



Crop Production

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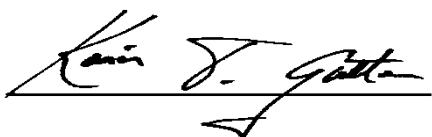
Orange Production Up 1 Percent from March

The United States all orange forecast for the 2010-2011 season is 8.91 million tons, up 1 percent from the March 1 forecast and 8 percent above the revised 2009-2010 final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 142 million boxes (6.39 million tons), is unchanged from the March 1 forecast but 6 percent above last season's revised final utilization. Early, midseason, and navel varieties in Florida are forecast at 70.0 million boxes (3.15 million tons), unchanged from March but 2 percent higher than last season. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 72.0 million boxes (3.24 million tons), is unchanged from the previous forecast but up 11 percent from the revised 2009-2010 crop. In Florida, fruit size is projected to be below average while droppage is projected to be above average.

The California all orange forecast is 61.0 million boxes (2.44 million tons), up 3 percent from the previous forecast and up 6 percent from last season's revised final utilization. The California navel orange forecast is 48.0 million boxes (1.92 million tons), up 3 percent from the March 1 forecast and up 13 percent from last season. The California Valencia orange forecast is 13.0 million boxes (520,000 tons), unchanged from the previous forecast but down 13 percent from last season's revised final utilization. Harvest of navel oranges continued during March, while Valencia orange harvest got underway. The Texas orange forecast, at 1.77 million boxes (75,000 tons), is up 8 percent from the previous forecast and up 8 percent from last season's final utilization.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield forecast for the 2010-2011 season is 1.58 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix, up 1 percent from the March 1 forecast and up 1 percent from last season's final yield of 1.56 gallons per box. The early-midseason portion is projected at 1.52 gallons per box, up 1 percent from last season's yield of 1.51 gallons per box. The Valencia portion is projected at 1.65 gallons per box, 1 percent higher than last year's final yield of 1.63 gallons per box. All projections of yield assume the processing relationships this season will be similar to those of the past several seasons.

This report was approved on April 8, 2011.



Acting Secretary of
Agriculture
Karis T. Gutter



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
Hubert Hamer

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Utilized Production of Citrus Fruits by Crop – States and United States: 2009-2010 and Forecasted April 1, 2011

[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	
	2009-2010 (1,000 boxes)	2010-2011 (1,000 boxes)	2009-2010 (1,000 tons)	2010-2011 (1,000 tons)
Oranges				
Early, mid, and navel ²				
California	42,500	48,000	1,594	1,920
Florida	68,600	70,000	3,087	3,150
Texas	1,360	1,480	58	63
United States	112,460	119,480	4,739	5,133
Valencia				
California	15,000	13,000	563	520
Florida	65,100	72,000	2,930	3,240
Texas	275	285	12	12
United States	80,375	85,285	3,505	3,772
All				
California	57,500	61,000	2,157	2,440
Florida	133,700	142,000	6,017	6,390
Texas	1,635	1,765	70	75
United States	192,835	204,765	8,244	8,905
Grapefruit				
White				
Florida	6,000	5,600	255	238
Colored				
Florida	14,300	14,000	608	595
All				
California	4,500	3,500	151	140
Florida	20,300	19,600	863	833
Texas	5,600	5,900	224	236
United States	30,400	29,000	1,238	1,209
Tangerines and mandarins				
Arizona ³	350	300	13	12
California ³	9,900	9,600	371	384
Florida	4,450	4,500	211	214
United States	14,700	14,400	595	610
Lemons				
Arizona	2,200	2,500	84	100
California	21,000	21,000	798	840
United States	23,200	23,500	882	940
Tangelos				
Florida	900	1,150	41	52

¹ Net pounds per box: oranges in California-80 (75 prior to the 2010-2011 crop year), Florida-90, Texas-85; grapefruit in California-80 (67 prior to the 2010-2011 crop year), Florida-85, Texas-80; lemons-80 (76 prior to the 2010-2011 crop year), tangelos-90; tangerines and mandarins in Arizona and California-80 (75 prior to the 2010-2011 crop year), Florida-95.

