



Florida Agricultural Statistics Service
1222 Woodward Street
Orlando, Florida 32803
407 / 648-6013

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/fl>

CITRUS

MAY FORECAST

MATURITY TEST RESULTS AND FRUIT SIZE



FLORIDA AGRICULTURE

May 12, 2005

ALL ORANGES REMAIN AT 151.2 MILLION BOXES

The all orange forecast, released today by the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board, is held at 151.2 million boxes. Components of the forecast are the early-midseason-Navel varieties which are final at 79.2 million boxes and the later maturing Valencias maintained at 72.0 million boxes. If realized, this forecast will be 90.8 million boxes, or 38 percent, less than last season's harvest.

Over the past 10 seasons, the May forecast has differed from actual production by an average of 1.2 percent, with six forecasts below and four higher than the final figure. Final utilization may differ from these forecasts because of the assumptions made about fruit sizing and loss from droppage following the 2004 hurricanes.

EARLY-MID-NAVELS FINAL AT 79.2 MILLION BOXES

The early-midseason-Navel orange harvest is final at 79.2 million boxes. This crop is 46.8 million boxes, or 37 percent, less than last season's harvest and the smallest crop since the 68.1 million boxes recorded in the 1989-90 freeze season. Although less than 10 percent of this category is

FORECAST DATES 2004-05 SEASON	
June 10, 2005	July 12, 2005

shipped fresh, the **Navel** variety comprises about half of the fresh certifications. The Navel portion is final at 2.5 million boxes.

VALENCIAS HELD AT 72.0 MILLION BOXES

The Valencia forecast remains at 72.0 million boxes, unchanged since March. If realized, this forecast will be 44.0 million boxes, or 38 percent, less than last season and the smallest crop since the 67.1 million boxes of 1993-94.

Follow-up surveys conducted in April show that fruit sizing and droppage continued at an average rate for this point in the season. Average fruit size is the smallest since 1998-99 and the droppage is the highest since the post-freeze 1990-91 season.

In most seasons, harvest is beyond the halfway mark by May 1 and the row survey is a reliable indicator. The Row Count conducted April 27-28, 2005 shows harvest at only 45 percent. Weekly utilization of Valencias peaked during the weeks ended April 17 and 24 with over 6.2 million boxes each.

CITRUS PRODUCTION, MAY 1, 2005

FORECASTS BY VARIETIES AND STATES, WITH COMPARISONS

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	2002-03	2003-04	Apr 8, 2005	May 12, 2005
--- 1,000 boxes ---				
EARLY, MIDSEASON, AND NAVAL ORANGES:				
FLORIDA	112,000	126,000	79,200	79,200
California	42,000	38,000	43,000	43,000
Texas	1,350	1,420	1,750	1,750
Arizona	200	300	240	240
Total Above Varieties	155,550	165,720	124,190	124,190
VALENCIAS:				
FLORIDA	91,000	116,000	72,000	72,000
California	20,000	14,000	18,000	18,000
Texas	220	230	230	230
Arizona	270	170	190	190
Total Valencias	111,490	130,400	90,420	90,420
ALL ORANGES:				
FLORIDA	203,000	242,000	151,200	151,200
California	62,000	52,000	61,000	61,000
Texas	1,570	1,650	1,980	1,980
Arizona	470	470	430	430
Total All Oranges	267,040	296,120	214,610	214,610

SURVEY COMPONENTS USED IN THE FORECAST ^{1/}

Type	Bearing trees	Fruit per tree	Percent droppage	Fruit per box
(1,000)				
Early-mid	31,999	863	18	263
Navel	1,862	249	21	138
Valencia	41,208	529	24	215

^{1/} November survey data is considered final for Navels, December for early-mids, and March for Valencias.

FCOJ YIELD NOW 1.60 GALLONS PER BOX

The projected all orange yield for frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) is raised to 1.60 gallons per box from 1.58 last month. The early-midseason orange yield, as reported by the Florida Citrus Processors Association, is final at 1.529196 gallons per box. The Valencia yield is now projected at 1.71 gallons per box, up from 1.66 in recent months. Final yield for all oranges in 2003-04 was 1.56 gallons per box. The record high yields of 1.63381 for all oranges and 1.74806 for Valencias were set in 1998-99.

ALL GRAPEFRUIT REMAINS AT 13.0 MILLION BOXES

The Florida forecast of all grapefruit for certified utilization (including an allocation of 700,000 boxes of gift fruit and local sales) continues at 13.0 million boxes. The components consist of the white grapefruit variety at 3.5 million boxes and the colored varieties at 9.5 million boxes. If realized, this forecast will be 68 percent less than harvested last season and the lowest since the 1935-36 season. Assumptions are made based on the fruit per tree number published in the October forecast. Final utilization could differ from the forecast if the fruit per tree due to initial fruit loss from the hurricanes is different than projected.

The amount of rows remaining for harvest in conjunction with utilization to May 1 is the primary indicator for the May grapefruit forecast. The route survey (Row Count) conducted on April 27-28, 2005 showed 10 percent of the rows still remaining for harvest. During the last week in April, preliminary utilization was 97,000 boxes, down from the previous week of 265,000 boxes.

The **white** grapefruit forecast stays at 3.5 million boxes, including an allocation of 200,000 boxes for other use. Estimated utilization through May 1 is 3.3 million boxes, with approximately 86 percent of the route survey rows harvested. The majority of white grapefruit

remaining is going to processing. Consideration is given for the high drop rate in the remaining rows left to be harvested.

