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Special Note

NASS is in the process of modifying report layouts in order to improve readability. This is the first issue produced using the new layout. This report issue is published using both layouts but future issues will only be produced using this layout. The previous layout is available on the NASS website: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>.

Corn and Soybean Updates

Survey respondents who reported corn acreage as not yet harvested in Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin and survey respondents who reported soybean acreage as not yet harvested in Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia during the surveys conducted in preparation for the *Crop Production 2009 Summary* were re-contacted between late January and early February to determine how many of the acres were harvested or still intended for harvest and to record the production from those acres. Based on this updated information, several changes were made to the estimates published in the *Crop Production 2009 Summary*. Because unharvested production is a component of on-farm stocks, changes were made to the December 1 on-farm stocks levels comparable with the production adjustments as well. Respondents with unharvested corn in North Dakota and South Dakota will be interviewed at a later date.

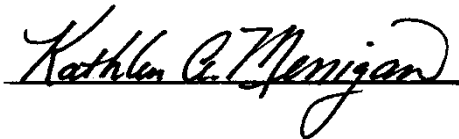
All Orange Production Up 2 Percent from February

The United States all orange forecast for the 2009-2010 season is 8.10 million tons, up 2 percent from the February 1 forecast but down 12 percent from the 2008-2009 final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 131 million boxes (5.90 million tons), is up 2 percent from the previous forecast but down 19 percent from last season's final utilization. Early, midseason, and navel varieties in Florida are forecast at 68.0 million boxes (3.06 million tons), up 3 percent from February 1 but 20 percent lower than last season. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 63.0 million boxes (2.84 million tons), is unchanged from the previous forecast but down 19 percent from the 2008-2009 crop. The forecast of early, midseason, and navel oranges is raised due to increased utilization. In response to freezing temperatures in January, growers began harvesting their remaining fruit at an accelerated rate, moving fruit from the grove to the processing plants. Plants reported processing more fruit than normal during January and February.


The California Valencia orange forecast is 17.0 million boxes (638,000 tons), up 13 percent from the previous forecast and up 21 percent from last season's final utilization. This brings California's all orange forecast to 57.0 million boxes, up 4 percent from the February 1 forecast and up 18 percent from the 2008-2009 crop. Objective survey measurements taken during January and February indicated that fruit set per tree increased significantly compared with last year, while measured average fruit size increased slightly from the previous year.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield forecast for the 2009-2010 season is 1.53 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix, down 2 percent from the February 1 forecast and down 8 percent from last season's final yield of 1.66 gallons per box. The early-midseason portion is projected at 1.51 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 1.58 gallons per box, 10 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 March 10, 2010.



Acting Secretary of
Agriculture
Kathleen A. Merrigan



Agricultural Statistics Board
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Sugarcane Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by Use - States and United States: 2008 and 2009

Use and State	Area harvested		Yield ¹		Production ¹	
	2008 (1,000 acres)	2009 (1,000 acres)	2008 (tons)	2009 (tons)	2008 (1,000 tons)	2009 (1,000 tons)
For sugar						
Florida	384.0	372.0	32.9	36.1	12,634	13,429
Hawaii ²	20.4	19.7	69.7	71.0	1,422	1,399
Louisiana ²	380.0	390.0	28.3	31.0	10,754	12,090
Texas ²	37.2	39.0	35.5	35.0	1,321	1,365
United States	821.6	820.7	31.8	34.5	26,131	28,283
For seed						
Florida	17.0	18.0	36.5	36.3	621	653
Hawaii ²	2.4	2.0	30.0	30.0	72	60
Louisiana ²	25.0	35.0	28.3	31.0	708	1,085
Texas ²	2.0	2.0	35.5	35.0	71	70
United States	46.4	57.0	31.7	32.8	1,472	1,868
For sugar and seed						
Florida	401.0	390.0	33.1	36.1	13,255	14,082
Hawaii ²	22.8	21.7	65.5	67.2	1,494	1,459
Louisiana ²	405.0	425.0	28.3	31.0	11,462	13,175
Texas ²	39.2	41.0	35.5	35.0	1,392	1,435
United States	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" released January 12, 2010.

