



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 2012 and the first week of January 2013, included the following commodities:

Cotton - American Pima production is estimated at 735 thousand bales for 2012, up 17 percent from the December 1 forecast. Harvested acreage is estimated at 224 thousand acres. The resulting yield is 1,575 pounds per acre. Upland production is estimated at 485 thousand bales, up 2 percent from the December 1 forecast. Harvested acreage is estimated at 141 thousand acres. The yield calculates to 1,651 pounds per acre. As of January 1st, cotton harvest was finished; harvested fields were being shredded and disked.

Oranges - The 2012 - 2013 California Navel orange forecast is 93.0 million cartons, unchanged from the October forecast and up 2 percent from last season's crop. The 2012-13 navel orange harvest began late October. Weather was good during the early navel harvest, with any freeze or frost damage avoided. The 2012-2013 Valencia orange forecast is 26.0 million cartons, unchanged from the October forecast and down 4 percent from last season's crop.

Lemons - The 2012 - 2013 California lemon forecast is 41.0 million cartons, unchanged from last season's final production and the October forecast.

Tangerines - The 2012 - 2013 California tangerine forecast (including mandarins and tangelos) is 23.6 million cartons. Production is up 8 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.

Grapefruit - The 2012 - 2013 California grapefruit forecast is 8.0 million cartons, unchanged from the October forecast and down 9 percent from last season's crop. 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 8, 2013.

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