

ARIZONA MONTHLY CROPS



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NATIONAL RELEASE DATES FOR UPCOMING REPORTS

March 25 Cotton Ginnings
March 26 Hogs and Pigs
March 30 Agricultural Prices
March 31 Grain Stocks
March 31 Prospective Plantings
April 8 Vegetables
April 9 Crop Production

U.S. ORANGE PRODUCTION DOWN 1 PERCENT

All oranges production forecast for 1998-99 is 10.2 million tons, down 1 percent from last month and down 27 percent from last year's record large crop of 13.9 million tons. Florida's all orange forecast is decreased to 192 million boxes (8.64 million tons), 1 percent lower than the February forecast and 21 percent lower than the record large 244 million boxes produced last season. Early and midseason varieties in Florida are forecast at 114 million boxes (5.13 million tons), down 2 percent from February and down 19 percent from a year ago. Florida's Valencia forecast remains unchanged at 78.0 million boxes (3.51 million tons), 25 percent below last season's 104.0 million boxes. California's all orange production forecast of 38.0 million boxes (1.43 million tons) is carried forward from January and is 49 percent less than last season. The Navel orange forecast is 19.0 million boxes (712,500 tons), down 57 percent from last year and the Valencia forecast is 19.0 million boxes (712,500 tons), 37 percent less than a year ago.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield for the 1998-99 season is forecast at 1.62 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix, up from February's forecast of 1.60 gallons per box. The forecast projects the final yield as reported by the Florida Citrus Processors Association. Projected average yield for early and midseason varieties is increased to a record high 1.59 gallons per box. Valencias are projected to yield 1.68 gallons per box, up from 1.67 gallons last month but below last season's record high of 1.72. Average pound solids are at a record high level for March 1.

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CITRUS FRUIT PRODUCTION 1996/97 AND 1997/98 AND FORECASTED MARCH 1, 1999 1/

CROP AND STATE	Utilized Production		
	1996/97	1997/98	Forecasted 1998/99
1,000 boxes 2/			
<u>ORANGES, EARLY MID & NAVEL 3/</u>			
AZ 4/	400	350	450
CA 4/	40,000	44,000	19,000
FL	134,200	140,000	114,000
TX	1,300	1,350	1,300
U.S.	175,900	185,700	134,750
<u>ORANGES, VALENCIA</u>			
AZ 4/	600	650	550
CA 4/	24,000	30,000	19,000
FL	92,000	104,000	78,000
TX	120	175	140
U.S.	116,720	134,825	97,690
<u>ALL ORANGES</u>			
AZ 4/	1,000	1,000	1,000
CA 4/	64,000	74,000	38,000
FL	226,200	244,000	192,000
TX	1,420	1,525	1,440
U.S.	292,620	320,525	232,440
<u>TEMPLES</u>			
FL	2,400	2,250	2,000
<u>ALL GRAPEFRUIT</u>			
AZ 4/	900	800	700
CA 4/	8,200	9,000	8,000
FL 5/ 6/	55,800	49,550	49,000
TX	5,300	4,800	5,400
U.S.	70,200	64,150	63,100
<u>TANGERINES</u>			
AZ 4/ 7/	550	600	700
CA 4/ 7/	2,600	2,400	1,600
FL	6,300	5,200	4,650
U.S.	9,450	8,200	6,950
<u>LEMONS 4/</u>			
AZ	2,600	2,600	3,200
CA	22,600	22,000	18,000
U.S.	25,200	24,600	21,200
<u>TANGELOS</u>			
FL	3,950	2,850	2,600
<u>K-EARLY CITRUS</u>			
FL	150	40	80

1/ The crop year begins with the bloom of the first year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year.

2/ Net lbs. per box: oranges-AZ & CA-75, FL-90, TX-85; grapefruit-AZ tangelos, K-Early Citrus & Temples-90; tangerines-AZ & CA-75, FL-95.

3/ Navel and miscellaneous varieties in AZ and CA. Early (including Navel) and midseason varieties in FL and TX. Small quantities of tangerines in TX.

4/ Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.

