



CITRUS FEBRUARY FORECAST

MATURITY TEST RESULTS AND FRUIT SIZE

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February 10, 2009

ALL ORANGES TOTAL 158.0 MILLION BOXES

The Florida all orange forecast released today by the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board is 158.0 million boxes. The reduction of 4.0 million boxes is comprised of 1.0 million boxes of the early-midseason-Navel oranges and 3.0 million boxes of the later maturing Valencia oranges. If realized, this forecast will be 7% less than last season's production but 22% more than the production of 2006-07. The February forecast has differed from actual production by an average of 3.7% in recent non-hurricane seasons.

Temperatures below 28° were recorded for four or more hours deep into the citrus producing area during the nights of January 21 and 22. The monthly route survey on January 27-28 showed that 39% of the rows had been harvested. A freeze damage survey also conducted on those dates showed little or no damage at that time. Additional assessments will be made in mid and late February. Results are shown on page 3.

EARLY-MIDSEASON-NAVELS 83.0 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of early-midseason-Navel oranges (including Temples) is decreased to 83.0 million boxes, with Navels accounting for 3.0 million boxes of the total. Primary indicators this month are certified utilization and the results of the route survey which showed that 68% of the early-

CITRUS PRODUCTION: FEBRUARY 1, 2009
Forecasts by varieties and states, with comparisons

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	2006-07	2007-08	Jan 12, 2009	Feb 10, 2009
	<i>1,000 boxes</i>			
EARLY, MIDSEASON, AND NAVAL ORANGES:				
FLORIDA^{1/}	65,600	83,500	84,000	83,000
California	34,500	48,500	34,500	34,500
Texas	1,600	1,500	1,450	1,450
Arizona	200	230	150	150
Total Above Varieties	101,900	133,730	120,100	119,100
VALENCIAS:				
FLORIDA	63,400	86,700	78,000	75,000
California	11,500	16,000	12,000	12,000
Texas	380	234	200	200
Arizona	100	150	100	100
Total Valencias	75,380	103,084	90,300	87,300
ALL ORANGES:				
FLORIDA	129,000	170,200	162,000	158,000
California	46,000	64,500	46,500	46,500
Texas	1,980	1,734	1,650	1,650
Arizona	300	380	250	250
Total All Oranges	177,280	236,814	210,400	206,400

^{1/} Includes Temples.

FORECAST DATES — 2008-09 SEASON

March 11, 2009	June 10, 2009
April 9, 2009	July 10, 2009
May 12, 2009	

midseason rows and 98% of the Navel rows were harvested. Estimated utilization as of February 1, with an allowance for non-certified fruit, is 60.2 million boxes of early-midseason oranges which includes 2.9 million boxes of Navels.

VALENCIAS NOW 75.0 MILLION BOXES

The Valencia forecast is lowered to 75.0 million boxes. Objective survey measurements for size and drop are the primary indicators used to establish the forecast this month. During January, the growth rate slowed and the drop rate increased. Changes in the projections for these components have a negative affect on the forecast model. The projected drop has been raised to 15% but the final measurement could be higher as the affect of sub-freezing weather becomes more apparent. At the time of the route survey, less than 1% of the Valencia rows were harvested.

COMPONENTS USED IN THE FEBRUARY FORECAST ^{1/}

Type	Bearing trees	Fruit per tree	Percent droppage	Fruit per box
	<i>(1,000)</i>			
ORANGES:				
Early-mid	24,596	1,079	11	257
Navel	1,231	469	11	139
Valencia	34,151	574	15	214

^{1/} Survey data is considered final in December for Navels, January for early-midseason oranges, and April for Valencias.

FCOJ YIELD 1.61 GALLONS PER BOX

The FCOJ all orange yield projection is lowered from 1.62 to 1.61 gallons per box, coinciding with a reduction in the late portion of the crop now projected at 1.65 gallons per box. The projection for the early-midseason portion is held at 1.58 gallons per box. In mid-February, special maturity tests will be performed on early-midseason and late oranges to further assess any damage from the January freezes. Any damage resulting from the freezing weather after February 1 will be reflected in the March release.

GRAPEFRUIT REMAINS AT 23.0 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of grapefruit for certified utilization (including an allocation of 700,000 boxes of gift fruit and local sales) is unchanged at 23.0 million boxes. The forecast is comprised of 7.0 million boxes of white and 16.0 million boxes of colored grapefruit. If realized, this forecast will be 14% less than last season's 26.6 million boxes.

Weather for the month of January in the grapefruit growing areas was variable. The month began with warm temperatures, dry conditions and very little rainfall. However, freezing temperatures and much needed rain passed across the Florida peninsula during the third week of January.

Measurements of fruit size and droppage taken during January are considered "final" for the forecast models. Size of the **white** grapefruit is above average and slightly above the January projection, indicating it will now take 85 pieces of fruit to fill 1-3/5 bushel box. The rate of droppage has slowed over the past two months with final droppage below both the average and the previous projection. Estimated utilization of white grapefruit as of February 1 is nearly 2.2 million boxes. Of the total, 37% has been shipped fresh. Results of the route survey conducted January 27-28, 2009, indicate that 32% of the rows have been harvested.

