



# Crop Production

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## Orange Production Down Less Than 1 Percent from January

**The United States all orange** forecast for the 2011-2012 season is 8.94 million tons, down less than 1 percent from the previous forecast but up 1 percent from the 2010-2011 final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 146 million boxes (6.57 million tons), is down 1 percent from the January forecast but up 4 percent from last season's final utilization. Early, midseason, and Navel varieties in Florida are forecast at 73.0 million boxes (3.29 million tons), unchanged from the January forecast but up 4 percent from last season. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 73.0 million boxes (3.29 million tons), is down 1 percent from the January forecast but up 4 percent from the 2010-2011 crop. Sizes for Valencia oranges in Florida are expected to be smaller than average. California and Texas forecasts are carried forward from January.

**Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ)** yield forecast for the 2011-2012 season is 1.63 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix, up 1 percent from the January forecast and up 3 percent from last season's final yield of 1.59 gallons per box. The early-midseason portion is projected at 1.54 gallons per box, up 1 percent from last season's yield of 1.52 gallons per box. The Valencia portion is projected at 1.73 gallons per box, 4 percent higher than last year's final yield of 1.66 gallons per box. All projections of yield assume the processing relationships this season will be similar to those of the past several seasons.

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This report was approved on February 9, 2012.



Acting Secretary of  
Agriculture  
Karis T. Gutter



Agricultural Statistics Board  
Chairperson  
Hubert Hamer

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## Sugarcane Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by Use – States and United States: 2010 and 2011

Use and State	Area harvested		Yield per acre <sup>1</sup>		Production <sup>1</sup>	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(tons)	(tons)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)
<b>For sugar</b>						
Florida .....	374.0	379.0	32.7	35.5	12,230	13,455
Hawaii <sup>2</sup> .....	15.5	15.5	77.1	82.0	1,195	1,271
Louisiana <sup>2</sup> .....	390.0	385.0	27.8	28.0	10,842	10,780
Texas <sup>2</sup> .....	45.8	47.0	30.5	33.5	1,396	1,575
United States .....	825.3	826.5	31.1	32.8	25,663	27,081
<b>For seed</b>						
Florida .....	18.0	18.0	41.2	41.5	742	747
Hawaii <sup>2</sup> .....	1.9	1.5	26.3	30.0	50	45
Louisiana <sup>2</sup> .....	30.0	25.0	27.8	28.0	834	700
Texas <sup>2</sup> .....	2.3	2.0	31.0	35.5	71	71
United States .....	52.2	46.5	32.5	33.6	1,697	1,563
<b>For sugar and seed</b>						
Florida .....	392.0	397.0	33.1	35.8	12,972	14,202
Hawaii <sup>2</sup> .....	17.4	17.0	71.6	77.4	1,245	1,316
Louisiana <sup>2</sup> .....	420.0	410.0	27.8	28.0	11,676	11,480
Texas <sup>2</sup> .....	48.1	49.0	30.5	33.6	1,467	1,646
United States .....	877.5	873.0	31.2	32.8	27,360	28,644

<sup>1</sup> Net tons.

<sup>2</sup> Estimates are carried forward from the *Crop Production 2011 Summary* released January 2012.

## Utilized Production of Citrus Fruits by Crop – States and United States: 2010-2011 and Forecasted February 1, 2012

[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 <sup>1</sup>		Utilized production ton equivalent	
	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012
	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)
<b>Oranges</b>				
Early, mid, and Navel <sup>2</sup>				
California <sup>3</sup> .....	48,000	44,000	1,920	1,760
Florida .....	70,300	73,000	3,164	3,285
Texas <sup>3</sup> .....	1,700	1,292	72	55
United States .....	120,000	118,292	5,156	5,100
Valencia				
California <sup>3</sup> .....	13,500	13,500	540	540
Florida .....	70,000	73,000	3,150	3,285
Texas <sup>3</sup> .....	249	334	11	14
United States .....	83,749	86,834	3,701	3,839
All				
California <sup>3</sup> .....	61,500	57,500	2,460	2,300
Florida .....	140,300	146,000	6,314	6,570
Texas <sup>3</sup> .....	1,949	1,626	83	69
United States .....	203,749	205,126	8,857	8,939
<b>Grapefruit</b>				
White				
Florida .....	5,850	5,200	249	221
Colored				
Florida .....	13,900	13,500	591	574
All				
California <sup>3</sup> .....	4,100	3,300	164	132
Florida .....	19,750	18,700	840	795
Texas <sup>3</sup> .....	6,300	4,977	252	199
United States .....	30,150	26,977	1,256	1,126
<b>Tangerines and mandarins</b>				
Arizona <sup>3 4</sup> .....	300	200	12	8
California <sup>3 4</sup> .....	9,900	10,300	396	412
Florida .....	4,650	4,300	221	204
United States .....	14,850	14,800	629	624
<b>Lemons <sup>3</sup></b>				
Arizona .....	2,500	700	100	28
California .....	21,000	19,500	840	780
United States .....	23,500	20,200	940	808
<b>Tangelos</b>				
Florida .....	1,150	1,100	52	50

