

# FLORIDA Citrus February Forecast

MATURITY TEST RESULTS AND FRUIT SIZE

February 9, 2006

## ALL ORANGES REMAIN 158.0 MILLION BOXES

The all orange forecast released today by the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board is 158.0 million boxes, unchanged from last month. If attained, this season's utilization will be 5.6 percent greater than last season, but less than any other since 1990-91. In the previous 10 non-hurricane seasons, the February forecast has differed from actual production by an average of 2.4 percent, with four seasons higher and six lower. Estimated utilization through February 1 is 48.8 million boxes, compared to 54.7 million the same time last season. Estimates of bearing tree numbers used in the expansions remain unchanged since December.

### FORECAST DATES 2005-06 SEASON

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

## 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 for size and drop used in the expansions were completed in December. January measurements indicate continued small sizes and increased droppage as anticipated. The Row Count survey conducted January 31 and February 1 showed 63 percent of the survey rows harvested, and when combined with estimated utilization fully confirms the forecast.

## VALENCIA ORANGES STAY AT 78.0 MILLION BOXES

The Valencia forecast is unchanged from last month at 78.0 million boxes. The primary indicators used this month are the size and drop measurements. January measurements indicate slightly less fruit droppage than was anticipated in December. Average fruit sizes in January are the smallest since objective measurements began in 1960, and are projected to be the smallest at harvest.

### COMPONENTS USED IN THE FEBRUARY FORECAST

Type	Bearing Trees (1,000)	Fruit per Tree	Percent Droppage	Fruit per box
<b>ORANGES:</b>				
Early-Mid	28,964	937	12	285
Navel	1,634	436	9	139
Valencia	37,246	612	15	231

### FCOJ YIELD 1.58 GALLONS PER BOX

The projection of FCOJ yield for all oranges is increased to 1.58 gallons per box from 1.55 in January. Last season's final yield was 1.58 gallons per box. The early-midseason portion is projected at 1.52 gallons per box and the Valencia portion at 1.66. The latest maturity test results appear on page 3.

### CITRUS PRODUCTION: February 1, 2006

Forecasts by varieties and States, with comparisons

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

--- 1,000 boxes ---

#### EARLY, MIDSEASON, AND NAVEL ORANGES:

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

#### VALENCIAS:

<b>Florida</b>	<b>116,000</b>	<b>70,500</b>	<b>78,000</b>	<b>78,000</b>
California	11,000	18,000	12,000	12,000
Texas	230	270	230	230
Arizona	170	190	200	200
<b>Total Valencias</b>	<b>127,400</b>	<b>88,960</b>	<b>90,430</b>	<b>90,430</b>

#### ALL ORANGES:

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

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## GRAPEFRUIT 16.0 MILLION BOXES

The Florida forecast of grapefruit for 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 since December. 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 January, combined with bearing trees and fruit per tree, are the primary indicators used for the February forecast, and are considered final for expansion purposes. The row count survey conducted on January 31 and February 1 showed about 40 percent rows harvested.

The **white** grapefruit forecast remains at 4.0 million boxes. Final fruit sizes are average compared to the last 10 seasons. Final drop at 12 percent for white grapefruit is less than projected last month, but still higher than any of the 10 years prior to last season. Estimated utilization to February 1 is 2.5 million boxes, compared to 1.7 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 larger, and the final drop is two percent less. Even though these two factors indicate a small increase in the crop, the change is not significant enough to raise the forecast. Estimated utilization to February 1 is 5.6 million boxes, compared to 4.7 million boxes the same time last year.

