

Size frequency distributions are from the November size survey conducted in sample groves during the period of November 4-27, 1996. The distributions are by percent from fruit within the size range of each 4/5 bushel container. These percents relate only to fruit from spring bloom and exclude summer bloom fruit in all seasons.

FLORIDA CITRUS: Size frequency distributions from November measurements

Type of fruit and size in 4/5-bushel containers	1994	1995	1996
--- Percent ---			
Early and midseason oranges: (excluding Navels)			
64 and larger	6.4	3.6	2.4
80	20.1	18.1	13.4
100	38.9	43.2	35.3
125	26.4	28.0	33.9
163 and smaller	8.2	7.1	15.0
Navel oranges:			
64 and larger	72.4	76.7	62.8
80	20.8	19.1	25.5
100	5.8	3.5	9.2
125	0.9	0.7	2.2
163 and smaller	0.1	0.0	0.3
White seedless grapefruit:			
32 and larger	17.9	28.9	12.8
36	24.3	25.6	20.0
40	20.3	18.0	18.8
48	17.2	13.0	19.6
56	8.2	6.1	12.3
63 and smaller	12.1	8.4	16.5
Colored seedless grapefruit:			
32 and larger	12.5	21.5	8.2
36	24.1	24.1	15.9
40	21.8	20.2	20.4
48	20.2	17.4	20.0
56	9.7	8.1	14.5
63 and smaller	11.7	8.7	21.0
Sunburst tangerines:			
150 and larger	66.7	81.9	52.3
176	18.3	8.6	22.1
210	10.0	6.1	13.2
246	1.7	2.8	9.5
294 and smaller	3.3	0.6	2.9
Dancy tangerines:			
150 and larger	75.7	59.5	42.4
176	11.8	18.6	14.7
210	7.2	15.0	15.9
246	3.9	5.8	11.9
294 and smaller	1.4	1.1	15.1
Honey tangerines:			
150 and larger	77.4	79.6	63.9
176	9.2	11.0	16.4
210	5.4	4.9	11.3
246	4.7	2.3	6.3
294 and smaller	3.3	2.2	2.1
Tangelos:			
80 and larger	60.0	48.8	22.6
100	25.7	32.1	29.3
120	10.2	15.1	27.5
156 and smaller	4.1	4.0	20.6

CHART 1: Early and midseason oranges (excluding Navels) size frequency by diameter from November measurements.

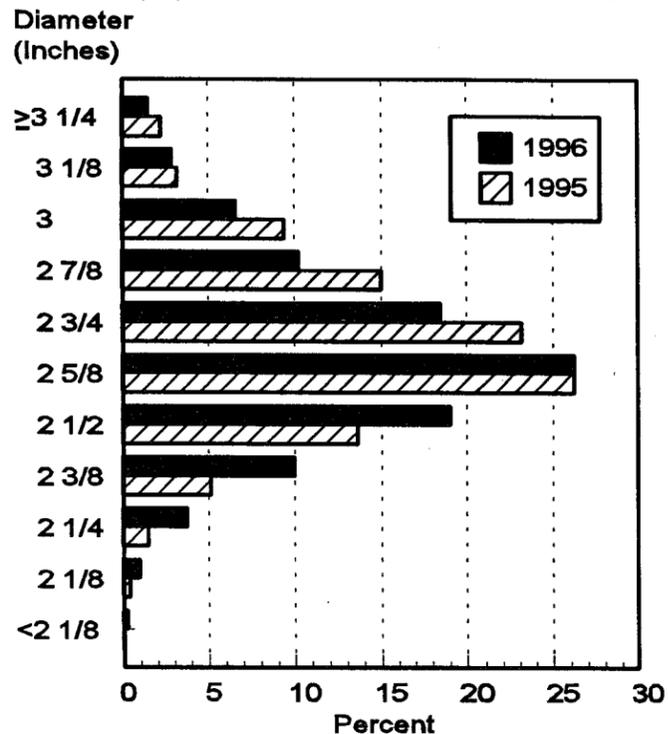
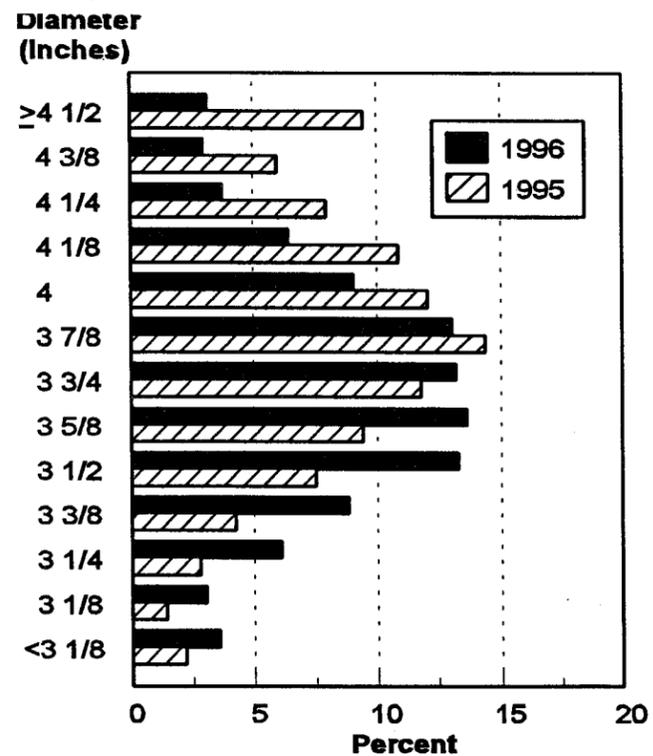
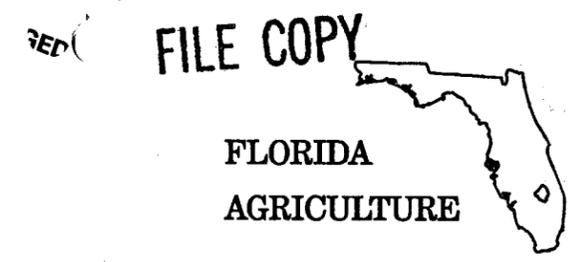


