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CITRUS

JUNE FORECAST MATURITY TEST RESULTS



**FLORIDA
 AGRICULTURE**

June 9, 2000

ALL ORANGES RAISED TO 230.0 MILLION BOXES

The 1999-00 Florida all orange forecast (excluding Temples), released today by the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Board, is increased 2.0 million boxes to 230.0 million boxes. The increase is entirely in the late type (Valencia) crop. If realized, this season's total crop will have been exceeded only by the 1997-98 recorded utilization of 244.0 boxes.

Although the current weather situation is not ideal for citrus, the conditions during the majority of this season have been surprisingly beneficial to the quality and quantity of the oranges. The mild weather throughout the winter and the controlled moisture (irrigation) in almost all groves was reflected in the exceptionally small loss from fruit drop and the above average fruit size/weight relationship. Demand for processed product has been good and harvest labor and plant capacity have been adequate to utilize this large crop in an efficient manner.

EARLY AND MIDSEASON ORANGES AT 134.0 MILLION BOXES

The early and midseason orange crop is finalized at 134.0 million boxes. This estimate of utilization includes 1.7 million boxes of gift fruit and unrecorded use. This is the third largest crop of record and only four percent less than the largest crop of 140.0 million boxes in the 1997-98 season.

This estimate is eight percent above the initial forecast made last October. The differential is attributable to several factors, including tree attrition rates, extremely

FORECAST DATES 1999-00 SEASON
 July 12, 2000

small loss from fruit drop, and the fruit size/weight relationships. All factors combined in a positive way.

The Navel portion (included in the early and midseason total) final estimate of recorded utilization is 5.4 million boxes, the same as the forecast last October. There were some rows left unharvested.

VALENCIAS UP 2.0 MILLION BOXES

The late type orange (Valencia) forecast is increased to 96.0 million boxes. This is 2.0 million boxes more than last month and 9.0 million boxes over the October 1999 forecast. The route survey (Row Count) of June 1 indicated the largest percent rows unharvested since the 1988-89 season, with over 20 percent still having fruit. An inquiry of all processors estimated that they had about 28 percent of their expected volume remaining after May 28. Analysis of these factors indicated the increase.

In recent seasons there has been a relatively small percentage of Valencias remaining as of June 1. The productivity of unharvested groves and the rate of harvest, along with weather conditions, will combine to influence the final estimate of production. Weekly harvest has declined for the past month. As of June 4, estimated certifications total 79.3 million boxes. Last season only 2.0 million boxes remained to be certified.

FCOJ NOW 1.55 GALLONS PER BOX

The all orange FCOJ yield projection is increased from 1.54 gallons of 42.0 degree Brix concentrate per box to 1.55. The early and midseason portion is final at 1.475739 gallons per box as reported by the Florida Citrus Processors Association.

The late portion yield projection is increased from 1.66 gallons per box to 1.67 gallons. This will be the lowest yield for Valencia oranges since the 1995-96 season. Last season's yield was a record 1.75 gallons per box.

May was extremely dry in all areas of the citrus belt. Irrigation was used extensively in all areas. Surface water supplies and some ground water sources are depleted. Trees in irrigated groves are in good condition but non-irrigated trees are showing signs of extended wilt and are dropping new crop fruit.

Citrus production, June 1, 2000
 forecasts by varieties and states, with comparisons

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	1997-98	1998-99	May 12, 2000	Jun 9, 2000
Early, Midseason, and Navel Oranges:	- - - 1,000 boxes - - -			
FLORIDA	140,000	112,000	134,000	134,000
California	44,000	21,000	40,000	40,000
Texas	1,350	1,250	1,500	1,500
Arizona	350	550	550	550
Total Above Varieties	185,700	134,800	176,050	176,050
Valencias:				
FLORIDA	104,000	74,000	94,000	96,000
California	25,000	15,000	27,000	27,000
Texas	175	180	200	200
Arizona	650	600	350	350
Total Valencias	129,825	89,780	121,550	123,550
All Oranges:				
FLORIDA	244,000	186,000	228,000	230,000
California	69,000	36,000	67,000	67,000
Texas	1,525	1,430	1,700	1,700
Arizona	1,000	1,150	900	900
Total All Oranges	315,525	224,580	297,600	299,600

SEEDLESS GRAPEFRUIT NOW 52.5 MILLION BOXES

The all seedless grapefruit forecast is increased 4.0 million boxes to 52.5 million boxes. The white seedless portion is increased 1.5 million boxes to 21.0 million and the colored varieties are up 2.5 million to 31.5 million boxes. This will be the highest utilization of white seedless since the 23.5 million boxes harvested in the 1996-97 season and 18 percent larger than the 17.8 million box crop of the previous season. If realized, this will be a record high utilization of colored grapefruit surpassing the 31.4 million boxes in the 1996-97 season. The three highest utilizations have occurred in the four most recent seasons.