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

³ Includes tangelos and tangors.

Potato Area Planted, Harvested, Yield, and Production by Seasonal Group – States and United States: 2010 and Forecasted April 1, 2011

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

Seasonal group and State	Area planted		Area harvested		Yield per acre		Production	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(cwt)	(cwt)	(1,000 cwt)	(1,000 cwt)
Spring								
Arizona	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.8	280	300	1,036	1,140
California	27.1	28.5	27.0	28.5	405	380	10,935	10,830
Florida	33.2	35.4	31.8	33.7	250	256	7,950	8,618
Hastings area	21.5	22.4	20.3	21.2	250	265	5,075	5,618
Other areas	11.7	13.0	11.5	12.5	250	240	2,875	3,000
North Carolina	16.0	17.0	15.0	16.0	195	220	2,925	3,520
Texas	8.8	7.9	8.4	7.5	235	230	1,974	1,725
United States	88.8	92.6	85.9	89.5	289	289	24,820	25,833
Summer								
Colorado	4.0		3.8		370		1,406	
Delaware	1.6		1.6		275		440	
Illinois	5.8		5.6		350		1,960	
Kansas	4.5		4.4		335		1,474	
Maryland	2.1		2.1		340		714	
Missouri	7.3		7.2		300		2,160	
New Jersey	1.9		1.7		230		391	
Texas	6.0		5.5		390		2,145	
Virginia	5.8		5.6		170		952	
United States	39.0		37.5		310		11,642	

Crop Area Planted and Harvested – United States: 2010 and 2011 (Domestic Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2011 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2010 (1,000 acres)	2011 (1,000 acres)	2010 (1,000 acres)	2011 (1,000 acres)
Grains and hay				
Barley	2,872	2,952	2,465	
Corn for grain ¹	88,192	92,178	81,446	
Corn for silage	(NA)		5,567	
Hay, all	(NA)	(NA)	59,862	58,973
Alfalfa	(NA)		19,956	
All other	(NA)		39,906	
Oats	3,138	2,839	1,263	
Proso millet	390		363	
Rice	3,636	3,018	3,615	
Rye	1,211		265	
Sorghum for grain ¹	5,404	5,645	4,808	
Sorghum for silage	(NA)		273	
Wheat, all	53,603	58,021	47,637	
Winter	37,335	41,229	31,749	
Durum	2,570	2,365	2,529	
Other spring	13,698	14,427	13,359	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1,448.8	1,611.8	1,431.0	
Cottonseed	(X)	(X)	(X)	
Flaxseed	421	420	418	
Mustard seed	50.5		48.1	
Peanuts	1,288.0	1,237.0	1,255.0	
Rapeseed	2.3		2.2	
Safflower	175.0		167.7	
Soybeans for beans	77,404	76,609	76,616	
Sunflower	1,951.5	1,805.0	1,873.8	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all	10,973.2	12,565.5	10,706.7	
Upland	10,769.0	12,313.0	10,505.0	
American Pima	204.2	252.5	201.7	
Sugarbeets	1,171.4	1,187.1	1,155.7	
Sugarcane	(NA)		883.2	
Tobacco	(NA)	(NA)	337.5	336.5
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas	31.2	20.0	17.9	
Dry edible beans	1,911.4	1,303.5	1,842.7	
Dry edible peas	756.0	586.0	711.4	
Lentils	658.0	710.0	634.0	
Wrinkled seed peas	(NA)		(NA)	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Coffee (Hawaii)	(NA)		6.3	
Hops	(NA)		31.3	
Peppermint oil	(NA)		71.3	
Potatoes, all	1,021.5		1,004.7	
Spring	88.8	92.6	85.9	89.5
Summer	39.0		37.5	
Fall	893.7		881.3	
Spearmint oil	(NA)		18.6	
Sweet potatoes	119.8	126.7	116.9	
Taro (Hawaii) ²	(NA)		0.5	

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Area planted for all purposes.

