



# Crop Production

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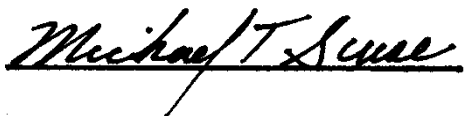
## Orange Production Down 5 Percent from December Forecast

**The United States all orange** forecast for the 2013-2014 season is 7.39 million tons, down 5 percent from the previous forecast and down 11 percent from the 2012-2013 final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 115 million boxes (5.18 million tons), is down 5 percent from the previous forecast and down 14 percent from last season's final utilization. Early, midseason, and Navel varieties in Florida are forecast at 54.0 million boxes (2.43 million tons), down 4 percent from the previous forecast and down 20 percent from last season. Current droppage is projected to be the highest in a series dating back to the 1960-1961 season. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 61.0 million boxes (2.75 million tons), is down 6 percent from the previous forecast and down 8 percent from last season's final utilization.

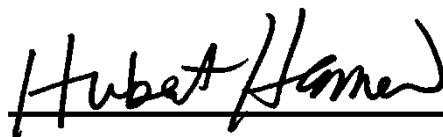
**Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ)** yield forecast for the 2013-2014 season is 1.61 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix, unchanged from the December forecast but up 1 percent from last season's final yield of 1.59 gallons per box. The early-midseason portion is projected at 1.51 gallons per box, unchanged from last season's yield. The Valencia portion is projected at 1.71 gallons per box, up 1 percent from last year's final yield of 1.69 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 January 10, 2014.

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Acting Secretary of  
Agriculture  
Michael T. Scuse

Handwritten signature of Hubert Hamer in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Agricultural Statistics Board  
Chairperson  
Hubert Hamer

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## Utilized Production of Citrus Fruits by Crop – States and United States: 2012-2013 and Forecasted January 1, 2014

[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	
	2012-2013 (1,000 boxes)	2013-2014 (1,000 boxes)	2012-2013 (1,000 tons)	2013-2014 (1,000 tons)
<b>Oranges</b>				
Early, mid, and Navel <sup>2</sup>				
California .....	44,000	42,000	1,760	1,680
Florida .....	67,100	54,000	3,020	2,430
Texas .....	1,499	1,455	64	62
United States .....	112,599	97,455	4,844	4,172
Valencia				
California .....	12,500	11,500	500	460
Florida .....	66,500	61,000	2,993	2,745
Texas .....	289	370	12	16
United States .....	79,289	72,870	3,505	3,221
All				
California .....	56,500	53,500	2,260	2,140
Florida .....	133,600	115,000	6,013	5,175
Texas .....	1,788	1,825	76	78
United States .....	191,888	170,325	8,349	7,393
<b>Grapefruit</b>				
White				
Florida .....	5,250	4,500	223	191
Colored				
Florida .....	13,100	12,000	557	510
All				
California .....	4,000	4,000	160	160
Florida .....	18,350	16,500	780	701
Texas .....	6,100	5,370	244	215
United States .....	28,450	25,870	1,184	1,076
<b>Tangerines and mandarins</b>				
Arizona <sup>3</sup> .....	200	200	8	8
California <sup>3</sup> .....	13,000	13,200	520	528
Florida .....	3,280	3,400	156	162
United States .....	16,480	16,800	684	698
<b>Lemons</b>				
Arizona .....	1,800	1,785	72	71
California .....	21,000	20,000	840	800
United States .....	22,800	21,785	912	871
<b>Tangelos</b>				
Florida .....	1,000	1,000	45	45

<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> Includes tangelos and tangors.