Corn Area Planted for All Purposes, Area Harvested, Yield, and Production for Grain - Selected States and United States: 2009

[Updated from "Crop Production 2009 Summary" released January 12, 2010]

State	Planted	Harvested	Yield	Production
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(bushels)	(1,000 bushels)
Illinois	12,000	11,800	*174.0	*2,053,200
Michigan	2,350	*2,090	148.0	*309,320
Minnesota	7,600	7,150	*174.0	*1,244,100
Wisconsin	3,850	2,930	153.0	448,290
United States	86,482	*79,620	*164.9	*13,130,632

* Revised.

Soybeans for Beans Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production - Selected States and United States: 2009

[Updated from "Crop Production 2009 Summary" released January 12, 2010]

State	Planted	Harvested	Yield	Production
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(bushels)	(1,000 bushels)
Georgia	470	*440	36.0	*15,840
North Carolina	1,800	*1,750	34.0	*59,500
South Carolina	590	*565	*24.5	*13,843
Virginia	580	570	*37.0	*21,090
United States	77,451	*76,372	44.0	*3,359,011

* Revised.

Corn and Soybean Stocks by Position Selected States and United States: December 1, 2009

[Updated from "Grains Stocks" released January 12, 2010]

State	On Farms	Off Farms ¹	Total All Positions
	Corn		
	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)
Illinois	*1,190,000	679,455	*1,869,455
Michigan	195,000	50,900	245,900
Minnesota	*930,000	275,746	*1,205,746
Wisconsin	285,000	101,280	386,280
United States	*7,425,000	3,488,676	*10,913,676
	Soybeans		
Unallocated ²	*173,000	31,706	*327,856
United States	*1,229,500	1,105,180	*2,334,680

* Revised.

¹ Included stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

² "Off farms unallocated" includes State data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. "On farms unallocated" includes minor producing States' data not published separately.

Utilized Production of Citrus Fruits by Crop - States and United States: 2007-2008, 2008-2009, and Forecasted March 1, 2010

[The crop year begins with the bloom of the first year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year]

Crop and State	Utilized production boxes ¹			Utilized production ton equivalent		
	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)
Oranges						
Early, mid, and navel ²						
Arizona ³	230	150	(NA)	9	5	(NA)
California ⁴	45,000	34,500	40,000	1,688	1,294	1,500
Florida	83,500	84,600	68,000	3,758	3,807	3,060
Texas ⁴	1,600	1,300	1,310	68	55	56
United States	130,330	120,550	109,310	5,523	5,161	4,616
Valencia						
Arizona ³	150	100	(NA)	6	4	(NA)
California	17,000	14,000	17,000	637	525	638
Florida	86,700	77,800	63,000	3,901	3,501	2,835
Texas ⁴	196	159	277	9	7	12
United States	104,046	92,059	80,277	4,553	4,037	3,485
All						
Arizona ³	380	250	(NA)	15	9	(NA)
California	62,000	48,500	57,000	2,325	1,819	2,138
Florida	170,200	162,400	131,000	7,659	7,308	5,895
Texas ⁴	1,796	1,459	1,587	77	62	68
United States	234,376	212,609	189,587	10,076	9,198	8,101
Grapefruit						
White						
Florida	9,000	6,600	5,300	383	280	225
Colored						
Florida	17,600	15,100	13,500	748	642	574
All						
Arizona ³	100	25	(NA)	3	1	(NA)
California ⁴	5,200	5,600	4,200	174	188	141
Florida	26,600	21,700	18,800	1,131	922	799
Texas ⁴	6,000	5,500	5,490	240	220	220
United States	37,900	32,825	28,490	1,548	1,331	1,160
Tangerines and mandarins						
Arizona ^{4 5}	400	250	350	15	9	13
California ^{4 5}	6,700	6,700	8,200	251	251	308
Florida	5,500	3,850	4,000	261	183	190
United States	12,600	10,800	12,550	527	443	511
Lemons ⁴						
Arizona	1,500	3,000	2,500	57	114	95
California	14,800	22,000	20,000	562	836	760
United States	16,300	25,000	22,500	619	950	855
Tangelos						
Florida	1,500	1,150	900	68	52	41

(NA) Not available.