<sup>1</sup> Net pounds per box: oranges in California-80, Florida-90, Texas-85; grapefruit in California-80, Florida-85, Texas-80; tangerines and mandarins in Arizona and California-80, Florida-95; lemons-80; tangelos-90.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> Estimates for current year carried forward from previous forecast.

<sup>4</sup> Includes tangelos and tangors.

## Crop Area Planted and Harvested – United States: 2011 and 2012 (Domestic Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2012 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2011 (1,000 acres)	2012 (1,000 acres)	2011 (1,000 acres)	2012 (1,000 acres)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	2,559		2,239	
Corn for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	91,921		83,981	
Corn for silage .....	(NA)		5,928	
Hay, all .....	(NA)		55,633	
Alfalfa .....	(NA)		19,213	
All other .....	(NA)		36,420	
Oats .....	2,496		939	
Proso millet .....	370		338	
Rice .....	2,689		2,618	
Rye .....	1,266		242	
Sorghum for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	5,481		3,929	
Sorghum for silage .....	(NA)		224	
Wheat, all .....	54,409		45,705	
Winter .....	40,646	41,947	32,314	
Durum .....	1,369		1,312	
Other spring .....	12,394		12,079	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	1,071.5		1,043.0	
Cottonseed .....	(X)		(X)	
Flaxseed .....	178		173	
Mustard seed .....	23.2		21.8	
Peanuts .....	1,140.6		1,097.6	
Rapeseed .....	1.5		1.3	
Safflower .....	130.7		127.3	
Soybeans for beans .....	74,976		73,636	
Sunflower .....	1,543.0		1,457.8	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all .....	14,732.4		9,747.9	
Upland .....	14,426.0		9,444.0	
American Pima .....	306.4		303.9	
Sugarbeets .....	1,232.8		1,213.1	
Sugarcane .....	(NA)		873.0	
Tobacco .....	(NA)		324.8	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Austrian winter peas .....	18.0		12.3	
Dry edible beans .....	1,205.9		1,155.9	
Dry edible peas .....	362.0		342.8	
Lentils .....	428.0		411.0	
Wrinkled seed peas .....	(NA)		(NA)	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Coffee (Hawaii) .....	(NA)		6.3	
Hops .....	(NA)		29.8	
Peppermint oil .....	(NA)		74.0	
Potatoes, all .....	1,098.9		1,076.7	
Spring .....	93.3		91.5	
Summer .....	48.2		46.0	
Fall .....	957.4		939.2	
Spearmint oil .....	(NA)		17.3	
Sweet potatoes .....	134.2		130.3	
Taro (Hawaii) <sup>2</sup> .....	(NA)		0.5	

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Area planted for all purposes.

<sup>2</sup> Area is total acres in crop, not harvested acres.