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

Crop Yield and Production – United States: 2010 and 2011 (Domestic Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2011 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield per acre		Production	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
			(1,000)	(1,000)
Grains and hay				
Barley	bushels	73.1	180,268	
Corn for grain	bushels	152.8	12,446,865	
Corn for silage	tons	19.3	107,314	
Hay, all	tons	2.43	145,556	
Alfalfa	tons	3.40	67,903	
All other	tons	1.95	77,653	
Oats	bushels	64.3	81,190	
Proso millet	bushels	31.8	11,535	
Rice ¹	cwt	6,725	243,104	
Rye	bushels	28.0	7,431	
Sorghum for grain	bushels	71.8	345,395	
Sorghum for silage	tons	12.5	3,420	
Wheat, all	bushels	46.4	2,208,391	
Winter	bushels	46.8	1,485,236	
Durum	bushels	42.4	107,180	
Other spring	bushels	46.1	615,975	
Oilseeds				
Canola	pounds	1,713	2,450,947	
Cottonseed	tons	(X)	6,191.0	
Flaxseed	bushels	21.7	9,056	
Mustard seed	pounds	870	41,861	
Peanuts	pounds	3,311	4,155,600	
Rapeseed	pounds	1,891	4,160	
Safflower	pounds	1,320	221,335	
Soybeans for beans	bushels	43.5	3,329,341	
Sunflower	pounds	1,460	2,735,570	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ¹	bales	821	18,314.5	
Upland ¹	bales	814	17,817.0	
American Pima ¹	bales	1,184	497.5	
Sugarbeets	tons	27.6	31,945	
Sugarcane	tons	31.8	28,111	
Tobacco	pounds	2,133	719,786	
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas ¹	cwt	1,666	237	
Dry edible beans ¹	cwt	1,726	31,801	
Dry edible peas ¹	cwt	1,999	14,221	
Lentils ¹	cwt	1,365	8,657	
Wrinkled seed peas	cwt	(NA)	580	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Coffee (Hawaii)	pounds	1,250	7,900	
Hops	pounds	2,093	65,492.6	
Peppermint oil	pounds	89	6,363	
Potatoes, all	cwt	395	397,189	
Spring	cwt	289	24,820	25,833
Summer	cwt	310	11,642	
Fall	cwt	409	360,727	
Spearmint oil	pounds	125	2,318	
Sweet potatoes	cwt	204	23,845	
Taro (Hawaii)	pounds	(NA)	3,900	

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Yield in pounds.

Crop Area Planted and Harvested – United States: 2010 and 2011 (Metric Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2011 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2010 (hectares)	2011 (hectares)	2010 (hectares)	2011 (hectares)
Grains and hay				
Barley	1,162,270	1,194,640	997,560	
Corn for grain ¹	35,690,420	37,303,510	32,960,380	
Corn for silage	(NA)		2,252,910	
Hay, all ²	(NA)	(NA)	24,225,550	23,865,780
Alfalfa	(NA)		8,075,990	
All other	(NA)		16,149,560	
Oats	1,269,920	1,148,910	511,120	
Proso millet	157,830		146,900	
Rice	1,471,450	1,221,350	1,462,950	
Rye	490,080		107,240	
Sorghum for grain ¹	2,186,940	2,284,480	1,945,750	
Sorghum for silage	(NA)		110,480	
Wheat, all ²	21,692,600	23,480,520	19,278,220	
Winter	15,109,100	16,684,960	12,848,500	
Durum	1,040,050	957,090	1,023,460	
Other spring	5,543,440	5,838,460	5,406,250	
Oilseeds				
Canola	586,310	652,280	579,110	
Cottonseed	(X)	(X)	(X)	
Flaxseed	170,370	169,970	169,160	
Mustard seed	20,440		19,470	
Peanuts	521,240	500,600	507,890	
Rapeseed	930		890	
Safflower	70,820		67,870	
Soybeans for beans	31,324,620	31,002,900	31,005,730	
Sunflower	789,750	730,470	758,310	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ²	4,440,740	5,085,130	4,332,890	
Upland	4,358,110	4,982,950	4,251,270	
American Pima	82,640	102,180	81,630	
Sugarbeets	474,050	480,410	467,700	
Sugarcane	(NA)		357,420	
Tobacco	(NA)	(NA)	136,560	136,180
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas	12,630	8,090	7,240	
Dry edible beans	773,520	527,510	745,720	
Dry edible peas	305,950	237,150	287,900	
Lentils	266,290	287,330	256,570	
Wrinkled seed peas	(NA)		(NA)	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Coffee (Hawaii)	(NA)		2,550	
Hops	(NA)		12,660	
Peppermint oil	(NA)		28,850	
Potatoes, all ²	413,390		406,590	
Spring	35,940	37,470	34,760	36,220
Summer	15,780		15,180	
Fall	361,670		356,650	
Spearmint oil	(NA)		7,530	
Sweet potatoes	48,480	51,270	47,310	
Taro (Hawaii) ³	(NA)		190	