CHART 2: White seedless grapefruit size frequency by diameter from November measurements.



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CITRUS
DECEMBER FORECAST
MATURITY TEST RESULTS AND FRUIT SIZE



December 12, 1996

ORANGES UNCHANGED AT 220.00 MILLION BOXES

The 1996-97 Florida all orange forecast (excluding Temples), released today by the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board, remains at 220.00 million boxes. If realized, this will be 8 percent more than the 203.2 million boxes harvested in 1995-96 and the largest crop on record. The previous record of 206.7 million boxes was harvested in 1979-80. In the past 10 non-freeze seasons the December all orange forecast has deviated from recorded final production by an average of 4.5 percent. Five years were above and five years below the average.

Objective counts and measurements taken in sample groves during October and November have been used to monitor fruit sizing and droppage since the initial October forecast. These data are used to update projections to harvest for the current season. Observations to date continue to support earlier projections of average fruit size and below average droppage.

EARLY AND MIDSEASONS REMAIN AT 130.0 MILLION BOXES

Early and midseason oranges are forecast at 130.0 million boxes, unchanged from the initial forecast. This includes a projection of 6.5 million boxes of Navels, also unchanged from October. This forecast is a record for early and midseason varieties, 7 percent more than the previous record of 121.2 million boxes utilized last season. The Navel crop is also projected to be a record, 25 percent greater than last season's 5.2 million boxes.

Fruit growth has continued favorable following a normal seasonal pattern. Fruit size remains near average and droppage is below. Size and drop field observation made through November support the October forecast.

Citrus production, December 1, 1996 forecasts by varieties and states, with comparisons

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	1994-95	1995-96	Nov 12, 1996	Dec 12, 1996
--- 1,000 boxes ---				
Early, Midseason, and Navel Oranges:				
FLORIDA	119,700	121,200	130,000	130,000
California	35,000	38,000	37,000	37,000
Texas	950	830	1,300	1,300
Arizona	400	700	650	650
Total Above Varieties	156,050	160,730	168,950	168,950
Valencias:				
FLORIDA	85,800	82,000	90,000	90,000
California	21,000	28,000	26,000	26,000
Texas	105	110	150	150
Arizona	650	950	850	850
Total Valencias	107,555	111,060	117,000	117,000
All Oranges:				
FLORIDA	205,500	203,200	220,000	220,000
California	56,000	66,000	63,000	63,000
Texas	1,055	940	1,450	1,450
Arizona	1,050	1,650	1,500	1,500
Total All Oranges	263,605	271,790	285,950	285,950

FORECAST DATES 1996-97 SEASON

- January 9, 1997
- February 12, 1997
- March 11, 1997
- April 11, 1997
- May 12, 1997
- June 12, 1997
- July 11, 1997

Harvest of early and midseason varieties is progressing at a normal pace with nearly 18 million boxes (including Navels) utilized through December 1. The previous two seasons were more advanced in harvest to date because of advanced maturity in those seasons.

VALENCIAS HELD AT 90.0 MILLION BOXES

The late type (Valencia) orange forecast is a record 90.0 million boxes, the same as October. This forecast is almost 10 percent more than the 82.0 million boxes utilized last season and 1.2 million boxes above the previous record utilization in 1979-80.

