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CITRUS

MAY FORECAST

MATURITY TEST RESULTS AND FRUIT SIZE



FLORIDA
AGRICULTURE

May 10, 2002

ALL ORANGES 226.0 MILLION BOXES

The 2001-02 Florida all orange forecast of 226.0 million boxes, released today by the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board, is reduced 2.0 million boxes from the level maintained since February. The route survey conducted May 1-2 confirms this change. This forecast includes a final estimate for the early and midseason oranges (including Navels) of 128.0 million boxes and a revised estimate for the late season Valencia oranges of 98.0 million boxes.

Despite the reduction of nearly one percent, this orange crop will be the fourth largest on record if attained, falling seven percent below the 1997-98 record of 244.0 million boxes, three percent below the 233.0 million boxes in 1999-00, and just 200,000 boxes below the 1996-97 recorded crop. In the past 10 seasons, the May forecast has been above the final utilization three times and below seven times.

EARLY-MIDSEASON ORANGES FINAL AT 128.0 MILLION BOXES

Harvest of these varieties (including Navel oranges) is complete. Certifications combined with an allowance for non-certified gift fruit and other use total 128.0 million boxes. Although two percent below the initial forecast released in October, this

Citrus production, May 1, 2002
forecasts by varieties and states, with comparisons

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	1999-00	2000-01	Apr 10, 2002	May 10, 2002
--- 1,000 boxes ---				
Early, Midseason, and Navel Oranges:				
FLORIDA	134,000	128,000	128,000	128,000
California	40,000	36,000	32,000	32,000
Texas	1,460	2,000	1,550	1,550
Arizona	600	480	300	300
Total Above Varieties	176,060	166,480	161,850	161,850
Valencias:				
FLORIDA	99,000	95,300	100,000	98,000
California	24,000	21,000	23,000	23,000
Texas	200	235	200	200
Arizona	500	420	350	350
Total Valencias	123,700	116,955	123,550	121,550
All Oranges:				
FLORIDA	233,000	223,300	228,000	226,000
California	64,000	57,000	55,000	55,000
Texas	1,660	2,235	1,750	1,750
Arizona	1,100	900	650	650
Total All Oranges	299,760	283,435	285,400	283,400

FORECAST DATES 2001-02 SEASON

June 12, 2002
July 11, 2002

crop equals last season's and ties for fourth largest on record. The **Navel** portion of the crop at 5.5 million boxes surpasses the output of the previous three seasons and is the fourth largest crop.

VALENCIAS DOWN TO 98.0 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of Valencia oranges is reduced 2.0 million boxes from the initial forecast maintained since October. Results of the monthly route survey indicate over 61 percent of the crop harvested and support this reduction. If realized, this crop will be nearly three percent more than last season's utilization but 1.0 million boxes less than in 1999-00 and 6.0 million boxes below the record 104.0 million boxes of 1997-98.

Warmer weather earlier than usual coupled with a lack of moisture has had an adverse effect on fruit size and has accelerated droppage. Objective count measurements taken in late April show fruit size increased only slightly from the previous month and remains below the mean of the past 11 seasons. Although the droppage rate increased more steeply in the past month, and is higher than in the previous two seasons, it remains below the 10-season mean.

FCOJ CONTINUED AT 1.58 GALLONS

The projected all orange FCOJ yield is unchanged from last month at 1.58 gallons per box of 42.0 degrees Brix concentrate. As of April 27, 2002, the average yield for all oranges going into concentrate was 1.563584 gallons per box as reported by the Florida Citrus Processors Association (FCPA). This report also states that 177.5 million boxes of oranges have been processed so far this season, of which 112.2 million boxes have been used for concentrate.

The projected season average yield for the late type (Valencia) oranges is unchanged from last month at 1.68 gallons per box. The latest report from the FCPA shows the Valencia season average yield at 1.651627 gallons. The early and midseason orange yield was final at 1.527736 gallons per box as reported by the FCPA on report number 26. Results of the latest maturity testing of fruit remaining to be harvested appear on page three of this report.

GRAPEFRUIT HELD AT 47.0 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of all varieties of grapefruit for recorded utilization stays at 47.0 million boxes (including a preseason allocation of 1.5 million boxes of gift fruit and other use). The forecast continues to be divided into 19.0 million boxes of total **white** grapefruit and 28.0 million boxes of **colored** grapefruit. If the forecast amount is harvested, it will be two percent more than recorded last season, 12 percent below the 53.4 million boxes in 1999-00, and at the level of the 1998-99 crop. The largest recorded crop of all varieties of grapefruit was 55.8 million boxes in 1996-97 which excluded 6.0 million boxes of estimated economic abandonment.