¹ Net pounds per box: oranges in Arizona and California-75, Florida-90, Texas-85; grapefruit in Arizona and California-67, Florida-85, Texas-80; lemons-76; tangelos-90; tangerines and mandarins in Arizona and California-75, Florida-95.

² Navel and miscellaneous varieties in Arizona and California. Early (including navel) and midseason varieties in Florida and Texas. Small quantities of tangerines in Texas and Temples in Florida.

³ Estimates discontinued beginning with the 2009-2010 crop year.

⁴ Estimates for current year carried forward from previous forecast.

⁵ Includes tangelos and tangors.

Crop Area Planted and Harvested - United States: 2009 and 2010 (Domestic Units)

[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. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2009 (1,000 acres)	2010 (1,000 acres)	2009 (1,000 acres)	2010 (1,000 acres)
Grains and hay				
Barley	3,567.0		3,113.0	
Corn for grain ¹	86,482.0		*79,620.0	
Corn for silage	(NA)		5,605.0	
Hay, all	(NA)		59,755.0	
Alfalfa	(NA)		21,227.0	
All other	(NA)		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 ¹	6,633.0		5,520.0	
Sorghum for silage	(NA)		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	(X)		(X)	
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		*76,372.0	
Sunflower	2,030.0		1,953.5	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all	9,149.2		7,690.5	
Upland	9,007.5		7,552.0	
American Pima	141.7		138.5	
Sugarbeets	1,183.2		1,145.3	
Sugarcane	(NA)		877.7	
Tobacco	(NA)		354.1	
Dry beans, peas, and 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	(NA)		(NA)	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Coffee (Hawaii)	(NA)		6.3	
Hops	(NA)		39.7	
Peppermint oil	(NA)		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	(NA)		20.5	
Sweet potatoes	109.6		97.7	
Taro (Hawaii) ²	(NA)		0.4	

* Revised.

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Area planted for all purposes.

² Area is total acres in crop, not harvested acreage.

Crop Yield and Production - United States: 2009 and 2010 (Domestic Units)

[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. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield		Production	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
			(1,000)	(1,000)
Grains and hay				
Barley	bushels	73.00	227,323.0	
Corn for grain	bushels	*164.90	*13,130,632.0	
Corn for silage	tons	19.30	108,209.0	
Hay, all	tons	2.47	147,442.0	
Alfalfa	tons	3.35	71,030.0	
All other	tons	1.98	76,412.0	
Oats	bushels	67.50	93,081.0	
Proso millet	bushels	33.70	9,865.0	
Rice ¹	cwt	7,085.00	219,850.0	
Rye	bushels	27.80	6,993.0	
Sorghum for grain	bushels	69.40	382,983.0	
Sorghum for silage	tons	14.50	3,680.0	
Wheat, all	bushels	44.40	2,216,171.0	
Winter	bushels	44.20	1,522,718.0	
Durum	bushels	44.90	109,042.0	
Other spring	bushels	45.10	584,411.0	
Oilseeds				
Canola	pounds	1,811.00	1,474,130.0	
Cottonseed	tons	(X)	4,178.0	
Flaxseed	bushels	23.60	7,423.0	
Mustard seed	pounds	991.00	49,364.0	
Peanuts	pounds	3,412.00	3,688,350.0	
Rapeseed	pounds	1,700.00	1,530.0	
Safflower	pounds	1,462.00	241,970.0	
Soybeans for beans	bushels	44.00	*3,359,011.0	
Sunflower	pounds	1,554.00	3,036,460.0	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ¹	bales	774.00	12,401.3	
Upland ¹	bales	763.00	12,011.0	
American Pima ¹	bales	1,353.00	390.3	
Sugarbeets	tons	25.80	29,519.0	
Sugarcane	tons	34.40	30,151.0	
Tobacco	pounds	2,325.00	823,290.0	
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas ¹	cwt	1,328.00	182.0	
Dry edible beans ¹	cwt	1,733.00	25,360.0	
Dry edible peas ¹	cwt	2,045.00	17,137.0	
Lentils ¹	cwt	1,440.00	5,859.0	
Wrinkled seed peas	cwt	(NA)	874.0	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Coffee (Hawaii)	pounds	1,270.00	8,000.0	
Hops	pounds	2,383.00	94,677.9	
Peppermint oil	pounds	91.00	6,379.0	
Potatoes, all	cwt	413.00	431,425.0	
Winter	cwt	245.00	2,132.0	
Spring	cwt	289.00	21,321.0	
Summer	cwt	336.00	14,469.0	
Fall	cwt	428.00	393,503.0	
Spearmint oil	pounds	132.00	2,698.0	
Sweet potatoes	cwt	201.00	19,647.0	
Taro (Hawaii)	pounds	(NA)	4,000.0	

* Revised.