## Crop Yield and Production – United States: 2011 and 2012 (Domestic Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2012 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield per acre		Production	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
			(1,000)	(1,000)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	bushels	69.6	155,780	
Corn for grain .....	bushels	147.2	12,358,412	
Corn for silage .....	tons	18.4	108,926	
Hay, all .....	tons	2.36	131,144	
Alfalfa .....	tons	3.40	65,332	
All other .....	tons	1.81	65,812	
Oats .....	bushels	57.1	53,649	
Proso millet .....	bushels	27.1	9,149	
Rice <sup>1</sup> .....	cwt	7,067	185,009	
Rye .....	bushels	26.1	6,326	
Sorghum for grain .....	bushels	54.6	214,443	
Sorghum for silage .....	tons	10.3	2,298	
Wheat, all .....	bushels	43.7	1,999,347	
Winter .....	bushels	46.2	1,493,677	
Durum .....	bushels	38.5	50,482	
Other spring .....	bushels	37.7	455,188	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	pounds	1,475	1,538,010	
Cottonseed .....	tons	(X)	5,267.0	
Flaxseed .....	bushels	16.1	2,791	
Mustard seed .....	pounds	718	15,644	
Peanuts .....	pounds	3,313	3,636,320	
Rapeseed .....	pounds	2,177	2,830	
Safflower .....	pounds	1,333	169,671	
Soybeans for beans .....	bushels	41.5	3,056,032	
Sunflower .....	pounds	1,398	2,038,275	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all <sup>1</sup> .....	bales	772	15,673.7	
Upland <sup>1</sup> .....	bales	754	14,828.0	
American Pima <sup>1</sup> .....	bales	1,336	845.7	
Sugarbeets .....	tons	23.7	28,789	
Sugarcane .....	tons	32.8	28,644	
Tobacco .....	pounds	1,850	601,029	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Austrian winter peas <sup>1</sup> .....	cwt	1,463	180	
Dry edible beans <sup>1</sup> .....	cwt	1,716	19,833	
Dry edible peas <sup>1</sup> .....	cwt	1,641	5,625	
Lentils <sup>1</sup> .....	cwt	1,151	4,732	
Wrinkled seed peas .....	cwt	(NA)	509	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Coffee (Hawaii) .....	pounds	1,320	8,300	
Hops .....	pounds	2,175	64,781.6	
Peppermint oil .....	pounds	89	6,570	
Potatoes, all .....	cwt	397	427,406	
Spring .....	cwt	279	25,573	
Summer .....	cwt	282	12,960	
Fall .....	cwt	414	388,873	
Spearmint oil .....	pounds	132	2,286	
Sweet potatoes .....	cwt	208	27,041	
Taro (Hawaii) .....	pounds	(NA)	4,100	

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Yield in pounds.

## Crop Area Planted and Harvested – United States: 2011 and 2012 (Metric Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2012 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2011 (hectares)	2012 (hectares)	2011 (hectares)	2012 (hectares)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	1,035,600		906,100	
Corn for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	37,199,510		33,986,270	
Corn for silage .....	(NA)		2,399,000	
Hay, all <sup>2</sup> .....	(NA)		22,514,120	
Alfalfa .....	(NA)		7,775,310	
All other .....	(NA)		14,738,810	
Oats .....	1,010,110		380,000	
Proso millet .....	149,740		136,790	
Rice .....	1,088,210		1,059,480	
Rye .....	512,340		97,930	
Sorghum for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	2,218,110		1,590,030	
Sorghum for silage .....	(NA)		90,650	
Wheat, all <sup>2</sup> .....	22,018,780		18,496,360	
Winter .....	16,449,030	16,975,530	13,077,150	
Durum .....	554,020		530,950	
Other spring .....	5,015,730		4,888,250	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	433,630		422,090	
Cottonseed .....	(X)		(X)	
Flaxseed .....	72,030		70,010	
Mustard seed .....	9,390		8,820	
Peanuts .....	461,590		444,190	
Rapeseed .....	610		530	
Safflower .....	52,890		51,520	
Soybeans for beans .....	30,342,040		29,799,750	
Sunflower .....	624,440		589,960	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all <sup>2</sup> .....	5,962,050		3,944,880	
Upland .....	5,838,060		3,821,890	
American Pima .....	124,000		122,990	
Sugarbeets .....	498,900		490,930	
Sugarcane .....	(NA)		353,290	
Tobacco .....	(NA)		131,460	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Austrian winter peas .....	7,280		4,980	
Dry edible beans .....	488,020		467,780	
Dry edible peas .....	146,500		138,730	
Lentils .....	173,210		166,330	
Wrinkled seed peas .....	(NA)		(NA)	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Coffee (Hawaii) .....	(NA)		2,550	
Hops .....	(NA)		12,050	
Peppermint oil .....	(NA)		29,950	
Potatoes, all <sup>2</sup> .....	444,710		435,730	
Spring .....	37,760		37,030	
Summer .....	19,510		18,620	
Fall .....	387,450		380,080	
Spearmint oil .....	(NA)		7,000	
Sweet potatoes .....	54,310		52,730	
Taro (Hawaii) <sup>3</sup> .....	(NA)		200	

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Area planted for all purposes.

