0	17.0	40.2	37.3	764	634
HI ²	1.4	1.6	37.3	37.0	52	59
LA ²	40.0	35.0	26.2	24.0	1,048	840
TX ²	1.3	1.3	40.2	38.0	52	49
US	61.7	54.9	31.1	28.8	1,916	1,582
For Sugar and Seed						
FL	438.0	420.0	39.3	33.9	17,231	14,255
HI ²	21.3	23.1	97.7	91.9	2,082	2,123
LA ²	490.0	465.0	26.2	24.0	12,838	11,160
TX ²	43.0	44.0	39.7	39.9	1,707	1,757
US	992.3	952.1	34.1	30.8	33,858	29,295

¹ Net tons.

² Estimates are carried forward from the "Crop Production 2004 Summary."

Papayas: Area and Fresh Production, by Month, Hawaii, 2004-2005

Month	Area				Fresh Production ¹	
	Total in Crop		Harvested		2004	2005
	2004	2005	2004	2005		
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
Dec	2,230		1,395		3,050	
Jan	2,210	2,245	1,340	1,410	3,560	2,540

¹ Utilized fresh production.

**Citrus Fruits: Utilized Production by Crop, State, and United States,
2002-2003, 2003-2004 and Forecasted February 1, 2005¹**

Crop and State	Utilized Production Boxes			Utilized Production Ton Equivalent		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
	<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 ⁴	200	300	240	8	12	9
CA ⁴	42,000	38,000	44,000	1,575	1,426	1,650
FL	112,000	126,000	84,000	5,040	5,670	3,780
TX ⁴	1,350	1,420	1,500	57	60	64
US	155,550	165,720	129,740	6,680	7,168	5,503
Valencia						
AZ ⁴	270	170	190	10	6	7
CA ⁴	20,000	14,000	16,500	751	526	619
FL	91,000	116,000	78,000	4,095	5,220	3,510
TX ⁴	220	230	250	9	10	11
US	111,490	130,400	94,940	4,865	5,762	4,147
All						
AZ ⁴	470	470	430	18	18	16
CA ⁴	62,000	52,000	60,500	2,326	1,952	2,269
FL	203,000	242,000	162,000	9,135	10,890	7,290
TX ⁴	1,570	1,650	1,750	66	70	75
US	267,040	296,120	224,680	11,545	12,930	9,650
Temples						
FL	1,300	1,400	700	59	63	32
Grapefruit						
White Seedless ⁵						
FL	16,200	15,900	3,000	689	675	128
Colored Seedless						
FL	22,500	25,000	10,000	957	1,063	425
All						
AZ ⁴	130	140	180	4	5	6
CA ⁴	5,600	5,400	5,300	187	181	178
FL	38,700	40,900	13,000	1,646	1,738	553
TX ⁴	5,650	5,700	6,200	226	228	248
US	50,080	52,140	24,680	2,063	2,152	985
Tangerines						
AZ ^{4,6}	430	690	450	16	25	17
CA ^{4,6}	2,800	2,700	2,900	105	101	109
FL	5,500	6,500	4,500	261	309	214
US	8,730	9,890	7,850	382	435	340
Lemons ⁴						
AZ	3,000	3,000	2,400	114	114	91
CA	24,000	18,000	19,500	912	684	741
US	27,000	21,000	21,900	1,026	798	832
Tangelos						
FL	2,350	1,000	1,400	105	45	63

