

FRUIT SIZE COMPARISONS BY TYPES TO PREVIOUS SEASONS

Size frequency distributions are from the October size survey conducted in sample groves during the period of October 5 through 23, 1998. 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 October measurements

Type of fruit and size in 4/5-bushel containers	1996	1997	1998
--- Percent ---			
Early and midseason oranges: (excluding Navels)			
64 and larger	1.2	1.6	0.5
80	9.5	8.1	3.9
100	30.6	25.5	21.1
125	37.6	36.8	42.9
163 and smaller	21.1	28.0	31.6
Navel oranges:			
64 and larger	51.0	48.4	36.3
80	32.7	31.8	35.6
100	13.3	15.7	21.1
125	2.5	3.5	5.4
163 and smaller	0.5	0.6	1.6
White seedless grapefruit:			
32 and larger	8.6	12.7	5.7
36	17.8	13.9	11.7
40	17.2	17.2	18.0
48	20.1	20.3	20.9
56	13.5	13.2	14.6
63 and smaller	22.8	22.7	29.1
Colored seedless grapefruit:			
32 and larger	5.9	8.1	3.7
36	14.5	12.6	9.6
40	17.8	18.3	18.5
48	20.9	21.4	22.8
56	16.3	15.5	15.8
63 and smaller	24.6	24.1	29.6
Sunburst tangerines:			
150 and larger	33.5	50.2	38.8
176	20.2	19.0	19.0
210	19.7	13.3	17.6
246	14.1	10.7	14.1
294 and smaller	12.5	6.8	10.5
Dancy tangerines:			
150 and larger	12.9	8.6	4.1
176	13.6	8.2	7.7
210	21.2	10.0	10.9
246	22.0	20.9	32.3
294 and smaller	30.3	52.3	45.0
Honey tangerines:			
150 and larger	32.2	49.5	28.7
176	21.8	16.9	23.4
210	22.5	13.6	25.6
246	14.1	11.6	14.5
294 and smaller	9.4	8.4	7.8
Tangelos:			
80 and larger	9.9	17.8	6.2
100	21.8	28.2	17.3
120	27.2	31.4	36.1
156 and smaller	41.1	22.6	40.4

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

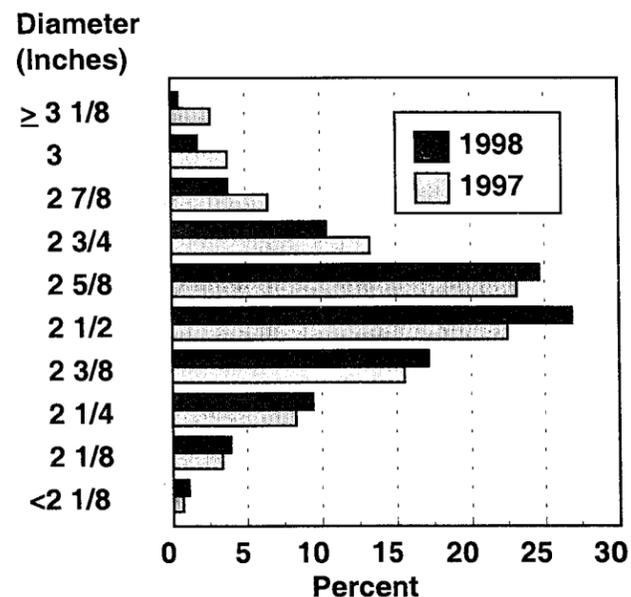
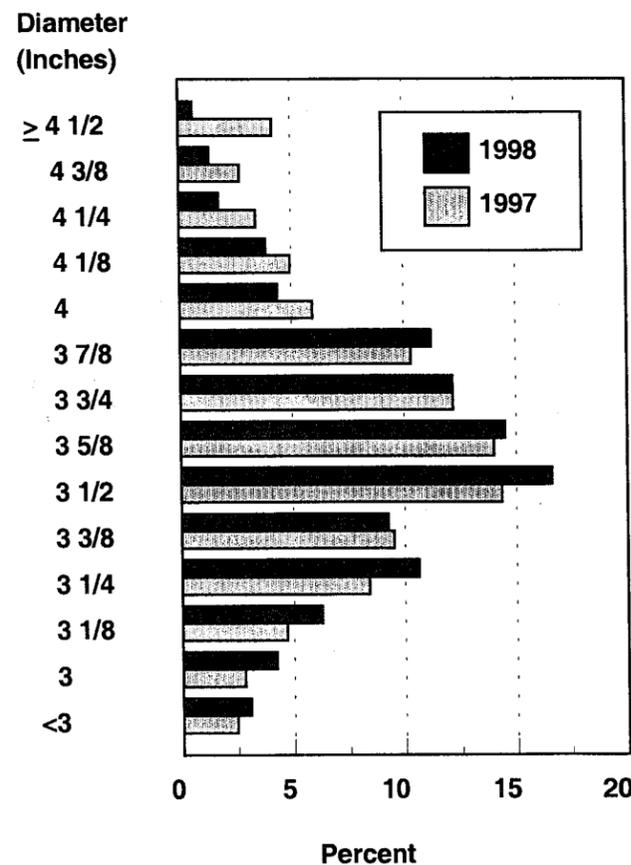


