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Crop Production

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All Orange Production Unchanged

The U.S. all orange forecast for the 2006-07 season is 8.12 million tons, unchanged from the January forecast but down 9 percent from last season's final utilization of 8.90 million tons. Florida's all orange forecast, at 140 million boxes (6.30 million tons), is unchanged from January but down 5 percent from the 2005-06 season's crop. Florida's citrus growing areas experienced warmer than average temperatures during most of January. Cooler temperatures toward the end of the month helped to slow down bud formation for next season's crop without causing any freeze damage. Early, midseason, and navel varieties in Florida are forecast at 75.0 million boxes (3.38 million tons), unchanged from both the previous forecast and last season's final utilization. The row count survey conducted January 30-31 indicates that 75 percent of the early-midseason orange rows have been harvested. Beginning with the current season, Temple oranges are included in this category. Florida's Valencia forecast is 65.0 million boxes (2.93 million tons), also unchanged from the January forecast but down 11 percent from last season's final utilization. Average fruit size has increased from earlier indications but a higher rate of drop is offsetting. Arizona, California, and Texas orange production forecasts are carried forward from January. The impact of recent weather conditions in California and Arizona has not yet been measured and is not reflected in this report. Updated forecasts will be published in March.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield for the 2006-07 season is forecast at 1.61 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix, up from 1.58 gallons per box last month but down from the 2005-06 season's yield of 1.63 gallons. Projected yield from the early-midseason portion is 1.55 gallons, up from 1.51 gallons last month and 1.53 gallons last season. Valencias are projected to yield 1.70 gallons, unchanged from last month but down from 1.75 gallons for the 2005-06 crop. All projections of yield assume the processing relationships this season will be similar to those of the past several seasons.

Arizona, California, and Texas to Forecast March Citrus Utilization

Due to the extended freeze that hit California and Arizona in mid-January, NASS will publish updated citrus forecasts for California, Arizona, and Texas in the March *Crop Production* report. Forecasts for these quarterly estimating States are normally carried forward from January until April. NASS will survey growers and packers a month earlier than previously scheduled in order to make new citrus utilization forecasts in March. The California Valencia objective measurement survey has been discontinued for the 2006-07 season, and will not be used as an indication for the March Valencia forecast. NASS will also publish updated forecasts in April, as originally scheduled. Monthly forecasts of Florida citrus utilization are unaffected by this change. Revisions to the 2005-06 season's utilized citrus production for the United States and all States will be published in the March *Crop Production* report, also a month earlier than scheduled.

This report was approved on February 9, 2007.



Acting Secretary of
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Charles F. Conner



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
Carol C. House

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**Sugarcane: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production
by Use, State, and United States, 2005-2006**

Use and State	Area Harvested		Yield ¹		Production ¹	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	<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	376.0	386.0	31.4	35.6	11,806	13,742
HI ²	21.7	20.3	80.8	83.5	1,753	1,695
LA ²	420.0	405.0	22.9	27.0	9,618	10,935
TX ²	40.5	45.0	38.3	38.9	1,551	1,751
US	858.2	856.3	28.8	32.8	24,728	28,123
For Seed						
FL	25.0	19.0	37.6	37.0	940	703
HI ²	1.8	2.0	34.8	33.3	63	67
LA ²	35.0	30.0	22.9	27.0	802	810
TX ²	1.9	1.5	38.3	35.0	73	53
US	63.7	52.5	29.5	31.1	1,878	1,633
For Sugar and Seed						
FL	401.0	405.0	31.8	35.7	12,746	14,445
HI ²	23.5	22.3	77.3	79.0	1,816	1,762
LA ²	455.0	435.0	22.9	27.0	10,420	11,745
TX ²	42.4	46.5	38.3	38.8	1,624	1,804
US	921.9	908.8	28.9	32.7	26,606	29,756

¹ Net tons.

² Estimates are carried forward from the "Crop Production 2006 Summary."

Papayas: Area and Fresh Production, by Month, Hawaii, 2006-2007

Month	Area				Fresh Production ¹	
	Total in Crop		Harvested		2006	2007
	2006	2007	2006	2007		
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
Dec	2,350		1,135		2,220	
Jan	2,280	2,350	1,790	1,135	2,920	2,410

¹ Utilized fresh production.