<sup>2</sup> Total may not add due to rounding.

<sup>3</sup> Area is total hectares in crop, not harvested hectares.



## Crop Yield and Production – United States: 2011 and 2012 (Metric Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2012 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield per hectare		Production	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	3.74		3,391,710	
Corn for grain .....	9.24		313,918,120	
Corn for silage .....	41.19		98,816,000	
Hay, all <sup>1</sup> .....	5.28		118,971,840	
Alfalfa .....	7.62		59,268,190	
All other .....	4.05		59,703,640	
Oats .....	2.05		778,710	
Proso millet .....	1.52		207,500	
Rice .....	7.92		8,391,870	
Rye .....	1.64		160,690	
Sorghum for grain .....	3.43		5,447,100	
Sorghum for silage .....	23.00		2,084,710	
Wheat, all <sup>1</sup> .....	2.94		54,413,310	
Winter .....	3.11		40,651,230	
Durum .....	2.59		1,373,890	
Other spring .....	2.53		12,388,190	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	1.65		697,630	
Cottonseed .....	(X)		4,778,140	
Flaxseed .....	1.01		70,890	
Mustard seed .....	0.80		7,100	
Peanuts .....	3.71		1,649,410	
Rapeseed .....	2.44		1,280	
Safflower .....	1.49		76,960	
Soybeans for beans .....	2.79		83,171,560	
Sunflower .....	1.57		924,550	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all <sup>1</sup> .....	0.87		3,412,550	
Upland .....	0.84		3,228,420	
American Pima .....	1.50		184,130	
Sugarbeets .....	53.20		26,116,940	
Sugarcane .....	73.55		25,985,400	
Tobacco .....	2.07		272,620	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Austrian winter peas .....	1.64		8,160	
Dry edible beans .....	1.92		899,610	
Dry edible peas .....	1.84		255,150	
Lentils .....	1.29		214,640	
Wrinkled seed peas .....	(NA)		23,090	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Coffee (Hawaii) .....	1.48		3,760	
Hops .....	2.44		29,380	
Peppermint oil .....	0.10		2,980	
Potatoes, all <sup>1</sup> .....	44.49		19,386,810	
Spring .....	31.33		1,159,970	
Summer .....	31.58		587,860	
Fall .....	46.41		17,638,980	
Spearmint oil .....	0.15		1,040	
Sweet potatoes .....	23.26		1,226,560	
Taro (Hawaii) .....	(NA)		1,860	

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Production may not add due to rounding.

## Fruits and Nuts Production – United States: 2011 and 2012 (Domestic Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2012 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2011-2012 season. Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Production	
	2011 (1,000)	2012 (1,000)
<b>Citrus<sup>1</sup></b>		
Grapefruit ..... tons	1,256	1,126
Lemons ..... tons	940	808
Oranges ..... tons	8,857	8,939
Tangelos (Florida) ..... tons	52	50
Tangerines and mandarins ..... tons	629	624
<b>Noncitrus</b>		
Apples ..... 1,000 pounds	9,429.9	
Apricots ..... tons	59.2	
Bananas (Hawaii) ..... pounds		
Grapes ..... tons	7,088.4	
Olives (California) ..... tons	65.0	
Papayas (Hawaii) ..... pounds		
Peaches ..... tons	1,129.1	
Pears ..... tons	888.3	
Prunes, dried (California) ..... tons	122.0	
Prunes and plums (excludes California) ..... tons	13.1	
<b>Nuts and miscellaneous</b>		
Almonds, shelled (California) ..... pounds	1,950,000	
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon) ..... tons	41	
Pecans, in-shell ..... pounds	251,700	
Walnuts, in-shell (California) ..... tons	485	
Maple syrup ..... gallons	2,794	

<sup>1</sup> Production years are 2010-2011 and 2011-2012.