As with early-midseason oranges, the two latest monthly surveys indicate fruit size and loss from droppage support closely those projections made for the October forecast. Fruit size is projected to round to the average of the past 11 non-freeze seasons. Loss from droppage is still expected to be below average. There were no new indications to support a change in the forecast.

FCOJ REMAINS AT 1.53 GALLONS PER BOX

The all orange FCOJ yield projection remains at 1.53 gallon per box of 42.0 degrees Brix concentrate. The Florida Citrus Processors Association final reported yield for last season was 1.522516 gallons per box. The January 1997 crop forecast will include a separate projection of yield for early and midseason varieties and for late type oranges.

The percent Brix and the pounds solids per box for all types of oranges tested are higher for this December 1 than at the same time last year.

SEEDLESS GRAPEFRUIT UNCHANGED AT 58.0 MILLION BOXES

The all seedless grapefruit forecast is maintained at 58.0 million boxes. The varietal divisions of 26.5 million boxes of white and 31.5 million boxes of colored are continued. If attained, the total seedless will be 13 percent above the 51.3 million boxes recorded last season and seven percent above the recorded high 54.4 million boxes attained in the 1994-95 season.

The colored forecast exceeds the record 1994-95 crop of 28.7 million boxes by 10 percent and last season's by 12 percent. The white variety exceeds last season by 14 percent but will not be a record. Nine seasons in the past 20 years have been larger, with the record of 31.1 million boxes in 1979-80.

Last season the fresh pack of white was 5.9 million boxes (25 percent) of the total 23.2 million boxes and colored was 17.0 million boxes (60 percent) of the total 28.1 million.

The November survey of fruit size indicated that it would require 13 more fruit of both white and colored to fill a standard (85 pound equivalent) box than at the same time last season when fruit size was at a record high level. However, as of the November survey the loss from droppage had been less for both varieties than any of the previous eight seasons for the same period.

Utilization is lagging behind last season, reflecting the later maturity and smaller average fruit sizes. These forecasts are based on objective fruit count and measurement surveys in relationship to the harvest patterns and utilization of the past two seasons. All citrus forecasts project certified utilization including a preseason allocation of

Citrus production, December 1, 1996 forecasts by varieties and states, with comparisons

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	1994-95	1995-96	Nov 12, 1996	Dec 12, 1996
--- 1,000 boxes ---				
Grapefruit:				
FLORIDA-All	55,700	52,350	59,000	59,000
Seedless	54,400	51,300	58,000	58,000
White	25,700	23,200	26,500	26,500
Colored	28,700	28,100	31,500	31,500
Seedy (Other)	1,300	1,050	1,000	1,000
Texas	4,650	4,550	5,700	5,700
Arizona	1,400	1,200	1,100	1,100
California	9,300	8,100	8,000	8,000
Total Grapefruit	71,050	66,200	73,800	73,800
Lemons:				
California	20,000	21,000	22,000	22,000
Arizona	3,600	5,100	4,700	4,700
Total Lemons	23,600	26,100	26,700	26,700
Limes: Florida	230	300	375	375
Temples: Florida	2,550	2,150	2,500	2,500
Tangelos: Florida	3,150	2,450	3,800	3,800
K-Early: Florida	120	160	200	150
Tangerines:				
FLORIDA-All	3,550	4,500	6,000	6,000
Early ¹	2,350	2,900	4,400	4,200
Honey	1,200	1,600	1,600	1,800
California	2,500	2,600	2,600	2,600
Arizona	650	1,000	850	850
Total Tangerines	6,700	8,100	9,450	9,450

¹ Robinson, Fallglo, Sunburst, and Dancy.

led an two percent for unrecorded usage. Certifications include only fruit actually shipped in fresh pack or recorded at a processing plant.

SEEDY GRAPEFRUIT 1.0 MILLION BOXES

The seedy (Duncan) grapefruit forecast is continued at 1.0 million boxes. Last season 1.05 million boxes were recorded. Average fruit size and loss from droppage are following the projected values made in October. All seedy grapefruit is certified in processed form and final recorded utilization is dependent on accurate load ticket identification.

ALL TANGERINES REMAIN 6.0 MILLION BOXES

The all tangerine forecast is continued at 6.0 million boxes. The early portion, comprised of Robinson, Fallglo, Sunburst and Dancy varieties is decreased from 4.4 million boxes to 4.2 million boxes. Fallglo and Robinson varieties are complete, with estimated utilization slightly under the allocated amounts. The Sunburst fruit size projection was reduced, as growth did not attain the expected value.

