



Released April 9, 2014, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Orange Production Down 2 Percent from March Forecast

The United States all orange forecast for the 2013-2014 season is 7.20 million tons, down 2 percent from the previous forecast and down 13 percent from the 2012-2013 revised final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 110 million boxes (4.95 million tons), is down 4 percent from the previous forecast and down 18 percent from last season's final utilization. Early, midseason, and Navel varieties in Florida are forecast at 53.0 million boxes (2.39 million tons), unchanged from the previous forecast but down 21 percent from last season. The Row Count Survey conducted April 1-2, 2014 showed about 99 percent of the Early-Midseason rows had been harvested. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 57.0 million boxes (2.57 million tons), is down 7 percent from the previous forecast and down 14 percent from last season's final utilization.

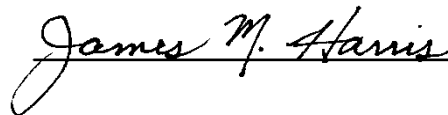
The California Valencia orange forecast is 12.0 million boxes (480,000 tons), unchanged from the previous forecast and last season's revised final utilization. The California Navel orange forecast is 42.0 million boxes (1.68 million tons), unchanged from the previous forecast but down 1 percent from last season's revised final utilization. The Texas all orange forecast, at 2.01 million boxes (85,000 tons), is up 10 percent from the previous forecast and up 12 percent from last season's final utilization.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield forecast for the 2013-2014 season is 1.60 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix, down 1 percent from the March forecast but up 1 percent from last season's final yield of 1.59 gallons per box. The early-midseason portion is projected at 1.52 gallons per box, up 1 percent from last season's yield of 1.51 gallons per box. The Valencia portion is projected at 1.69 gallons per box, unchanged from last year's final yield. 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 9, 2014.



Acting Secretary of
Agriculture
Krysta Harden



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
James M. Harris

Contents

Utilized Production of Citrus Fruits by Crop – States and United States: 2012-2013 and Forecasted April 1, 2014.....	5
Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Domestic Units – United States: 2013 and 2014.....	6
Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Metric Units – United States: 2013 and 2014	8
Fruits and Nuts Production in Domestic Units – United States: 2013 and 2014	10
Fruits and Nuts Production in Metric Units – United States: 2013 and 2014.....	11
Percent of Normal Precipitation Map	12
Departure from Normal Temperature Map	12
March Weather Summary	13
March Agricultural Summary	13
Crop Comments	14
Statistical Methodology	15
Information Contacts	16

This page intentionally left blank.

Utilized Production of Citrus Fruits by Crop – States and United States: 2012-2013 and Forecasted April 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 ¹		Utilized production ton equivalent	
	2012-2013 (1,000 boxes)	2013-2014 (1,000 boxes)	2012-2013 (1,000 tons)	2013-2014 (1,000 tons)
Oranges				
Early, mid, and Navel ²				
California	42,500	42,000	1,700	1,680
Florida	67,100	53,000	3,020	2,385
Texas	1,499	1,601	64	68
United States	111,099	96,601	4,784	4,133
Valencia				
California	12,000	12,000	480	480
Florida	66,500	57,000	2,993	2,565
Texas	289	404	12	17
United States	78,789	69,404	3,485	3,062
All				
California	54,500	54,000	2,180	2,160
Florida	133,600	110,000	6,013	4,950
Texas	1,788	2,005	76	85
United States	189,888	166,005	8,269	7,195
Grapefruit				
White				
Florida	5,250	4,000	223	170
Colored				
Florida	13,100	12,000	557	510
All				
California	4,500	4,000	180	160
Florida	18,350	16,000	780	680
Texas	6,100	6,070	244	243
United States	28,950	26,070	1,204	1,083
Tangerines and mandarins				
Arizona ³	200	200	8	8
California ³	13,000	13,200	520	528
Florida	3,280	2,950	156	140
United States	16,480	16,350	684	676
Lemons				
Arizona	1,800	1,785	72	71
California	21,000	20,000	840	800
United States	22,800	21,785	912	871
Tangelos				
Florida	1,000	880	45	40

¹ 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.

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.