**Citrus Fruits: Utilized Production by Crop, State, and United States,
2004-05, 2005-06 and Forecasted February 1, 2007 ¹**

Crop and State	Utilized Production Boxes			Utilized Production Ton Equivalent		
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
	<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	240	250	200	9	9	8
CA ⁴	44,000	45,500	33,000	1,650	1,706	1,238
FL ⁵	79,100	75,000	75,000	3,560	3,375	3,375
TX ⁴	1,500	1,400	1,710	64	60	73
US	124,840	122,150	109,910	5,283	5,150	4,694
Valencia						
AZ ⁴	190	200	150	7	8	6
CA ⁴	20,500	12,000	13,000	769	450	488
FL	70,700	72,900	65,000	3,182	3,281	2,925
TX ⁴	270	200	270	11	9	11
US	91,660	85,300	78,420	3,969	3,748	3,430
All						
AZ ⁴	430	450	350	16	17	14
CA ⁴	64,500	57,500	46,000	2,419	2,156	1,726
FL	149,800	147,900	140,000	6,742	6,656	6,300
TX ⁴	1,770	1,600	1,980	75	69	84
US	216,500	207,450	188,330	9,252	8,898	8,124
Temples ⁵						
FL	650	700		29	32	
Grapefruit						
White						
FL	3,400	6,500	9,000	145	276	383
Colored						
FL	9,400	12,800	17,000	400	544	723
All						
AZ ⁴	140	100	100	5	3	3
CA ⁴	6,100	6,000	6,000	204	201	201
FL	12,800	19,300	26,000	545	820	1,106
TX ⁴	6,600	5,200	6,500	264	208	260
US	25,640	30,600	38,600	1,018	1,232	1,570
Tangerines						
AZ ^{4 6}	400	550	400	15	21	15
CA ^{4 6}	2,900	3,600	3,800	109	135	143
FL	4,450	5,500	4,600	211	261	219
US	7,750	9,650	8,800	335	417	377
Lemons ⁴						
AZ	2,400	3,800	2,800	91	144	106
CA	20,500	21,000	20,500	779	798	779
US	22,900	24,800	23,300	870	942	885
Tangelos						
FL	1,550	1,400	1,200	70	63	54

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-90; 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 Temples included in early and midseason orange varieties beginning with 2006-07 season.

⁶ Includes tangelos and tangors.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 2006-2007
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	3,452.0		2,951.0	
Corn for Grain ²	78,327.0		70,648.0	
Corn for Silage			6,477.0	
Hay, All			60,807.0	
Alfalfa			21,384.0	
All Other			39,423.0	
Oats	4,168.0		1,576.0	
Proso Millet	580.0		475.0	
Rice	2,838.0		2,821.0	
Rye	1,396.0		274.0	
Sorghum for Grain ²	6,522.0		4,937.0	
Sorghum for Silage			347.0	
Wheat, All	57,344.0		46,810.0	
Winter	40,575.0	44,089.0	31,117.0	
Durum	1,870.0		1,815.0	
Other Spring	14,899.0		13,878.0	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1,044.0		1,021.0	
Cottonseed ³				
Flaxseed	813.0		767.0	
Mustard Seed	40.5		39.2	
Peanuts	1,243.0		1,209.0	
Rapeseed	1.4		1.0	
Safflower	189.0		179.0	
Soybeans for Beans	75,522.0		74,602.0	
Sunflower	1,950.0		1,770.0	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All	15,274.0		12,731.5	
Upland	14,948.0		12,408.0	
Amer-Pima	326.0		323.5	
Sugarbeets	1,366.7		1,304.1	
Sugarcane			908.8	
Tobacco			339.0	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	46.0		22.5	
Dry Edible Beans	1,629.8		1,537.6	
Dry Edible Peas	925.5		884.1	
Lentils	429.0		407.0	
Wrinkled Seed Peas ³				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			6.3	
Ginger Root (HI)			0.1	
Hops			29.4	
Peppermint Oil			79.2	
Potatoes, All	1,134.7		1,115.5	
Winter	17.7	11.5	17.5	11.5
Spring	70.7		67.5	
Summer	58.4		54.3	
Fall	987.9		976.2	
Spearmint Oil			18.5	
Sweet Potatoes	95.6		87.2	
Taro (HI) ⁴			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 2007 crop year.