## Hay Stocks on Farms – States and United States: May 1 and December 1, 2012 and 2013

State	May 1		December 1	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)
Alabama .....	269	215	1,620	1,470
Arizona .....	35	35	240	200
Arkansas .....	340	170	1,150	2,150
California .....	240	320	1,900	1,900
Colorado .....	230	360	1,600	1,400
Connecticut .....	12	7	52	50
Delaware .....	4	3	17	32
Florida .....	42	25	470	460
Georgia .....	169	250	1,200	1,150
Idaho .....	700	570	2,100	2,350
Illinois .....	300	155	1,050	1,150
Indiana .....	165	110	900	1,040
Iowa .....	500	290	1,840	2,750
Kansas .....	650	460	3,000	4,500
Kentucky .....	775	470	3,400	4,200
Louisiana .....	70	150	905	500
Maine .....	35	22	127	120
Maryland .....	80	75	310	290
Massachusetts .....	15	12	81	69
Michigan .....	360	140	850	1,140
Minnesota .....	900	490	2,800	3,180
Mississippi .....	251	200	1,365	1,250
Missouri .....	1,025	600	4,600	5,900
Montana .....	1,550	860	3,800	4,700
Nebraska .....	1,070	610	3,050	3,800
Nevada .....	238	140	650	650
New Hampshire .....	13	10	49	21
New Jersey .....	12	15	119	110
New Mexico .....	120	105	600	400
New York .....	327	150	1,800	2,000
North Carolina .....	369	240	1,200	1,380
North Dakota .....	1,700	880	4,500	4,900
Ohio .....	308	140	1,200	1,500
Oklahoma .....	500	700	2,900	3,900
Oregon .....	275	230	1,700	1,700
Pennsylvania .....	450	300	1,700	2,000
Rhode Island .....	1	1	7	7
South Carolina .....	80	110	440	440
South Dakota .....	2,400	850	4,300	5,400
Tennessee .....	716	425	2,700	3,370
Texas .....	950	1,650	6,100	5,900
Utah .....	350	230	900	1,250
Vermont .....	45	36	200	205
Virginia .....	900	410	2,300	2,450
Washington .....	230	180	1,200	1,200
West Virginia .....	285	145	795	870
Wisconsin .....	925	410	1,810	2,900
Wyoming .....	400	200	950	1,000
United States .....	21,381	14,156	76,547	89,304

## Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Domestic Units – United States: 2013 and 2014

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2014 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2013	2014	2013	2014
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	3,480		3,000	
Corn for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	95,365		87,668	
Corn for silage .....	(NA)		6,256	
Hay, all .....	(NA)		58,257	
Alfalfa .....	(NA)		17,763	
All other .....	(NA)		40,494	
Oats .....	3,010		1,030	
Proso millet .....	720		638	
Rice .....	2,489		2,468	
Rye .....	1,446		278	
Sorghum for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	8,061		6,530	
Sorghum for silage .....	(NA)		380	
Wheat, all .....	56,156		45,157	
Winter .....	43,090	41,892	32,402	
Durum .....	1,470		1,421	
Other spring .....	11,596		11,334	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	1,348.0		1,264.5	
Cottonseed .....	(X)		(X)	
Flaxseed .....	181		172	
Mustard seed .....	45.0		43.4	
Peanuts .....	1,067.0		1,042.0	
Rapeseed .....	1.7		1.7	
Safflower .....	175.5		170.0	
Soybeans for beans .....	76,533		75,869	
Sunflower .....	1,575.5		1,474.6	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all .....	10,407.0		7,664.4	
Upland .....	10,206.0		7,465.0	
American Pima .....	201.0		199.4	
Sugarbeets .....	1,198.1		1,154.2	
Sugarcane .....	(NA)		905.6	
Tobacco .....	(NA)		355.7	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Austrian winter peas .....	18.0		14.1	
Dry edible beans .....	1,354.7		1,311.3	
Dry edible peas .....	860.0		797.0	
Lentils .....	362.0		347.0	
Wrinkled seed peas .....	(NA)		(NA)	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Coffee (Hawaii) .....	(NA)		7.3	
Hops .....	(NA)		35.2	
Peppermint oil .....	(NA)		68.8	
Potatoes, all .....	1,066.5		1,052.0	
Spring .....	75.9		72.9	
Summer .....	48.7		47.5	
Fall .....	941.9		931.6	
Spearmint oil .....	(NA)		24.5	
Sweet potatoes .....	115.7		113.2	
Taro (Hawaii) <sup>2</sup> .....	(NA)		0.4	

