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Crop Production

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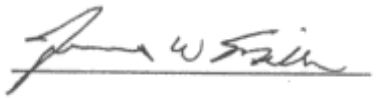
All Orange Production Down 3 Percent from January

The U.S. all orange forecast for the 2009-10 season is 7.94 million tons, down 3 percent from the January 1 forecast and down 14 percent from the 2008-09 final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 129 million boxes (5.81 million tons), is down 4 percent from the previous forecast and down 21 percent from last season's final utilization. Early, midseason, and Navel varieties in Florida are forecast at 66.0 million boxes (2.97 million tons), down 4 percent from January 1 and 22 percent lower than last season. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 63.0 million boxes (2.84 million tons), is 5 percent below the previous forecast and down 19 percent from the 2008-09 crop. Eight days of sub-freezing temperatures were recorded during the period of January 5-13, 2010. A freeze damage survey was conducted January 26-27, 2010. Additional assessments will be made through mid-March. Fruit size decreased for the early, midseason, and Navel varieties, while fruit drop increased. Fruit size has been below average for the Valencia crop all season.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield forecast for the 2009-10 season is 1.56 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix, down 3 percent from the January 1 forecast and down 6 percent from last season's final yield of 1.66 gallons per box. The early-midseason portion is projected at 1.50 gallons per box, down 6 percent from last season's record yield of 1.60 gallons per box. The Valencia portion is expected to total 1.65 gallons per box, 6 percent lower than last year's final yield of 1.75 gallons per box. All projections of yield assume the processing relationship this season will be similar to those of the past several seasons.

This report was approved on February 9, 2010.



Acting Secretary of
Agriculture
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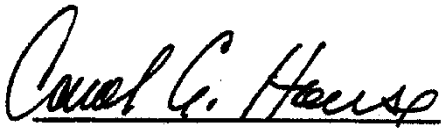

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Contents

Sugarcane: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by Use, State, and United States, 2008-2009

Use and State	Area Harvested		Yield [1]		Production [1]	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 Acres	*1,000 Acres*	*Tons*	*Tons*	*1,000 Tons*	*1,000 Tons*
For Sugar						
FL	384.0	372.0	32.9	36.1	12,634	13,429
HI [2]	20.4	19.7	69.7	71.0	1,422	1,399
LA [2]	380.0	390.0	28.3	31.0	10,754	12,090
TX [2]	37.2	39.0	35.5	35.0	1,321	1,365
US	821.6	820.7	31.8	34.5	26,131	28,283
For Seed						
FL	17.0	18.0	36.5	36.3	621	653
HI [2]	2.4	2.0	30.0	30.0	72	60
LA [2]	25.0	35.0	28.3	31.0	708	1,085
TX [2]	2.0	2.0	35.5	35.0	71	70
US	46.4	57.0	31.7	32.8	1,472	1,868
For Sugar and Seed						
FL	401.0	390.0	33.1	36.1	13,255	14,082
HI [2]	22.8	21.7	65.5	67.2	1,494	1,459
LA [2]	405.0	425.0	28.3	31.0	11,462	13,175
TX [2]	39.2	41.0	35.5	35.0	1,392	1,435
US	868.0	877.7	31.8	34.4	27,603	30,151

[1] Net tons.
[2] Estimates are carried forward from the "Crop Production 2009 Summary."

Papayas: Area and Fresh Production by Month, Hawaii, 2008-2009

Month	Area				Fresh Production [1]	
	Total in Crop		Harvested		2008	2009
	2008	2009	2008	2009		
	Acres	*Acres*	*Acres*	*Acres*	*1,000 Pounds*	*1,000 Pounds*
Nov	2,420	1,975	1,450	1,320	2,745	2,500
Dec	2,410	1,975	1,460	1,320	2,850	2,645

[1] Utilized fresh production.