The **colored** grapefruit forecast stays at 9.5 million boxes, including an allocation of 500,000 for other use. Estimated utilization through May 1 is 9.2 million boxes, with 93 percent of the route survey rows harvested. The remaining rows of grapefruit left to be harvested will be less productive than earlier harvested rows. Slightly more of the colored grapefruit is being shipped fresh rather than going to processing.

SURVEY COMPONENTS USED IN THE FORECAST ^{1/}

Type	Bearing trees	Fruit per tree	Percent droppage	Fruit per box
	(1,000)			
White Grapefruit ^{2/}	2,861	109	22	86
Colored Grapefruit	5,366	210	26	97

^{1/} January survey data is considered final.

^{2/} Seedless variety only.

CITRUS PRODUCTION, MAY 1, 2005

FORECASTS BY VARIETIES AND STATES, WITH COMPARISONS

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	2002-03	2003-04	Apr 8, 2005	May 12, 2005
	- - - 1,000 boxes - - -			
Grapefruit:				
FLORIDA-All	38,700	40,900	13,000	13,000
White	16,200	15,900	3,500	3,500
Colored	22,500	25,000	9,500	9,500
Texas	5,650	5,700	6,500	6,500
Arizona	130	140	160	160
California	5,600	5,400	5,400	5,400
Total Grapefruit	50,080	52,140	25,060	25,060
Lemons:				
California	24,000	18,000	19,500	19,500
Arizona	3,000	3,000	2,400	2,400
Total Lemons	27,000	21,000	21,900	21,900
Temples: Florida	1,300	1,400	650	650
Tangelos:				
Florida	2,350	1,000	1,550	1,550
Tangerines:				
FLORIDA-All	5,500	6,500	4,450	4,450
Early ^{1/}	3,000	3,600	2,450	2,450
Honey	2,500	2,900	2,000	2,000
California ^{2/}	2,800	2,700	3,000	3,000
Arizona ^{2/}	430	690	400	400
Total Tangerines	8,730	9,890	7,850	7,850

^{1/} Fallglo and Sunburst varieties.

^{2/} Includes tangelos.

ALL TANGERINES STAY AT 4.45 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of all tangerines remains at 4.45 million boxes. The forecast for the early varieties (**Fallglo and Sunburst**) is final at 2.45 million boxes and the later maturing **Honey** variety remains at 2.0 million boxes.

Fallglo tangerine harvest is complete at 650,000 boxes including other use. **Sunburst** Tangerine harvest is complete at 1.8 million boxes, including other use.

The **Honey** tangerine forecast, unchanged since January, continues at 2.0 million boxes. Utilization to May 1 is 1.85 million boxes with 79 percent rows harvested. Utilization for the past month has decreased each week. Harvest during the last week in April was 46,000 boxes, less than half as large as the first week of the month. Honey tangerines are being picked primarily for the fresh market.

TEMPLES FINAL AT 650,000 BOXES

The Temple harvest is over at 650,000 boxes. This includes an allocation of 50,000 boxes for other use. Row Count indicated almost 22 percent rows unharvested this season while last season about 10 percent of the rows remained unharvested. This year's crop is the smallest amount since the forecasting of Temples began in the 1953-54 season.

TANGELOS FINAL AT 1.55 MILLION BOXES

Tangelos are complete at 1.55 million boxes. An allocation of 200,000 boxes was included for other use. Row Count indicated 10 percent rows remained unharvested this season, less than the 25 percent rows left unharvested last season.

**UNADJUSTED MATURITY TESTS: Average of regular bloom fruit from sample groves,
2003-04 and 2004-05 seasons**

Fruit type (No. groves) test date	Acid		Solids (Brix)		Ratio		Unfinished juice per box		Solids per box	
	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05	2003-04	2004-05
	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>				<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Pounds</i>	

Juice and solids per box are unadjusted and not comparable to plant test results.

ORANGES:

LATE (68-79)

Oct 1	2.07	2.48	8.93	8.66	4.37	3.52	46.28	46.39	4.14	4.02
Nov 1	1.66	1.94	9.59	8.88	5.83	4.60	51.03	50.72	4.90	4.50
Dec 1	1.43	1.59	10.37	9.69	7.39	6.17	53.36	53.19	5.54	5.15
Jan 1	1.28	1.39	11.17	10.42	8.79	7.54	53.29	53.91	5.96	5.62
Feb 1	1.21	1.24	11.94	10.94	9.97	8.88	51.77	54.94	6.18	6.01
Mar 1	1.09	1.14	12.77	11.92	11.81	10.61	52.59	54.87	6.72	6.53
Apr 1	0.97	1.00	12.87	12.07	13.44	12.20	51.30	54.88	6.60	6.63
May 1	0.87	0.90	13.23	12.51	15.40	14.02	52.74	54.83	6.99	6.87

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 nor restrictions are used.

MATURITY TEST AVERAGES BY AREAS, MAY 1, 2005

Fruit type	Groves sampled	Acid	Solids (Brix)	Ratio	Unfinished juice per box	Solids per box
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>

ORANGES:

LATE

Indian River Dist.	10	0.93	12.82	13.89	55.58	7.13
Other Areas	69	0.90	12.47	14.04	54.72	6.83

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 15 through 25, 2005. Comparable sizes for 2003 and 2004 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	2003	2004	2005
--	------	------	------

--- Percent ---

VALENCIA ORANGES:

64 and larger	27.4	11.7	5.4
80	34.8	30.5	24.5
100	27.6	38.1	40.6
125	8.4	16.2	22.4
163 and smaller	1.8	3.5	7.1

The chart on the right compares the relationship of the April 2005 Valencia orange fruit size measurements with those taken in April 2004. The diameter measurements shown are the minimum values of each eighth inch range except for the smallest value.

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