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.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 2004-2005
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	4,527.0		4,021.0	
Corn for Grain ²	80,930.0		73,632.0	
Corn for Silage			6,103.0	
Hay, All			61,916.0	
Alfalfa			21,707.0	
All Other			40,209.0	
Oats	4,085.0		1,792.0	
Proso Millet	710.0		595.0	
Rice	3,347.0		3,325.0	
Rye	1,380.0		320.0	
Sorghum for Grain ²	7,486.0		6,517.0	
Sorghum for Silage			352.0	
Wheat, All	59,674.0		49,999.0	
Winter	43,350.0	41,567.0	34,462.0	
Durum	2,561.0		2,363.0	
Other Spring	13,763.0		13,174.0	
Oilseeds				
Canola	865.0		828.0	
Cottonseed				
Flaxseed	523.0		516.0	
Mustard Seed	73.0		68.7	
Peanuts	1,430.0		1,394.0	
Rapeseed	8.7		7.8	
Safflower	175.0		159.0	
Soybeans for Beans	75,208.0		73,958.0	
Sunflower	1,873.0		1,711.0	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All	13,658.6		13,057.0	
Upland	13,409.0		12,809.0	
Amer-Pima	249.6		248.0	
Sugarbeets	1,346.0		1,306.7	
Sugarcane			952.1	
Tobacco			409.1	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	30.5		21.5	
Dry Edible Beans	1,354.3		1,219.3	
Dry Edible Peas	530.0		507.8	
Lentils	345.0		329.0	
Wrinkled Seed Peas				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			5.8	
Ginger Root (HI)			0.2	
Hops			27.7	
Peppermint Oil			77.7	
Potatoes, All	1,194.0		1,168.1	
Winter	18.7	20.0	18.5	19.8
Spring	76.5		72.2	
Summer	59.1		54.6	
Fall	1,039.7		1,022.8	
Spearmint Oil			15.1	
Sweet Potatoes	97.4		93.3	
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 2005 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, 2004-2005
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Unit	Yield		Production	
		2004	2005	2004	2005
				<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Grains & Hay					
Barley	Bu	69.4		279,253	
Corn for Grain	"	160.4		11,807,217	
Corn for Silage	Ton	17.6		107,336	
Hay, All	"	2.55		157,774	
Alfalfa	"	3.47		75,383	
All Other	"	2.05		82,391	
Oats	Bu	64.7		115,935	
Proso Millet	"	25.3		15,065	
Rice ²	Cwt	6,942		230,818	
Rye	Bu	26.9		8,615	
Sorghum for Grain	"	69.8		454,899	
Sorghum for Silage	Ton	13.5		4,763	
Wheat, All	Bu	43.2		2,158,245	
Winter	"	43.5		1,499,434	
Durum	"	38.0		89,893	
Other Spring	"	43.2		568,918	
Oilseeds					
Canola	Lb	1,618		1,339,530	
Cottonseed ³	Ton			8,411.0	
Flaxseed	Bu	20.3		10,471	
Mustard Seed	Lb	819		56,290	
Peanuts	"	3,057		4,261,700	
Rapeseed	"	1,394		10,875	
Safflower	"	1,105		175,765	
Soybeans for Beans	Bu	42.5		3,140,996	
Sunflower	Lb	1,197		2,047,863	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops					
Cotton, All ²	Bale	846		23,006.0	
Upland ²	"	835		22,270.0	
Amer-Pima ²	"	1,425		736.0	
Sugarbeets	Ton	22.9		29,932	
Sugarcane	"	30.8		29,295	
Tobacco	Lb	2,159		883,171	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils					
Austrian Winter Peas ²	Cwt	1,228		264	
Dry Edible Beans ²	"	1,460		17,799	
Dry Edible Peas ²	"	2,249		11,419	
Lentils ²	"	1,271		4,182	
Wrinkled Seed Peas ³	"			899	
Potatoes & Misc.					
Coffee (HI)	Lb	1,220		7,100	
Ginger Root (HI)	"	40,000		6,000	
Hops	"	1,990		55,203.9	
Peppermint Oil	"	92		7,146	
Potatoes, All	Cwt	391		456,362	
Winter	"	260	235	4,818	4,658
Spring	"	314		22,663	
Summer	"	345		18,858	
Fall	"	401		410,023	
Spearmint Oil	Lb	116		1,746	
Sweet Potatoes	Cwt	176		16,399	
Taro (HI) ³	Lb			5,200	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2005 crop year.

² Yield in pounds.

³ Yield is not estimated.

Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 2003-2005
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Unit	Production		
		2003	2004	2005
		<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Citrus ²				
Grapefruit	Ton	2,063	2,152	985
Lemons	"	1,026	798	832
Oranges	"	11,545	12,930	9,650
Tangelos (FL)	"	105	45	63
Tangerines	"	382	435	340
Temples (FL)	"	59	63	32
Noncitrus				
Apples	1,000 Lbs	8,713.1	10,078.3	
Apricots	Ton	97.6	100.7	
Bananas (HI) ³	Lb	22,500.0		
Grapes	Ton	6,552.5	5,972.5	
Olives (CA)	"	118.0	104.0	
Papayas (HI)	Lbs	42,600.0	35,500.0	
Peaches	Ton	1,259.5	1,279.1	
Pears	Ton	928.1	893.3	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	"	181.0	49.0	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	"	16.3	24.9	
Nuts & Misc.				
Almonds (CA)	Lb	1,040,000	1,020,000	
Hazelnuts (OR)	Ton	37.9	37.0	
Pecans	Lb	282,100	181,000	
Walnuts (CA)	Ton	326.0	325.0	
Maple Syrup	Gal	1,260	1,507	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2005 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2004-05 season.

² Production years are 2002-2003, 2003-2004, and 2004-2005.

³ 2004 not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 2004-2005
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	1,832,030		1,627,260	
Corn for Grain ²	32,751,560		29,798,130	
Corn for Silage			2,469,820	
Hay, All ³			25,056,790	
Alfalfa			8,784,610	
All Other			16,272,180	
Oats	1,653,160		725,200	
Proso Millet	287,330		240,790	
Rice	1,354,500		1,345,590	
Rye	558,470		129,500	
Sorghum for Grain ²	3,029,510		2,637,360	
Sorghum for Silage			142,450	
Wheat, All ³	24,149,470		20,234,100	
Winter	17,543,310	16,821,750	13,946,430	
Durum	1,036,410		956,280	
Other Spring	5,569,750		5,331,390	
Oilseeds				
Canola	350,060		335,080	
Cottonseed				
Flaxseed	211,650		208,820	
Mustard Seed	29,540		27,800	
Peanuts	578,710		564,140	
Rapeseed	3,520		3,160	
Safflower	70,820		64,350	
Soybeans for Beans	30,435,930		29,930,060	
Sunflower	757,980		692,420	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All ³	5,527,500		5,284,040	
Upland	5,426,490		5,183,670	
Amer-Pima	101,010		100,360	
Sugarbeets	544,710		528,810	
Sugarcane			385,310	
Tobacco			165,540	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	12,340		8,700	
Dry Edible Beans	548,070		493,440	
Dry Edible Peas	214,490		205,500	
Lentils	139,620		133,140	
Wrinkled Seed Peas				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			2,350	
Ginger Root (HI)			60	
Hops			11,230	
Peppermint Oil			31,440	
Potatoes, All ³	483,200		472,720	
Winter	7,570	8,090	7,490	8,010
Spring	30,960		29,220	
Summer	23,920		22,100	
Fall	420,760		413,920	
Spearmint Oil			6,110	
Sweet Potatoes	39,420		37,760	
Taro (HI) ⁴			150	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2005 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, 2004-2005
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Yield		Production	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	3.74		6,080,020	
Corn for Grain	10.06		299,917,130	
Corn for Silage	39.43		97,373,580	
Hay, All ²	5.71		143,130,170	
Alfalfa	7.78		68,386,310	
All Other	4.59		74,743,860	
Oats	2.32		1,682,790	
Proso Millet	1.42		341,670	
Rice	7.78		10,469,730	
Rye	1.69		218,830	
Sorghum for Grain	4.38		11,554,970	
Sorghum for Silage	30.33		4,320,920	
Wheat, All ²	2.90		58,737,800	
Winter	2.93		40,807,910	
Durum	2.56		2,446,490	
Other Spring	2.90		15,483,410	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1.81		607,600	
Cottonseed ³			7,630,330	
Flaxseed	1.27		265,980	
Mustard Seed	0.92		25,530	
Peanuts	3.43		1,933,070	
Rapeseed	1.56		4,930	
Safflower	1.24		79,730	
Soybeans for Beans	2.86		85,483,900	
Sunflower	1.34		928,900	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All ²	0.95		5,008,970	
Upland	0.94		4,848,720	
Amer-Pima	1.60		160,250	
Sugarbeets	51.35		27,153,850	
Sugarcane	68.97		26,575,980	
Tobacco	2.42		400,600	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	1.38		11,970	
Dry Edible Beans	1.64		807,350	
Dry Edible Peas	2.52		517,960	
Lentils	1.42		189,690	
Wrinkled Seed Peas ³			40,780	
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)	1.37		3,220	
Ginger Root (HI)	44.83		2,720	
Hops	2.23		25,040	
Peppermint Oil	0.10		3,240	
Potatoes, All ²	43.79		20,700,230	
Winter	29.19	26.37	218,540	211,280
Spring	35.18		1,027,980	
Summer	38.71		855,380	
Fall	44.93		18,598,330	
Spearmint Oil	0.13		790	
Sweet Potatoes	19.70		743,850	
Taro (HI) ³			2,360	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2005 crop year.