5/ Excludes White Seedless economic abandonment of 3,000,000 boxes in 1996-97 and 5,000,000 boxes in 1997-98.

6/ Excludes Colored Seedless economic abandonment of 3,000,000 boxes in 1996-97 and 1,000,000 boxes in 1997-98.

7/ Includes tangelos and tangors.

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DROPS 1 POINT

The All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in February was 96 based on 1990-92=100, down 1 point (1.0 percent) from January. Price decreases from January for milk, soybeans, tomatoes, and corn more than offset price increases for cattle, hogs, oranges, and potatoes. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall index level. Higher seasonal marketings of milk, cattle, broilers, and eggs more than offset the relatively lower marketings of corn, soybeans, tobacco, and cotton. These seasonal marketing changes limited the decline in the overall index. Compared with February 1998, the All Farm Products Index was 5 points (5.0 percent) lower. Price decreases from February 1998 for corn,

soybeans, hogs, and wheat more than offset price increases for milk, oranges, broilers, and almonds.

PRICES PAID INDEX UNCHANGED

The February Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 115 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was unchanged from January but 2 points (1.7 percent) below February 1998. Since January, lower prices for herbicides, feed grains, and LP gas were offset by higher prices for feeder pigs, feeder cattle, gasoline, and feed concentrates.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS: ARIZONA AND U.S. FEBRUARY 1998 AND 1999 AND JANUARY 1999

COMMODITY	UNIT	ARIZONA			UNITED STATES		
		Feb. 1998 Entire Mo.	Jan. 1999 Entire Mo.	Feb.1999 Mid-Mo.	Feb.1998 Entire Mo.	Jan. 1999 Entire Mo.	Feb.1999 Mid-Mo.
Upland Cotton 1/	¢ Lb	.619	.561	.547	.620	.583	.571
Cottonseed	\$ Ton	2/	148.00	148.00	108.00	139.00	141.00
All Wheat 2/	\$ Cwt	----	----	----	5.46	4.68	4.54
Durum Wheat 2/	\$ Cwt	----	----	----	7.87	5.36	5.19
Winter Wheat 2/	\$ Cwt	----	----	----	5.28	4.46	4.21
All Hay Baled 3/	\$ Ton	107.00	80.00	89.00	97.20	78.80	79.00
Alfalfa Hay Baled 3/	\$ Ton	108.00	80.00	90.00	106.00	81.40	82.00
Other Hay Baled 3/	\$ Ton	91.00	70.00	80.00	74.10	71.00	70.40
Other Head Lettuce 2/ 4/	\$ Cwt	----	----	----	10.90	10.30	10.20
Grapefruit 5/	\$ Box	10.20	11.60	12.30	13.70	13.30	13.10
Oranges 5/	\$ Box	11.80	35.40	30.80	13.80	22.00	22.70
Lemons 5/	\$ Box	14.80	26.00	21.30	15.80	26.80	22.10
Tangerines 5/	\$ Box	21.40	33.30	31.50	22.50	31.80	29.90
Cows 6/	\$ Cwt	37.60	34.80	34.80	36.00	33.40	34.60
Steers and Heifers	\$ Cwt	60.80	60.60	62.20	63.30	62.20	63.20
Beef Cattle 7/	\$ Cwt	59.20	60.30	61.90	60.40	59.00	61.20
Calves	\$ Cwt	93.20	81.30	81.30	88.70	83.20	87.30
All Milk 8/	\$ Cwt	14.30	17.60	17.00	14.70	17.50	16.00

1/ Includes both spot and contract sales.

2/ Not available for Arizona.

3/ Mid-month.

4/ All Head lettuce for U.S.

5/ F.O.B. packed fresh Arizona box weights: Grapefruit 67 lbs., Oranges 75 lbs, Lemons 76 lbs. Tangerines 75 lbs.

6/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

7/ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

8/ Preliminary: Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

U.S. PRICE INDEX SUMMARY TABLE

INDEX 1990-92 = 100	1998		1999	
	January	February	January	February
Prices Received	103	101	97	96
Prices Paid	117	117	115	115
Ratio 1/	88	86	84	83

1/ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.