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Yield in pounds.

Crop Area Planted and Harvested - United States: 2009 and 2010 (Metric Units)

[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. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)
Grains and hay				
Barley	1,443,530		1,259,800	
Corn for grain ¹	34,998,400		*32,221,420	
Corn for silage	(NA)		2,268,290	
Hay, all ²	(NA)		24,182,250	
Alfalfa	(NA)		8,590,350	
All other	(NA)		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 ¹	2,684,310		2,233,890	
Sorghum for silage	(NA)		102,790	
Wheat, all ²	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	(X)		(X)	
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		*30,906,980	
Sunflower	821,520		790,560	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ²	3,702,590		3,112,270	
Upland	3,645,250		3,056,220	
American Pima	57,340		56,050	
Sugarbeets	478,830		463,490	
Sugarcane	(NA)		355,200	
Tobacco	(NA)		143,320	
Dry beans, peas, and 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	(NA)		(NA)	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Coffee (Hawaii)	(NA)		2,550	
Hops	(NA)		16,080	
Peppermint oil	(NA)		28,250	
Potatoes, all ²	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	(NA)		8,300	
Sweet potatoes	44,350		39,540	
Taro (Hawaii) ³	(NA)		180	

* Revised.

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Area planted for all purposes.

² Total may not add due to rounding.

³ Area is total hectares in crop, not harvested hectares.

Crop Yield and Production - United States: 2009 and 2010 (Metric Units)

[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. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield		Production	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)
Grains and hay				
Barley	3.93		4,949,370	
Corn for grain	*10.35		*333,533,420	
Corn for silage	43.28		98,165,550	
Hay, all ¹	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 ¹	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	(X)		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		*91,417,300	
Sunflower	1.74		1,377,320	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ¹	0.87		2,700,070	
Upland	0.86		2,615,090	
American 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, and 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	(NA)		39,640	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Coffee (Hawaii)	1.42		3,630	
Hops	2.67		42,950	
Peppermint oil	0.10		2,890	
Potatoes, all ¹	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 (Hawaii)	(NA)		1,810	

* Revised.

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Production may not add due to rounding.

Fruits and Nuts Production - United States: 2008-2010 (Domestic Units)

[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 2009-2010 season. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Production		
	2008	2009	2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Citrus¹			
Grapefruit	1,548.0	1,331.0	1,160.0
Lemons	619.0	950.0	855.0
Oranges	10,076.0	9,198.0	8,101.0
Tangelos (Florida)	68.0	52.0	41.0
Tangerines and mandarins	527.0	443.0	511.0
Noncitrus			
Apples	9,609.3	9,953.6	
Apricots	81.6	68.3	
Bananas (Hawaii)	17,400.0	15,400.0	
Grapes	7,319.3	7,067.6	
Olives (California)	66.8	42.8	
Papayas (Hawaii)	33,500.0	31,300.0	
Peaches	1,135.3	1,105.7	
Pears	869.9	936.2	
Prunes, dried (California)	129.0	157.0	
Prunes and plums (excludes California)	15.5	18.8	
Nuts and miscellaneous			
Almonds, shelled (California)	1,630,000.0	1,390,000.0	
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon)	32.0	47.0	
Pecans, in-shell	194,080.0	290,500.0	
Walnuts, in-shell (California)	436.0	415.0	
Maple syrup	1,912.0	2,327.0	