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)
Grains and hay				
Barley	3,480	3,165	3,000	
Corn for grain ¹	95,365	91,691	87,668	
Corn for silage	(NA)		6,256	
Hay, all	(NA)	(NA)	58,257	58,267
Alfalfa	(NA)		17,763	
All other	(NA)		40,494	
Oats	3,010	2,794	1,030	
Proso millet	720		638	
Rice	2,489	2,877	2,468	
Rye	1,446		278	
Sorghum for grain ¹	8,061	6,681	6,530	
Sorghum for silage	(NA)		380	
Wheat, all	56,156	55,815	45,157	
Winter	43,090	42,007	32,402	
Durum	1,470	1,799	1,421	
Other spring	11,596	12,009	11,334	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1,348.0	1,737.0	1,264.5	
Cottonseed	(X)	(X)	(X)	
Flaxseed	181	326	172	
Mustard seed	45.0		43.4	
Peanuts	1,067.0	1,376.0	1,042.0	
Rapeseed	1.7		1.7	
Safflower	175.5		170.0	
Soybeans for beans	76,533	81,493	75,869	
Sunflower	1,575.5	1,592.0	1,474.6	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all	10,407.0	11,101.0	7,664.4	
Upland	10,206.0	10,943.0	7,465.0	
American Pima	201.0	158.0	199.4	
Sugarbeets	1,198.1	1,154.6	1,154.2	
Sugarcane	(NA)		906.6	
Tobacco	(NA)	(NA)	355.7	361.9
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas	18.0	28.5	14.1	
Dry edible beans	1,354.7	1,686.0	1,311.3	
Dry edible peas	860.0	921.0	797.0	
Lentils	362.0	320.0	347.0	
Wrinkled seed peas	(NA)		(NA)	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
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	75.5	72.9	
Summer	48.7		47.5	
Fall	941.9		931.6	
Spearmint oil	(NA)		24.5	
Sweet potatoes	115.7	126.3	113.2	
Taro (Hawaii) ²	(NA)		0.4	

See footnote(s) at end of table.

--continued

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)
Grains and hay				
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 ³	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	
Oilseeds				
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	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ³	bales	826	13,186.7	
Upland ³	bales	807	12,551.0	
American Pima ³	bales	1,530	635.7	
Sugarbeets	tons	28.5	32,837	
Sugarcane	tons	34.7	31,440	
Tobacco	pounds	2,036	724,108	
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas ³	cwt	1,617	228	
Dry edible beans ³	cwt	1,867	24,486	
Dry edible peas ³	cwt	1,960	15,620	
Lentils ³	cwt	1,446	5,019	
Wrinkled seed peas	cwt	(NA)	275	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
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.

¹ Area planted for all purposes.

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

³ 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)
Grains and hay				
Barley	1,408,320	1,280,840	1,214,070	
Corn for grain ¹	38,593,260	37,106,430	35,478,360	
Corn for silage	(NA)		2,531,740	
Hay, all ²	(NA)	(NA)	23,576,030	23,580,070
Alfalfa	(NA)		7,188,510	
All other	(NA)		16,387,520	
Oats	1,218,120	1,130,700	416,830	
Proso millet	291,380		258,190	
Rice	1,007,270	1,164,290	998,770	
Rye	585,180		112,500	
Sorghum for grain ¹	3,262,210	2,703,730	2,642,630	
Sorghum for silage	(NA)		153,780	
Wheat, all ²	22,725,770	22,587,770	18,274,590	
Winter	17,438,090	16,999,810	13,112,770	
Durum	594,890	728,040	575,060	
Other spring	4,692,790	4,859,920	4,586,760	
Oilseeds				
Canola	545,520	702,950	511,730	
Cottonseed	(X)	(X)	(X)	
Flaxseed	73,250	131,930	69,610	
Mustard seed	18,210		17,560	
Peanuts	431,800	556,850	421,690	
Rapeseed	690		690	
Safflower	71,020		68,800	
Soybeans for beans	30,972,140	32,979,400	30,703,430	
Sunflower	637,590	644,270	596,760	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ²	4,211,610	4,492,460	3,101,710	
Upland	4,130,270	4,428,520	3,021,010	
American Pima	81,340	63,940	80,700	
Sugarbeets	484,860	467,260	467,090	
Sugarcane	(NA)		366,890	
Tobacco	(NA)	(NA)	143,940	146,460
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas	7,280	11,530	5,710	
Dry edible beans	548,230	682,310	530,670	
Dry edible peas	348,030	372,720	322,540	
Lentils	146,500	129,500	140,430	
Wrinkled seed peas	(NA)		(NA)	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Coffee (Hawaii)	(NA)		2,950	
Hops	(NA)		14,250	
Peppermint oil	(NA)		27,840	
Potatoes, all ²	431,600		425,730	
Spring	30,720	30,550	29,500	
Summer	19,710		19,220	
Fall	381,180		377,010	
Spearmint oil	(NA)		9,910	
Sweet potatoes	46,820	51,110	45,810	
Taro (Hawaii) ³	(NA)		160	

See footnote(s) at end of table.