² Production may not add due to rounding.

³ Yield is not estimated.

Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 2003-2005
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Production		
	2003	2004	2005
	<i>Metric tons</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>
Citrus ²			
Grapefruit	1,871,520	1,952,260	893,580
Lemons	930,770	723,930	754,780
Oranges	10,473,450	11,729,900	8,754,330
Tangelos (FL)	95,250	40,820	57,150
Tangerines	346,540	394,630	308,440
Temples (FL)	53,520	57,150	29,030
Noncitrus			
Apples	3,952,200	4,571,440	
Apricots	88,520	91,380	
Bananas (HI) ³	10,210		
Grapes	5,944,360	5,418,160	
Olives (CA)	107,050	94,350	
Papayas (HI)	19,320	16,100	
Peaches	1,142,600	1,160,390	
Pears	841,910	810,350	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	164,200	44,450	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	14,790	22,590	
Nuts & Misc.			
Almonds (CA)	471,740	462,660	
Hazelnuts (OR)	34,380	33,570	
Pecans	127,960	82,100	
Walnuts (CA)	295,740	294,840	
Maple Syrup	6,300	7,530	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2005 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2004-05 season.

² Production years are 2003-04, 2004-05, and 2005-06.

³ 2004 not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

January Weather Summary

In most sections of the United States, January's weather exhibited two distinct characteristics. For example, the first 2 weeks of January featured warmth, record wetness, and widespread flooding in the Ohio and middle Mississippi Valleys. Colder, drier weather followed, causing concerns in soft red winter wheat areas due to numerous freeze-thaw cycles and heaving of saturated soils. Near-record to record warmth also prevailed across much of the South and East until a pattern-changing cold front swept offshore on January 14. Although only light precipitation accompanied sharply colder weather in the Southeast, a major snowstorm swept across the upper Midwestern, Great Lakes, and Northeastern States from January 21-23, preceded and followed by several lesser storm systems. Unlike wheat fields in the Ohio and middle Mississippi Valleys, a thick blanket of snow protected the wheat crop from weather extremes in the lower Great Lakes region, including Michigan. Further west, a late-month return to wet weather (rain and snow) maintained adequate to locally excessive soil moisture reserves across the southern half of the Plains. In contrast, cold, occasionally snowy conditions on the northern Plains in early to mid-January were suddenly replaced by mild, windy weather. As a result, the northern High Plains' wheat crop lost not only its protective snow cover but some of its winter hardiness as well. The interior Northwest also experienced a rapid change from cool, showery weather early in the month to unfavorable dryness and record warmth. By month's end, water-supply concerns mounted across the Northwest due to meager mountain snow packs and already low reservoir levels. Farther south, record-setting precipitation totals deluged California, the Great Basin, and much of the Southwest through January 12, causing flash flooding and mudslides, but padding high-elevation snow packs, improving spring and summer runoff prospects, and further easing the effects of long-term drought. Quieter weather prevailed west of the Rockies thereafter, although a pair of storm systems brought a brief return of showery conditions to the Southwest during the last week of January.

Despite a mid- to late-month cooling trend, January temperatures averaged 4 to 8 degrees F above normal across much of the South. Slightly lower (near-normal) temperatures were observed along the southern Atlantic Coast. Unusually mild weather also prevailed in the Four Corners States, where monthly temperatures in a few locations averaged more than 10 degrees F above normal. In contrast, mid- to late-month warmth only partially offset a bitterly cold start to the year on the northern Plains, where January temperatures averaged as much as 4 degrees F below normal. Meanwhile, temperatures varied sharply across the interior Northwest, ranging from as much as 6 degrees F below normal in the snow-covered northern Great Basin to 4 degrees F above normal in several locations farther north. Elsewhere, temperatures averaged near normal in California, while Midwestern readings ranged from 2 degrees F below normal in Michigan to as much as 8 degrees F above normal in the lower Ohio Valley. Some of the coldest weather, relative to normal, affected New England, where temperatures averaged as much as 4 degrees F below normal.