(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: 2010 and 2011 (Metric Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2011 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield per hectare		Production	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)
Grains and hay				
Barley	3.93		3,924,870	
Corn for grain	9.59		316,164,930	
Corn for silage	43.21		97,353,620	
Hay, all ¹	5.45		132,046,180	
Alfalfa	7.63		61,600,570	
All other	4.36		70,445,620	
Oats	2.31		1,178,470	
Proso millet	1.78		261,610	
Rice	7.54		11,027,010	
Rye	1.76		188,760	
Sorghum for grain	4.51		8,773,440	
Sorghum for silage	28.08		3,102,570	
Wheat, all ¹	3.12		60,102,550	
Winter	3.15		40,421,500	
Durum	2.85		2,916,960	
Other spring	3.10		16,764,090	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1.92		1,111,730	
Cottonseed	(X)		5,616,380	
Flaxseed	1.36		230,030	
Mustard seed	0.98		18,990	
Peanuts	3.71		1,884,950	
Rapeseed	2.12		1,890	
Safflower	1.48		100,400	
Soybeans for beans	2.92		90,609,810	
Sunflower	1.64		1,240,830	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ¹	0.92		3,987,510	
Upland	0.91		3,879,190	
American Pima	1.33		108,320	
Sugarbeets	61.96		28,980,020	
Sugarcane	71.35		25,501,870	
Tobacco	2.39		326,490	
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas	1.48		10,750	
Dry edible beans	1.93		1,442,470	
Dry edible peas	2.24		645,050	
Lentils	1.53		392,670	
Wrinkled seed peas	(NA)		26,310	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Coffee (Hawaii)	1.41		3,580	
Hops	2.35		29,710	
Peppermint oil	0.10		2,890	
Potatoes, all ¹	44.31		18,016,190	
Spring	32.39	32.35	1,125,820	1,171,770
Summer	34.80		528,070	
Fall	45.88		16,362,300	
Spearmint oil	0.14		1,050	
Sweet potatoes	22.86		1,081,590	
Taro (Hawaii)	(NA)		1,770	

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Production may not add due to rounding.

Fruits and Nuts Production – United States: 2010 and 2011 (Domestic Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2011 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2010-2011 season. Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Production	
	2010 (1,000)	2011 (1,000)
Citrus ¹		
Grapefruittons	1,238	1,209
Lemonstons	882	940
Orangestons	8,244	8,905
Tangelos (Florida)tons	41	52
Tangerines and mandarinstons	595	610
Noncitrus		
Applespounds	9,286.6	
Apricotstons	65.5	
Bananas (Hawaii)pounds	20,900	
Grapestons	6,856.8	
Olives (California)tons	190.0	
Papayas (Hawaii)pounds	27,500	
Peachestons	1,151.3	
Pearstons	807.6	
Prunes, dried (California)tons	125.0	
Prunes and plums (excludes California)tons	12.3	
Nuts and miscellaneous		
Almonds, shelled (California)pounds	1,650,000	
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon)tons	27	
Pecans, in-shellpounds	259,660	
Walnuts, in-shell (California)tons	510	
Maple syrupgallons	1,955	

¹ Production years are 2009-2010 and 2010-2011.