--continued

**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)
Grains and hay				
Barley	3.86		4,682,770	
Corn for grain	9.97		353,715,030	
Corn for silage	42.23		106,912,630	
Hay, all ²	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 ²	3.17		57,960,800	
Winter	3.18		41,755,520	
Durum	2.93		1,685,000	
Other spring	3.17		14,520,280	
Oilseeds				
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	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ²	0.93		2,871,070	
Upland	0.90		2,732,660	
American Pima	1.72		138,410	
Sugarbeets	63.78		29,789,230	
Sugarcane	77.74		28,521,890	
Tobacco	2.28		328,450	
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
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	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Coffee (Hawaii)	1.07		3,180	
Hops	2.21		31,450	
Peppermint oil	0.10		2,780	
Potatoes, all ²	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.

¹ Area planted for all purposes.

² Total may not add due to rounding.

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

Fruits and Nuts 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, except citrus which is for the 2013-2014 season. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Production	
	2013	2014
	(1,000)	(1,000)
Citrus ¹		
Grapefruittons	1,204	1,083
Lemonstons	912	871
Orangestons	8,269	7,195
Tangelos (Florida)tons	45	40
Tangerines and mandarinstons	684	676
Noncitrus		
Apples 1,000 pounds		
Apricotstons		
Bananas (Hawaii)pounds		
Grapestons		
Olives (California)tons		
Papayas (Hawaii)pounds		
Peachestons		
Pearstons		
Prunes, dried (California)tons		
Prunes and plums (excludes California)tons		
Nuts and miscellaneous		
Almonds, shelled (California)pounds		
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon)tons		
Pecans, in-shellpounds		
Walnuts, in-shell (California)tons		
Maple syrup gallons	3,253	

¹ Production years are 2012-2013 and 2013-2014.

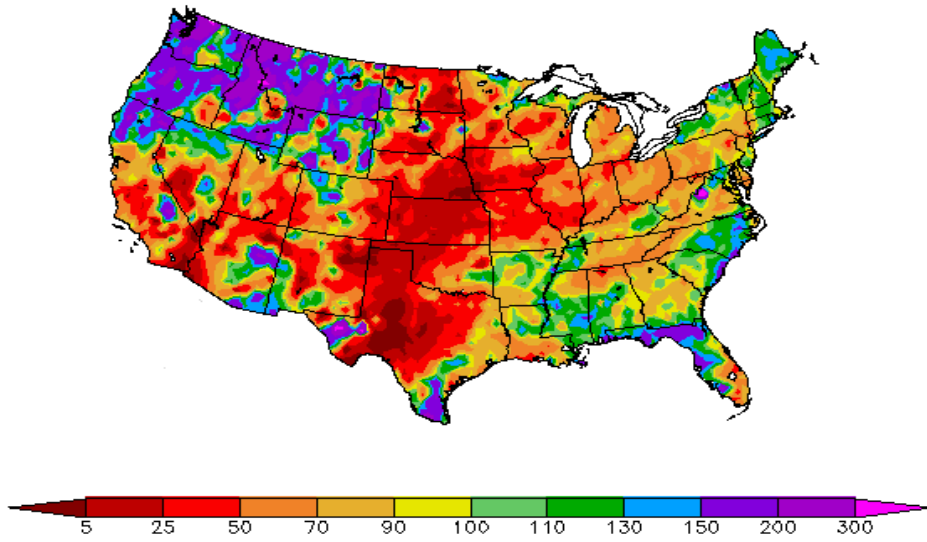
Fruits and Nuts Production in Metric Units – United States: 2013 and 2014

[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 data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Production	
	2013 (metric tons)	2014 (metric tons)
Citrus ¹		
Grapefruit	1,092,250	982,480
Lemons	827,350	790,160
Oranges	7,501,510	6,527,190
Tangelos (Florida)	40,820	36,290
Tangerines and mandarins	620,510	613,260
Noncitrus		
Apples		
Apricots		
Bananas (Hawaii)		
Grapes		
Olives (California)		
Papayas (Hawaii)		
Peaches		
Pears		
Prunes, dried (California)		
Prunes and plums (excludes California)		
Nuts and miscellaneous		
Almonds, shelled (California)		
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon)		
Pecans, in-shell		
Walnuts, in-shell (California)		
Maple syrup	16,260	