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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## Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Domestic Units – United States: 2013 and 2014 (continued)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2014 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield per acre		Production	
	2013	2014	2013	2014
			(1,000)	(1,000)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	bushels	71.7	215,078	
Corn for grain .....	bushels	158.8	13,925,147	
Corn for silage .....	tons	18.8	117,851	
Hay, all .....	tons	2.33	135,946	
Alfalfa .....	tons	3.24	57,581	
All other .....	tons	1.94	78,365	
Oats .....	bushels	64.0	65,879	
Proso millet .....	bushels	28.9	18,436	
Rice <sup>3</sup> .....	cwt	7,694	189,886	
Rye .....	bushels	27.6	7,669	
Sorghum for grain .....	bushels	59.6	389,046	
Sorghum for silage .....	tons	14.3	5,420	
Wheat, all .....	bushels	47.2	2,129,695	
Winter .....	bushels	47.4	1,534,253	
Durum .....	bushels	43.6	61,913	
Other spring .....	bushels	47.1	533,529	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	pounds	1,748	2,210,505	
Cottonseed .....	tons	(X)	4,406.0	
Flaxseed .....	bushels	19.5	3,356	
Mustard seed .....	pounds	846	36,727	
Peanuts .....	pounds	4,006	4,174,180	
Rapeseed .....	pounds	1,141	1,940	
Safflower .....	pounds	1,232	209,461	
Soybeans for beans .....	bushels	43.3	3,288,833	
Sunflower .....	pounds	1,378	2,032,725	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all <sup>3</sup> .....	bales	826	13,186.7	
Upland <sup>3</sup> .....	bales	807	12,551.0	
American Pima <sup>3</sup> .....	bales	1,530	635.7	
Sugarbeets .....	tons	28.5	32,837	
Sugarcane .....	tons	35.6	32,205	
Tobacco .....	pounds	2,036	724,108	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Austrian winter peas <sup>3</sup> .....	cwt	1,617	228	
Dry edible beans <sup>3</sup> .....	cwt	1,867	24,486	
Dry edible peas <sup>3</sup> .....	cwt	1,960	15,620	
Lentils <sup>3</sup> .....	cwt	1,446	5,019	
Wrinkled seed peas .....	cwt	(NA)	275	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Coffee (Hawaii) .....	pounds	960	7,000	
Hops .....	pounds	1,969	69,343.9	
Peppermint oil .....	pounds	89	6,132	
Potatoes, all .....	cwt	416	437,483	
Spring .....	cwt	304	22,137	
Summer .....	cwt	363	17,240	
Fall .....	cwt	427	398,106	
Spearmint oil .....	pounds	119	2,926	
Sweet potatoes .....	cwt	219	24,785	
Taro (Hawaii) .....	pounds	(NA)	3,100	

(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.

<sup>3</sup> Yield in pounds.

## Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Metric Units – United States: 2013 and 2014

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2014 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2013	2014	2013	2014
	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	1,408,320		1,214,070	
Corn for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	38,593,260		35,478,360	
Corn for silage .....	(NA)		2,531,740	
Hay, all <sup>2</sup> .....	(NA)		23,576,030	
Alfalfa .....	(NA)		7,188,510	
All other .....	(NA)		16,387,520	
Oats .....	1,218,120		416,830	
Proso millet .....	291,380		258,190	
Rice .....	1,007,270		998,770	
Rye .....	585,180		112,500	
Sorghum for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	3,262,210		2,642,630	
Sorghum for silage .....	(NA)		153,780	
Wheat, all <sup>2</sup> .....	22,725,770		18,274,590	
Winter .....	17,438,090	16,953,270	13,112,770	
Durum .....	594,890		575,060	
Other spring .....	4,692,790		4,586,760	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	545,520		511,730	
Cottonseed .....	(X)		(X)	
Flaxseed .....	73,250		69,610	
Mustard seed .....	18,210		17,560	
Peanuts .....	431,800		421,690	
Rapeseed .....	690		690	
Safflower .....	71,020		68,800	
Soybeans for beans .....	30,972,140		30,703,430	
Sunflower .....	637,590		596,760	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all <sup>2</sup> .....	4,211,610		3,101,710	
Upland .....	4,130,270		3,021,010	
American Pima .....	81,340		80,700	
Sugarbeets .....	484,860		467,090	
Sugarcane .....	(NA)		366,490	
Tobacco .....	(NA)		143,940	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Austrian winter peas .....	7,280		5,710	
Dry edible beans .....	548,230		530,670	
Dry edible peas .....	348,030		322,540	
Lentils .....	146,500		140,430	
Wrinkled seed peas .....	(NA)		(NA)	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Coffee (Hawaii) .....	(NA)		2,950	
Hops .....	(NA)		14,250	
Peppermint oil .....	(NA)		27,840	
Potatoes, all <sup>2</sup> .....	431,600		425,730	
Spring .....	30,720		29,500	
Summer .....	19,710		19,220	
Fall .....	381,180		377,010	
Spearmint oil .....	(NA)		9,910	
Sweet potatoes .....	46,820		45,810	
Taro (Hawaii) <sup>3</sup> .....	(NA)		160	