The route survey (Row Count) conducted on May 1-2, 2002, shows the percent of survey rows harvested ahead of last season but close to the percent of May 1, 1999. This season more than 90 percent of the **white** and more than 80 percent of the **colored** rows have been clean harvested. The percent harvest of **white** is very close to the past 10 seasons' average. However, the percent harvest of **colored** is four percentage points less than the 10-season average for the same time period. Analysis of the data, based on the 10-season regression, indicates that there is sufficient availability to attain the forecast levels.

Estimated certification through May 5, 2002, based on Report #30 of the Citrus Administrative Committee, shows that both varieties have more utilization than last season at the same date. Processed use is ahead of last season and fresh movement is very close.

Citrus production, May 1, 2002
forecasts by varieties and states, with comparisons

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	1999-00	2000-01	Apr 10, 2002	May 10, 2002
--- 1,000 boxes ---				
Grapefruit:				
FLORIDA-All	53,400	46,000	47,000	47,000
White ^{1/}	21,500	18,700	19,000	19,000
Colored	31,900	^{2/} 27,300	28,000	28,000
Texas	5,930	7,200	7,100	7,100
Arizona	450	250	200	200
California	7,200	6,500	6,400	6,400
Total Grapefruit	66,980	59,950	60,700	60,700
Lemons:				
California	19,000	22,700	22,000	22,000
Arizona	3,100	3,600	3,100	3,100
Total Lemons	22,100	26,300	25,100	25,100
Limes: Florida	600	250	150	150 (final)
Temples: Florida	1,950	1,250	1,500	1,550
Tangelos: Florida	2,200	2,100	2,150	2,150
K-Early: Florida	110	40	30	30
Tangerines:				
FLORIDA-All	7,000	5,600	6,600	6,600
Early ^{3/}	4,350	3,550	4,300	4,350
Honey	2,650	2,050	2,300	2,250
California ^{4/}	2,500	2,100	2,300	2,300
Arizona ^{4/}	850	650	650	650
Total Tangerines	10,350	8,350	9,550	9,550

^{1/} Includes seedy. ^{2/} Excludes two million boxes of economic abandonment. ^{3/} Robinson, Fallglo, Sunburst, and Dancy. ^{4/} Includes tangelos.

ALL TANGERINES TOTAL 6.6 MILLION BOXES

The combination of early tangerines and the later maturing Honey tangerine variety is unchanged at 6.6 million boxes. This forecast is 18 percent more than was recorded last season and only 6 percent less than the record crop of 1999-00. Both of the categories had minor adjustments made within the total.

EARLY TANGERINE CATEGORY FINAL AT 4.35 MILLION BOXES

The 2001-02 early tangerine crop, consisting of **Robinson, Fallglo, Sunburst, and Dancy**, is estimated at 4.35 million boxes, up 22 percent from last season's 3.55 million box crop, the same amount as in 1999-00, and slightly below the recent record of 4.5 million boxes in 1996-97. The **Sunburst** variety constituted 81 percent of the total and **Fallglo** accounted for 17 percent. **Robinson** and **Dancy** usage has declined rapidly over the years.

HONEY TANGERINES AT 2.25 MILLION BOXES

The later maturing Honey tangerine forecast is adjusted downward to 2.25 million boxes. Harvest has declined to a few thousand boxes per week. This amount is 10 percent more than recorded last season but 15 percent below the record large crop of 2.650 million boxes in 1999-00. It is possible that a limited volume of late bloom fruit may be harvested during the next few weeks.

TEMPLES ADJUSTED TO 1.55 MILLION BOXES

The Temple estimate of utilization, including 0.1 million boxes of unrecorded gift fruit and other use, is increased by 0.05 million boxes to 1.55 million boxes. Recent weekly certifications of processed later bloom fruit necessitated the increase. This crop is 24 percent above last season's 1.25 million boxes but 21 percent less than utilized in 1999-00. Nearly seventy-five percent of the crop has been used in processed form.

TANGELOS FINAL AT 2.15 MILLION BOXES

The tangelo final estimate for the 2001-02 season is 2.15 million boxes, including 0.2 million boxes of pre-allocated other uses. This amount is only 50,000 boxes more than the 2.1 million boxes last season, which was the smallest crop since 1968-69. The record large crop was 6.4 million boxes in 1979-80. The latest Row Count shows that close to 15 percent of the rows remain unharvested.

K-EARLY CITRUS FRUIT AT 30,000 BOXES

The 2001-02 K-Early Citrus Fruit final estimate of utilization is 30,000 boxes. This is the smallest crop of record.