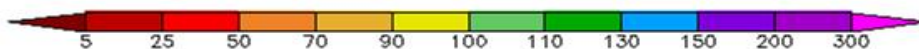
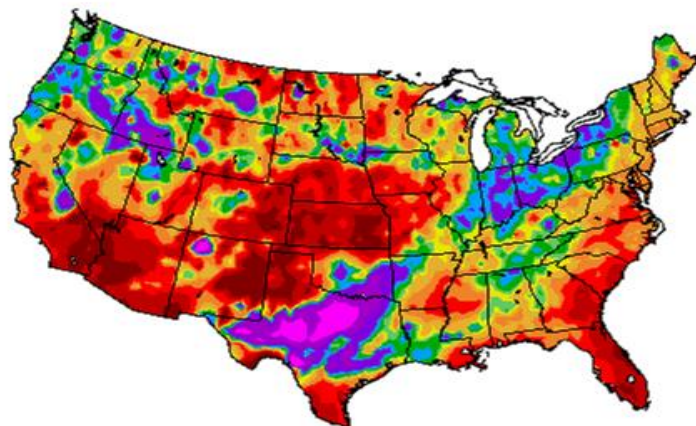
## Fruits and Nuts Production – United States: 2011 and 2012 (Metric Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2012 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2011-2012 season. Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Production	
	2011 (metric tons)	2012 (metric tons)
<b>Citrus <sup>1</sup></b>		
Grapefruit .....	1,139,420	1,021,490
Lemons .....	852,750	733,010
Oranges .....	8,034,940	8,109,320
Tangelos (Florida) .....	47,170	45,360
Tangerines and mandarins .....	570,620	566,080
<b>Noncitrus</b>		
Apples .....	4,277,330	
Apricots .....	53,680	
Bananas (Hawaii) .....		
Grapes .....	6,430,520	
Olives (California) .....	58,970	
Papayas (Hawaii) .....		
Peaches .....	1,024,340	
Pears .....	805,850	
Prunes, dried (California) .....	110,680	
Prunes and plums (excludes California) .....	11,840	
<b>Nuts and miscellaneous</b>		
Almonds, shelled (California) .....	793,790	
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon) .....	37,190	
Pecans, in-shell .....	114,170	
Walnuts, in-shell (California) .....	439,980	
Maple syrup .....	13,970	

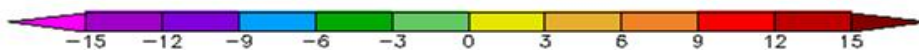
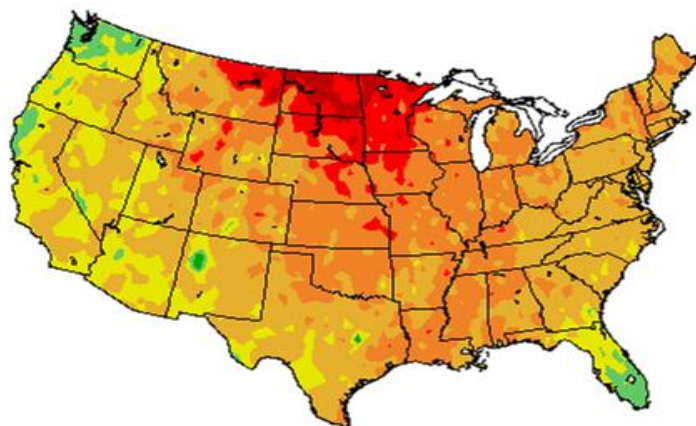
<sup>1</sup> Production years are 2010-2011 and 2011-2012.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
1/1/2012 - 1/31/2012



Regional Climate Centers

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
1/1/2012 - 1/31/2012



Regional Climate Centers

## January Weather Summary

The “year without a winter” gained momentum in January, with the majority of the continental United States reporting above-normal temperatures. Monthly temperatures averaged more than 10 degrees Fahrenheit above normal in parts of the north-central United States, while near- to slightly below-normal temperatures were confined to southern Florida and the Pacific Northwest.