The monthly Row Count survey, conducted May 31-June 1, shows about five percent of the rows remaining with harvestable amounts of fruit. White seedless has about three percent remaining while colored has about seven percent. Some of the fruit is from a late spring bloom and its usability is questionable because of the hot, dry weather. Most fresh fruit packinghouses have closed for the season and the majority of the fruit is being processed.

Including an allocation for non-certified usage, estimated total utilization is 20.6 million boxes of white seedless and 30.7 million boxes of colored seedless varieties. Weekly utilization during May remained above one million boxes, higher than in most years. Demand for fruit for processing has been strong to replenish inventories depleted last season.

The latest weekly estimated utilization for the week through June 4 shows 166,000 boxes of white seedless and 410,000 boxes of colored varieties. Several fresh squeeze plants are expected to continue to receive fruit into the early summer.

Citrus production, June 1, 2000
forecasts by varieties and states, with comparisons

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	1997-98 ^{1/}	1998-99	May 12, 2000	June 9, 2000
--- 1,000 boxes ---				
Grapefruit:				
FLORIDA-All	49,550	47,050	49,100	53,100
Seedless	48,900	46,500	48,500	52,500
White	18,300	17,800	19,500	21,000
Colored	30,600	28,700	29,000	31,500
Seedy (Other)	650	550	600	600
Texas	4,800	6,100	5,700	5,950
Arizona	800	750	850	850
California	9,000	7,500	8,000	8,000
Total Grapefruit	64,150	61,400	63,650	67,900
Lemons:				
California	22,000	16,200	20,000	20,000
Arizona	2,600	3,450	3,100	3,100
Total Lemons	24,600	19,650	23,100	23,100
Limes: Florida	440	500	(Final) 600	(Final) 600
Temples: Florida	2,520	1,800	1,950	1,950
Tangelos: Florida	2,850	2,550	2,200	2,200
K-Early: Florida	40	80	110	110
Tangerines:				
FLORIDA-All	5,200	4,950	6,900	7,100
Early ^{2/}	3,200	3,050	4,400	4,400
Honey	2,000	1,900	2,500	2,700
California ^{3/}	2,400	1,500	2,100	2,100
Arizona ^{3/}	600	950	900	900
Total Tangerines	8,200	7,400	9,900	10,100

^{1/} Excludes 6 million boxes of economic abandonment in FL: 5 million white seedless and 1 million colored. ^{2/} Robinson, Fallglo, Sunburst, and Dancy. ^{3/} Includes tangelos.

SEEDY GRAPEFRUIT UNCHANGED

The seedy (Duncan) grapefruit forecast is maintained at 600,000 boxes. This is slightly higher than the 550,000 boxes utilized last season but still one of the lowest crops harvested. Estimated certifications to June 4 are 551,000 boxes with approximately five percent of the rows remaining with usable fruit.

All TANGERINES 7.1 MILLION BOXES HONEY FORECAST RAISED

The forecast of all tangerines is increased to 7.1 million boxes making this record crop even larger. If attained, this crop will surpass the record 6.7 million box combined crop of 1979-80 by six percent. The increase of 200,000 boxes is entirely within the late portion, raising the forecast of **Honey** tangerines to 2.7 million boxes. The early portion consisting of the **Robinson, Fallglo, Dancy,** and **Sunburst** varieties is final at 4.4 million boxes and the second largest crop in recent years.

Weekly certifications of Honey tangerines are declining with fresh figures tapering off more quickly than processing. Nearly 97 percent of the rows observed during the route survey were harvested. If this forecast is realized, the crop would be second only to the 2.8 million boxes recorded in 1979-80.

TEMPLES 1.95 MILLION BOXES

The Temple forecast is maintained at 1.95 million boxes. This crop would be the third smallest in the last forty seasons, surpassing only the crop of the previous season by eight percent and the freeze affected 1989-90 crop by 39 percent. The route survey shows about two percent of the rows remaining for harvest. Utilization has been slow during the past month with fewer than 50,000 boxes certified for processing.