Unadjusted Maturity Tests: Average of regular bloom fruit from sample groves, 2000-01 and 2001-02 seasons

Fruit type (No. groves) test date	Acid		Solids (Brix)		Ratio		Unfinished juice per box		Solids per box	
	2000-01	2001-02	2000-01	2001-02	2000-01	2001-02	2000-01	2001-02	2000-01	2001-02
	Percent		Percent				Pounds		Pounds	
	Juice and solids per box are unadjusted and not comparable to plant test results.									
ORANGES:										
Late (97-59)										
Sep 1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Oct 1	2.48	2.25	8.76	8.93	3.58	4.03	46.22	47.61	4.05	4.25
Nov 1	2.04	1.79	9.43	9.29	4.70	5.25	50.56	51.54	4.77	4.79
Dec 1	1.76	^{1/}	10.31	^{1/}	5.93	^{1/}	52.44	^{1/}	5.41	^{1/}
Jan 1	1.54	1.27	11.03	11.08	7.28	8.86	54.08	55.86	5.97	6.20
Feb 1	1.42	1.15	11.79	11.81	8.38	10.48	53.49	55.96	6.31	6.61
Mar 1	1.22	1.10	12.45	12.67	10.31	11.67	53.91	55.76	6.71	7.07
Apr 1	1.07	0.92	12.62	12.85	11.97	14.17	54.92	56.45	6.94	7.25
May 1	0.93	0.79	12.87	13.27	13.99	17.20	53.91	56.01	6.95	7.44

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.

^{1/} December 1, 2001, data not available due to testing equipment malfunction.

Maturity test averages by areas, May 1, 2002

Fruit type	Groves sampled	Acid	Solids (Brix)	Ratio	Unfinished juice per box	Solids per box
	Number	Percent	Percent		Pounds	Pounds
ORANGES:						
Late						
Indian River Dist.	13	0.77	13.92	18.41	58.84	8.18
Other Areas	46	0.80	13.08	16.86	55.21	7.23

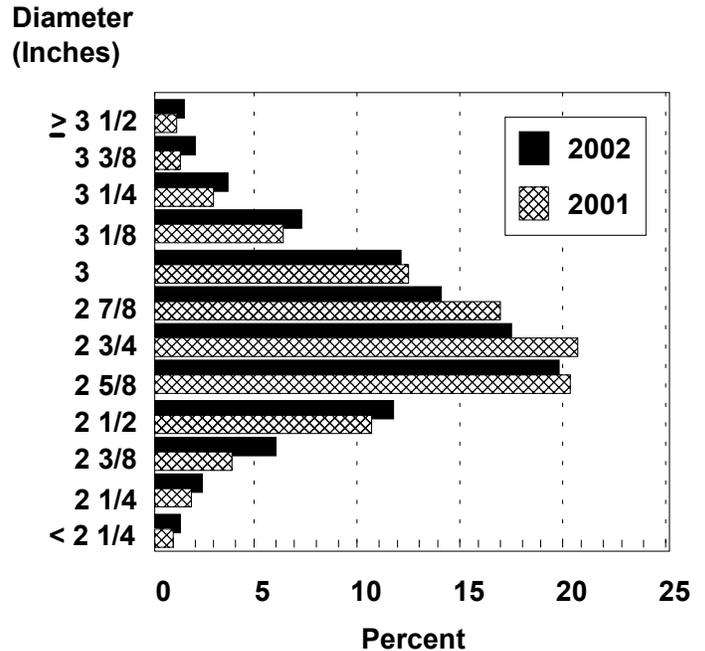
FRUIT SIZE COMPARISONS BY TYPES TO PREVIOUS SEASONS

Size frequency distributions from the April size survey are shown in the table below. The distributions are by percent of fruit falling within the size range of each 4/5-bushel container. Fruit sizes were measured on trees in sample groves during the period April 22 through 30, 2002. Comparable sizes for 2000 and 2001 are also shown. These measurements are of fruit from spring bloom and exclude summer bloom in all seasons.

FLORIDA CITRUS: Size frequency distributions from March measurements

Type of fruit and size in 4/5-bushel containers	2000	2001	2002
--- Percent ---			
Valencia oranges:			
64 and larger	10.5	8.1	10.1
80	25.9	24.3	23.8
100	35.0	39.6	33.8
125	20.1	21.2	22.4
163 and smaller	8.5	6.8	9.9

CHART 1: Valencia orange size frequency by diameter from April measurements.



The chart on the right compares the relationship of the April 2002 Valencia orange fruit size measurements with those taken in April 2001. The diameter measurements shown are the minimum values of each eighth inch range except for the smallest value.