Citrus Fruits: Utilized Production by Crop, State, and United States, 2007-08, 2008-09 and Forecasted February 1, 2010 [1]

Crop and State	Utilized Production Boxes			Utilized Production Ton Equivalent		
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
	1,000 Boxes [2]	*1,000 Boxes [2]*	*1,000 Boxes [2]*	*1,000 Tons*	*1,000 Tons*	*1,000 Tons*
Oranges						
Early, Mid & Navel [3]						
AZ [4]	230	150		9	5	
CA [5]	45,000	34,500	40,000	1,688	1,294	1,500
FL	83,500	84,600	66,000	3,758	3,807	2,970
TX [5]	1,600	1,300	1,310	68	55	56
US	130,330	120,550	107,310	5,523	5,161	4,526
Valencia						
AZ [4]	150	100		6	4	
CA [5]	17,000	14,000	15,000	637	525	563
FL	86,700	77,800	63,000	3,901	3,501	2,835
TX [5]	196	159	277	9	7	12
US	104,046	92,059	78,277	4,553	4,037	3,410
All						
AZ [4]	380	250		15	9	
CA [5]	62,000	48,500	55,000	2,325	1,819	2,063
FL	170,200	162,400	129,000	7,659	7,308	5,805
TX [5]	1,796	1,459	1,587	77	62	68
US	234,376	212,609	185,587	10,076	9,198	7,936
Grapefruit						
White						
FL	9,000	6,600	5,300	383	280	225
Colored						
FL	17,600	15,100	13,500	748	642	574
All						
AZ [4]	100	25		3	1	
CA [5]	5,200	5,600	4,200	174	188	141
FL	26,600	21,700	18,800	1,131	922	799
TX [5]	6,000	5,500	5,490	240	220	220
US	37,900	32,825	28,490	1,548	1,331	1,160
Tangerines and Mandarins						
AZ [5 6]	400	250	350	15	9	13
CA [5 6]	6,700	6,700	8,200	251	251	308
FL	5,500	3,850	4,000	261	183	190
US	12,600	10,800	12,550	527	443	511
Lemons [5]						
AZ	1,500	3,000	2,500	57	114	95
CA	14,800	22,000	20,000	562	836	760
US	16,300	25,000	22,500	619	950	855
Tangelos						
FL	1,500	1,150	900	68	52	41

[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; tangerines and mandarins-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 and Temples in FL.
[4] Estimates discontinued beginning with the 2009-10 crop year.
[5] Estimates for current year carried forward from previous forecast.
[6] Includes tangelos and tangors.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 2009-2010
(Domestic Units) [1]

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
	1,000 Acres	*1,000 Acres*	*1,000 Acres*	*1,000 Acres*
Grains & Hay				
Barley	3,567.0		3,113.0	
Corn for Grain [2]	86,482.0		79,630.0	
Corn for Silage			5,605.0	
Hay, All			59,755.0	
Alfalfa			21,227.0	
All Other			38,528.0	
Oats	3,404.0		1,379.0	
Proso Millet	350.0		293.0	
Rice	3,135.0		3,103.0	
Rye	1,241.0		252.0	
Sorghum for Grain [2]	6,633.0		5,520.0	
Sorghum for Silage			254.0	
Wheat, All	59,133.0		49,868.0	
Winter	43,311.0	37,097.0	34,485.0	
Durum	2,554.0		2,428.0	
Other Spring	13,268.0		12,955.0	
Oilseeds				
Canola	827.0		814.0	
Cottonseed [3]				
Flaxseed	317.0		314.0	
Mustard Seed	51.5		49.8	
Peanuts	1,116.0		1,081.0	
Rapeseed	1.0		0.9	
Safflower	175.0		165.5	
Soybeans for Beans	77,451.0		76,407.0	
Sunflower	2,030.0		1,953.5	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All	9,149.2		7,690.5	
Upland	9,007.5		7,552.0	
Amer-Pima	141.7		138.5	
Sugarbeets	1,183.2		1,145.3	
Sugarcane			877.7	
Tobacco			354.1	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	20.5		13.7	
Dry Edible Beans	1,537.5		1,463.0	
Dry Edible Peas	863.3		837.9	
Lentils	415.0		407.0	
Wrinkled Seed Peas [3]				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			6.3	
Hops			39.7	
Peppermint Oil			69.8	
Potatoes, All	1,069.8		1,045.0	
Winter	9.0		8.7	
Spring	79.2		73.7	
Summer	44.5		43.0	
Fall	937.1		919.6	
Spearmint Oil			20.5	
Sweet Potatoes	109.6		97.7	
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 2010 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, 2009-2010
(Domestic Units) [1]