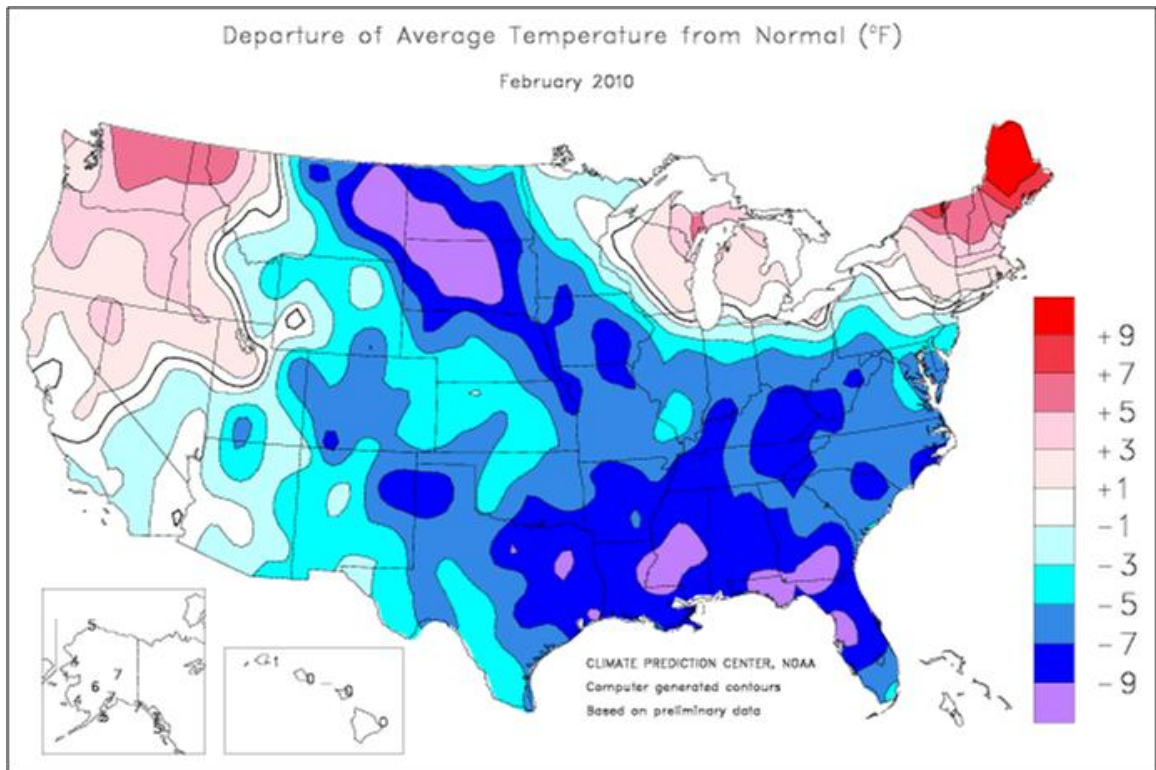
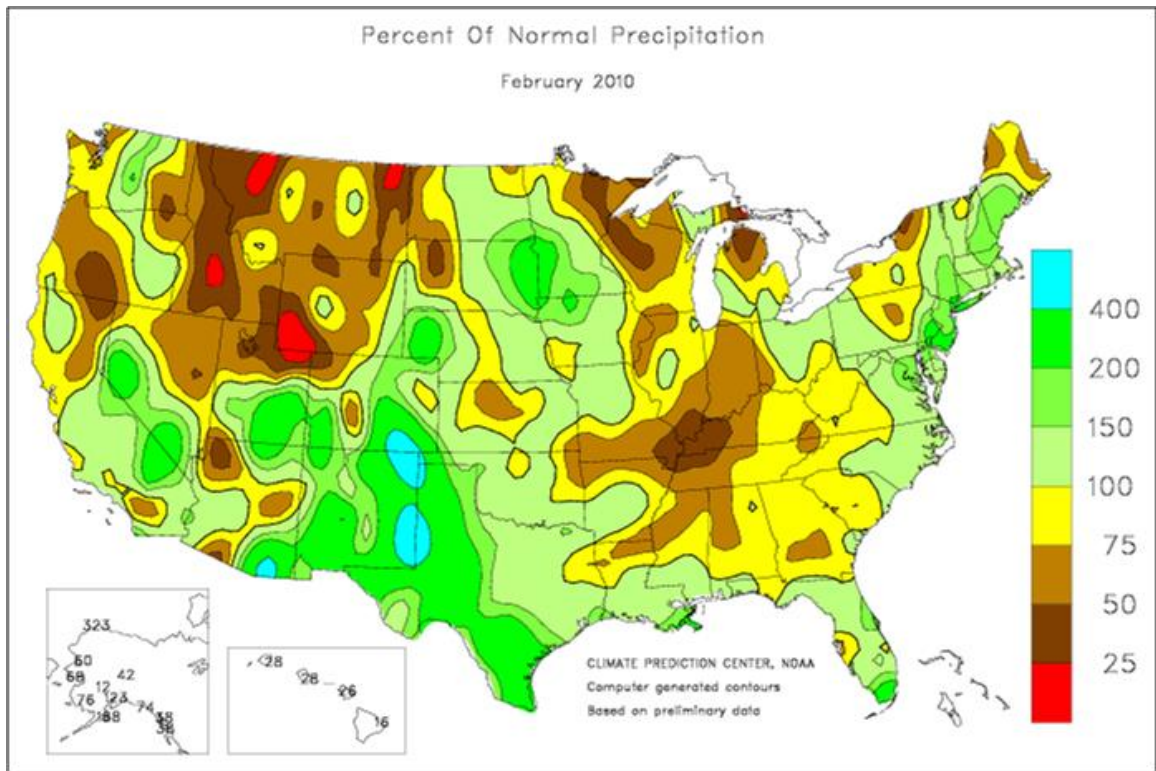
¹ Production years are 2007-2008, 2008-2009, and 2009-2010.