² Area planted for all purposes.

³ Acreage is not estimated.

⁴ Area is total acres in crop, not harvested acreage.

Crop Summary: Yield and Production, United States, 2006-2007
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Units	Yield		Production	
		2006	2007	2006	2007
				<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Grains & Hay					
Barley	Bu	61.0		180,051	
Corn for Grain	"	149.1		10,534,868	
Corn for Silage	Tons	16.2		104,849	
Hay, All	"	2.33		141,666	
Alfalfa	"	3.35		71,666	
All Other	"	1.78		70,000	
Oats	Bu	59.5		93,764	
Proso Millet	"	21.5		10,195	
Rice ²	Cwt	6,868		193,736	
Rye	Bu	26.3		7,193	
Sorghum for Grain	"	56.2		277,538	
Sorghum for Silage	Tons	13.4		4,642	
Wheat, All	Bu	38.7		1,812,036	
Winter	"	41.7		1,298,081	
Durum	"	29.5		53,475	
Other Spring	"	33.2		460,480	
Oilseeds					
Canola	Lbs	1,366		1,394,332	
Cottonseed ³	Tons			7,632.0	
Flaxseed	Bu	14.4		11,019	
Mustard Seed	Lbs	720		28,220	
Peanuts	"	2,874		3,474,450	
Rapeseed	"	1,100		1,100	
Safflower	"	1,069		191,405	
Soybeans for Beans	Bu	42.7		3,188,247	
Sunflower	Lbs	1,211		2,143,613	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops					
Cotton, All ²	Bales	819		21,729.0	
Upland ²	"	811		20,973.0	
Amer-Pima ²	"	1,122		756.0	
Sugarbeets	Tons	25.9		33,765	
Sugarcane	"	32.7		29,756	
Tobacco	Lbs	2,144		726,724	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils					
Austrian Winter Peas ²	Cwt	1,151		259	
Dry Edible Beans ²	"	1,577		24,247	
Dry Edible Peas ²	"	1,493		13,203	
Lentils ²	"	797		3,244	
Wrinkled Seed Peas ³	"			590	
Potatoes & Misc.					
Coffee (HI)	Lbs	1,160		7,300	
Ginger Root (HI)	"	43,000		4,300	
Hops	"	1,964		57,686.7	
Peppermint Oil	"	92		7,248	
Potatoes, All	Cwt	390		434,683	
Winter	"	257	250	4,495	2,875
Spring	"	293		19,766	
Summer	"	340		18,444	
Fall	"	402		391,978	
Spearmint Oil	Lbs	110		2,038	
Sweet Potatoes	Cwt	189		16,441	
Taro (HI) ³	Lbs			4,500	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2007 crop year.

² Yield in pounds.

³ Yield is not estimated.

Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 2005-2007
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Units	Production		
		2005	2006	2007
		<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Citrus ²				
Grapefruit	Tons	1,018	1,232	1,570
Lemons	"	870	942	885
Oranges ³	"	9,252	8,898	8,124
Tangelos (FL)	"	70	63	54
Tangerines	"	335	417	377
Temples (FL) ³	"	29	32	
Noncitrus				
Apples	1,000 Lbs	9,719.9	10,072.1	
Apricots	Tons	81.7	44.7	
Bananas (HI)	Lbs	20,900.0	17,000.0	
Grapes	Tons	7,813.7	6,346.3	
Olives (CA)	"	142.0	23.5	
Papayas (HI)	Lbs	32,900.0	28,300.0	
Peaches	Tons	1,184.6	1,010.1	
Pears	"	823.3	841.0	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	"	97.0	170.0	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	"	9.1	21.3	
Nuts & Misc.				
Almonds (CA) (shelled)	Lbs	915,000	1,095,000	
Hazelnuts (OR)	Tons	27.6	41.0	
Pecans	Lbs	280,250	188,900	
Walnuts (CA)	Tons	355.0	350.0	
Maple Syrup	Gals	1,242	1,449	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2007 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2006-07 season.