TANGELOS FINAL AT 2.2 MILLION BOXES

The tangelo crop is final at 2.2 million boxes. Certifications of utilization total 2.0 million boxes and the allowance for non-certified gift fruit is 200,000 boxes. The Row Count survey indicated that less one percent of the rows along the routes have unharvested fruit. This crop is 14 percent smaller than last season's and the smallest since 1968-69.

K-EARLY CITRUS FINAL AT 110,000 BOXES

During the decade of the 1990s, crop size has ranged from 40,000 - 210,000 boxes. Although this season's crop is well below the average of the earlier portion of the decade, final production has increased for the second consecutive year. At 110,000 boxes, the crop is 38 percent larger than the previous season's 80,000 boxes and nearly three times as large as the 1997-98 crop of 40,000 boxes.

Unadjusted Maturity Tests: Average of regular bloom fruit from sample groves, 1997-98 and 1999-00 seasons ^{1/}

Fruit type (No. groves) test date	Acid		Solids (Brix)		Ratio		Unfinished juice per box		Solids per box	
	1997-98	1999-00	1997-98	1999-00	1997-98	1999-00	1997-98	1999-00	1997-98	1999-00
	Percent		Percent				Pounds		Pounds	
Juice and solids per box are unadjusted and not comparable to plant test results.										
ORANGES:										
Late (10-27)										
Oct 1	2.18	2.54	8.86	8.61	4.13	3.46	47.55	43.39	4.22	3.74
Nov 1	1.86	2.14	9.44	8.75	5.18	4.16	50.82	46.80	4.80	4.10
Dec 1	1.51	1.76	10.23	9.85	6.90	5.66	52.69	51.13	5.40	5.04
Jan 1	1.28	1.53	11.02	10.85	8.73	7.18	54.46	52.48	6.01	5.70
Feb 1	1.14	1.36	11.86	11.58	10.57	8.59	55.31	52.96	6.56	6.14
Mar 1	1.06	1.26	12.73	12.55	12.21	10.07	54.40	51.97	6.93	6.53
Apr 1	0.99	1.07	12.91	12.92	13.26	12.16	53.74	52.52	6.94	6.79
May 1	0.85	0.94	13.51	13.45	16.07	14.40	54.78	51.63	7.41	6.95
Jun 1	0.71	0.81	13.74	13.61	19.72	16.96	54.57	51.05	7.52	6.96

^{1/} Too few samples to test in 1998-99.

NOTICE: All samples were run through an FMC 091 machine using mechanical pressure only. This machine utilizes a .040 short strainer and standard 5/8-inch orifice tube. The beam settings are also identical to past tests and no restrictors are used.

Maturity test averages by areas, June 1, 2000

Fruit type	Groves sampled	Acid	Solids (Brix)	Ratio	Unfinished juice per box	Solids per box
	Number	Percent	Percent		Pounds	Pounds
ORANGES:						
Late						
Indian River Dist.	2	0.90	14.30	15.97	54.47	7.81
Other Areas	25	0.81	13.55	17.03	50.78	6.89

Unadjusted maturity tests, June 1, 2000 Valencia (Late) Oranges: Averages of regular bloom fruit from sample groves, by seasons, 1980-81 through 1999-2000

Season	Groves sampled	Acid	Solids (Brix)	Ratio	Unfinished juice per box	Solids per box
	Number	Percent	Percent		Pounds	Pounds
1980-81	15	0.92	12.78	14.18	51.94	6.61
1981-82	9	0.82	11.74	14.47	47.44	5.55
1982-83	15	0.87	13.15	15.31	52.02	6.84
1983-84	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
1984-85	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
1985-86	21	0.79	12.13	15.44	52.76	6.42
1986-87	17	0.78	12.27	15.85	55.42	6.81
1987-88	26	0.88	13.08	14.97	55.75	7.30
1988-89	27	0.81	13.17	16.53	56.00	7.39
1989-90	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
1990-91	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
1991-92	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
1992-93	15	0.84	13.88	16.74	55.20	7.68
1993-94	23	0.78	13.22	17.31	54.64	7.23
1994-95	10	0.72	12.87	18.09	56.26	7.24
1995-96	17	0.82	12.96	16.14	53.52	6.94
1996-97	23	0.76	13.34	17.92	54.01	7.21
1997-98	10	0.71	13.74	19.72	54.57	7.52
1998-99	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
1999-00	27	0.81	13.61	16.96	51.05	6.96