

FLORIDA Citrus January Forecast

MATURITY TEST RESULTS AND FRUIT SIZE

January 12, 2006

ALL ORANGES NOW 158.0 MILLION BOXES

The all orange forecast released today by the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board is 158.0 million boxes, down 4.0 million (2.5 percent) from than last month. The decrease is entirely in the Valencia portion. If attained, this harvest will be 5.6 percent greater than last season and less than any other since 1990-91, a post-freeze season with 151.6 million boxes. In the previous 10 non-hurricane seasons, the January forecast has differed from actual production by an average of 2.8 percent, with six higher and four lower. Estimated certifications through January 12 total 28.7 million boxes, or 6.8 million behind last season to date.

FORECAST DATES 2005-06 SEASON

February 9, 2006	March 10, 2006
April 10, 2006	May 12, 2006
June 9, 2006	July 12, 2006

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EARLY-MIDSEASON-NAVEL 80.0 MILLION BOXES

The early-midseason-Navel orange forecast remains unchanged at 80.0 million boxes, including 3.5 million boxes of Navels. Final objective survey measurements in December revealed a fruit size close to the projection, smaller than last season's hurricane-affected fruit, and smaller than the ten prior seasons used in forecast models. Although the drop rate increased during the past month, the very small changes in both size of fruit and drop rate did not affect the forecast. Results of the route survey conducted December 26-27 indicate the harvest percentage is similar to last season and lagging behind prior seasons.

VALENCIA ORANGES REDUCED TO 78.0 MILLION BOXES

The Valencia forecast is lowered to 78.0 million boxes, a reduction of 4.0 million boxes (4.9 percent) from last month. Projected fruit droppage is unchanged but fruit growth has slacked. Projected fruit size is smaller than last month and the fourth smallest since objective measurements began in 1960.

COMPONENTS USED IN THE JANUARY FORECAST

Type	Bearing Trees	Fruit per Tree	Percent Droppage	Fruit per box
	(1,000)			
ORANGES:				
Early-Mid	28,964	937	12	285
Navel	1,634	436	9	139
Valencia	37,246	612	17	227

FCOJ YIELD 1.55 GALLONS PER BOX

The projection of FCOJ yield for all oranges is maintained at 1.55 gallons per box. Last season's final yield was 1.58 gallons per box. The early-midseason portion is projected at 1.46 gallons per box and the Valencia portion at 1.66. The latest maturity test results appear on page 3.

CITRUS PRODUCTION: January 1, 2006

Forecasts by varieties and States, with comparisons

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	2003-04	2004-05	Dec. 9, 2005	Jan. 12, 2006

--- 1,000 boxes ---

EARLY, MIDSEASON, AND NAVEL ORANGES:

Florida	126,000	79,100	80,000	80,000
California	39,500	43,000	42,000	42,000
Texas	1,420	1,500	1,300	1,300
Arizona	300	240	270	250
Total Above Varieties	167,220	123,840	123,570	123,550

VALENCIAS:

Florida	116,000	70,500	82,000	78,000
California	11,000	18,000	13,000	12,000
Texas	230	270	230	230
Arizona	170	190	200	200
Total Valencias	127,400	88,960	95,430	90,430

ALL ORANGES:

Florida	242,000	149,600	162,000	158,000
California	50,500	61,000	55,000	54,000
Texas	1,650	1,770	1,530	1,530
Arizona	470	430	470	450
Total All Oranges	294,620	212,800	219,000	213,980



United States
Department
Of Agriculture



National
Agricultural
Statistics Service

Florida
Field Office

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GRAPEFRUIT 16.0 MILLION BOXES

The Florida forecast of grapefruit for certified utilization (including an allocation of 700,000 boxes of gift fruit and local sales) is maintained at 16.0 million boxes. Making up the forecast is 4.0 million boxes of white and 12.0 million boxes of colored grapefruit, both unchanged from last month. If realized, this forecast will be 25 percent more than harvested last season, otherwise the lowest since the 1939-40 season.

The fruit size and drop measurements obtained in December are the primary indicators for the January grapefruit forecast. In areas directly affected by Hurricane Wilma, drop was reset in November to obtain an accurate indication of drop for the harvest season. The **white** grapefruit forecast remains at 4.0 million boxes. Average fruit sizes remain slightly above normal, and projections have not changed since November. Drop for white grapefruit has increased since last month, and now it is projected that an additional two percent of fruit will fall from the trees before harvest. Estimated utilization to January 1 is 1.3 million boxes, compared to 1.0 million boxes the same time last year.

The **colored** grapefruit forecast is maintained at 12.0 million boxes. Compared to last month, the projected size is slightly smaller, and the final drop is indicated one percent less than projected last month. These two indications offset each other and regressions compared to previous years indicate the current forecast will still be realized. Estimated utilization to January 1 is 3.8 million boxes, compared to 3.1 million boxes the same time last year.