² Production years are 2004-05, 2005-06, and 2006-07.

³ Temples included in oranges beginning with the 2006-07 season.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 2006-2007
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	1,396,990		1,194,240	
Corn for Grain ²	31,698,150		28,590,540	
Corn for Silage			2,621,180	
Hay, All ³			24,607,980	
Alfalfa			8,653,890	
All Other			15,954,090	
Oats	1,686,750		637,790	
Proso Millet	234,720		192,230	
Rice	1,148,510		1,141,630	
Rye	564,950		110,890	
Sorghum for Grain ²	2,639,390		1,997,950	
Sorghum for Silage			140,430	
Wheat, All ³	23,206,540		18,943,540	
Winter	16,420,300	17,842,380	12,592,740	
Durum	756,770		734,510	
Other Spring	6,029,480		5,616,290	
Oilseeds				
Canola	422,500		413,190	
Cottonseed ⁴				
Flaxseed	329,010		310,400	
Mustard Seed	16,390		15,860	
Peanuts	503,030		489,270	
Rapeseed	570		400	
Safflower	76,490		72,440	
Soybeans for Beans	30,563,000		30,190,680	
Sunflower	789,150		716,300	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All ³	6,181,240		5,152,310	
Upland	6,049,310		5,021,390	
Amer-Pima	131,930		130,920	
Sugarbeets	553,090		527,760	
Sugarcane			367,780	
Tobacco			137,170	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	18,620		9,110	
Dry Edible Beans	659,560		622,250	
Dry Edible Peas	374,540		357,790	
Lentils	173,610		164,710	
Wrinkled Seed Peas ⁴				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			2,550	
Ginger Root (HI)			40	
Hops			11,880	
Peppermint Oil			32,050	
Potatoes, All ³	459,200		451,430	
Winter	7,160	4,650	7,080	4,650
Spring	28,610		27,320	
Summer	23,630		21,970	
Fall	399,790		395,060	
Spearmint Oil			7,490	
Sweet Potatoes	38,690		35,290	
Taro (HI) ⁵			150	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2007 crop year.

² Area planted for all purposes.

³ Total may not add due to rounding.

⁴ Acreage is not estimated.

⁵ Area is total hectares in crop, not harvested hectares.

Crop Summary: Yield and Production, United States, 2006-2007
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Yield		Production	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	3.28		3,920,150	
Corn for Grain	9.36		267,597,970	
Corn for Silage	36.29		95,117,410	
Hay, All ²	5.22		128,517,230	
Alfalfa	7.51		65,014,300	
All Other	3.98		63,502,930	
Oats	2.13		1,360,980	
Proso Millet	1.20		231,220	
Rice	7.70		8,787,720	
Rye	1.65		182,710	
Sorghum for Grain	3.53		7,049,790	
Sorghum for Silage	29.99		4,211,150	
Wheat, All ²	2.60		49,315,540	
Winter	2.81		35,327,980	
Durum	1.98		1,455,350	
Other Spring	2.23		12,532,210	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1.53		632,460	
Cottonseed ³			6,923,630	
Flaxseed	0.90		279,900	
Mustard Seed	0.81		12,800	
Peanuts	3.22		1,575,980	
Rapeseed	1.23		500	
Safflower	1.20		86,820	
Soybeans for Beans	2.87		86,769,860	
Sunflower	1.36		972,330	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All ²	0.92		4,730,930	
Upland	0.91		4,566,330	
Amer-Pima	1.26		164,600	
Sugarbeets	58.04		30,631,090	
Sugarcane	73.40		26,994,190	
Tobacco	2.40		329,640	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	1.29		11,750	
Dry Edible Beans	1.77		1,099,830	
Dry Edible Peas	1.67		598,880	
Lentils	0.89		147,150	
Wrinkled Seed Peas ³			26,760	
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)	1.30		3,310	
Ginger Root (HI)	48.20		1,950	
Hops	2.20		26,170	
Peppermint Oil	0.10		3,290	
Potatoes, All ²	43.68		19,716,890	
Winter	28.79	28.02	203,890	130,410
Spring	32.82		896,570	
Summer	38.07		836,610	
Fall	45.01		17,779,820	
Spearmint Oil	0.12		920	
Sweet Potatoes	21.13		745,750	
Taro (HI) ³			2,040	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2007 crop year.