Crop	Units	Yield		Production	
		2009	2010	2009	2010
				1,000	*1,000*
Grains & Hay					
Barley	Bu	73.0		227,323	
Corn for Grain	"	165.2		13,151,062	
Corn for Silage	Tons	19.3		108,209	
Hay, All	"	2.47		147,442	
Alfalfa	"	3.35		71,030	
All Other	"	1.98		76,412	
Oats	Bu	67.5		93,081	
Proso Millet	"	33.7		9,865	
Rice [2]	Cwt	7,085		219,850	
Rye	Bu	27.8		6,993	
Sorghum for Grain	"	69.4		382,983	
Sorghum for Silage	Tons	14.5		3,680	
Wheat, All	Bu	44.4		2,216,171	
Winter	"	44.2		1,522,718	
Durum	"	44.9		109,042	
Other Spring	"	45.1		584,411	
Oilseeds					
Canola	Lbs	1,811		1,474,130	
Cottonseed [3]	Tons			4,178.0	
Flaxseed	Bu	23.6		7,423	
Mustard Seed	Lbs	991		49,364	
Peanuts	"	3,412		3,688,350	
Rapeseed	"	1,700		1,530	
Safflower	"	1,462		241,970	
Soybeans for Beans	Bu	44.0		3,361,028	
Sunflower	Lbs	1,554		3,036,460	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops					
Cotton, All [2]	Bales	774		12,401.3	
Upland [2]	"	763		12,011.0	
Amer-Pima [2]	"	1,353		390.3	
Sugarbeets	Tons	25.8		29,519	
Sugarcane	"	34.4		30,151	
Tobacco	Lbs	2,325		823,290	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils					
Austrian Winter Peas [2]	Cwt	1,328		182	
Dry Edible Beans [2]	"	1,733		25,360	
Dry Edible Peas [2]	"	2,045		17,137	
Lentils [2]	"	1,440		5,859	
Wrinkled Seed Peas [3]	"			874	
Potatoes & Misc.					
Coffee (HI)	Lbs	1,270		8,000	
Hops	"	2,383		94,677.9	
Peppermint Oil	"	91		6,379	
Potatoes, All	Cwt	413		431,425	
Winter	"	245		2,132	
Spring	"	289		21,321	
Summer	"	336		14,469	
Fall	"	428		393,503	
Spearmint Oil	Lbs	132		2,698	
Sweet Potatoes	Cwt	201		19,647	
Taro (HI) [3]	Lbs			4,000	

[1] Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2010 crop year.
[2] Yield in pounds.
[3] Yield is not estimated.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 2009-2010
(Metric Units) [1]

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
	Hectares	*Hectares*	*Hectares*	*Hectares*
Grains & Hay				
Barley	1,443,530		1,259,800	
Corn for Grain [2]	34,998,400		32,225,460	
Corn for Silage			2,268,290	
Hay, All [3]			24,182,250	
Alfalfa			8,590,350	
All Other			15,591,900	
Oats	1,377,560		558,070	
Proso Millet	141,640		118,570	
Rice	1,268,700		1,255,750	
Rye	502,220		101,980	
Sorghum for Grain [2]	2,684,310		2,233,890	
Sorghum for Silage			102,790	
Wheat, All [3]	23,930,530		20,181,080	
Winter	17,527,530	15,012,780	13,955,730	
Durum	1,033,580		982,590	
Other Spring	5,369,430		5,242,760	
Oilseeds				
Canola	334,680		329,420	
Cottonseed [4]				
Flaxseed	128,290		127,070	
Mustard Seed	20,840		20,150	
Peanuts	451,630		437,470	
Rapeseed	400		360	
Safflower	70,820		66,980	
Soybeans for Beans	31,343,650		30,921,150	
Sunflower	821,520		790,560	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All [3]	3,702,590		3,112,270	
Upland	3,645,250		3,056,220	
Amer-Pima	57,340		56,050	
Sugarbeets	478,830		463,490	
Sugarcane			355,200	
Tobacco			143,320	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	8,300		5,540	
Dry Edible Beans	622,210		592,060	
Dry Edible Peas	349,370		339,090	
Lentils	167,950		164,710	
Wrinkled Seed Peas [4]				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			2,550	
Hops			16,080	
Peppermint Oil			28,250	
Potatoes, All [3]	432,940		422,900	
Winter	3,640		3,520	
Spring	32,050		29,830	
Summer	18,010		17,400	
Fall	379,230		372,150	
Spearmint Oil			8,300	
Sweet Potatoes	44,350		39,540	
Taro (HI) [5]			180	