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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## Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Metric Units – United States: 2013 and 2014 (continued)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2014 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield per hectare		Production	
	2013	2014	2013	2014
	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	3.86		4,682,770	
Corn for grain .....	9.97		353,715,030	
Corn for silage .....	42.23		106,912,630	
Hay, all <sup>2</sup> .....	5.23		123,328,140	
Alfalfa .....	7.27		52,236,600	
All other .....	4.34		71,091,530	
Oats .....	2.29		956,230	
Proso millet .....	1.62		418,120	
Rice .....	8.62		8,613,080	
Rye .....	1.73		194,800	
Sorghum for grain .....	3.74		9,882,220	
Sorghum for silage .....	31.97		4,916,940	
Wheat, all <sup>2</sup> .....	3.17		57,960,800	
Winter .....	3.18		41,755,520	
Durum .....	2.93		1,685,000	
Other spring .....	3.17		14,520,280	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	1.96		1,002,670	
Cottonseed .....	(X)		3,997,060	
Flaxseed .....	1.22		85,250	
Mustard seed .....	0.95		16,660	
Peanuts .....	4.49		1,893,380	
Rapeseed .....	1.28		880	
Safflower .....	1.38		95,010	
Soybeans for beans .....	2.92		89,507,370	
Sunflower .....	1.55		922,030	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all <sup>2</sup> .....	0.93		2,871,070	
Upland .....	0.90		2,732,660	
American Pima .....	1.72		138,410	
Sugarbeets .....	63.78		29,789,230	
Sugarcane .....	79.72		29,215,880	
Tobacco .....	2.28		328,450	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Austrian winter peas .....	1.81		10,340	
Dry edible beans .....	2.09		1,110,670	
Dry edible peas .....	2.20		708,510	
Lentils .....	1.62		227,660	
Wrinkled seed peas .....	(NA)		12,470	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Coffee (Hawaii) .....	1.07		3,180	
Hops .....	2.21		31,450	
Peppermint oil .....	0.10		2,780	
Potatoes, all <sup>2</sup> .....	46.61		19,843,900	
Spring .....	34.04		1,004,120	
Summer .....	40.68		781,990	
Fall .....	47.90		18,057,790	
Spearmint oil .....	0.13		1,330	
Sweet potatoes .....	24.54		1,124,230	
Taro (Hawaii) .....	(NA)		1,410	

(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.

## Fruits and Nuts Production – United States: 2013 and 2014 (Domestic Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2014 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2013-2014 season. Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Production	
	2013 (1,000)	2014 (1,000)
<b>Citrus <sup>1</sup></b>		
Grapefruit .....	1,184	1,076
Lemons .....	912	871
Oranges .....	8,349	7,393
Tangelos (Florida) .....	45	45
Tangerines and mandarins .....	684	698
<b>Noncitrus</b>		
Apples ..... 1,000 pounds		
Apricots .....		
Bananas (Hawaii) .....		
Grapes .....		
Olives (California) .....		
Papayas (Hawaii) .....		
Peaches .....		
Pears .....		
Prunes, dried (California) .....		
Prunes and plums (excludes California) .....		
<b>Nuts and miscellaneous</b>		
Almonds, shelled (California) .....		
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon) .....		
Pecans, in-shell .....		
Walnuts, in-shell (California) .....		
Maple syrup .....	3,253	

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Production years are 2012-2013 and 2013-2014.