January Crop Summary

In the eastern and southern Corn Belt, persistent rain and snow showers disrupted fieldwork during most of the month. Much of the Ohio River Valley received over 8 inches of precipitation. With alternate freezing and thawing in the area, soil heaving became a concern for many winter wheat growers. Mostly dry conditions prevailed in the western Corn Belt. Temperatures averaged above normal across most of the Corn Belt.

Mostly dry conditions prevailed across the northern Great Plains, preventing accumulation of snow cover, while temperatures as low as -30 degrees Fahrenheit threatened winter wheat. Further south, above-normal precipitation limited fieldwork, particularly in Texas, where the cotton harvest remained incomplete at month's end. Cotton harvest advanced 13 percentage points between January 9 and 30, from 83 percent complete to 96 percent.

Snow cover was well below normal in the northern Rocky Mountains, leaving winter wheat in the region exposed to bitterly cold temperatures early in the month. Toward the end of the month, temperatures rose to well above normal, further thinning the protective snow cover. Elsewhere in the Rockies, temperatures were mostly above normal, while a series of storms brought moderate to heavy rain and snow.

The Pacific Northwest also had below-normal snow cover throughout the month, though near-normal temperatures were not a threat to winter wheat. Heavy rain and snow in California and the Southwest boosted water supplies but hampered fieldwork through midmonth. California's cotton harvest was completed by midmonth despite wet conditions. As fields began to dry out toward month's end, harvest of citrus and

vegetable crops resumed. Periods of freezing temperatures caused some ice mark and rind puff on navel oranges, reducing the quality of the crop.

In the Mississippi Delta and Southeast, moderate to heavy precipitation and mild temperatures prevailed through midmonth, but conditions were mostly cool and dry thereafter. Toward month's end, ice storms occurred across much of the Southeast, but damage to crops was minimal. Freezing temperatures reached as far south as the Gulf Coast. However, temperatures remained above freezing in Florida's winter agricultural areas. Harvest of sugarcane, citrus, and vegetable crops remained active throughout the month, with only slight delays caused by wet conditions.

Sugarcane: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2004 is forecast at 29.3 million tons, unchanged from last month but 13 percent below 2003. Area harvested and to be harvested for sugar and seed for the 2004 crop year, at 952,100 acres, is 4 percent less than last year's harvested area. Yield is forecast at 30.8 tons per acre, the same as January but 3.3 tons below the 2003 crop.

In Florida, harvest remained active throughout January. However, acreage, yield, and production forecasts for the State are unchanged from the last month. Estimates for Hawaii, Louisiana, and Texas are carried forward from January.

Grapefruit: The U.S. grapefruit forecast is 985,000 tons, unchanged from the previous forecast but 54 percent below last season's final utilization. Florida's grapefruit forecast, at 13.0 million boxes (553,000 tons), is unchanged from January but 68 percent below last season's final utilization. If realized, this will be the lowest grapefruit utilization since the 1935-36 season. The white grapefruit forecast is 3.00 million boxes (128,000 tons), unchanged from January but 81 percent below last season. The colored grapefruit forecast, at 10.0 million boxes (425,000 tons), remains unchanged from January 1 but 60 percent below last season's final utilization. Colored grapefruit projected size is larger compared to January but the drop rate is higher. The two offsetting factors indicate the current forecast will still be realized. Arizona, California, and Texas grapefruit forecasts are carried forward from January.

Tangerines: The 2004-05 U.S. tangerine crop forecast is 340,000 tons, unchanged from the previous forecast but 22 percent below last season's final utilization of 435,000 tons. Florida's tangerine crop, at 4.50 million boxes (214,000 tons), is unchanged from the previous forecast but 31 percent below last season's utilization of 6.50 million boxes. Harvest of Florida's Fallglo tangerines is complete. Sunburst harvest continues. The Honey variety final average fruit size is slightly higher than last month and final fruit drop rate has increased from 50 percent to 53 percent. Although not the highest tangerine drop rate on record, this year's drop rate is higher than nine of the last ten years. Arizona and California tangerine forecasts are carried forward from January.