[1] Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2010 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, 2009-2010
(Metric Units) [1]

Crop	Yield		Production	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
	Metric Tons	*Metric Tons*	*Metric Tons*	*Metric Tons*
Grains & Hay				
Barley	3.93		4,949,370	
Corn for Grain	10.37		334,052,360	
Corn for Silage	43.28		98,165,550	
Hay, All [2]	5.53		133,757,130	
Alfalfa	7.50		64,437,330	
All Other	4.45		69,319,800	
Oats	2.42		1,351,070	
Proso Millet	1.89		223,730	
Rice	7.94		9,972,230	
Rye	1.74		177,630	
Sorghum for Grain	4.35		9,728,220	
Sorghum for Silage	32.48		3,338,440	
Wheat, All [2]	2.99		60,314,290	
Winter	2.97		41,441,590	
Durum	3.02		2,967,640	
Other Spring	3.03		15,905,060	
Oilseeds				
Canola	2.03		668,650	
Cottonseed [3]			3,790,220	
Flaxseed	1.48		188,550	
Mustard Seed	1.11		22,390	
Peanuts	3.82		1,673,010	
Rapeseed	1.91		690	
Safflower	1.64		109,760	
Soybeans for Beans	2.96		91,472,190	
Sunflower	1.74		1,377,320	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All [2]	0.87		2,700,070	
Upland	0.86		2,615,090	
Amer-Pima	1.52		84,980	
Sugarbeets	57.78		26,779,190	
Sugarcane	77.01		27,352,530	
Tobacco	2.61		373,440	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	1.49		8,260	
Dry Edible Beans	1.94		1,150,310	
Dry Edible Peas	2.29		777,320	
Lentils	1.61		265,760	
Wrinkled Seed Peas [3]			39,640	
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)	1.42		3,630	
Hops	2.67		42,950	
Peppermint Oil	0.10		2,890	
Potatoes, All [2]	46.27		19,569,110	
Winter	27.47		96,710	
Spring	32.43		967,100	
Summer	37.71		656,300	
Fall	47.96		17,849,000	
Spearmint Oil	0.15		1,220	
Sweet Potatoes	22.54		891,170	
Taro (HI) [3]			1,810	

[1] Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2010 crop year.
[2] Production may not add due to rounding.
[3] Yield is not estimated.

Fruits and Nuts Summary: Production, United States, 2008-2010
(Domestic Units) [1]