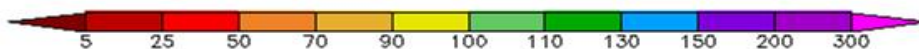
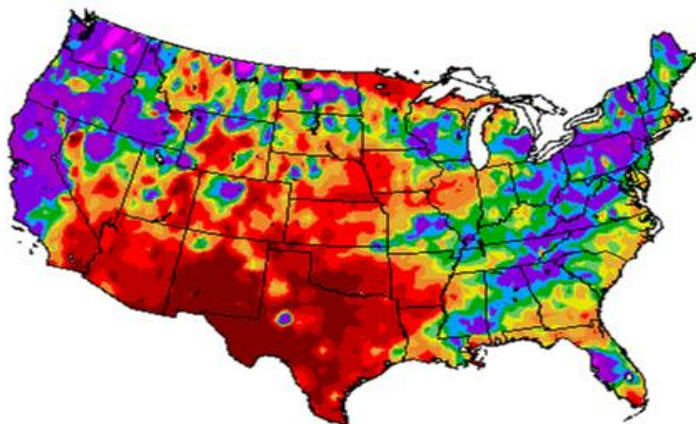
Fruits and Nuts Production – United States: 2010 and 2011 (Metric Units)

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Crop	Production	
	2010 (metric tons)	2011 (metric tons)
Citrus ¹		
Grapefruit	1,123,090	1,096,790
Lemons	800,140	852,750
Oranges	7,478,830	8,078,480
Tangelos (Florida)	37,190	47,170
Tangerines and mandarins	539,770	553,380
Noncitrus		
Apples	4,212,330	
Apricots	59,400	
Bananas (Hawaii)	9,480	
Grapes	6,220,360	
Olives (California)	172,370	
Papayas (Hawaii)	12,470	
Peaches	1,044,440	
Pears	732,640	
Prunes, dried (California)	113,400	
Prunes and plums (excludes California)	11,160	
Nuts and miscellaneous		
Almonds, shelled (California)	748,430	
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon)	24,490	
Pecans, in-shell	117,780	
Walnuts, in-shell (California)	462,660	
Maple syrup	9,770	

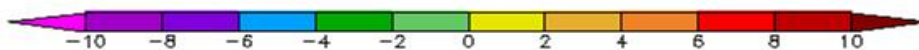
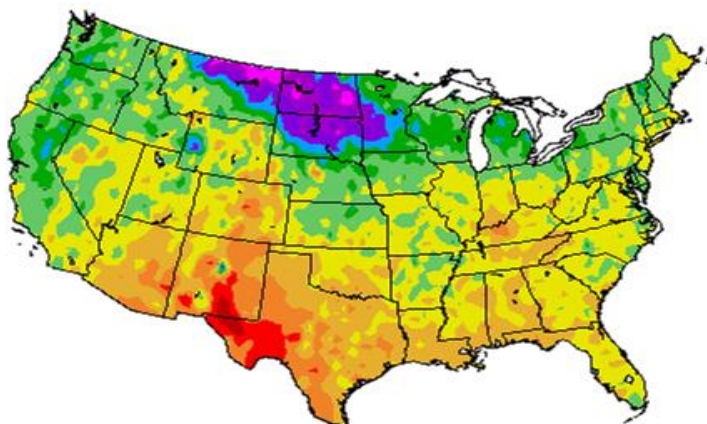
¹ Production years are 2009-2010 and 2010-2011.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
3/1/2011 - 3/31/2011



Regional Climate Centers

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
3/1/2011 - 3/31/2011



Regional Climate Centers

March Weather Summary

During March, warm, dry weather across the southern Plains and the Southwest adversely affected already drought-stressed pastures and winter grains. From November 28 to April 3, the portion of the winter wheat crop rated in very poor to poor condition climbed from 26 to 61 percent in Texas; 8 to 53 percent in Oklahoma; and 25 to 34 percent in Kansas.

In contrast, cold weather dominated the Nation's Northern Tier, particularly on the northern Plains. Monthly temperatures ranged from more than 5 degrees Fahrenheit below normal on the northern Plains to more than 5 degrees Fahrenheit above normal in parts of the Southwest. By month's end, winter wheat in the northern Plains had begun to break dormancy, with 70 percent of Montana's wheat crop rated in good to excellent condition on April 3.

