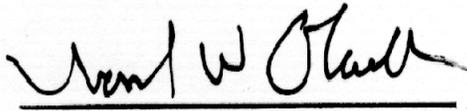

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For information on *Crop Production* call (202) 720-2127, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

All Orange Production Down 2 Percent from January

The U.S. all orange forecast for the 2008-09 season is 8.94 million tons, down 2 percent from the January 1 forecast and 12 percent lower than the 2007-08 final utilization of 10.2 million tons. Florida's all orange forecast, at 158 million boxes (7.11 million tons), decreased 2 percent from the previous forecast and is down 7 percent from last season's final utilization. Early, midseason, and navel varieties in Florida are forecast at 83.0 million boxes (3.74 million tons), down 1 percent from the January forecast and last season. Florida's Valencia forecast, at 75.0 million boxes (3.38 million tons), is down 4 percent from the previous forecast and is 13 percent less than the 2007-08 crop. Temperatures dropped below 28 degrees for four or more hours in Florida's citrus producing areas on the nights of January 21 and 22. A freeze damage survey was conducted January 27-28, and showed little or no damage at that time. Additional assessments will be made in mid-February and late-February. Objective survey measurements taken during January showed a decrease in the fruit growth rate and an increase in the drop rate for the Valencia crop.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield forecast for the 2008-09 season is 1.61 gallons per box at 42 degrees Brix, down 1 percent from the January forecast and 4 percent lower than last season's final yield of 1.67 gallons per box. The early-midseason portion is projected at 1.58 gallons per box, up 2 percent from last season's final yield of 1.55 gallons per box. The Valencia portion is expected to total 1.65 gallons per box, 8 percent lower than last year's final yield of 1.79 gallons per box. 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 February 10, 2009.



Acting Secretary of
Agriculture
Joseph W. Glauber



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
Carol C. House

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**Sugarcane: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production
by Use, State, and United States, 2007-2008**

Use and State	Area Harvested		Yield ¹		Production ¹	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
For Sugar						
FL	375.0	387.0	36.0	37.2	13,500	14,396
HI ²	20.4	20.0	73.2	80.0	1,493	1,600
LA ²	390.0	380.0	30.4	29.0	11,856	11,020
TX ²	42.5	40.0	33.5	39.8	1,424	1,592
US	827.9	827.0	34.2	34.6	28,273	28,608
For Seed						
FL	18.0	16.0	37.6	42.0	677	672
HI ²	2.5	2.0	28.3	34.0	71	68
LA ²	30.0	25.0	30.4	29.0	912	725
TX ²	1.2	1.5	30.4	39.8	36	60
US	51.7	44.5	32.8	34.3	1,696	1,525
For Sugar and Seed						
FL	393.0	403.0	36.1	37.4	14,177	15,068
HI ²	22.9	22.0	68.3	75.8	1,564	1,668
LA ²	420.0	405.0	30.4	29.0	12,768	11,745
TX ²	43.7	41.5	33.4	39.8	1,460	1,652
US	879.6	871.5	34.1	34.6	29,969	30,133

¹ Net tons.

² Estimates are carried forward from the "Crop Production 2008 Summary."

Papayas: Area and Fresh Production, by Month, Hawaii, 2007-2008

Month	Area				Fresh Production ¹	
	Total in Crop		Harvested		2007	2008
	2007	2008	2007	2008		
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
Nov	2,100	2,425	1,365	1,460	3,075	2,645
Dec	2,055	2,410	1,255	1,465	2,810	2,785

¹ Utilized fresh production.