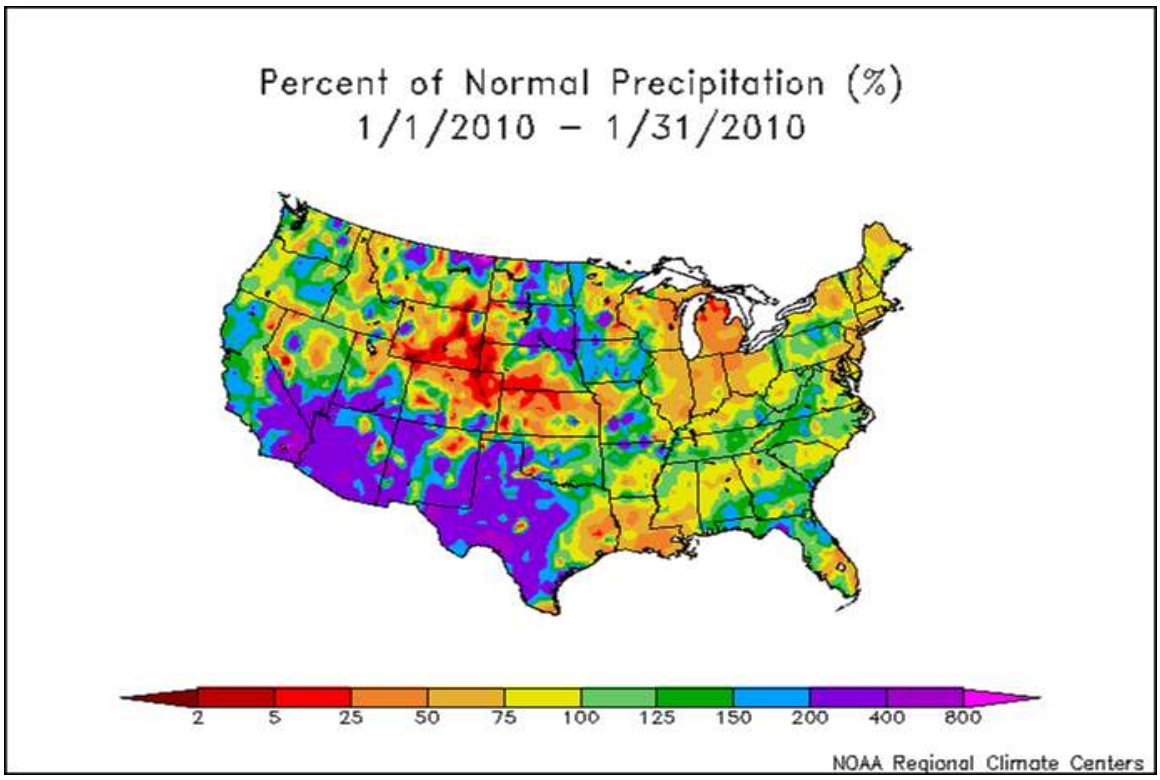
Crop	Units	Production		
		2008	2009	2010
		1,000	*1,000*	*1,000*
Citrus [2]				
Grapefruit	Tons	1,548	1,331	1,160
Lemons	"	619	950	855
Oranges	"	10,076	9,198	7,936
Tangelos (FL)	"	68	52	41
Tangerines and Mandarins	"	527	443	511
Noncitrus				
Apples	Lbs	9,609.3	9,953.6	
Apricots	Tons	81.6	68.3	
Bananas (HI)	Lbs	17,400.0	15,400.0	
Grapes	Tons	7,319.3	7,067.6	
Olives (CA)	"	66.8	42.8	
Papayas (HI)	Lbs	33,500.0	31,300.0	
Peaches	Tons	1,135.3	1,105.7	
Pears	"	869.9	936.2	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	"	129.0	157.0	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	"	15.5	18.8	
Nuts & Misc.				
Almonds (CA) (shelled)	Lbs	1,630,000	1,390,000	
Hazelnuts (OR) (in-shell)	Tons	32.0	47.0	
Pecans (in-shell)	Lbs	194,080	290,500	
Walnuts (CA) (in-shell)	Tons	436.0	415.0	
Maple Syrup	Gals	1,912	2,327	

[1] Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2010 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2009-10 season.
[2] Production years are 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10.

Fruits and Nuts Summary: Production, United States, 2008-2010
(Metric Units) [1]

Crop	Production		
	2008	2009	2010
	Metric tons	*Metric tons*	*Metric tons*
Citrus [2]			
Grapefruit	1,404,320	1,207,460	1,052,330
Lemons	561,550	861,830	775,640
Oranges	9,140,790	8,344,290	7,199,420
Tangelos (FL)	61,690	47,170	37,190
Tangerines and Mandarins	478,090	401,880	463,570
Noncitrus			
Apples	4,358,710	4,514,880	
Apricots	74,040	61,980	
Bananas (HI)	7,890	6,990	
Grapes	6,639,920	6,411,660	
Olives (CA)	60,600	38,830	
Papayas (HI)	15,200	14,200	
Peaches	1,029,940	1,003,090	
Pears	789,110	849,320	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	117,030	142,430	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	14,060	17,060	
Nuts & Misc.			
Almonds (CA) (shelled)	739,360	630,490	
Hazelnuts (OR) (in-shell)	29,030	42,640	
Pecans (in-shell)	88,030	131,770	
Walnuts (CA) (in-shell)	395,530	376,480	
Maple Syrup	9,560	11,630	