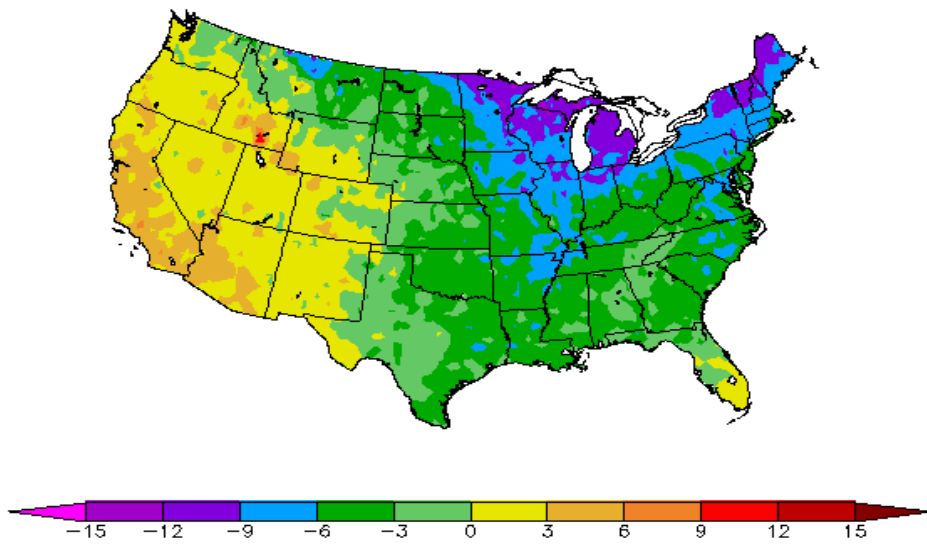
¹ Production years are 2012-2013 and 2013-2014.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
3/1/2014 - 3/31/2014



Regional Climate Centers

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
3/1/2014 - 3/31/2014



Regional Climate Centers

March Weather Summary

Under a dry, windy weather regime, worsening drought led to declines in rangeland, pasture, and winter wheat conditions across the central and southern Plains. By March 30, the portion of the wheat crop rated in very poor to poor condition included 59 percent in Texas, 44 percent in Oklahoma, and 25 percent in Kansas, compared to 46, 31, and 22 percent, respectively, just four weeks earlier.

Meanwhile, wintry conditions refused to yield from the northern Plains into the Northeast. Chicago was among several Midwestern locations reporting a record-low average temperature from December to March. And in the Northeast, a large number of communities noted record-low March average temperatures, as well as a record-high number of sub-zero days in March. Due to low temperatures and frequent snowfall, much of the Nation's northern tier remained covered by snow at month's end. In addition, an end-of-month blizzard struck the Dakotas and neighboring areas, bringing snow back to some areas where it had only recently melted.

Farther west, a second consecutive month of wet weather affected areas from the Pacific Northwest to the northern Rockies. Wetness was a contributing factor to a deadly mudslide in western Washington but also bolstered Northwestern water-supply prospects and aided pastures and winter grains. In contrast, California, the Great Basin, and much of the Southwest neared the end of a third consecutive year of drought, although locally significant, late-month storminess aided rain-fed crops and temporarily eased irrigation demands.

Elsewhere, abundant rainfall soaked portions of the South and East. In combination with below-normal temperatures, spring fieldwork—including corn, rice, and sorghum planting—was mostly behind schedule across the Deep South during March. By March 30, corn was 30 percent planted in Mississippi, 28 percent in Texas, and 18 percent in Arkansas, compared to respective 5-year averages of 47, 48, and 30 percent. In addition, late-month freezes—mainly on March 26-27—threatened, but did not appear to significantly harm, blooming Southeastern fruits.

March Agricultural Summary

Temperatures were generally below normal in the United States for the month of March with notable exceptions west of the Rocky Mountains and in southern Florida. Average temperatures were more than 6°F below normal in the Upper Mississippi Valley, Great Lakes, and New England regions. Along with cooler temperatures, the Nation also saw below-normal precipitation with most of the Great Plains recording under 0.75 inch of precipitation for the month. The lack of precipitation in the West has led to continued drought conditions. Areas in California, Colorado, Oklahoma, Nevada, and Texas remain rated in exceptional drought severity by the U.S. Drought Monitor.

In California, warmer weather allowed for the planting of cotton and the first cutting of alfalfa hay. Treatments continued in alfalfa for weevils and aphids. Winter grains that have been irrigated, or benefited from recent precipitation, grew well during the month but grain crops that had not received rain were in poor condition. Warm temperatures caused early bloom in orchards for citrus and non-citrus crops. Range and non-irrigated pastures were in poor to fair condition. Typically, livestock supplemental feeding of hay and grain declines in the spring but it continued unabated due to the lack of quality forage this year.