**Citrus Fruits: Utilized Production by Crop, State, and United States,
2006-07, 2007-08 and Forecasted February 1, 2009 ¹**

Crop and State	Utilized Production Boxes			Utilized Production Ton Equivalent		
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
	<i>1,000 Boxes²</i>	<i>1,000 Boxes²</i>	<i>1,000 Boxes²</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
Oranges						
Early, Mid & Navel ³						
AZ ⁴	200	230	150	7	9	6
CA ⁴	34,500	48,500	34,500	1,294	1,819	1,294
FL	65,600	83,500	83,000	2,952	3,757	3,735
TX ⁴	1,600	1,500	1,450	68	64	62
US	101,900	133,730	119,100	4,321	5,649	5,097
Valencia						
AZ ⁴	100	150	100	4	6	4
CA ⁴	11,500	16,000	12,000	431	600	450
FL	63,400	86,700	75,000	2,853	3,902	3,375
TX ⁴	380	234	200	16	10	9
US	75,380	103,084	87,300	3,304	4,518	3,838
All						
AZ ⁴	300	380	250	11	15	10
CA ⁴	46,000	64,500	46,500	1,725	2,419	1,744
FL	129,000	170,200	158,000	5,805	7,659	7,110
TX ⁴	1,980	1,734	1,650	84	74	71
US	177,280	236,814	206,400	7,625	10,167	8,935
Grapefruit						
White						
FL	9,300	9,000	7,000	395	383	298
Colored						
FL	17,900	17,600	16,000	761	748	680
All						
AZ ⁴	100	100	150	3	3	5
CA ⁴	5,500	5,700	4,500	184	191	151
FL	27,200	26,600	23,000	1,156	1,131	978
TX ⁴	7,100	6,100	5,700	284	244	228
US	39,900	38,500	33,350	1,627	1,569	1,362
Tangerines and Mandarins						
AZ ^{4,5}	300	400	250	11	15	9
CA ^{4,5}	3,500	5,700	7,000	131	214	263
FL	4,600	5,500	4,600	219	261	219
US	8,400	11,600	11,850	361	490	491
Lemons ⁴						
AZ	2,500	1,500	2,500	95	57	95
CA	18,500	17,000	19,000	703	646	722
US	21,000	18,500	21,500	798	703	817
Tangelos						
FL	1,250	1,500	1,300	56	68	59

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 & CA-67, FL-85, TX-80; lemons-76; tangelos-90; tangerines and mandarins-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 previous forecast.

⁵ Includes tangelos and tangors.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 2008-2009
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	4,234.0		3,767.0	
Corn for Grain ²	85,982.0		78,640.0	
Corn for Silage			5,965.0	
Hay, All			60,062.0	
Alfalfa			20,980.0	
All Other			39,082.0	
Oats	3,217.0		1,395.0	
Proso Millet	520.0		460.0	
Rice	2,995.0		2,976.0	
Rye	1,260.0		269.0	
Sorghum for Grain ²	8,284.0		7,271.0	
Sorghum for Silage			408.0	
Wheat, All	63,147.0		55,685.0	
Winter	46,281.0	42,098.0	39,614.0	
Durum	2,731.0		2,584.0	
Other Spring	14,135.0		13,487.0	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1,011.0		989.0	
Cottonseed ³				
Flaxseed	354.0		340.0	
Mustard Seed	79.5		71.5	
Peanuts	1,534.0		1,507.0	
Rapeseed	0.2		0.2	
Safflower	202.0		195.0	
Soybeans for Beans	75,718.0		74,641.0	
Sunflower	2,516.5		2,396.0	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All	9,470.0		7,728.4	
Upland	9,296.0		7,559.0	
Amer-Pima	174.0		169.4	
Sugarbeets	1,090.8		1,004.6	
Sugarcane			871.5	
Tobacco			354.2	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	17.5		8.0	
Dry Edible Beans	1,495.0		1,445.2	
Dry Edible Peas	882.5		847.3	
Lentils	271.0		263.0	
Wrinkled Seed Peas ³				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			6.3	
Ginger Root (HI)			0.1	
Hops			40.9	
Peppermint Oil			60.0	
Potatoes, All	1,057.8		1,044.7	
Winter	11.0	9.0	11.0	9.0
Spring	70.3		68.8	
Summer	46.0		43.8	
Fall	930.5		921.1	
Spearmint Oil			20.4	
Sweet Potatoes	102.9		97.0	
Taro (HI) ⁴			0.4	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2009 crop year.

² Area planted for all purposes.

³ Acreage is not estimated.

⁴ Area is total acres in crop, not harvested acreage.