² Production may not add due to rounding.

³ Yield is not estimated.

Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 2005-2007
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Production		
	2005	2006	2007
	<i>Metric tons</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>
Citrus ²			
Grapefruit	923,510	1,117,650	1,424,280
Lemons	789,250	854,570	802,860
Oranges ³	8,393,270	8,072,130	7,369,970
Tangelos (FL)	63,500	57,150	48,990
Tangerines	303,910	378,300	342,010
Temples (FL) ³	26,310	29,030	
Noncitrus			
Apples	4,408,870	4,568,630	
Apricots	74,070	40,530	
Bananas (HI)	9,480	7,710	
Grapes	7,088,470	5,757,220	
Olives (CA)	128,820	21,320	
Papayas (HI)	14,920	12,840	
Peaches	1,074,610	916,370	
Pears	746,900	762,970	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	88,000	154,220	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	8,260	19,320	
Nuts & Misc.			
Almonds (CA) (shelled)	415,040	496,680	
Hazelnuts (OR)	25,040	37,190	
Pecans	127,120	85,680	
Walnuts (CA)	322,050	317,510	
Maple Syrup	6,210	7,240	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2007 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2006-07 season.

² Production years are 2004-05, 2005-06, and 2006-07.

³ Temples included in oranges beginning with the 2006-07 season.

January Weather Summary

January began on a warm note, especially across the eastern half of the United States, but ended under a very chilly regime nationwide. Monthly temperatures ranged more than 5 degrees F below normal in deeply snow-covered areas of the central High Plains and Intermountain West to at least 5 degrees F above normal in a broad area stretching across the northern Plains, Midwest, and Mid-Atlantic States. Following a mild spell, frigid air poured into the West on January 11-12, signaling the onset of one of the three most damaging cold outbreaks (along with December 1990 and 1998) of the last quarter-century in winter agricultural areas of central and southern California and the Desert Southwest. The most significant Western freeze damage occurred on January 13-14, although hard freezes (readings at or below 28 degrees F) lingered in parts of California's San Joaquin Valley for more than a week. Farther east, winter crop areas of the Deep South escaped hard freezes, although temperatures briefly fell to near the freezing mark (32 degrees F) in southern Texas on January 16-17 and in parts of southern Florida on January 30. Mid- to late-month temperatures occasionally plunged below -20 degrees F across the Dakotas and the upper Midwest, stressing livestock that had been accustomed to unusually mild weather for more than a month. However, livestock on the central High Plains endured an especially difficult month due to chilly conditions and a substantial snow cover in the wake of back-to-back December blizzards.

Wetter-than-normal weather prevailed in January from central and southern sections of the Rockies and Plains northeastward into the Ohio Valley and lower Great Lakes States. On the central Plains, a persistent snow cover favored overwintering wheat but maintained difficult conditions for livestock. Snow blanketed much of the southern Plains on January 19-20 and persisted for several days. Farther north, however, mild, breezy weather on the northern Plains eroded wheat's protective snow cover and left the crop exposed to weather extremes. Meanwhile, occasional snow fell across much of the Midwest, but heavy rain in the Ohio Valley triggered lowland flooding and left fields unfavorably wet. In contrast, near- to below-normal precipitation fell across the Southeastern and Mid-Atlantic States. Conditions were especially dry across southern Florida, maintaining the need for citrus irrigation. Elsewhere, only light precipitation fell west of the Rockies, increasing concerns about summer water supplies. By month's end, Western snowpacks were particularly meager in the Sierra Nevada, the Great Basin, and parts of the Southwest.