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

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	2003-04	2004-05	Jan. 12, 2006	Feb 9, 2006
--- 1,000 boxes ---				
<b>GRAPEFRUIT:</b>				
<b>Florida-All</b>	<b>40,900</b>	<b>12,800</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>16,000</b>
<b>White</b>	<b>15,900</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>
<b>Colored</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>9,400</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>12,000</b>
Texas	5,700	6,600	5,100	5,100
California	5,800	5,800	6,000	6,000
Arizona	140	140	100	100
<b>Total Grapefruit</b>	<b>52,540</b>	<b>25,340</b>	<b>27,200</b>	<b>27,200</b>
<b>LEMONS:</b>				
California	18,000	19,000	19,000	19,000
Arizona	3,000	2,400	3,800	3,800
<b>Total Lemons</b>	<b>21,000</b>	<b>21,400</b>	<b>22,800</b>	<b>22,800</b>
<b>TEMPLES: Florida</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>
<b>TANGELOS: Florida</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,550</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>1,200</b>
<b>TANGERINES:</b>				
<b>Florida-All</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>4,450</b>	<b>5,700</b>	<b>5,200</b>
<b>Early</b> <sup>1/</sup>	<b>3,600</b>	<b>2,450</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>2,800</b>
<b>Honey</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>2,400</b>
California <sup>2/</sup>	2,200	2,800	3,100	3,100
Arizona <sup>2/</sup>	690	400	500	500
<b>Total Tangerines</b>	<b>9,390</b>	<b>7,650</b>	<b>9,300</b>	<b>8,800</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Fallglo and Sunburst varieties.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes tangelos and tangors.

## COMPONENTS USED IN THE FEBRUARY FORECAST

Type	Bearing Trees	Fruit per Tree	Percent Droppage	Fruit per box
(1,000)				
<b>GRAPEFRUIT:</b>				
White <sup>1/</sup>	2,216	212	12	86
Colored	4,230	252	11	92

<sup>1/</sup> Seedless variety only.

## ALL TANGERINES LOWERED TO 5.2 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of all tangerines is reduced to 5.2 million boxes. Forecast for the early varieties (**Fallglo and Sunburst**) is lowered by 500,000 boxes and the later maturing **Honey** variety is unchanged.

The forecast of utilization for early tangerines is lowered to 2.8 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 2.15 million boxes. Estimated utilization for Sunburst to February 1 is just over 2.1 million boxes, including 150,000 boxes for other use. Early tangerine harvest is almost complete with weekly harvest dwindling down to less than 50,000 boxes per week for the past two weeks.

The **Honey** tangerine forecast remains at 2.4 million boxes, unchanged from last month. Size and drop rates are considered final for expansion purposes. The drop rate for Honey tangerines is lowered to 16 percent, less than any of the previous 10 seasons. Harvest is underway with less than 50,000 utilized to February 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 20.6 percent, up five and one tenth percentage points. However, with larger sizes than projected, 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, unchanged from last month. 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 February 1 is slightly less than 1.0 million boxes, compared to 1.2 million boxes the same time last year. If higher prices for processing continues to be a factor, 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

*Percent*

*Percent*

*Pounds*

*Pounds*

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

**ORANGES:**

Early (48-43)

Sep 1	1.63	1.81	9.34	9.30	5.81	5.18	43.08	38.53	4.02	3.58
Oct 1	1.10	1.38	9.27	9.39	8.59	6.92	48.67	44.87	4.51	4.20
Nov 1	0.83	0.93	9.83	9.90	12.10	10.83	51.52	50.32	5.06	4.98
Dec 1	0.76	0.84	10.72	10.66	14.35	12.90	51.54	51.28	5.53	5.47
Jan 1	0.72	0.80	11.27	11.39	15.72	14.34	51.46	49.74	5.79	5.66
Feb 1	0.69	0.76	11.63	12.60	16.98	16.80	51.25	49.47	5.96	6.24

Midseason (24-26)

Sep 1	1.81	2.02	9.00	9.06	5.07	4.53	42.69	39.84	3.84	3.61
Oct 1	1.29	1.57	9.01	9.37	7.09	6.07	49.76	45.27	4.48	4.24
Nov 1	0.95	1.13	9.55	9.97	10.26	8.94	54.08	51.29	5.16	5.11
Dec 1	0.85	1.01	10.60	10.96	12.63	11.00	52.23	51.97	5.53	5.69
Jan 1	0.83	0.96	11.37	11.92	13.83	12.66	52.97	51.73	6.02	6.17
Feb 1	0.80	0.99	12.12	13.16	15.26	13.71	52.04	50.48	6.30	6.64