Crop Summary: Yield and Production, United States, 2008-2009
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Units	Yield		Production	
		2008	2009	2008	2009
				<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Grains & Hay					
Barley	Bu	63.6		239,498	
Corn for Grain	"	153.9		12,101,238	
Corn for Silage	Tons	18.7		111,619	
Hay, All	"	2.43		145,672	
Alfalfa	"	3.32		69,620	
All Other	"	1.95		76,052	
Oats	Bu	63.5		88,635	
Proso Millet	"	32.3		14,880	
Rice ²	Cwt	6,846		203,733	
Rye	Bu	29.7		7,979	
Sorghum for Grain	"	65.0		472,342	
Sorghum for Silage	Tons	13.8		5,646	
Wheat, All	Bu	44.9		2,499,524	
Winter	"	47.2		1,867,903	
Durum	"	32.8		84,877	
Other Spring	"	40.5		546,744	
Oilseeds					
Canola	Lbs	1,461		1,445,064	
Cottonseed ³	Tons			4,429.0	
Flaxseed	Bu	16.8		5,716	
Mustard Seed	Lbs	577		41,255	
Peanuts	"	3,416		5,147,900	
Rapeseed	"	1,500		300	
Safflower	"	1,592		310,433	
Soybeans for Beans	Bu	39.6		2,959,174	
Sunflower	Lbs	1,429		3,422,840	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops					
Cotton, All ²	Bales	810		13,035.6	
Upland ²	"	799		12,589.0	
Amer-Pima ²	"	1,265		446.6	
Sugarbeets	Tons	26.7		26,820	
Sugarcane	"	34.6		30,133	
Tobacco	Lbs	2,260		800,527	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils					
Austrian Winter Peas ²	Cwt	1,300		104	
Dry Edible Beans ²	"	1,768		25,558	
Dry Edible Peas ²	"	1,448		12,270	
Lentils ²	"	917		2,411	
Wrinkled Seed Peas ³	"			580	
Potatoes & Misc.					
Coffee (HI)	Lbs	1,160		7,300	
Ginger Root (HI)	"	30,000		1,800	
Hops	"	1,971		80,630.1	
Peppermint Oil	"	92		5,499	
Potatoes, All	Cwt	395		412,580	
Winter	"	230	210	2,530	1,890
Spring	"	293		20,132	
Summer	"	309		13,532	
Fall	"	409		376,386	
Spearmint Oil	Lbs	118		2,399	
Sweet Potatoes	Cwt	189		18,345	
Taro (HI) ³	Lbs			4,400	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2009 crop year.

² Yield in pounds.

³ Yield is not estimated.

Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 2007-2009
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Units	Production		
		2007	2008	2009
		<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Citrus ²				
Grapefruit	Tons	1,627	1,569	1,362
Lemons	"	798	703	817
Oranges	"	7,625	10,167	8,935
Tangelos (FL)	"	56	68	59
Tangerines and Mandarins	"	361	490	491
Noncitrus				
Apples	1,000 Lbs	9,089.4	10,035.2	
Apricots	Tons	88.5	81.5	
Bananas (HI)	Lbs	25,600.0	22,800.0	
Grapes	Tons	7,037.3	7,434.9	
Olives (CA)	"	132.5	66.8	
Papayas (HI)	Lbs	33,400.0	33,100.0	
Peaches	Tons	1,127.2	1,121.9	
Pears	"	873.0	818.5	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	"	83.0	126.0	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	"	12.1	15.6	
Nuts & Misc.				
Almonds (CA) (shelled)	Lbs	1,390,000	1,550,000	
Hazelnuts (OR) (in-shell)	Tons	37.0	32.0	
Pecans (in-shell)	Lbs	387,305	191,080	
Walnuts (CA) (in-shell)	Tons	328.0	375.0	
Maple Syrup	Gals	1,517	1,635	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2009 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2008-09 season.