[1] Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2010 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2009-10 season.
[2] Production years are 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10.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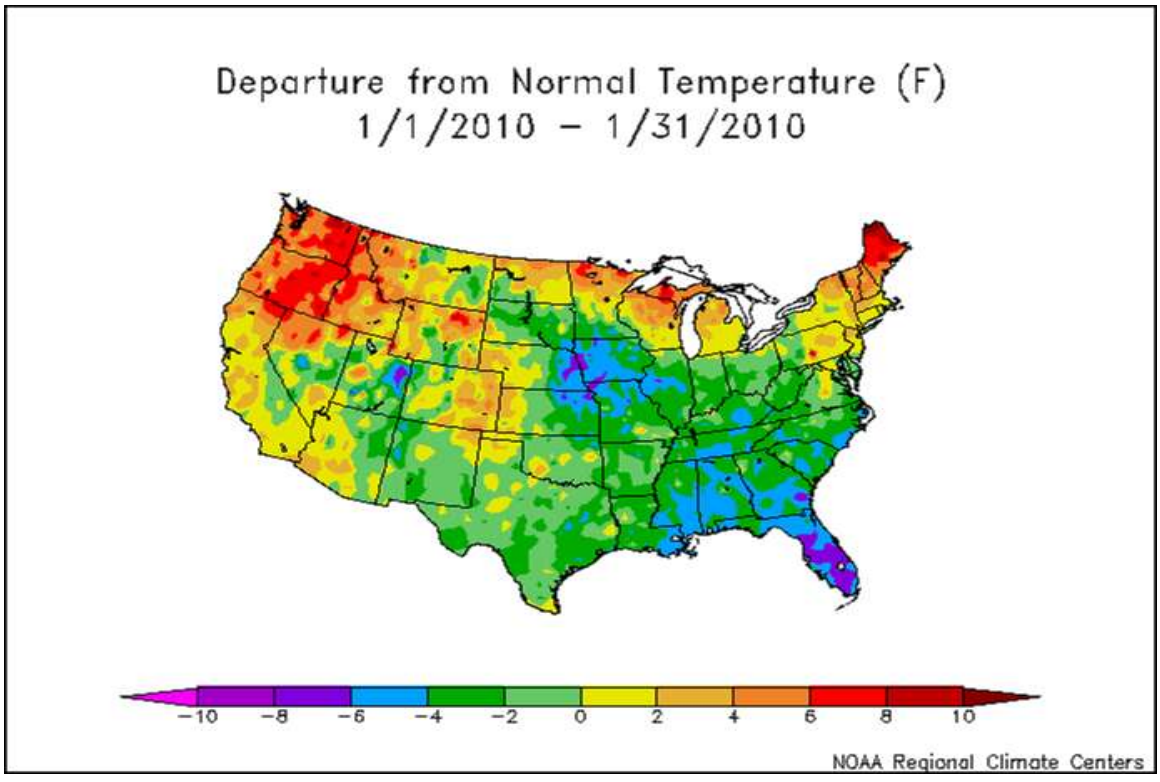
NOAA Regional Climate Centers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NOAA Regional Climate Centers

January Weather Summary

A protracted and severe cold outbreak struck Florida's peninsula during the first half of the month, causing varying degrees of damage to citrus, sugarcane, vegetables, and specialty crops. Much of the significant damage occurred on January 6-7 and 10-12, when temperatures dipped below 20 degrees Fahrenheit in some northwestern citrus areas and fell to 32 degrees Fahrenheit or below as far south as the winter vegetable production area near Homestead, south of Miami.