CITRUS PRODUCTION: January 1, 2006 forecasts by varieties and States, with comparisons

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	2003-04	2004-05	Dec. 9, 2005	Jan. 12, 2006
--- 1,000 boxes ---				
GRAPEFRUIT:				
Florida-All	40,900	12,800	16,000	16,000
White	15,900	3,400	4,000	4,000
Colored	25,000	9,400	12,000	12,000
Texas	5,700	6,600	5,400	5,100
California	5,800	5,800	5,800	6,000
Arizona	140	140	120	100
Total Grapefruit	52,540	25,340	27,320	27,200
LEMONS:				
California	18,000	19,000	19,000	19,000
Arizona	3,000	2,400	3,800	3,800
Total Lemons	21,000	21,400	22,800	22,800
TEMPLES: Florida	1,400	650	800	800
TANGELOS: Florida	1,000	1,550	1,200	1,200
TANGERINES:				
Florida-All	6,500	4,450	5,700	5,700
Early ^{1/}	3,600	2,450	3,500	3,300
Honey	2,900	2,000	2,200	2,400
California ^{2/}	2,200	2,800	3,200	3,100
Arizona ^{2/}	690	400	500	500
Total Tangerines	9,390	7,650	9,400	9,300

^{1/} Fallglo and Sunburst varieties.

^{2/} Includes tangelos and tangors.

COMPONENTS USED IN THE JANUARY FORECAST

Type	Bearing Trees	Fruit per Tree	Percent Droppage	Fruit per box
(1,000)				
GRAPEFRUIT:				
White ^{1/}	2,216	212	13	84
Colored	4,230	252	13	93

^{1/} Seedless variety only.

ALL TANGERINES REMAIN AT 5.7 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of all tangerines stays at 5.7 million boxes. Forecast for the early varieties (**Fallglo** and **Sunburst**) is lowered by 200,000 boxes and the later maturing **Honey** variety is raised by 200,000 boxes.

The forecast of utilization for early tangerines is lowered to 3.3 million boxes, down from last month. **Fallglo** tangerine harvest is complete at slightly more than 650,000 boxes and **Sunburst** tangerine utilization is now projected to be 2.65 million boxes. Estimated utilization for Sunburst to January 1 is just over 1.8 million boxes, including 100,000 boxes for other use. Early tangerine harvest is active with more than a million boxes being harvested in December.

The **Honey** tangerine forecast is increased to 2.4 million boxes, up 200,000 from last month. The average size projection is the same as last month; however, fruit in all areas is holding on the trees better than previously projected and anticipated droppage is decreased from 30 percent for the harvest season to 22 percent. The lower drop rate is an indication of a larger harvest this season. This season's drop is projected to be lower than eight of the last ten seasons. Harvest is just beginning with less than one percent utilized to January 1.

TEMPLES AT 800,000 BOXES

The Temple forecast remains unchanged at 800,000 boxes. If attained, this will be the second smallest amount since forecasting Temples in a separate category. Last season's utilization of 650,000 boxes is the only season on record with a lesser amount. The projected drop rate for Temples has increased to 15.5 percent, up three and one half percentage points, however direct expansion and regressions indicate the forecast will still be realized.

TANGELOS STAY AT 1.2 MILLION BOXES

Tangelos remain at 1.2 million boxes after being lowered last month from the initial October forecast of 1.4 million boxes. If realized, other than the 2003-04 season of 1.0 million boxes, this will be the smallest crop since the 1965-66 season's utilization of 1.2 million boxes. Estimated utilization to January 1 is slightly over 550,000 boxes, compared to 710,000 boxes the same time last year. Due to higher prices for processing, it is anticipated there will be a more complete harvest this season than in previous recent seasons.

UNADJUSTED MATURITY TESTS: Average of regular bloom fruit from sample groves, 2004-05 and 2005-06 seasons

Fruit type (No. groves) test date	Acid		Solids (Brix)		Ratio		Unfinished juice per box		Solids per box	
	2004-05	2005-06	2004-05	2005-06	2004-05	2005-06	2004-05	2005-06	2004-05	2005-06
	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>				<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Pounds</i>	
<i>Juice and solids per box are unadjusted and not comparable to plant test results.</i>										
ORANGES:										
Early (87-85)										
Sep 1	1.62	1.81	9.28	9.29	5.83	5.18	42.43	39.32	3.93	3.65
Oct 1	1.09	1.34	9.24	9.41	8.64	7.14	48.64	44.77	4.49	4.21
Nov 1	0.83	0.91	9.85	9.86	12.10	11.05	51.83	50.39	5.11	4.97
Dec 1	0.74	0.83	10.66	10.69	14.59	13.10	51.43	51.27	5.49	5.48
Jan 1	0.72	0.77	11.26	11.34	15.86	14.93	51.37	50.43	5.78	5.71
Midseason (45-48)										
Sep 1	1.82	1.98	9.02	9.10	5.05	4.66	42.05	39.80	3.79	3.62
Oct 1	1.26	1.54	8.98	9.37	7.22	6.18	49.61	45.16	4.45	4.23
Nov 1	0.94	1.14	9.49	9.94	10.29	8.99	53.48	50.84	5.08	5.05
Dec 1	0.83	0.98	10.55	10.89	12.83	11.31	51.67	51.95	5.45	5.65
Jan 1	0.82	0.90	11.19	11.73	13.76	13.36	53.07	51.19	5.94	6.01
Late (144-148)										
Sep 1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Oct 1	2.43	2.60	8.64	9.02	3.59	3.51	46.50	43.06	4.02	3.88
Nov 1	1.92	1.98	8.84	9.15	4.64	4.66	50.23	48.16	4.44	4.41
Dec 1	1.56	1.64	9.73	9.83	6.29	6.07	53.16	51.04	5.17	5.02
Jan 1	1.39	1.41	10.46	10.72	7.56	7.68	53.98	52.51	5.64	5.63