As the month progressed, flooding generally shifted from the Ohio Valley (and parts of the Northeast) into the upper Midwest. In the latter region, the mid- to late-month combination of precipitation and melting snow led to significant flooding, especially in eastern South Dakota and southern Minnesota.

Meanwhile, March rainfall provided drought relief in parts of the Southeast. Heavy precipitation fell from the central Gulf Coast into the Appalachians, as well as the Northeast. Late-month rain eased drought in parts of Florida, with downpours affecting central portions of the peninsula.

Elsewhere, a series of exceptional, late-season storms hammered northern and central California and the Northwest, while drought continued to expand and intensify across Arizona and New Mexico. The average water content of the high-elevation Sierra Nevada snow pack peaked at 48 inches (165 percent of normal) in late March, up from 22 inches in mid-February.

March Agricultural Summary

The arrival of March brought seasonable temperatures to much of the Nation. In contrast, portions of the northern Great Plains and Rocky Mountains experienced temperatures more than 10 degrees below average. While precipitation was above average along both coasts and in isolated locations across the Northern Tier, many areas in the center of the country accumulated less than 50 percent of their normal rainfall totals during the month.

As the month began and when weather conditions allowed, row crop producers in many regions of the United States were completing tillage operations, irrigating fields, and performing routine equipment maintenance in preparation for spring planting. In portions of the South, some corn, cotton, and sorghum acreage was already in the ground. By mid-month, a prolonged lack of rainfall coupled with inadequate soil moisture availability delayed planting activities across southern Texas and left emerged corn in the Coastal Bend in need of additional precipitation to further normal crop development. Elsewhere, rice producers in California were busy working on drainage ditches to help eliminate excess water from their fields following steady rainfall during the first half of March. By month's end, corn, cotton, rice, and sorghum planting was underway in several States.

While small grain fields in California were growing well with adequate to abundant available soil moisture at the start of the month, persistently dry conditions on the central and southern Great Plains left many winter wheat fields in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas in very poor or poor condition at month's end. In Kansas, the largest winter wheat-producing State, jointing was evident in a small number of fields by March 13. Producers in the High Plains of Texas treated some fields for brown wheat mites, Russian wheat aphids, and winter grain mites as portions of the crop in the Low Plains were negatively impacted by soil erosion and strong winds. In Oklahoma, some small grain fields were appraised for insurance purposes while producers were considering grazing others. Elsewhere, as the month ended, dairy operations in Georgia were harvesting some small grain fields for silage.

Crop Comments

Grapefruit: The 2010-2011 United States grapefruit crop is forecast at 1.21 million tons, up 1 percent from the March 1 forecast but down 2 percent from the 2009-2010 crop.

Florida grapefruit production is forecast at 19.6 million boxes (833,000 tons), unchanged from the previous forecast but down 3 percent from last season. The Florida all white grapefruit forecast is 5.60 million boxes (238,000 tons), down 7 percent from the 2009-2010 season. The colored grapefruit forecast, at 14.0 million boxes (595,000 tons), is 2 percent below last season.

Tangerines and mandarins: The United States tangerine and mandarin crop is forecast at 610,000 tons, up 1 percent from the March 1 forecast and up 3 percent from the previous season. Florida's tangerine crop is forecast at 4.50 million boxes (214,000 tons), up 2 percent from the previous forecast and up 1 percent from the previous season.

Lemons: The forecast for the 2010-2011 United States lemon crop is 940,000 tons, unchanged from the January 1 forecast but up 7 percent from the 2009-2010 final utilization. California production is forecast at 840,000 tons (21.0 million boxes), unchanged from the previous forecast but up 5 percent from last season's revised utilized production. Harvest ended in the Desert Region while picking continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Lemon production in Arizona is forecast at 100,000 tons (2.50 million boxes), unchanged from the January 1 forecast but up 19 percent from last season.

Tangelos: Florida's tangelo forecast is 1.15 million boxes (52,000 tons), up 5 percent from the March 1 forecast and up 28 percent from last season's final utilization.