² Production years are 2006-07, 2007-08, and 2008-09.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 2008-2009
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	1,713,460		1,524,470	
Corn for Grain ²	34,796,060		31,824,820	
Corn for Silage			2,413,980	
Hay, All ³			24,306,490	
Alfalfa			8,490,400	
All Other			15,816,090	
Oats	1,301,890		564,540	
Proso Millet	210,440		186,160	
Rice	1,212,050		1,204,360	
Rye	509,910		108,860	
Sorghum for Grain ²	3,352,450		2,942,500	
Sorghum for Silage			165,110	
Wheat, All ³	25,554,960		22,535,160	
Winter	18,729,460	17,036,640	16,031,390	
Durum	1,105,210		1,045,720	
Other Spring	5,720,290		5,458,050	
Oilseeds				
Canola	409,140		400,240	
Cottonseed ⁴				
Flaxseed	143,260		137,590	
Mustard Seed	32,170		28,940	
Peanuts	620,790		609,870	
Rapeseed	80		80	
Safflower	81,750		78,910	
Soybeans for Beans	30,642,320		30,206,470	
Sunflower	1,018,400		969,640	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All ³	3,832,410		3,127,610	
Upland	3,762,000		3,059,050	
Amer-Pima	70,420		68,550	
Sugarbeets	441,440		406,550	
Sugarcane			352,690	
Tobacco			143,340	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	7,080		3,240	
Dry Edible Beans	605,010		584,860	
Dry Edible Peas	357,140		342,890	
Lentils	109,670		106,430	
Wrinkled Seed Peas ⁴				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			2,550	
Ginger Root (HI)			20	
Hops			16,550	
Peppermint Oil			24,280	
Potatoes, All ³	428,080		422,780	
Winter	4,450	3,640	4,450	3,640
Spring	28,450		27,840	
Summer	18,620		17,730	
Fall	376,560		372,760	
Spearmint Oil			8,260	
Sweet Potatoes	41,640		39,250	
Taro (HI) ⁵			160	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2009 crop year.

² Area planted for all purposes.

³ Total may not add due to rounding.

⁴ Acreage is not estimated.

⁵ Area is total hectares in crop, not harvested hectares.

Crop Summary: Yield and Production, United States, 2008-2009
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Yield		Production	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	3.42		5,214,450	
Corn for Grain	9.66		307,385,600	
Corn for Silage	41.95		101,259,050	
Hay, All ²	5.44		132,151,420	
Alfalfa	7.44		63,158,200	
All Other	4.36		68,993,210	
Oats	2.28		1,286,530	
Proso Millet	1.81		337,470	
Rice	7.67		9,241,170	
Rye	1.86		202,680	
Sorghum for Grain	4.08		11,998,040	
Sorghum for Silage	31.02		5,121,970	
Wheat, All ²	3.02		68,025,900	
Winter	3.17		50,835,990	
Durum	2.21		2,309,970	
Other Spring	2.73		14,879,930	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1.64		655,470	
Cottonseed ³			4,017,920	
Flaxseed	1.06		145,190	
Mustard Seed	0.65		18,710	
Peanuts	3.83		2,335,050	
Rapeseed	1.68		140	
Safflower	1.78		140,810	
Soybeans for Beans	2.67		80,535,520	
Sunflower	1.60		1,552,570	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All ²	0.91		2,838,170	
Upland	0.90		2,740,930	
Amer-Pima	1.42		97,240	
Sugarbeets	59.85		24,330,690	
Sugarcane	77.51		27,336,200	
Tobacco	2.53		363,110	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	1.46		4,720	
Dry Edible Beans	1.98		1,159,290	
Dry Edible Peas	1.62		556,560	
Lentils	1.03		109,360	
Wrinkled Seed Peas ³			26,310	
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)	1.30		3,310	
Ginger Root (HI)	33.63		820	
Hops	2.21		36,570	
Peppermint Oil	0.10		2,490	
Potatoes, All ²	44.26		18,714,320	
Winter	25.78	23.54	114,760	85,730
Spring	32.80		913,170	
Summer	34.63		613,800	
Fall	45.80		17,072,580	
Spearmint Oil	0.13		1,090	
Sweet Potatoes	21.20		832,120	
Taro (HI) ³			2,000	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2009 crop year.

² Production may not add due to rounding.

³ Yield is not estimated.

Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 2007-2009
(Metric Units)¹

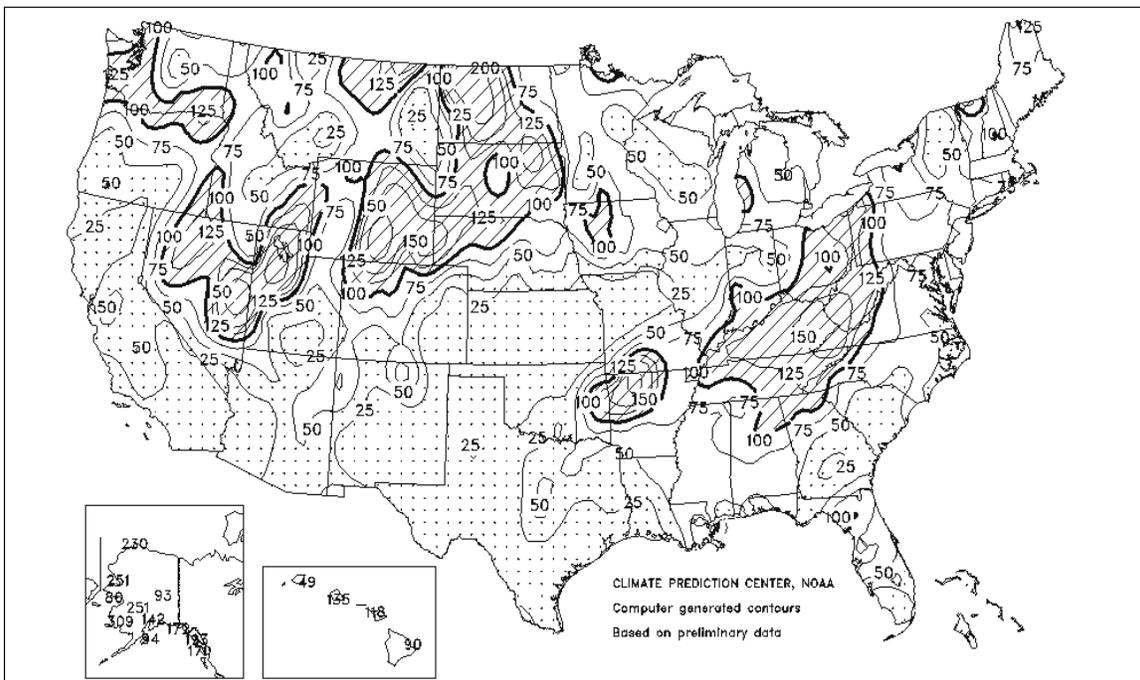
Crop	Production		
	2007	2008	2009
	<i>Metric tons</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>
Citrus ²			
Grapefruit	1,475,990	1,423,370	1,235,590
Lemons	723,930	637,750	741,170
Oranges	6,917,280	9,223,350	8,105,700
Tangelos (FL)	50,800	61,690	53,520
Tangerines and Mandarins	327,490	444,520	445,430
Noncitrus			
Apples	4,122,880	4,551,890	
Apricots	80,250	73,940	
Bananas (HI)	11,610	10,340	
Grapes	6,384,090	6,744,840	
Olives (CA)	120,200	60,600	
Papayas (HI)	15,150	15,010	
Peaches	1,022,530	1,017,780	
Pears	791,930	742,490	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	75,300	114,310	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	10,980	14,150	
Nuts & Misc.			
Almonds (CA) (shelled)	630,490	703,070	
Hazelnuts (OR) (in-shell)	33,570	29,030	
Pecans (in-shell)	175,680	86,670	
Walnuts (CA) (in-shell)	297,560	340,190	
Maple Syrup	7,580	8,170	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2009 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2008-09 season.

² Production years are 2006-07, 2007-08, and 2008-09.