Fruits and Nuts Production - United States: 2008-2010 (Metric Units)

[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 2009-2010 season]

Crop	Production		
	2008 (metric tons)	2009 (metric tons)	2010 (metric tons)
Citrus¹			
Grapefruit	1,404,320	1,207,460	1,052,330
Lemons	561,550	861,830	775,640
Oranges	9,140,790	8,344,290	7,349,100
Tangelos (Florida)	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 (Hawaii)	7,890	6,990	
Grapes	6,639,920	6,411,660	
Olives (California)	60,600	38,830	
Papayas (Hawaii)	15,200	14,200	
Peaches	1,029,940	1,003,090	
Pears	789,110	849,320	
Prunes, dried (California)	117,030	142,430	
Prunes and plums (excludes California)	14,060	17,060	
Nuts and miscellaneous			
Almonds, shelled (California)	739,360	630,490	
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon)	29,030	42,640	
Pecans, in-shell	88,030	131,770	
Walnuts in-shell (California)	395,530	376,480	
Maple syrup	9,560	11,630	

¹ Production years are 2007-2008, 2008-2009, and 2009-2010.



February Weather Summary

An odd weather regime, driven by El Niño and a high-pressure block over eastern Canada and the northern Atlantic Ocean, persisted through the end of February. El Niño contributed to an active sub-tropical jet stream, resulting in generally wet conditions from California into the Southeast. However, storm systems carried by the jet stream were prevented from quickly exiting the eastern United States by the high-pressure block, resulting in numerous slow-moving storms near the Atlantic Seaboard. The block also helped to drive cold air southward across the Plains, Midwest, and Southeast. Monthly temperatures generally ranged from 5 to 10 degrees Fahrenheit below normal from the Plains into the Southeast, while above average values were noted in the Northwest and from the Great Lakes region into New England.

Historic snowfall totals were noted during February in the Mid-Atlantic States and neighboring areas, while typically rare Deep South snow was observed on several occasions. On February 12, snow briefly covered at least a portion of all 48 contiguous states. In the Southeast, excessive moisture remained a concern with respect to the soft red winter wheat crop, which in some cases was already suffering due to late planting and poor establishment.

Farther north, much of the Midwest experienced another cold, snowy month. At times during February, snow covered the entire Midwest, although coverage was deepest and most persistent in the western Corn Belt. Upper Midwestern livestock continued to endure a very difficult winter, which began in earnest with a pair of December blizzards.

Meanwhile on the Plains, snow helped to insulate much of the hard red winter wheat crop, which continued to overwinter with no major concerns. On the southern Plains, February precipitation aided wheat which had been previously stressed by drier than normal conditions.