Florida citrus: In the citrus growing areas, temperatures were predominantly in the 80s during the month. Weather stations reported lows from the 30s to the 50s, with highs reaching the 90 degree range. Drought conditions worsened during March, with light rainfall having little effect on improving soil moisture. The citrus bloom was heavy and widespread with reports of a good fruit set.

Citrus growers reported harvest of early and midseason oranges neared completion. Grapefruit continued to be picked on schedule. Nearly all of the processing plants are open. Valencia oranges and grapefruit made up the majority of fruit going to the plants. Heavy irrigation and harvesting dominated the grove activities during the month.

Arizona citrus: Lemon and tangerine harvest finished in March.

Texas citrus: Dry conditions persisted throughout the growing region in March. Harvest of navel and Valencia oranges and grapefruit continued with excellent fruit quality being reported.

California citrus: The navel orange, mandarin, and lemon harvests continued in the San Joaquin Valley, along with early varieties of Valencia oranges. Lemons and grapefruit continued to be picked in the Desert Region, while lemons were picked in the Coastal Region as well. Harvest of navel oranges finished early to limit fruit losses due to rind breakdown. Nurseries in Tulare County shipped citrus plants across the State.

California noncitrus fruits and nuts: Stone fruit and cherry bloom was underway with most farmers performing bloom spray applications. Early grape varieties showed bud break and strawberry plants showed good growth in the San Joaquin Valley. Pre-emergent herbicides were applied in grape vineyards along with ongoing pruning. Fertilizers and herbicides application continued in orchards across the State.

Irrigation water was applied to almond orchards across the Central Valley to limit the effects of freezing temperatures on almond buds. Blooming continued in the San Joaquin Valley while it was finished in the Sacramento Valley. Sprays were applied in almond orchards along with pruning as weather allowed. Pruning and spraying in pistachio and walnut orchards continued as well when field conditions allowed. Planting of new nut trees was ongoing.

Spring potatoes: Production for 2011 is forecast at 25.8 million cwt, up 4 percent from 2010. Area for harvest is forecast at 89,500 acres, up 4 percent from last year. The average yield forecast, at 289 cwt per acre, is unchanged from 2010.

Florida's production is forecast at 8.62 million cwt, up 8 percent from last year. Unfavorable weather conditions caused some freeze damage in the other areas growing region. However, Hastings area growers expect a good crop. California's spring potato production is forecast at 10.8 million cwt, down 1 percent from the previous year due to cool, wet growing conditions. North Carolina growers are expected to produce 3.52 million cwt of spring potatoes, up 20 percent from 2010. As of March 27, 2011, crop condition was rated as mostly good by the growers. Production in Arizona is forecast at 1.14 million, up 10 percent from 2010, while Texas growers expect production to total 1.73 million cwt, down 13 percent from last year.

Summer potatoes: The final estimate of 2010 summer potato production is 11.6 million cwt, up 1 percent from the preliminary estimate in the January *Crop Production 2010 Summary*. Harvested area covered 37,500 acres, up 1 percent from the preliminary 2010 estimate. The revised acreage yield of 310 cwt per acre is down 1 cwt from the 2010 preliminary estimate.

Statistical Methodology

Survey procedures: The orange objective yield survey for the April 1 forecast was conducted in Florida, which accounts for nearly 75 percent of the United States 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, when combined with the previous components, are used 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 April 1 forecast.

Revision policy: The April 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 April 1 production forecasts, the "Root Mean Square Error," a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the April 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 April 1 orange production forecast is 1.7 percent regardless of including or excluding the 4 abnormal production seasons (2 freeze seasons and 2 hurricane seasons). 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 1.7 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 2.9 percent, or 3.0 percent, excluding abnormal seasons.

Changes between the April 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 146,000 tons (154,000 tons, excluding abnormal seasons), ranging from 7,000 tons to 368,000 tons (7,000 tons to 368,000 tons, excluding abnormal seasons). The April 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 7 times and above 13 times (below 5 times and above 11 times, excluding abnormal seasons). The difference does not imply that the April 1 forecast this year is likely to understate or overstate final production.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

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