January Agricultural Summary

Temperatures averaging above normal across the northern and eastern Great Plains and throughout the East contrasted sharply with below-normal average temperatures over much of the West and into the central and southern Plains during the month. Significant precipitation fell across the Pacific Northwest, over much of the central and southern Rockies and Plains, and throughout the East. Accumulations well above normal stretched north and east from the southern Rockies and Plains into the Ohio Valley and lower Great Lakes region. Scattered, mostly light precipitation prevailed over most of California and the Desert Southwest, across the northern Plains, and in southern Florida.

In California and the Desert Southwest, hard freezes mid-month caused major damage to citrus and other crops. In the San Joaquin Valley, temperatures at or below 28 degrees F persisted for over a week, with some areas being exposed to the damaging cold for more than 80 hours during the period. While citrus sustained the bulk of the damage, artichokes, avocados, broccoli, strawberries, and a variety of other vegetables were also affected. Damage assessments were on-going at month's end.

In the northern Great Plains, drier and warmer than normal conditions contributed to sparse snow cover, which left much of the winter wheat crop unprotected against extreme overnight temperatures. Snow across the central and southern Plains provided good protection to winter wheat, but continued to stress livestock and maintained the need for heavy supplemental feeding.

Moderate precipitation across Texas and extending northeast to the lower Great Lakes was beneficial for small grains and other crops. However, heavy rain throughout the Ohio Valley caused some lowland flooding and left many fields and pastures excessively soggy, making conditions difficult for livestock.

Across the Southeast, warmer than normal temperatures combined with beneficial rains to provide favorable conditions for small grains. Growers in most areas were preparing land for spring planting, while sugarcane harvest was active throughout the month in Florida. Dry conditions across southern Florida maintained the need for irrigation of citrus crops.

Sugarcane: Production of sugarcane for the 2006 crop year is forecast at 29.8 million tons, of which 28.1 million tons is expected to be for sugar and 1.63 million tons for seed. Total production for sugar and seed is up 1 percent from the previous forecast and 12 percent above last year's hurricane affected crop. Sugarcane growers intend to harvest 908,800 acres for sugar and seed during the 2006 crop year, unchanged from the previous forecast but 1 percent below last year. If realized, area harvested will be the smallest since 1996. Yield is forecast at 32.7 tons per acre, compared with the January forecast of 32.4 tons and last year's estimate of 28.9 tons.

The yield in Florida for sugar and seed, at 35.7 tons per acre, is up 0.7 ton from last month and up 3.9 tons from last year when the crop suffered significant damage from hurricanes. Harvest in Florida continued mostly on schedule during January but was slowed somewhat at the end of the month due to heavy rainfall. Estimates for Hawaii, Louisiana, and Texas are carried forward from January.

Grapefruit: The forecast of the 2006-07 U.S. grapefruit crop is 1.57 million tons, unchanged from the January 1 forecast but up 27 percent from last season's final utilization of 1.23 million tons. Florida's grapefruit production is forecast at 26.0 million boxes (1.11 million tons), unchanged from the January forecast but 35 percent above last season's hurricane-reduced final utilization of 19.3 million boxes (820,000 tons). The all white grapefruit forecast is 9.00 million boxes (383,000 tons), unchanged from January but 38 percent above last season's final utilization. The colored grapefruit forecast, at 17.0 million boxes (723,000 tons), is unchanged from January but 33 percent above last season's final utilization. Both average fruit size and fruit drop have increased since last month, which is attributed to the generally warm temperatures in January. Overall, fruit quality has been reported as excellent. Arizona, California, and Texas grapefruit forecasts are carried forward from January. Updated forecasts will be published in March.

Tangerines: The 2006-07 U.S. tangerine forecast is 377,000 tons, unchanged from the January forecast but down 10 percent from last season's final utilization of 417,000 tons. Florida's tangerine crop is forecast at 4.60 million boxes (219,000 tons), unchanged from the January forecast but down 16 percent from last season's utilization of 5.50 million boxes. Early variety tangerine harvest is nearly complete, while the row count survey shows only 11 percent of the later maturing Honey tangerine rows have been harvested. Arizona and California tangerine forecasts are carried forward from January. Updated forecasts will be published in March.