CHART 2: White seedless grapefruit size frequency by diameter from October measurements.



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CITRUS

NOVEMBER FORECAST
MATURITY TEST RESULTS AND FRUIT SIZE

November 10, 1998

ORANGES 190.0 MILLION BOXES

The October 1 orange forecasts for all states are repeated in this report since no November forecasts are made. The Florida all orange forecast is 22 percent less than the 244.0 million boxes recorded last season, which was a record high crop. During the past 10 seasons, the October forecast has deviated from final recorded utilization by an average of 3.5 percent; three of the seasons averaged 5.5 percent above and the remaining seven averaged 2.6 percent below the final estimates of utilization.

FCOJ YIELD 1.57 GALLONS PER BOX

Since there are no November forecasts or projections, the forecast for FCOJ remains at 1.57 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix equivalent. Maturity test results on fruit collected October 26 and 27 are presented on page 3. All averages are unadjusted as in prior seasons and provide a measure of changes occurring in fruit still on the trees. The tests do not reflect the same levels of maturity as those being reported by processors from plant tests or plant recovery rates because the latter relate to fruit that has been harvested.

The final 1997-98 all orange season average FCOJ yield as reported by the Florida Citrus Processors Association was 1.58 gallons per box. The next FCOJ projection will be released with the box forecasts on December 11.

Citrus production, October 1, 1998
forecasts by varieties and states, with comparisons

Crop and State	Production			Forecast
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
--- 1,000 boxes ---				
Early, Midseason, and Navel Oranges:				
FLORIDA	121,200	134,200	140,000	112,000
California	38,000	40,000	44,000	34,000
Texas	830	1,300	1,350	1,300
Arizona	700	400	350	400
Total Above Varieties	160,730	175,900	185,700	147,700
Valencias:				
FLORIDA	82,100	92,000	104,000	78,000
California	20,000	24,000	30,000	28,000
Texas	110	120	175	140
Arizona	950	600	650	600
Total Valencias	103,160	116,720	134,825	106,740
All Oranges:				
FLORIDA	203,300	226,200	244,000	190,000
California	58,000	64,000	74,000	62,000
Texas	940	1,420	1,525	1,440
Arizona	1,650	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total All Oranges	263,890	292,620	320,525	254,440

FORECAST DATES 1998-99 SEASON

- December 11, 1998
- January 11, 1999
- February 10, 1999
- March 11, 1999
- April 9, 1999
- May 12, 1999
- June 11, 1999
- July 12, 1999

CROP PROGRESS

October was generally drier than normal. However, the east and west coasts both had a few days of rainfall at the beginning of the month associated with Hurricane Georges. Then, the weather in virtually all locations turned seasonal with cooler nights, mild days, and moderate temperatures. Several growers and caretakers have been running their low-volume irrigation to maintain good tree and fruit condition.