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, JANUARY 1, 2006

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:						
Early						
Indian River District	8	0.79	11.19	14.24	49.13	5.51
Other Areas	77	0.77	11.35	15.00	50.56	5.73
Midseason						
Indian River District	9	0.96	11.94	12.50	51.82	6.20
Other Areas	39	0.89	11.68	13.56	51.04	5.96
Late						
Indian River District	25	1.38	10.57	7.68	52.94	5.60
Other Areas	123	1.41	10.74	7.68	52.42	5.63

FRUIT SIZE COMPARISONS BY TYPES TO PREVIOUS SEASONS

Size frequency distributions developed from the December size survey are shown in the following table. The distributions are by percent of fruit falling within the size range of each 4/5-bushel container. These frequency distributions relate to fruit from regular bloom and exclude summer bloom in all years.

FLORIDA CITRUS: Size frequency distributions from December measurements

Type of fruit and size in 4/5-bushel containers	2003	2004	2005
--- Percent ---			
EARLY AND MIDSEASON ORANGES: (excluding Navels)			
64 and larger	4.3	1.8	0.8
80	13.4	8.1	5.4
100	32.5	30.5	21.1
125	31.2	37.6	37.7
163 and smaller	18.6	22.0	35.0
VALENCIA ORANGES:			
64 and larger	8.2	1.5	1.7
80	26.6	12.6	10.3
100	41.0	40.1	32.4
125	19.3	32.9	35.2
163 and smaller	4.9	12.9	20.4
WHITE SEEDLESS GRAPEFRUIT:			
32 and larger	13.6	14.9	24.9
36	20.4	22.2	23.3
40	24.9	25.4	23.4
48	16.2	16.4	13.1
56	9.6	10.3	6.9
63 and smaller	15.3	10.7	8.4
COLORED SEEDLESS GRAPEFRUIT:			
32 and larger	8.6	7.6	19.0
36	16.1	15.5	17.6
40	25.7	25.2	21.8
48	20.6	22.0	17.5
56	12.9	13.5	11.9
63 and smaller	16.1	16.2	12.2
HONEY TANGERINES:			
80 and larger	40.8	15.3	10.2
100	32.7	31.6	37.3
120	16.7	33.5	33.5
176	4.7	9.9	8.4
210 and smaller	5.1	9.7	10.6
TEMPLES:			
80 and larger	31.3	25.4	27.1
100	36.9	47.8	39.5
120	19.4	23.7	22.1
156 and smaller	12.4	3.1	11.3

The charts below describe the relationships of the fruit size measurements with those taken in the previous year. The diameter measurements shown are the minimum values of each eighth inch range, except for the smallest values.

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

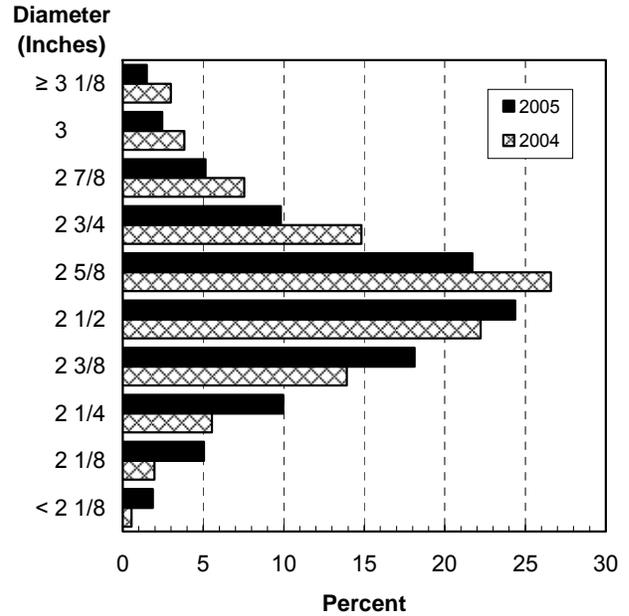


CHART 2: White seedless grapefruit size frequency by diameter from December measurements