Monthly temperatures averaged at least 5 degrees Fahrenheit below normal across most of Florida's peninsula, and were also below normal across the remainder of the Southeast. Below-normal temperatures were also noted in much of the western Corn Belt, where a very deep snow cover had become established during December and persisted through January. In contrast, above-normal January temperatures dominated the Nation's northern tier and much of the West. Monthly readings averaged at least 5 degrees Fahrenheit above normal in northern New England and portions of the Northwest. At some Northwestern locations, it was the warmest January on record.

Relatively dry conditions accompanied the Northwestern warmth, consistent with the maturation of a strong El Niño. Meanwhile, a barrage of mid- to late-month storms struck areas from California to the southern Plains, more than doubling the water content of the Sierra Nevada snow pack and improving water-supply prospects throughout the Nation's southwestern quadrant.

Across the Nation's midsection, short-term dryness on the central Plains contrasted with wetter than normal conditions on the northern and southern Plains. On the northern Plains, snow helped to protect winter wheat from a variety of weather extremes. On the southern Plains, several episodes of wintry precipitation caused travel disruptions but aided pastures and winter grains.

Farther north and east, wintry weather added to already impressive snow depths in the western Corn Belt. In contrast, relatively dry conditions prevailed in the eastern Corn Belt, another signal consistent with a strong, mature El Niño. Elsewhere, frequent precipitation maintained unfavorably soggy conditions from Alabama, Georgia, and northern Florida into the southern Mid-Atlantic States. The Southeastern wetness hampered fieldwork, including final summer crop harvest efforts, and left standing water in some winter wheat fields. However, heavy rain largely bypassed southern Florida and the central Gulf Coast region.

January Agricultural Summary

With the exception of the Great Lakes and New England, January temperatures were below normal east of the Great Plains. The mercury plunged to as many as 6 degrees below normal in portions of the Southeast, with recordings across much of Florida's peninsula falling to 8 degrees below normal. In contrast, the Pacific Northwest, northern California, and the Rocky Mountains experienced warmer than normal temperatures, with recordings reaching 8 degrees above average across the eastern halves of Oregon and Washington. Precipitation totals varied dramatically from one region to another. Strong winter storms delivered above average rain and snowfall to much of the Southwest, Texas, and northern Great Plains where monthly accumulations totaled as much as 400 percent of normal. Elsewhere, large portions of the Rocky Mountains, Corn Belt, Delta, and New England were abnormally dry. Isolated locations in Colorado, Montana, and Wyoming received as little as 2 percent of their normal monthly precipitation.

Producers in several States were busy cultivating, fertilizing, and irrigating fields in preparation for spring planting. Cotton harvest in Texas and Arizona was complete by mid-month, while fruit, nut, and vegetable growers harvested their crops throughout January. An arctic cold front delivered several nights of subfreezing temperatures to Florida early in the month. Freeze damage reduced strawberry production, and completely ruined some snap bean, squash, and tomato fields. Young sugarcane acreage was burned back, while the tops of the older crop were frozen. As a result, producers have been rapidly harvesting their cane fields to help limit the loss of sucrose content.

A wave of storm systems provided favorable soil moisture to developing small grain crops in California, Oklahoma, and Texas. Conversely, excessively wet fields coupled with below average temperatures in Florida and Georgia hampered seed germination, emergence, and crop growth in winter wheat.

Crop Comments

Sugarcane: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2009 is forecast at 30.2 million tons, of which 28.3 million tons will be utilized for sugar and 1.87 million tons for seed. Total production for sugar and seed is down fractionally from the previous forecast but up 9 percent from 2008. Sugarcane producers are expecting to harvest 877,700 acres for sugar and seed in 2009, unchanged from January but up 1 percent from last year. Yield for sugar and seed is estimated at 34.4 tons per acre, down 0.1 ton from the previous forecast but up 2.6 tons from 2008.

Production in Florida is forecast at 14.1 million tons, down 1 percent from January but up 6 percent from 2008. Freezing temperatures mid-month negatively impacted the sugarcane crop in the Everglades region of Florida. As a result, yield is forecast at 36.1 tons per acre, a decrease of 0.3 ton from the previous forecast. Estimates for Hawaii, Louisiana, and Texas were carried forward from January.