Nevertheless, cold weather caused some concerns during January. For example, an early-month freeze damaged some vegetables and other temperature-sensitive crops across Florida’s peninsula on January 4-5. Later, a mid-January cold spell resulted in sub-zero readings across the northern Plains. At the time of the initial cold blast, the northern High Plains’ winter wheat crop had no protective snow cover.

Much of the Plains’ wheat belt also experienced drier-than-normal conditions during January, although an early-February snow storm provided much-needed moisture across central portions of the region. On both the northern and southern High Plains, mild, mostly dry, windy weather reduced wheat’s winter hardiness. In contrast, periods of heavy rain provided some drought relief across the southeastern Plains, including central and northeastern Texas.

Farther northeast, slowly developing drought in the upper Midwest contrasted with unfavorably soggy conditions in parts of the eastern Corn Belt. In some of the wettest areas of the lower Midwest, numerous freeze-thaw cycles - combined with excessive soil moisture - were detrimental to the health of soft red winter wheat.

Meanwhile, drought remained a concern across much of the Deep South as the spring planting season approached. In fact, drought intensified during January in the southern Atlantic region, where mostly dry weather and occasional freezes resulted in the deterioration of pasture conditions.

Elsewhere, drought also expanded in the West, particularly from California to the Intermountain region. Despite a week of wet weather (from January 18-24), the Sierra Nevada ended the month with prospects for a “normal” season diminishing. The average water content of the high-elevation Sierra Nevada snow pack stood at 6 inches on January 31, less than 40 percent of average. Areas to the north, from the Pacific Northwest to the northern Rockies, fared better during January, with periods of heavy rain and snow.

## January Agricultural Summary

During January, temperatures were above average across much of the Nation, leading to thawing fields, below average snowpack, and declining soil moisture levels in many locations. Most notably, temperatures in the northern Great Plains were more than 12 degrees above normal, where some winter wheat fields were left unprotected due to a lack of snow cover. Precipitation totals varied widely from one region to another, with portions of Texas accumulating more than 300 percent of normal moisture levels during the month. Elsewhere, the remainder of the Great Plains, as well as the Southwest and Atlantic Coast States were unusually dry.

Producers in Florida implemented a variety of freeze protection methods to help limit the impact of several early-month cold spells on unharvested winter vegetables. Minor damage was reported in flowering snap bean and squash fields, as well as sugarcane fields. In Palm Beach County, green beans in all stages of development suffered significant damage, with approximately half of the crop destroyed. Late blight was reported in tomato and potato fields later in the month. Scarce rainfall throughout the citrus-producing region left many trees showing signs of wilt, as producers performed routine cultural practices and harvested oranges and tangerines.

Despite improving winter wheat conditions in portions of the Texas High Plains early in the month, high winds depleted soil moisture levels and blowing sand damaged the crop toward month’s end. Some early-seeded wheat fields failed due to unfavorable growing conditions. Cotton producers were busy applying pre-planting herbicides; however, the continued dry weather left many producers cautious about increasing acreage using expensive seed. Elsewhere, producers in the Lower Valley harvested citrus, vegetables, and sugarcane throughout January.

In portions of the West, dry weather left dryland small grain fields in need of additional moisture to sustain growth. Producers in Arizona wrapped up harvest of their 2011 cotton crop mid-month, while barley and Durum wheat seeding was ongoing until month's end. Generally mild winter conditions allowed producers in many areas time for cultivating, fertilizing, and irrigating fields in preparation for spring planting.

## Crop Comments

**Sugarcane:** Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2011 is estimated at 28.6 million tons, of which 27.1 million tons was utilized for sugar and 1.56 million tons for seed. Total production for sugar and seed is up 1 percent from January and up 5 percent from 2010. Sugarcane producers harvested 873,000 acres for sugar and seed in 2011, unchanged from the January forecast. Yield for sugar and seed is estimated at 32.8 tons per acre, up 0.4 ton from January. Estimates for Hawaii, Louisiana, and Texas were carried forward from January.

In Florida, harvest remained active throughout January. Minor freeze damage was reported during the first week of January.

**Grapefruit:** The 2011-2012 United States grapefruit crop is forecast at 1.13 million tons, down 2 percent from the previous forecast and down 10 percent from last season's final utilization. For both white and colored grapefruit in Florida, size is projected to be below average with above average droppage. California and Texas grapefruit production forecasts are carried forward from the January 1 forecast.