New growth has slowed with the reduced moisture conditions and fewer hours of daylight. New crop fruit is progressing well in most well cared for groves. Fresh fruit packing houses are moving early oranges (Ambersweet, Navel, and Hamlin), white and colored grapefruit, K-Early Citrus Fruit, and early tangerines. There are several processors open and receiving packing house eliminations and some are taking grove run fruit. Caretakers have been very active cutting cover crops, spraying and applying their last fertilizations of the year.

Estimated utilization through November 1 is less than last season to the same date for all types except white seedless grapefruit. This reflects lagging maturity levels which are reported to be two to three weeks later than last season.

FLORIDA CITRUS: Distribution of 1997-98 production and 1998-99 forecast by marketing districts and fruit types

Fruit type	Indian River		Gulf		Florida SunRidge		State total	
	1997-98	1998-99	1997-98	1998-99	1997-98	1998-99	1997-98	1998-99
ORANGES: --- 1,000 boxes ---								
Early & Midseason (Including Navels)	10,900	10,200	24,000	24,200	105,100	77,600	140,000	112,000
Valencia	12,400	9,900	23,650	23,100	67,950	45,000	104,000	78,000
All	23,300	20,100	47,650	47,300	173,050	122,600	244,000	190,000
GRAPEFRUIT:								
White Seedless	12,100	12,400	1,460	1,800	4,740	3,800	18,300	18,000
Colored Seedless	21,300	21,200	4,970	6,300	4,330	4,000	30,600	31,500
Other (Seedy)	100	50	--	--	550	450	650	500
All	33,500	33,650	6,430	8,100	9,620	8,250	49,550	50,000

Citrus production, October 1, 1998 forecasts by varieties and states, with comparisons

Crop and State	Production			Forecast
	1995-96 ^{1/}	1996-97 ^{2/}	1997-98 ^{3/}	1998-99
--- 1,000 boxes ---				
Grapefruit:				
FLORIDA-All	52,350	55,800	49,550	50,000
Seedless	51,300	54,900	48,900	49,500
White	23,200	23,500	18,300	18,000
Colored	28,100	31,400	30,600	31,500
Seedy (Other)	1,050	900	650	500
Texas	4,550	5,300	4,800	5,000
Arizona	1,200	900	800	700
California	8,100	8,200	9,000	8,400
Total Grapefruit	66,200	70,200	64,150	64,100
Lemons:				
California	21,000	22,600	22,000	21,000
Arizona	5,100	2,600	2,600	2,700
Total Lemons	26,100	25,200	24,600	23,700
Limes: Florida	300	320	440	575
Temples: Florida	2,150	2,400	2,250	2,000
Tangelos: Florida	2,450	3,950	2,850	2,500
K-Early: Florida	160	150	40	60
Tangerines:				
FLORIDA-All	4,500	6,300	5,200	4,200
Early ^{4/}	2,900	4,500	3,200	2,600
Honey	1,600	1,800	2,000	1,600
California ^{5/}	2,600	2,600	2,400	2,500
Arizona ^{5/}	1,000	550	600	650
Total Tangerines	8,100	9,450	8,200	7,350

^{1/} Excludes 3 million boxes of economic abandonment of colored seedless in Fl.
^{2/} Excludes 6 million boxes of economic abandonment in Fl: 3 million white seedless and 3 million colored. ^{3/} Excludes 6 million boxes of economic abandonment in Fl: 5 million white seedless and 1 million colored. ^{4/} Robinson, Fallglo, Sunburst, and Dancy. ^{5/} Includes tangelos.