Grapefruit: The forecast of the 2009-10 U.S. grapefruit crop is 1.16 million tons, down 3 percent from the January 1 forecast and down 13 percent from the 2008-09 final utilization. Florida's grapefruit production is forecast at 18.8 million boxes (799,000 tons), down 4 percent from the January 1 forecast and 13 percent below last season.

The Florida all white grapefruit forecast is 5.30 million boxes (225,000 tons), down 4 percent from January and down 20 percent from the previous year. The colored grapefruit forecast, at 13.5 million boxes (574,000 tons), is down 4 percent from the January 1 forecast and 11 percent lower than last season. The decrease is due to a slowing of the grapefruit growth rate. California and Texas grapefruit production forecasts are carried forward from the January 1 forecast.

Tangerines and Mandarins: The U.S. tangerine and mandarin crop is forecast at 511,000 tons, down 6 percent from the January 1 forecast but 15 percent above the 2008-09 crop. Florida's tangerine crop is forecast at 4.00 million boxes (190,000 tons), down 15 percent from the January 1 forecast but up 4 percent from the previous season. Harvest of the later maturing Honey variety is well underway and fruit size measurements are down. Arizona and California tangerine and mandarin production forecasts are carried forward from the January 1 forecast.

Tangelos: Florida's tangelo forecast is 900,000 boxes (41,000 tons), unchanged from the January 1 forecast but down 22 percent from last season's final production. If realized, this will be the smallest tangelo crop since 1962, when Florida had a damaging December freeze.

Papayas: Hawaii fresh papaya production is estimated at 2.65 million pounds for December 2009, up 6 percent from November but 7 percent lower than a year ago. Total crop area for December is estimated at 1,975 acres, unchanged from November but 18 percent below December 2008. Harvested area totaled 1,320 acres, unchanged from the previous month but 10 percent lower than last year. Warm, dry weather in December aided fruit development and ripening.

Florida Citrus: The citrus region experienced several nights of low temperatures during the first half of January. Weather stations reported high temperatures in the 30's and 40's. In an attempt to protect the fruit and limit crop losses, grove caretakers irrigated heavily and accelerated harvest. Temperatures returned to a 70 to 80 degree range by mid-January. Harvesting of early, midseason, and Navel oranges neared completion while Valencia harvest was just getting started.

All of the processing plants had opened and were mainly receiving early and midseason oranges and grapefruit. Primary grove activities were irrigating and harvesting.

California Citrus: During the first half of January picking of tangerines, navel oranges, and grapefruit continued in the Central Valley. The lemon harvest continued in both the desert region and Central Valley. Citrus fruit harvest slowed significantly in mid-January due to storms moving through the Central Valley and desert region. The Valencia orange crop continued to develop well.

California Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts: Pruning and pre-emergent spraying occurred in grape vineyards. Dormant sprays to control pests were applied in prune and peach orchards. Pruning continued in nut orchards, while herbicide applications to berms also took place in almond and walnut orchards. During the middle of January most maintenance work in vineyards and orchards was suspended or slowed due to heavy rains and strong winds throughout central and southern California. Some fallen almond trees were reported. Honeybees were shipped in from other States and hives were placed in almond orchards for the upcoming pollination season.

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 are combined with the previous components to develop the current forecast of production. 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.

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 California and Texas were also used for setting estimates. These three 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 3.8 percent. However, if you exclude the 5 abnormal production years (3 freeze seasons and 2 hurricane seasons), the "Root Mean Square Error" is 3.2 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 3.8 percent, or 3.2 percent excluding abnormal seasons. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 6.6 percent, or 5.6 percent, excluding abnormal seasons.

Changes between the February 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 335,000 tons (309,000 tons excluding abnormal seasons), ranging from 18,000 tons to 655,000 tons (18,000 tons to 638,000 tons, excluding abnormal seasons). The February 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 7 times and above 13 times (below 6 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.

Information Contacts

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