The Honey tangerine portion of the crop is increased from 1.6 to 1.8 million boxes. Fruit sizes continue to be smaller than last season but fruit loss through November was much less than any similar period on record. This is very unusual and may reflect the later maturity of the crop.

TEMPLES REMAIN AT 2.5 MILLION BOXES

The 2.5 million box Temple forecast is continued. The average fruit size in November was the smallest in over 20 years, reflecting the heavy fruit set. However, accumulated percent loss from fruit droppage is less than any November in the 35 year series.

TANGELOS HELD AT 3.8 MILLION BOXES

The 3.8 million box tangelo forecast is continued. The average fruit size is smaller than last season, as would be indicated by the heavy fruit set. However, loss from fruit droppage, while close to last season is less than any November in the past 10 seasons. Last season 58 percent of the record small 2.45 million box crop went into processing. If this percent were the same this season, 2.2 million boxes would be used in processed form.

K-EARLY CITRUS 150,000 BOXES

The K-Early Citrus estimate is reduced from 200,000 boxes to 150,000 boxes. Harvest is almost complete with 139,000 boxes certified.

Unadjusted maturity tests: Average of regular bloom fruit from sample groves, 1995-96 and 1996-97 seasons

Fruit type (No. groves) test date	Acid		Solids (Brix)		Ratio		Unfinished juice per box		Solids per box	
	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97	1995-96	1996-97
	Percent		Percent				Pounds		Pounds	
Juice and solids per box are unadjusted and not comparable to plant test results.										
ORANGES:										
Early (80-97)										
Oct 1	1.04	1.16	9.27	9.81	9.15	8.67	50.50	48.20	4.68	4.73
Nov 1	0.79	0.91	9.84	10.21	12.91	11.56	53.85	50.78	5.30	5.18
Dec 1	0.74	0.81	10.57	11.04	14.57	13.93	52.01	51.61	5.50	5.70
Mids (49-52)										
Oct 1	1.23	1.41	9.22	9.78	7.64	7.06	51.79	49.03	4.78	4.80
Nov 1	0.93	1.12	9.90	10.21	10.85	9.32	55.75	52.45	5.52	5.35
Dec 1	0.87	0.98	10.88	11.29	12.93	11.79	53.56	52.98	5.83	5.98
Late (150-150)										
Oct 1	2.39	2.40	8.60	8.93	3.65	3.76	47.68	46.08	4.10	4.11
Nov 1	1.77	1.98	8.68	9.33	5.00	4.78	52.66	49.71	4.58	4.64
Dec 1	1.55	1.64	9.54	10.29	6.25	6.37	53.39	53.19	5.10	5.48
GRAPEFRUIT:										
Seedless										
White (44-49)										
Oct 1	1.57	1.64	9.65	10.39	6.20	6.35	36.84	37.79	3.55	3.92
Nov 1	1.34	1.45	9.48	10.11	7.11	6.99	40.76	40.62	3.86	4.11
Dec 1	1.32	1.43	9.73	10.44	7.41	7.32	42.67	43.19	4.15	4.51
Colored (39-39)										
Oct 1	1.48	1.58	9.59	10.43	6.55	6.67	36.65	38.12	3.51	3.97
Nov 1	1.24	1.37	9.57	10.07	7.76	7.37	41.86	41.66	4.00	4.19
Dec 1	1.25	1.35	10.03	10.55	8.05	7.89	42.85	44.64	4.30	4.71

NOTICE: All samples were run through an FMC 091 machine using mechanical pressure only. This machine utilizes a .040 short strainer and standard 5/8-inch orifice tube. The beam settings are also identical to past tests and no restrictors are used.

Maturity test averages by areas, December 1, 1996

Fruit type	Groves sampled	Acid	Solids (Brix)	Ratio	Unfinished juice per box	Solids per box
ORANGES:						
Early						
Indian River Dist.	9	0.82	11.76	14.54	50.30	5.91
Other Areas	88	0.80	10.97	13.87	51.74	5.67
Midseason						
Indian River Dist.	10	1.02	11.75	11.65	55.29	6.49
Other Areas	42	0.97	11.19	11.82	52.44	5.86
Late						
Indian River Dist.	25	1.69	10.70	6.40	55.26	5.92
Other Areas	125	1.63	10.21	6.36	52.78	5.39
GRAPEFRUIT:						
White Seedless						
Indian River Dist.	35	1.45	10.57	7.31	43.87	4.63
Other Areas	14	1.39	10.13	7.35	41.50	4.20
Colored Seedless						
Indian River Dist.	33	1.35	10.62	7.90	45.15	4.79
Other areas	6	1.31	10.18	7.84	41.83	4.26