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
Feb 1	1.24	1.29	11.00	11.84	8.99	9.26	55.03	53.40	6.05	6.32

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, FEBRUARY 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>
<b>ORANGES:</b>						
Early						
Indian River District	5	0.77	12.86	16.72	47.56	6.16
Other Areas	38	0.75	12.57	16.81	49.72	6.25
Midseason						
Indian River District	6	0.95	13.17	14.07	51.15	6.74
Other Areas	20	1.00	13.16	13.60	50.28	6.61
Late						
Indian River District	25	1.24	11.59	9.42	53.75	6.23
Other Areas	123	1.30	11.90	9.23	53.32	6.34

## FRUIT SIZE COMPARISONS BY TYPES TO PREVIOUS SEASONS

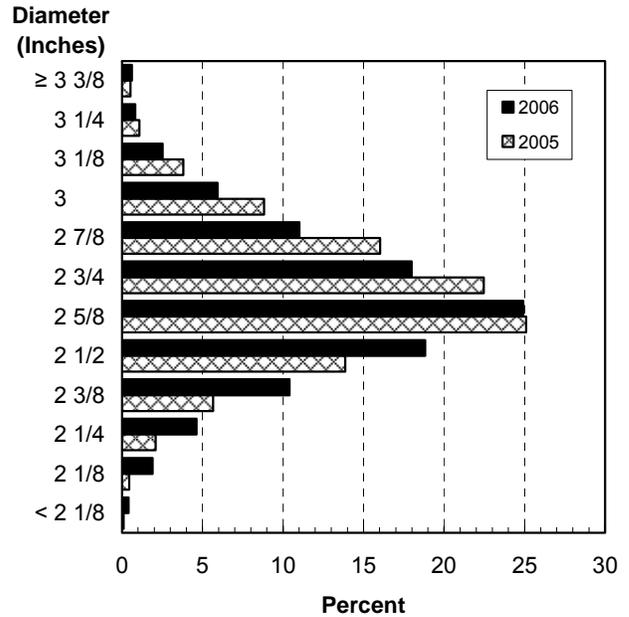
Size frequency distributions developed from the January size survey are shown in the following table. The distributions are by percent of fruit falling within the size range of each 4/5-bushel container. These frequency distributions relate to fruit from regular bloom and exclude summer bloom in all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

### FLORIDA CITRUS: Size frequency distributions from January measurements

Type of fruit and size in 4/5-bushel containers	2004	2005	2006
--- Percent ---			
<b>VALENCIA ORANGES:</b>			
64 and larger	9.6	2.7	2.3
80	29.0	18.6	12.4
100	39.5	43.7	35.1
125	17.7	26.7	32.8
163 and smaller	4.2	8.3	17.4
<b>WHITE SEEDLESS GRAPEFRUIT:</b>			
32 and larger	18.2	26.4	26.7
36	21.8	25.7	25.2
40	22.2	20.0	20.8
48	14.6	12.4	11.4
56	9.3	7.5	7.0
63 and smaller	13.9	8.0	8.9
<b>COLORED SEEDLESS GRAPEFRUIT:</b>			
32 and larger	10.2	9.2	22.5
36	15.2	20.2	18.6
40	24.3	26.2	22.2
48	21.1	21.6	15.6
56	12.3	10.7	10.0
63 and smaller	16.9	12.1	11.1
<b>HONEY TANGERINES:</b>			
80 and larger	46.2	26.5	19.8
100	29.6	34.9	41.3
120	18.0	27.3	26.0
176	3.2	5.8	6.0
210 and smaller	3.0	5.5	6.9
<b>TEMPLES:</b>			
80 and larger	35.2	41.5	45.6
100	36.7	44.5	31.8
120	18.5	11.2	14.1
156 and smaller	9.6	2.8	8.5

The charts to the right 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: Valencia orange size frequency by diameter from January measurements**



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