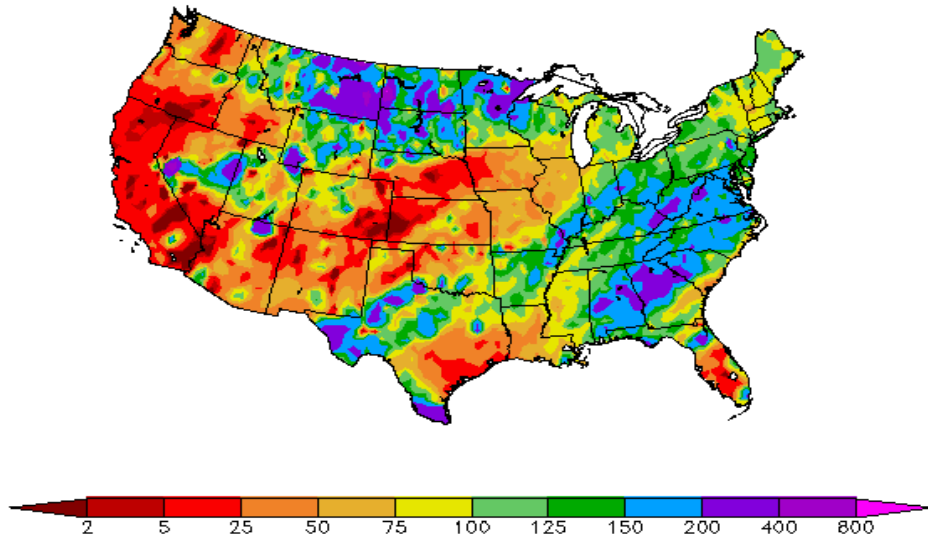
## Fruits and Nuts Production in Metric Units – United States: 2013 and 2014

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2014 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2013-2014 season. Blank cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Production	
	2013 (metric tons)	2014 (metric tons)
<b>Citrus <sup>1</sup></b>		
Grapefruit .....	1,074,110	976,130
Lemons .....	827,350	790,160
Oranges .....	7,574,090	6,706,820
Tangelos (Florida) .....	40,820	40,820
Tangerines and mandarins .....	620,510	633,210
<b>Noncitrus</b>		
Apples .....		
Apricots .....		
Bananas (Hawaii) .....		
Grapes .....		
Olives (California) .....		
Papayas (Hawaii) .....		
Peaches .....		
Pears .....		
Prunes, dried (California) .....		
Prunes and plums (excludes California) .....		
<b>Nuts and miscellaneous</b>		
Almonds, shelled (California) .....		
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon) .....		
Pecans, in-shell .....		
Walnuts, in-shell (California) .....		
Maple syrup .....	16,260	

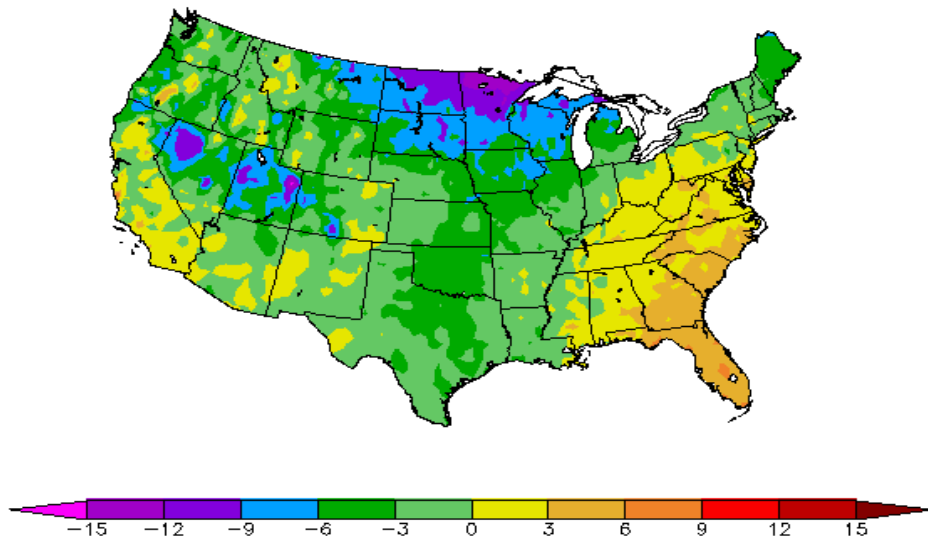
<sup>1</sup> Production years are 2012-2013 and 2013-2014.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
12/1/2013 – 12/31/2013