Tangelos: Florida's tangelo forecast, at 1.40 million boxes (63,000 tons), is up 27 percent from January 1 and 40 percent more than last season's utilized production. The increase was based primarily on estimated utilization to February 1 at slightly over 1.2 million boxes.

Temples: Florida's Temple forecast is 700,000 boxes (32,000 tons) for the 2004-05 season, unchanged from January but 50 percent below last season's final utilization of 1.40 million boxes. If realized, this will be the smallest amount since the Temple forecast series began in the 1953-54 season. The final fruit drop rate, at 22 percent, is up 5 percentage points from the January forecast. This final drop rate is higher than any of the past 10 years.

Papayas: Hawaii fresh papaya utilization is estimated at 2.54 million pounds for January, 17 percent lower than last month and 29 percent less than a year ago. Area in crop totaled 2,245 acres, 1 percent higher than last month and up 2 percent from a year ago. Harvested area totaled 1,410 acres, up 1 percent from last month and 5 percent above January 2004. Weather conditions were variable during January with a mix of showers and sunny periods. Soil moisture in non-irrigated orchards has been irregular with rain at the beginning of the month, followed by two weeks of little to no rainfall. The lack of rain towards the end of the month contributed to slowing fruit maturity and January's lower yield and production.

Florida Citrus: Florida's weather patterns were generally typical over the citrus producing areas for January with cool nights and moderate day temperatures. The exception was several mornings as cold fronts passed

through the State. Each one of these fronts brought varying amounts of rainfall and morning low temperatures in the mid to low 30's in some locations and only the mid 40's in others. Light frost was reported on one morning in northern and central locations. Daytime high temperatures during January were generally in the 70's with some days reaching into the low 80's. Days following the passage of the cold fronts were the exception with daytime temperatures remaining in the 50's. Rainfall patterns were also typical with most precipitation occurring prior to the passage of a cold front. Total rainfall in January was generally below normal in most areas.

Harvest of early-midseason oranges increased with weekly harvest reaching over six million boxes during only one week. Navel orange harvest continued during the month with the fruit holding well. Grapefruit harvest for fresh shipments continued steady during the month with harvest for processing increasing near the end of the month. Sunburst tangerine harvest is complete and harvest of Honey tangerines is increasing. Tangelo harvest is nearing completion and Temple harvest for fresh and processing usage is increasing.

California Citrus: Citrus growers conducted pest management field work in citrus groves including applications of pre-emergent herbicides and fungicides. Harvesting of navel oranges, lemons, grapefruit, and pummelos continued but was often delayed due to rain and fog in many locations. Citrus fruit maturity and external color were reported as excellent with good yields also being reported. However, ice mark and rind puff began appearing on some navels, resulting in lower pack-outs.

California Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts: Variable weather during January caused delays in seasonal cultural activities in many locations. Grape growers pruned vines, tied canes, repaired trellis wire, and replaced end posts in wine, raisin, and table grape vineyards as weather and field conditions permitted. Fertilizers and soil amendments were applied in many vineyards. Tree and vine removal of unwanted varieties continued. The open ground was prepared for new plantings. Pruning and shredding activities neared completion in fruit and nut orchards but weed spraying, field fumigation, and dormant spraying continued as field conditions allowed. At month's end, growers began placing bees in almond orchards to aid in pollination. Pruning of olive orchards continued and brush was shredded. In the San Joaquin Valley, plum, peach, nectarine, and almond orchards began pushing buds. One plum orchard in the Sanger district was in full bloom. Field preparations for the spring strawberry crop were underway, with some growers laying out plastic. Cold temperatures during the month prompted berry growers to take measures to protect sensitive plants. Harvest activity of avocados increased.

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 3.7 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 3.7 percent excluding freeze seasons. Chances are nine out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 7.4 percent, or 6.6 percent excluding freeze seasons.

Changes between the February 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 354,000 tons (336,000 tons, excluding freezes), ranging from 62,000 tons to 745,000 tons (62,000 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 6 times and above 9 times, excluding freeze seasons). The difference does not imply that the February 1 forecasts this year are likely to understate or overstate final production.

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