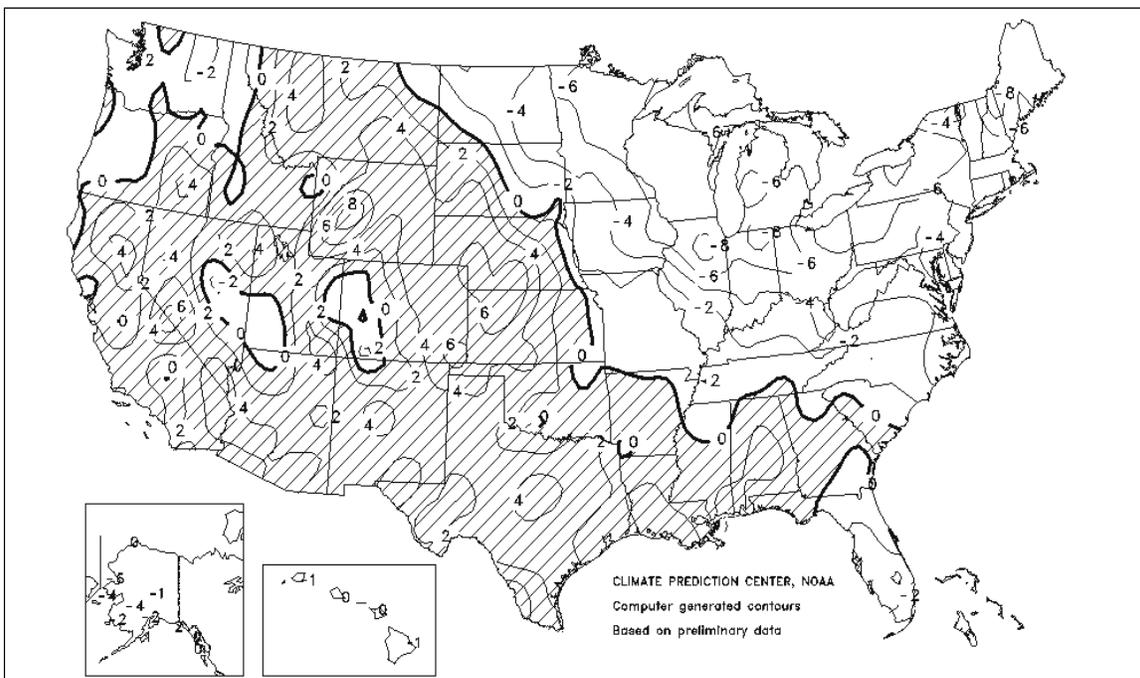
Percent Of Normal Precipitation

January 2009



Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

January 2009



January Weather Summary

Winter wheat conditions declined sharply across the southern Plains due to drought intensification and rapid temperature fluctuations. In Texas, nearly two-thirds (64 percent) of the winter wheat was rated in very poor to poor condition on February 1, up from 46 percent on January 3 and 16 percent on November 23. Similarly, 36 percent of Oklahoma's wheat was rated very poor to poor, up from 20 percent in early January and 6 percent in late November.

A late-month winter storm brought much-needed moisture to the southern Plains, but produced much more significant accumulations of ice and snow from the Mid-South into the Northeast. On January 27-28, Kentucky and neighboring states were particularly hard-hit by accretions of freezing rain, which reached an inch or more and caused major electrical disruptions.

Farther south, cold air made a deep push into Florida from January 21-23. In most Florida locations, the outbreak's lowest temperatures were observed on January 22, when nearly calm conditions were ideal for sprinklers and other freeze-protection measures. Although citrus and sugarcane appeared to escape the freezes with few adverse impacts, tender vegetables such as beans, tomatoes, and sweet corn reportedly experienced varying degrees of damage. Among winter crop areas, only southeastern Florida escaped the freeze.

Meanwhile, bitterly cold weather gripped the Midwest and Northeast. Monthly temperatures averaged at least 5 degrees F below normal from the upper Mississippi Valley into New England, including the Great Lakes States. While much of this region experienced a reprieve from the heavy snow of December, an extensive snow cover remained in place due to persistently cold conditions. In contrast, mild, breezy weather kept the northern and central High Plains free of snow for much of January.