Elsewhere, California received another burst of beneficial precipitation toward month's end, following a brief lull in storminess in early to mid-February. The Southwest also continued to receive drought-easing rain and snow. In contrast, unfavorably dry conditions and sub-par snow packs in much of the Northwest increased the likelihood of drought development and below average spring and summer runoff.

February Agricultural Summary

Abnormally cool temperatures blanketed much of the Nation during February. Due to a series of winter storm systems, average temperatures in several locations from eastern Texas through the Delta and Southeast fell to as many as 12 degrees below normal. Conversely, the Pacific Northwest, Great Basin, Great Lakes, and northern Atlantic Coast continued to experience warmer than normal temperatures throughout the month, with recordings in Maine reaching as many as 12 degrees above average. While much of the country was unusually dry during February, portions of the Southwest, Texas, and several Atlantic Coast States received an abundance of precipitation. Elsewhere, below average moisture accumulation in areas of the Pacific Northwest and northern Rocky Mountains pushed the year-to-date deficit to 50 percent or more below normal.

Wet weather and soggy field conditions across much of the South hampered fieldwork throughout the month, delaying the start of spring planting activities for some row crop producers. In Texas, corn and sorghum planting was underway in some regions but had yet to begin in others, leaving overall progress for both crops behind last year and the 5-year average. In areas of the Corn Belt, some remaining 2009 corn acreage was harvested as temperatures warmed slightly from January. Elsewhere in the Corn Belt, producers performed routine maintenance on farm equipment and finalized their planting intentions for 2010.

Arizona producers began seeding their small grain crops early in the month. Steady rainfall in Texas led to improved conditions in the winter wheat crop, while excessively wet fields in Florida and Georgia caused fertilizer leaching and slowed emergence and crop growth. By month's end, emergence in Arizona's barley and Durum wheat crops had reached 75 and 95 percent, respectively. Winter wheat neared or entered the jointing stage in Georgia and Texas, while heading was evident in early planted oat, rye, and wheat fields in California.

Flooding and standing water stemming from rainfall in late January and early February caused rotting in some potato fields in Florida. As a result, producers in the Hastings area remained busy replanting their fields throughout the month. Dry weather mid-month promoted the start of cabbage and spinach harvest in South Texas. As February ended, early variety almond, cherry, peach, plum, and prune trees were in full bloom in California.

Crop Comments

Sugarcane: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2009 is estimated at 30.2 million tons, of which 28.3 million tons was utilized for sugar and 1.87 million tons for seed. Total production for sugar and seed is unchanged from the previous forecast but up 9 percent from 2008. Sugarcane producers harvested 877,700 acres for sugar and seed in 2009, unchanged from February but up 1 percent from last year. Yield for sugar and seed is estimated at 34.4 tons per acre, unchanged from the previous forecast but up 2.6 tons from 2008.

Production in Florida is estimated at 14.1 million tons, unchanged from February but up 6 percent from 2008. Yield in Florida is estimated at 36.1 tons per acre, unchanged from the previous forecast. Estimates for Hawaii, Louisiana, and Texas were carried forward from January.

Corn and Soybeans: Survey respondents who reported corn acreage as not yet harvested in Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin and survey respondents who reported soybean acreage as not yet harvested in Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia during the surveys conducted in preparation for the *Crop Production 2009 Summary* were re-contacted in early February to determine how many of the acres were actually harvested or still intended for harvest and to record the actual production from those acres. Based on this updated information, several changes were made to the estimates published in the *Crop Production 2009 Summary*. Because unharvested production is a component of on-farm stocks, changes were made to the December 1 on-farm stocks levels comparable with the production adjustments as well. Respondents with unharvested corn in North Dakota and South Dakota will be interviewed at a later date.

Corn harvested area declined 10,000 acres in Michigan, but was unchanged in Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin from the *Crop Production 2009 Summary*. Yields in both Illinois and Minnesota decreased 1.0 bushel per acre, while yields in Michigan and Wisconsin were unchanged. As a result of these changes, corn production in the U.S. is estimated at 13.1 billion bushels, down fractionally from the previous estimate.