Regional Climate Centers

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
12/1/2013 – 12/31/2013



Regional Climate Centers

## December Weather Summary

Winter got off to an early start across much of the Nation, with very cold air settling into the western and central United States and snow covering more than half of the country for several days.

December storminess was widespread, except in the West, where a potential third consecutive winter of drought got underway in California and the Great Basin. In addition, an early-season cold wave gripped much of the West during the first half of the month, possibly harming citrus in California's San Joaquin Valley and sending temperatures plummeting below -40°F at a few locations in Montana.

Meanwhile, several impressive storms affected the East, where multiple rain and snow events chipped away at autumn precipitation deficits. At times, snow also blanketed portions of the Plains and Midwest, with winter's chill deepening in those regions as the month progressed. By the end of December, temperatures across the upper Great Lakes region rivaled those observed in the West a few weeks earlier.

However, the Southeast was spared from the cold weather, with temperatures regularly topping 80°F and remaining unusually high through month's end. In fact, several Southeastern locations set or tied records for December warmth.

Elsewhere, most of the Nation's winter wheat headed into its period of dormancy with few concerns. On the Great Plains, well over half of the wheat was rated in good to excellent condition at the end of December in states such as South Dakota (70% good to excellent), Nebraska (65%), Oklahoma (63%), Montana (60%), and Kansas (58%). However, drought concerns persisted on the southern High Plains, including Texas' northern panhandle.

## December Agricultural Summary

December temperatures were below-normal for most areas across the Nation, with notable exceptions in California, the Southeast, and the Ohio and Tennessee River Valleys. The only extended areas with over 3 inches above normal precipitation occurred in Alabama, Georgia and the Carolinas. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, areas suffering drought conditions on December 31 were limited to the western United States with areas of extreme drought in the Southern Plains, Texas, California, Nevada and Idaho.

In California, relatively dry conditions allowed producers to complete normal agricultural winter activities including plowing down of cotton fields and irrigation and pruning of orchards and vineyards. Freezing temperatures recorded in parts of the State caused citrus growers to protect groves from frost by setting up wind machines, irrigation, and other measures to minimize damage to trees and fruit. Throughout the month, winter wheat conditions declined due to lack of precipitation and wind damage.

During the month of December, Florida producers experienced above-average temperatures and below-average precipitation. These conditions allowed for the continuation of the winter vegetable harvest and development of those crops. Growers and caretakers of citrus groves continued to irrigate due to dry conditions. Field workers continue to report small sizes on all varieties.

Most of the winter wheat crop is being reported in good or excellent condition. By December 29, the portion of the Plains' wheat rated in good to excellent condition included 63 percent in Oklahoma, 58 percent in Kansas, and 65 percent in Nebraska.

## Crop Comments

**Grapefruit:** The 2013-2014 United States grapefruit crop is forecast at 1.08 million tons, down slightly from the December forecast and down 9 percent from last season's final utilization. In Florida, fruit size is near normal and droppage is above average for both white and colored grapefruit.

**Lemons:** The forecast for the 2013-2014 United States lemon crop is 871,000 tons, down 4 percent from last season's final utilization. In California, lemons were harvested from all growing regions. Demand continues to be excellent in domestic and export markets. In Arizona, the quality of lemons is reportedly fair while demand remains outstanding.

**Tangelos:** Florida's tangelo forecast is 1.00 million boxes (45,000 tons), unchanged from the December forecast and last season's final utilization. The forecasted fruit per tree is up from last year. Fruit size is below normal while droppage is above average.

**Tangerines and mandarins:** The United States tangerine and mandarin crop is forecast at 698,000 tons, down 3 percent from the December forecast but up 2 percent from last season's final utilization. In Florida, harvest of Fallglo varieties is complete for the season and harvest of Sunburst is expected to be complete this month. Projected Honey fruit size is below normal while the projected droppage rate is slightly above average.