Elsewhere, unfavorably dry weather prevailed from the Rockies westward, except for pockets of heavy snow across the Intermountain West and early-month downpours and flooding in the Pacific Northwest. An area from California into the Great Basin, where drought developed during the winter of 2006-07, was of particular concern due to already low reservoir levels and the risk of completing a third consecutive year of drought. At the end of 2008, California's 151 intrastate reservoirs held just 68 percent of their normal volume of water for December 31. On January 31, the Sierra Nevada snow pack contained an average of 10 inches of liquid, just 59 percent of average for the date.

January Agricultural Summary

January began with heavy precipitation in the Pacific Northwest and northern Rockies. Some areas, such as northwest North Dakota, received precipitation amounts reaching 400 percent of normal for the month. Portions of the Corn Belt saw patches of moderate precipitation. From the northern Delta, eastward through Kentucky and north to the Great Lakes, heavier precipitation fell. A major ice storm developed across parts of the mid-south and the Ohio Valley at the end of the month. Cooler than normal temperatures stretched from New England to eastern North Dakota to as far south as the Northern Delta. With the exception of the Pacific Northwest, areas west of the Mississippi River had near to above normal temperatures in January. Most of the Southeast saw slightly warmer than normal temperatures. However, in Florida, east of the panhandle, temperatures were unseasonably cool.

Producers in many areas began preparing for spring planting by fertilizing, irrigating, and cultivating fields. Cotton harvest wrapped up in Arizona and Texas by mid-month. Citrus harvest was ongoing across the producing areas while in Florida, harvest surpassed its season's mid-point by January 18. Florida's citrus and winter vegetable producers irrigated fields due to lack of precipitation while three consecutive freezes in late January caused some damage to citrus, sugarcane, strawberries, and vegetables.

Small grains progressed well in California while mid-month moisture aided crops in Georgia. Texas and Oklahoma wheat, however, was in need of precipitation as it began to show signs of stress by month's end.

Crop Comments

Sugarcane: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2008 is forecast at 30.1 million tons, down 2 percent from January but up 1 percent from 2007. Area harvested and to be harvested for sugar and seed, at 871,500 acres, is up slightly from last month but down 1 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 34.6 tons per acre, down 0.7 ton from last month but 0.5 ton above the 2007 crop.

Production in Florida is forecast at 15.1 million tons for the 2008 crop year, down 4 percent from January but 6 percent higher than 2007. Florida's yield, at 37.4 tons per acre, is down 1.6 tons while harvested area, at 403,000 acres, is up 2,000 acres from last month. Estimates for Hawaii, Louisiana, and Texas are carried forward from January.

Grapefruit: The forecast of the 2008-09 U.S. grapefruit crop is 1.36 million tons, unchanged from the January 1 forecast but 13 percent lower than 2007-08 final utilization of 1.57 million tons. Florida's grapefruit production is forecast at 23.0 million boxes (978 million tons), unchanged from the January forecast but 14 percent below last season. Weather for the month of January in the grapefruit growing areas of Florida was variable.

The Florida all white grapefruit forecast is 7.00 million boxes (298,000 tons), unchanged from January but down 22 percent from 2007-08 final utilization. The colored grapefruit forecast, at 16.0 million boxes (680,000 tons), is unchanged from the January 1 forecast but 9 percent lower than last season. Final fruit size of both white and colored varieties was larger than average. The drop rate of white grapefruit slowed over the past two months, with final droppage below both the average and the previous projection. The drop rate of the colored variety, however, increased the past few weeks and finished slightly above average. Approximately 60 percent of the colored grapefruit was harvested for fresh consumption and the fruit quality was reported as excellent. Arizona, California, and Texas grapefruit production forecasts are carried forward from the January forecast.

Tangerines and Mandarins: The U.S. tangerine and mandarin crop is forecast at 491,000 tons, down 3 percent from the January 1 forecast but up slightly from the 2007-08 season. Florida's tangerine crop is forecast at 4.60 million boxes (219,000 tons), down 6 percent from the January forecast and down 16 percent from 2007-08 final utilization. Harvest of the early Fallglo variety was complete for the season and the Sunburst harvest was nearing completion. Honey tangerine harvest, which accounts for more than 40 percent of Florida's total tangerine production, got underway in January. Fruit size continued to measure below average and the rate of fruit drop was still above average. Arizona and California tangerine and mandarin production forecasts are carried forward from the January forecast.