Unadjusted Maturity tests: Average of regular bloom fruit from sample groves, 1997-98 and 1998-99 seasons

Fruit type (No. groves) test date	Acid		Solids (Brix)		Ratio		Unfinished juice per box		Solids per box	
	1997-98	1998-99	1997-98	1998-99	1997-98	1998-99	1997-98	1998-99	1997-98	1998-99
Percent Percent Pounds Pounds										
Juice and solids per box are unadjusted and not comparable to plant test results.										
ORANGES:										
Early (116-118)										
Sep 1	1.31	1.73	9.35	9.53	7.25	5.66	45.20	42.10	4.22	4.01
Oct 1	0.99	1.15	9.78	9.37	10.13	8.29	47.31	47.90	4.63	4.48
Nov 1	0.85	0.90	10.54	10.15	12.62	11.49	50.11	51.07	5.28	5.18
Mids (54-54)										
Sep 1	1.55	1.94	9.10	9.42	6.04	4.98	45.23	42.53	4.12	4.01
Oct 1	1.14	1.30	9.43	9.14	8.47	7.18	50.05	48.30	4.72	4.42
Nov 1	0.99	1.06	10.36	10.01	10.72	9.58	51.91	52.92	5.38	5.30
Late (150-150)										
Sep 1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Oct 1	2.10	2.44	8.84	8.65	4.30	3.60	47.87	45.68	4.23	3.95
Nov 1	1.80	2.02	9.44	8.98	5.34	4.51	51.05	50.66	4.82	4.55
GRAPEFRUIT:										
Seedless										
White (50-47)										
Sep 1	1.60	1.81	9.56	10.10	6.00	5.58	34.56	30.66	3.31	3.09
Oct 1	1.43	1.56	9.74	9.77	6.85	6.32	38.94	35.94	3.80	3.51
Nov 1	1.34	1.48	9.94	10.10	7.46	6.87	41.61	38.66	4.14	3.90
Colored (43-44)										
Sep 1	1.56	1.79	9.66	9.97	6.22	5.60	35.18	31.48	3.39	3.14
Oct 1	1.38	1.49	9.75	9.64	7.09	6.51	39.94	34.99	3.90	3.37
Nov 1	1.30	1.37	9.92	9.99	7.67	7.32	43.56	40.18	4.33	4.01

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, November 1, 1998

Fruit type	Groves sampled	Acid	Solids (Brix)	Ratio	Unfinished juice per box	Solids per box
ORANGES:						
Early						
Indian River Dist.	11	0.92	10.45	11.40	50.05	5.23
Other Areas	107	0.89	10.12	11.50	51.17	5.17
Midseason						
Indian River Dist.	11	1.05	10.38	9.87	51.06	5.30
Other Areas	43	1.06	9.92	9.51	53.40	5.29
Late						
Indian River Dist.	25	2.11	9.40	4.50	52.27	4.91
Other Areas	125	2.00	8.89	4.52	50.34	4.48
GRAPEFRUIT:						
White Seedless						
Indian River Dist.	34	1.52	10.24	6.77	37.95	3.88
Other Areas	13	1.37	9.73	7.14	40.52	3.95
Colored Seedless						
Indian River Dist.	36	1.39	10.11	7.29	39.83	4.02
Other areas	8	1.28	9.44	7.44	41.80	3.94

ESTIMATE OF PRODUCTION BY MARKETING DISTRICTS

The production forecasts made in October for Florida oranges and grapefruit have been divided between marketing districts for this report. These are shown in the table above with the 1997-98 production for comparison.

MATURITY TEST RESULTS

The maturity test results reported on page 3 are from fruit collected October 26-27 and tested October 28-30. These samples were collected from the same trees as the September and October surveys and reflect maturity levels for unharvested fruit.

The next maturity tests and FCOJ yield projection will be released with the crop forecast December 11 at 8:30 a.m.

Weather during October was much drier than normal except for downpours associated with Hurricane Georges which generally hit the lower east and west coast citrus groves. Most growers were running their low volume irrigation during the last half of the month to maintain good tree and fruit condition. Maturity levels for all types of fruit are lagging behind last year. The acid percents are higher and Brix lower. Juice per box is fluctuating between types, but pounds solids per box are all lower. These tests show the Indian River area fruit with higher Brix than the other combined areas.