Continued drought conditions in the southern Plains have had a negative impact on winter wheat conditions. As of March 30, forty-four percent of the winter wheat acreage in Oklahoma and 59 percent of the winter wheat acreage in Texas were rated in poor to very poor condition. Areas in the northern Plains, which have also experienced precipitation deficiencies but less severe drought conditions, have seen less of a decline in wheat conditions over the winter months. In Nebraska, 55 percent of the winter wheat acreage was rated in good to excellent condition, while 58 percent of the acreage was rated in these two categories in South Dakota, as of March 30.

Heavy precipitation in the panhandle of Florida led to delays in field corn planting, with many producers as much as two weeks behind on preparing fields for planting. Sugar cane harvest proceeded during the month and was nearing its finish by month's end. By mid-month, full bloom was evident in both oranges and grapefruit in all of the citrus producing areas of the State. Growers continued to plant new trees in existing groves and some trees have already begun bearing very

small fruit for next season's crop. The cattle condition for the State primarily ranged from fair to good but the pasture condition was mostly fair.

Crop Comments

Grapefruit: The 2013-2014 United States grapefruit crop is forecast at 1.08 million tons, up 3 percent from the previous forecast but down 10 percent from last season's revised final utilization. The Row Count Survey in Florida indicated that 82 percent of white grapefruit and 92 percent of colored grapefruit rows were harvested.

Tangerines and mandarins: The United States tangerine and mandarin crop is forecast at 676,000 tons, down 2 percent from the March forecast and down 1 percent from last season's final utilization. The Row Count Survey in Florida showed 72 percent of the Honey tangerine rows had been harvested.

Lemons: The forecast for the 2013-2014 United States lemon crop is 871,000 tons, unchanged from the previous forecast but down 4 percent from last season's final utilization. In California, demand remained excellent in both domestic and foreign markets. In Arizona, the quality of lemons was reportedly good while demand remained outstanding.

Tangelos: Florida's tangelo forecast is 880,000 boxes (40,000 tons), down 2 percent from the March forecast and down 11 percent from last season's final utilization. The Row Count Survey in Florida indicated that 98 percent of the rows had been harvested.

Florida citrus: In the citrus growing region, high temperatures ranged from the lower to mid 80s. Widespread rainfall continued throughout March, keeping the citrus region drought-free and well supplied with water. Field workers reported small sizes on all varieties. Some growers reported varying sizes of oranges in the same blocks, ranging from slightly larger than golfball size to larger than baseball size. Grove activities included irrigating, hedging, topping, and spraying. Growers were continuing to plant new trees in existing groves. Full bloom was evident in all areas on both oranges and grapefruit. Some trees were already bearing very small fruit for next season's crop. Several processing plants closed temporarily until Valencia oranges begin, while a few plants were running grapefruit only. All but four packing houses were open and shipping fruit in limited quantities while some had transitioned to gift fruit packing only.

California citrus: Navel and Valencia oranges, Murcott tangerines, grapefruit, lemons, and Minneola tangelos were harvested. Early bloom was noted in citrus groves due to warm weather. Nets were placed over mandarin trees to prevent pollination from bees. Young citrus trees were pruned.

California noncitrus fruits and nuts: Peach, nectarine, plum, cherry, and apricot trees bloomed and leafed out. Prune trees also bloomed. Fruit thinning began on early stone fruit varieties. Grape growers applied fungicides to protect against powdery mildew. Grape and kiwi vines began to leaf out. Apple trees bloomed. Pomegranate trees were coming out of dormancy due to warmer than normal temperatures. Olive trees were pruned. Blueberries were blooming and leafing out. Early pistachio varieties began blooming. Almond and pistachio growers applied fungicides to orchards. Almond trees leafed out and experienced some nut drop. Walnut growers set out traps for codling moth; early varieties of walnuts showed signs of bud swell. Walnut catkins developed.

Statistical Methodology

Survey procedures: The orange objective yield survey for the April 1 forecast was conducted in Florida, which accounts for about 66 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. However, if you exclude the three abnormal production years (one freeze season and two hurricane seasons), the "Root Mean Square Error" is 1.8 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 1.7 percent, or 1.8 percent excluding abnormal seasons. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 3.0 percent, or 3.2 percent, excluding abnormal seasons.

Changes between the April 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 137,000 tons (147,000 tons, excluding abnormal seasons), ranging from 0 to 368,000 tons regardless of exclusions. The April 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 7 times, above 12 times, and equal to once (below 5 times, above 11 times, and equal to once 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

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

Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit <http://www.nass.usda.gov> and in the “Follow NASS” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#) (PDF), found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.