Growth of **colored** grapefruit slowed during the past month. It is now slightly below the previously projected value but above average. The droppage rate increased during recent weeks resulting in the final drop rate slightly above average. The quality of colored grapefruit is reported to be excellent this year. About 60% of the fruit has gone to the fresh market. At

CITRUS PRODUCTION: February 1, 2009
forecasts by varieties and States, with comparisons

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	2006-07	2007-08	Jan 12, 2009	Feb 10, 2009
	1,000 boxes			
GRAPEFRUIT:				
Florida-All	27,200	26,600	23,000	23,000
White	9,300	9,000	7,000	7,000
Colored	17,900	17,600	16,000	16,000
California	5,500	5,700	4,500	4,500
Texas	7,100	6,100	5,700	5,700
Arizona	100	100	150	150
Total Grapefruit	39,900	38,500	33,350	33,350
LEMONS:				
California	18,500	17,000	19,000	19,000
Arizona	2,500	1,500	2,500	2,500
Total Lemons	21,000	18,500	21,500	21,500
TANGELOS: Florida	1,250	1,500	1,500	1,300
TANGERINES:				
Florida-All	4,600	5,500	4,900	4,600
Early ^{1/}	2,400	2,600	2,900	2,600
Honey	2,200	2,900	2,000	2,000
California ^{2/}	3,500	5,700	7,000	7,000
Arizona ^{2/}	300	400	250	250
Total Tangerines	8,400	11,600	12,150	11,850

^{1/} Fallglo and Sunburst varieties.

^{2/} Includes tangelos and tangors.

COMPONENTS USED IN THE FEBRUARY FORECAST^{1/}

Type	Bearing trees	Fruit per tree	Percent droppage	Fruit per box
	(1,000)			
GRAPEFRUIT:				
White ^{2/}	1,688	401	9	85
Colored	4,035	425	12	97

^{1/} Survey data is considered final in February.

^{2/} Seedless variety only.

the current projected fruit size, it will take 95 pieces of fruit to fill a 1-3/5 bushel box. Estimated utilization to February 1 is over 7.2 million boxes.

ALL TANGERINES DECREASED TO 4.6 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of all tangerines is reduced to 4.6 million boxes. The total consists of the early varieties (**Fallglo and Sunburst**) now at 2.6 million boxes and the later maturing **Honey** tangerine continued at 2.0 million boxes. Harvest of the Fallglo variety is over, nearing completion for the Sunburst variety, and underway for the Honey variety.

The change in the forecast for early tangerines affects both varieties. The reduction is necessitated by estimated utilization to February 1 (including an allotment for non-certified fruit) totaling just over 2.5 million boxes with harvest essentially complete. The forecast of the **Fallglo** variety is adjusted down 50,000 boxes to 650,000 boxes. The **Sunburst** forecast is now 1.95 million boxes, down 250,000 boxes.

Honey tangerines account for over 40% of the total tangerine forecast and remain unchanged at 2.0 million boxes. The route survey indicated that 21% of the available rows were picked. The size and drop surveys conducted in January are the main indicators used in setting the February forecast. Honey size continues to run below average and is now considered final, taking approximately 268 pieces of fruit to fill a 1-3/5 bushel box. One characteristic of this variety is its higher droppage rate which is above average at 43%.

TANGELOS REDUCED TO 1.3 MILLION BOXES

The **tangelo** forecast is lowered to 1.3 million boxes (including an allocation of non-certified use of 100,000 boxes). The Row Count survey showed approximately 60% of the rows harvested, which when compared to utilization supports this change. Estimated utilization to the first of the month is 868,000 boxes. The size and drop survey data for tangelos was final in November. It will require approximately 234 pieces of fruit to fill one 90-pound equivalent box of tangelos.

UNADJUSTED MATURITY TESTS: Average of regular bloom fruit from sample groves, 2007-08 and 2008-09 seasons

