



# California Farm News

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## 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 2011 and the first week of January 2012, included the following commodities:

**Cotton** - American Pima production is estimated at 780 thousand bales for 2011, up 14 percent from the December 1 forecast. Harvested acreage is estimated at 272 thousand acres. The resulting yield is 1,376 pounds per acre. Upland production is estimated at 540 thousand bales, unchanged from the December 1 forecast. Harvested acreage is estimated at 182 thousand acres. The yield calculates to 1,432 pounds per acre. As of January 1st, cotton harvest was finished; harvested fields were being shredded and disked.

**Oranges** - The 2011 - 2012 California Navel orange forecast is 88.0 million cartons, unchanged from the October forecast and down 8 percent from last season's crop. The 2011-12 navel orange harvest began in November. Despite sub-freezing temperatures in parts of the state in December, serious frost damage seems to have been avoided. The 2011-2012 Valencia orange forecast is 27.0 million cartons, unchanged from the October forecast and from last season's crop.

**Lemons** - The 2011 - 2012 California lemon forecast is 39.0 million cartons, 7 percent below last season's final production and 3 percent below the October forecast.

**Tangerines** - The 2011 - 2012 California tangerine forecast (including mandarins and tangelos) is 20.6 million cartons. Production is up 4 percent from last season's crop and unchanged from the October forecast. In November, Satsumas, Fairchilds, and Clementines were being harvested in Southern California. Satsuma and Clementine packing began in the Central Valley in December. Shippers began packing Minneolas in mid-December. By January, Satsuma harvest was near completion, while Clementine harvest was winding down. Favorable weather during harvest and maturing trees promoted mandarin production this year. Late December temperatures raised concerns about possible frost damage.

**Grapefruit** - The 2011 - 2012 California grapefruit forecast is 6.6 million cartons, 3 percent below the October forecast and down 20 percent from last season's crop. Two different Asian citrus psyllids were found in the Ventura area at the beginning of the citrus harvest. Quarantine has been a big concern for citrus growers in that region. Weather has been favorable this year.

Production forecasts are released on a monthly basis and do not reflect final production estimates. The next production forecast will be issued February 9, 2012.

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