**Florida citrus:** High temperatures for the month began in the low 80s and upper 70s and rose to the lower and mid 80s by month's end. Rainfall was scattered and generally light as the dry season continues. The abnormally dry conditions observed in the citrus producing regions remained fairly consistent, leaving only the western area completely drought free. Field workers are reporting small sizes on all varieties. Grove activity included resetting of new trees, pushing of dead groves and replanting new citrus, mowing, fertilizing and psyllid control. About 91 percent of the packinghouses have opened and begun shipping small quantities of fruit. Sixteen of nineteen processing plants are open so far this season.

**California citrus:** Citrus growers worked to protect groves from December frosts. Growers set up wind machines, irrigation, and other measures to minimize damage to trees and fruit. Citrus harvest was slowed due to the freezing temperatures. Navel oranges sustained some freeze damage. Damaged fruit was sent to be juiced. Navel orange harvest continued, along with the harvest of lemons, Oroblanco and melogold grapefruits, and pomelos. Satsuma mandarin and Owari and Clementine tangerine harvests continued.

**California noncitrus fruits and nuts:** Persimmon, pomegranate, and kiwi harvests were finished. Apple harvest was nearly complete. The table grape harvest was complete. Wine Grape harvest was complete; grapevines were dormant and pruning was ongoing. Avocado harvest began. Orchards and vineyards were irrigated due to the lack of rain. The harvest of walnuts was complete. Harvested walnut, almond, and pistachio orchards were pruned, irrigated, and fertilized. Tree removals were ongoing and land was prepared for tree planting. Nut crops were being sprayed with dormant sprays.

**Hay stocks on farms:** All hay stored on United States farms December 1, 2013 totaled 89.3 million tons, up 17 percent from a year ago. Disappearance from May 1, 2013 - December 1, 2013 totaled 60.5 million tons, compared with 64.7 million tons for the same period a year earlier.

Hay stocks were up from low 2012 levels as improved weather conditions lead to larger production totals in many states when compared with last year's drought. Hay stocks decreased in the Southeast, Delta and Southwest where production was lower in 2013.

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey procedures:** The orange objective yield survey for the January 1 forecast was conducted in Florida, which produces about 68 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 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 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 January 1 forecast.

**Revision policy:** The January 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 January 1 production forecasts, the "Root Mean Square Error," a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the January 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 January 1 orange production forecast is 3.3 percent regardless if you exclude the three abnormal production years (one freeze season and two 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 3.3 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 5.7 percent regardless of whether abnormal seasons are excluded.

Changes between the January 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 287,000 tons regardless of whether abnormal seasons are excluded, ranging from 2,000 tons to 638,000 tons regardless of exclusions. The January 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 7 times and above 13 times (below 7 times and above 10 times, excluding abnormal seasons). The difference does not imply that the January 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
Anthony Prillaman, Head, Field Crops Section .....	(202) 720-2127
Cody Brokmeyer – Peanuts, Rice.....	(202) 720-7688
Brent Chittenden – Oats, Rye, Wheat .....	(202) 720-8068
Angie Considine – Cotton, Cotton Ginnings, Sorghum .....	(202) 720-5944
Tony Dahlman – Crop Weather, Barley, Hay .....	(202) 720-7621
Chris Hawthorn – Corn, Flaxseed, Proso Millet .....	(202) 720-9526
Travis Thorson – Soybeans, Sunflower, Other Oilseeds.....	(202) 720-7369
Jorge Garcia-Pratts, Head, Fruits, Vegetables and Special Crops Section.....	(202) 720-2127
Jorge Garcia-Pratts – Fresh and Processing Vegetables, Onions, Strawberries.....	(202) 720-2127
Jorge Garcia-Pratts – Floriculture, Maple Syrup, Nursery, Tree Nuts .....	(202) 720-2127
Fred Granja – Apples, Apricots, Cherries, Plums, Prunes, Tobacco .....	(202) 720-4288
LaKeya Jones – 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 Schaubert – Berries, Cranberries, Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes .....	(202) 720-4285



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