Soybean harvested area was reduced 10,000 acres in Georgia, 20,000 acres in North Carolina, and 5,000 acres in South Carolina, but was unchanged in Virginia from the *Crop Production 2009 Summary*. Yields decreased 0.5 bushel per acre in South Carolina and 1.0 bushel per acre in Virginia, but were unchanged in Georgia and North Carolina. As a result of these changes, total U.S. production is estimated at 3.36 billion bushels, down slightly from the *Crop Production 2009 Summary*.

Grapefruit: The forecast of the 2009-2010 U.S. grapefruit crop is 1.16 million tons, unchanged from the February 1 forecast but down 13 percent from the 2008-2009 final utilization. Florida's grapefruit production is forecast at 18.8 million boxes (799,000 tons), unchanged from the February 1 forecast but 13 percent below last season.

The Florida all white grapefruit forecast is 5.30 million boxes (225,000 tons), unchanged from February 1 but down 20 percent from the previous year. The colored grapefruit forecast, at 13.5 million boxes (574,000 tons), is unchanged from the February 1 forecast but 11 percent lower than last season. As of March 1, approximately 51 percent of the white grapefruit crop and 64 percent of the colored grapefruit crop had been harvested. California and Texas grapefruit production forecasts are carried forward from the February 1 forecast.

Tangelos: Florida's tangelo forecast is 900,000 boxes (41,000 tons), unchanged from the February 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 experienced a damaging December freeze.

Tangerines and mandarins: The U.S. tangerine and mandarin crop is forecast at 511,000 tons, unchanged from the February 1 forecast but 15 percent above the 2008-2009 crop. Florida's tangerine crop is forecast at 4.00 million boxes (190,000 tons), unchanged from the February 1 forecast but up 4 percent from the previous season. Arizona and California tangerine and mandarin production forecasts are carried forward from the February 1 forecast.

Florida citrus: High temperatures were in the 70 to 80 degree range all month. Low temperatures were mostly in the 30s, with some in the upper 20's. Harvesting of navel oranges was nearly finished. Harvesting of Murcott tangerines and Valencia oranges continued. Citrus bloom was observed on Valencia trees scattered throughout southern Hendry County at the end of the month.

Early, midseason, late oranges and grapefruit made up the majority of fruit going to processing plants. Grove activities included harvesting, mowing, applying fertilizer, and removing brush.

California citrus: Satsuma and Clementine mandarins, navel oranges, tangerines, and grapefruit were picked in the Central Valley. The lemon harvest continued in the Desert Region. The Valencia orange crop continued to develop and regular orchard maintenance took place.

California noncitrus fruits and nuts: During the first part of February, trees and vines experienced increased dormancy due to cool temperatures. Maintenance work continued in vineyards and orchards. Vineyard maintenance included pruning, shredding, tying, cultivating, and applying dormant sprays, while orchard maintenance focused on pruning and herbicide applications. Blooming occurred in plum, prune, peach, and cherry trees. Stone fruit grafting took place in the San Joaquin Valley. By the end of the month, early almonds were in full bloom and late varieties were approaching half bloom. Brown rot remains a concern due to recent increased moisture levels. Most growers have applied protective sprays to limit the impact of bloom disease. Walnut trees received herbicide applications, while the harvest of nursery fruit and tree nuts continued.

Survey Methodology

Survey procedures: The orange objective yield survey for the March 1 forecast was conducted in Florida, which accounts for nearly 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 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 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 March 1 forecast.

Revision policy: The March 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 March 1 production forecasts, the "Root Mean Square Error," a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the March 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 March 1 orange production forecast is 2.6 percent. However, if you exclude the 5 abnormal production seasons (3 freeze seasons and 2 hurricane seasons), the "Root Mean Square Error" is 2.0 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 2.6 percent, or 2.0 percent excluding abnormal seasons. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 4.4 percent, or 3.5 percent when excluding abnormal seasons.

Changes between the March 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 215,000 tons (203,000 tons, excluding abnormal seasons), ranging from 18,000 tons to 520,000 tons (18,000 tons to 503,000 tons, excluding abnormal seasons). The March 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 9 times and above 11 times (below 7 times and above 8 times, excluding abnormal seasons). The difference does not imply that the March 1 forecasts this year are likely to understate or overstate final production.

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