Fruit type (No. groves) test date	Acid		Solids (Brix)		Ratio		Unfinished juice per box		Solids per box	
	2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09
	<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 (45-31)										
Sep 1	1.81	1.44	9.41	9.26	5.27	6.57	40.81	47.32	3.83	4.38
Oct 1	1.32	1.08	10.17	9.57	7.85	8.99	46.14	48.92	4.69	4.68
Nov 1	0.91	0.82	10.08	10.02	11.28	12.41	50.57	53.43	5.10	5.36
Dec 1	0.85	0.82	10.82	11.12	12.93	13.80	52.39	52.73	5.66	5.86
Jan 1	0.75	0.77	11.81	11.75	16.06	15.39	51.81	51.71	6.11	6.08
Feb 1	0.75	0.79	12.49	12.36	16.70	15.92	50.47	50.35	6.30	6.22
Midseason (34-26)										
Sep 1	2.02	1.69	9.59	8.95	4.83	5.34	41.62	44.09	3.99	3.95
Oct 1	1.52	1.34	9.57	9.46	6.42	7.19	45.91	49.34	4.40	4.67
Nov 1	1.03	0.91	10.37	10.18	10.27	11.42	51.45	54.18	5.34	5.52
Dec 1	0.98	0.90	11.14	11.18	11.52	12.68	50.68	53.19	5.64	5.95
Jan 1	0.87	0.88	12.25	11.91	14.41	13.78	51.80	52.25	6.35	6.24
Feb 1	0.81	0.90	12.62	12.69	15.76	14.24	51.29	51.83	6.47	6.58
Late (149-150)										
Sep 1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Oct 1	2.62	2.48	9.47	8.86	3.66	3.62	43.86	47.40	4.15	4.20
Nov 1	1.95	1.86	9.27	9.30	4.82	5.07	48.85	51.82	4.53	4.82
Dec 1	1.70	1.61	10.11	10.19	6.02	6.40	52.22	54.06	5.28	5.51
Jan 1	1.36	1.39	11.14	11.14	8.27	8.12	53.58	55.76	5.97	6.21
Feb 1	1.25	1.34	11.92	11.77	9.65	8.85	54.50	55.49	6.49	6.53

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, 2009

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	3	0.72	12.35	17.13	50.54	6.24
Other Areas	28	0.79	12.36	15.80	50.33	6.21
Midseason						
Indian River District	6	0.93	13.02	14.07	54.04	7.03
Other Areas	20	0.89	12.60	14.29	51.16	6.44
Late						
Indian River District	27	1.44	11.93	8.36	54.68	6.52
Other Areas	123	1.32	11.74	8.96	55.67	6.53

FREEZE DAMAGE BY AREA AND FRUIT TYPE, FEBRUARY 1, 2009

Area	No Damage		Damage at 1/4" cut		Damage at 1/2" cut		Damage at Center Cut			
	E & M	Late	E & M	Late	E & M	Late	Minor		Major	
							E & M	Late	E & M	Late
	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>		<i>Percent</i>	
Indian River District	100.0	100.0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Northern	50.0	82.5	50.0	17.5	--	--	--	--	--	--
Central	85.6	97.2	8.6	1.9	2.9	0.6	2.9	0.3	--	--
Western	80.0	97.1	16.9	2.3	1.9	0.3	1.2	0.3	--	--
Southern	87.5	99.7	3.6	--	4.4	0.3	2.7	.	1.8	--
Total	85.8	97.8	9.7	1.7	2.4	0.3	1.7	0.2	0.4	--

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	2007	2008	2009
	--- Percent ---		
VALENCIA ORANGES:			
64 and larger	10.8	4.1	3.7
80	30.3	18.8	21.7
100	36.2	36.6	43.1
125	17.3	26.9	23.8
163 and smaller	5.4	13.6	7.7
WHITE SEEDLESS GRAPEFRUIT:			
32 and larger	30.0	7.6	26.1
36	24.0	18.4	25.4
40	19.3	21.0	16.1
48	11.1	21.1	15.3
56	6.3	13.5	8.0
63 and smaller	9.3	18.4	9.1
COLORED SEEDLESS GRAPEFRUIT:			
32 and larger	17.1	5.8	13.2
36	21.4	15.5	19.9
40	23.6	15.6	18.7
48	17.1	17.6	20.4
56	10.2	14.9	11.5
63 and smaller	10.6	30.6	16.3
HONEY TANGERINES:			
80 and larger	43.6	24.1	33.1
100	31.6	31.1	31.9
120	15.9	25.9	18.6
176	4.8	7.5	8.4
210 and smaller	4.1	11.4	8.0

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

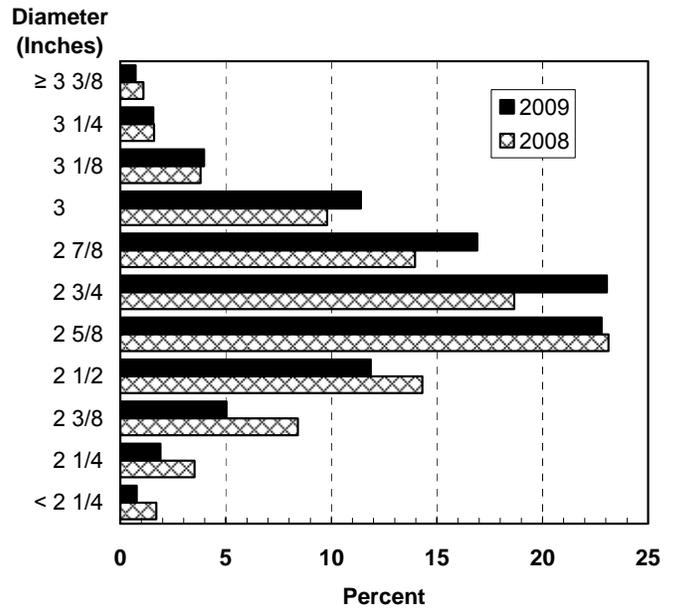


CHART 2: White seedless grapefruit size frequency by diameter from January measurements

