



California Farm News

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office · P.O. Box 1258 · Sacramento, CA 95812 · (916) 498-5161 · www.nass.usda.gov/ca

Media Contact: Kelly Krug, 1-800-851-1127 · January 12, 2011

CALIFORNIA CROP PRODUCTION REPORT

SACRAMENTO --The USDA-NASS California Field Office today released the crop production forecasts that reflect conditions as of January 1. The latest survey, conducted during the last week of December 2010 and the first week of January 2011, included the following commodities:

Cotton - American Pima production is estimated at 456 thousand bales for 2010, up 1 percent from the December 1 forecast. Harvested acreage is estimated at 180 thousand acres. The resulting yield is 1,216 pounds per acre. Upland production is estimated at 420 thousand bales, up 11 percent from the December 1 forecast. Harvested acreage is estimated at 123 thousand acres. The yield calculates to 1,639 pounds per acre. As of January 1st, cotton harvest was finished; harvested fields were being shredded and disked.

Oranges - The 2010 - 2011 California Navel orange forecast is 93.0 million cartons, unchanged from the October forecast and up 9 percent from last season's crop. The 2010-11 navel orange harvest began in early November, about two weeks later than normal. The fruit size profile has been smaller than desired, though quality has been good. Wet weather and cold temperatures in December slowed the harvest, but the impact on the quality of fruit was not yet known in early January. The 2010-2011 Valencia orange forecast is 28.0 million cartons, unchanged from the October forecast and from last season's crop.

Lemons - The 2010 - 2011 California lemon forecast is 42.0 million cartons, 2 percent above last season's final production and unchanged from the October forecast. The California lemon harvest continued in the desert region as well as the San Joaquin Valley. Wet weather in December and early January slowed harvests down in both regions, which led to greater cold storage shipments to meet demand.

Tangerines - The 2010 - 2011 California tangerine forecast (including mandarins and tangelos) is 19.2 million cartons. Production is 3 percent below last season's crop and down 4 percent from the October forecast. In November, Satsumas, Fairchilds, and Clementines were being harvested in Southern California. Picking was slow due to unfavorable weather and mediocre color development. Satsuma and Clementine packing began in the Central Valley in December. Color and quality of Clementines improved during December. Shippers began packing Minneolas in mid-December. By January, Satsuma harvest was near completion, while Clementine harvest was winding down.

Grapefruit - The 2010 - 2011 California grapefruit forecast is 7.0 million cartons, 8 percent below the October forecast and down 17 percent from last season's crop. Rio Red harvest began in the Desert region of California in early November. Pummelos and Oro Blancos were also shipped in November. Rio Red grapefruit continued to be shipped from the desert region of California, while Pummelos were shipped from the Central Valley.

Production forecasts are released on a monthly basis and do not reflect final production estimates. The next production forecast will be issued February 9, 2011.

###