Tangelos: Florida's tangelo forecast is 1.20 million boxes (54,000 tons), up 9 percent from the January 1 forecast but down 14 percent from last season's final utilized production. The row count survey conducted January 30-31 shows 19 percent of the rows remain to be harvested.

Papayas: Hawaii fresh papaya utilization is estimated at 2.41 million pounds for January, up 9 percent from December but down 17 percent from January 2006. Area in crop totaled 2,350 acres, unchanged from last month but up 3 percent from a year ago. Harvested area totaled 1,135 acres in January, unchanged from December but 37 percent lower than January 2006. Cool, wet, and windy conditions during January were reported in papaya growing areas. Heavy rains saturated orchards and growers stepped up spraying efforts to minimize disease outbreaks.

Florida Citrus: Temperatures in Florida's citrus producing regions were generally warmer than normal during January with daytime highs in the low 80s recorded. Toward the end of the month, a cold front dropped temperatures into the low to mid 30s over much of the citrus growing region. Light, scattered frost was reported on the ground but not in the citrus trees. No damage to fruit or new growth was reported. All areas remain relatively dry with lakes and canals at low levels. Most growers irrigated only when necessary to reduce tree stress or before a cold front in order to prevent flushes of new growth. Nevertheless, new growth and flower buds were forming by the end of the month, and some trees showed nearly open blossoms. Harvest of early and midseason oranges was at peak level all month with most fruit being processed. Grapefruit harvest continued to increase for both domestic and export fresh utilization. Packing house eliminations and some field run fruit were processed. Citrus growers and caretakers prepared for harvest, while in harvested groves they hedged and topped trees and applied fertilizer.

California Citrus: Harvest of navel oranges, mandarins, tangerines, and lemons continued until below freezing temperatures struck the State in mid-January. Citrus growers irrigated their groves and ran wind

machines to help protect fruit, however severe damage was reported in most citrus growing areas. Citrus damage is still being assessed. Harvest of oranges for juice is continuing.

California Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts: Stone fruit and pomegranate cultural practices continued throughout the month of January. These practices included applications of fertilizer, herbicides, and dormant sprays, as well as pruning, shredding, and pushing out orchards for replanting. Persimmon harvest continued for Fuyu and Hachiya varieties. Freezing temperatures in mid-January led to reports of damaged avocado trees and fruit, but final damage is still being assessed. Grape vineyard activities included pruning, trellis system repair, and application of herbicides. Vineyard cover crops emerged. Strawberry nursery stock digging continued throughout the month. Olive orchard pruning and brush shredding continued in Tulare County. Almond, walnut, and pistachio growers pruned, shredded, irrigated, applied herbicides, and pushed out old orchards for replanting. Walnut growers applied soil amendments. Cold weather provided ample chilling hours for stone fruit and nut growers.

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. Bearing tree numbers are determined at the start of the season based on a fruit tree census conducted every other year, combined with ongoing review based on administrative data or special surveys. From mid-July to mid-September, the number of fruit per tree is determined. In September and subsequent months, fruit size measurement and fruit droppage surveys are conducted, which combined with the previous components are used 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 conducts an objective measurement survey in September for navel oranges and in March for Valencia oranges. Due to severe weather conditions in California and the Desert Southwest, some survey procedures have been changed for this season. The grower and packer surveys have been moved up to March, with an additional packer survey in April. The March objective measurement survey in California will not be conducted.

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 6 abnormal production years (4 freeze seasons and 2 hurricane seasons), the "Root Mean Square Error" is 3.0 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current orange production forecast will not be above or below the final estimates by more than 4.3 percent, or 3.0 percent excluding abnormal seasons. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 7.4 percent, or 5.4 percent, excluding abnormal seasons.

Changes between the February 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 362,000 tons (308,000 tons excluding abnormal seasons), ranging from 18,000 tons to 745,000 tons (3,000 tons to 638,000 tons, excluding abnormal seasons). The February 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 6 times and above 14 times (below 5 times and above 9 times, excluding abnormal 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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