**Tangerines and mandarins:** The United States tangerine and mandarin crop is forecast at 624,000 tons, down 1 percent from both the previous forecast and the 2010-2011 crop. In Florida, the reduced production forecast is primarily due to Honey tangerine sizes, which are expected to be below average with higher than average droppage. Arizona and California estimates are carried forward from the January 1 forecast.

**Tangelos:** Florida's tangelo forecast is 1.10 million boxes (50,000 tons), unchanged from the previous forecast but down 4 percent from last season's final utilization. Fruit size and droppage are higher than average for the tangelo crop.

**Florida citrus:** In the citrus growing areas, weather stations reported temperatures ranging from highs in the 80s to lows in the 40s. Sparse rainfall continued to worsen drought conditions throughout the citrus region this month. Harvesting of early oranges (Navels and Hamlins), white and colored grapefruit, Sunburst tangerines, and Nova Tangelos continued. Harvest of Valencia and Honey tangerines began. Production practices included general grove upkeep, fertilizer application, and irrigation as needed.

**California citrus:** Navel orange harvest continued during January, as internal maturity improved. Packing houses reported very little frost damage in harvested fruit. Satsuma mandarin, Owari, and Clementine tangerine harvests continued. Oro Blanco and Melogold grapefruit harvests neared completion. Pummelo harvest began to pick up.

**California noncitrus fruits and nuts:** During January, peach and prune orchards were irrigated, pruned, and planted. Pruning continued in grape and kiwi vineyards. Persimmon and apple harvests were complete with application of pre-emergent and dormant sprays beginning. Walnut harvest finished with groves being irrigated, pruned, and sprayed during the month. Almond pruning was complete and stockpiles continued to be hulled. Harvest of pistachios ended and pruning began.

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey procedures:** The orange objective yield survey for the February 1 forecast was conducted in Florida, which produces about 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 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 forecast 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 forecast, 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 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 3.3 percent. However, if you exclude the three abnormal production years (one freeze season and two hurricane seasons), the "Root Mean Square Error" is 3.2 percent. This means chances are 2 out of 3 that the current orange production forecast will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 3.3 percent, or 3.2 percent excluding abnormal seasons. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 5.6 percent, or 5.5 percent, excluding abnormal seasons.

Changes between the February 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 303,000 tons (296,000 tons excluding abnormal seasons), ranging from 18,000 tons to 638,000 tons regardless of exclusions. The February 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 8 times and above 12 times (below 8 times and above 9 times, excluding abnormal seasons). The difference does not imply the February 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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

Lance Honig, Chief, Crops Branch .....	(202) 720-2127
Jacqueline Moore, Head, Field Crops Section .....	(202) 720-2127
Suzanne Avilla – Peanuts, Rice.....	(202) 720-7688
Bryan Durham – Oats, Rye, Wheat.....	(202) 720-8068
Steve Maliszewski – Cotton, Cotton Ginnings, Sorghum.....	(202) 720-5944
Anthony Prillaman – Corn, Flaxseed, Proso Millet .....	(202) 720-9526
Julie Schmidt – Crop Weather, Barley, Hay .....	(202) 720-7621
Travis Thorson – Soybeans, Sunflower, Other Oilseeds.....	(202) 720-7369
Jorge Garcia-Pratts, Head, Fruits, Vegetables and Special Crops Section.....	(202) 720-2127
Debbie Flippin – Fresh and Processing Vegetables, Onions, Strawberries.....	(202) 720-2157
Fred Granja – Apples, Apricots, Cherries, Plums, Prunes, Tobacco .....	(202) 720-4288
Chris Hawthorn – Citrus, Coffee, Grapes, Sugar Crops, Tropical Fruits.....	(202) 720-5412
Dave Losh – Hops .....	(360) 709-2400
Dan Norris – Austrian Winter Peas, Dry Edible Peas, Lentils, Mint, Mushrooms, Peaches, Pears, Wrinkled Seed Peas, Dry Beans .....	(202) 720-3250
Daphne Schauber – Berries, Cranberries, Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes .....	(202) 720-4285
Erika White – Floriculture, Maple Syrup, Nursery, Tree Nuts .....	(202) 720-4215



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