Tangelos: Florida's tangelo forecast is 1.30 million boxes (59,000 tons), down 13 percent from the January 1 forecast and last season's final production. The fruit size for the 2008-09 crop is slightly above average and the drop rate is below average. As of February 1, approximately 60 percent of the crop had been harvested.

Papayas: Hawaii fresh papaya production is estimated at 2.79 million pounds for December 2008, up 5 percent from November but down 1 percent from a year ago. Total crop area for December is estimated at 2,410 acres, down 1 percent from November but up 17 percent from December 2007. Harvested area totaled 1,465 acres, virtually unchanged from the previous month but 17 percent higher than December 2007. Weather conditions during December were generally cool and wet, benefitting dry areas with added soil moisture and increased tree growth. Heavy rain fell in some locations, causing flooding and soil erosion and slowing crop progress and field maintenance activities. Spraying for disease control was limited, raising a concern with some growers.

Florida Citrus: Weather conditions the first half of January were warm and dry, with very little rainfall. As a result, trees began to show wilt and drought conditions were extended further south. Freezing temperatures and some much needed rain arrived the third week in January, leaving heavy frost on the trees and ice in the fruit. The full impact on the citrus crop was still being assessed. Warmer temperatures returned the last week of the month, with highs in the mid-80's in the southernmost citrus producing counties. Total rainfall for the month was minimal, but with growers irrigating regularly, the dry weather had no damaging affect on the citrus crop.

Processing of the citrus crop peaked the third week of January as growers made efforts to transport fruit to the packinghouses and processing plants ahead of the freeze. Other than harvesting, grove activity included irrigating, preparing groves for harvest, fertilizing, and post-harvest hedging. Scouting for greening and pushing of affected trees continued.

California Citrus: The colder temperatures early in the month were beneficial for citrus fruit to obtain its natural color and increase shelf life, but dry weather continued and the orange crop in the San Joaquin Valley began to show some drought damage. Fruit in orange, lemon, mandarin, and grapefruit groves continued developing as harvest progressed. Citrus varieties harvested during January included Clementines, Blood, Cara Cara and navel oranges, Murcott tangerines, Minneola tangelos, lemons, and Melo Gold, Pummelo, Oro Blanco, and Cocktail grapefruit.

California Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts: Dry weather continued during January as drought conditions began to threaten fruit and nut orchards in the San Joaquin Valley. Pruning, fertilizing, and weed spraying continued in grape vineyards and dormant stone fruit orchards. Pre-emergent and contact herbicides were applied to orchard floors. Flower buds began developing on nectarine and apricot trees. Kiwifruit was harvested in various locations and olive trees were pruned. Raspberry and strawberry nursery stock digging continued but was nearly complete by month's end. Herbicide spraying, insect trapping and pruning remained underway in nut orchards. Almond, walnut, and pistachio growers also removed and replaced old, non-productive trees. Almond trees were budding in some areas by the end of the month.

Reliability of February 1 Orange Forecast

Survey Procedures: The orange objective yield survey for the February 1 forecast was conducted in Florida, which produces about 75 percent of the U.S. 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. Arizona, 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 Arizona, California, and Texas were also used for setting estimates. These four 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 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 February 1 production forecasts, 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 that 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 3.9 percent. However, if you exclude the 5 abnormal production years (3 freeze seasons and 2 hurricane seasons), the "Root Mean Square Error" is 3.3 percent. 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 3.9 percent, or 3.3 percent excluding abnormal seasons. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 6.7 percent, or 5.6 percent, excluding abnormal seasons.

Changes between the February 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 339,000 tons (314,000 tons excluding abnormal seasons), ranging from 18,000 tons to 655,000 tons (18,000 tons to 638,000 tons, excluding abnormal seasons). The February 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 6 times and above 14 times (below 5 times and above 10 times, excluding abnormal seasons). The difference does not imply that the February 1 forecasts this year are likely to understate or overstate final production.

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