



CITRUS MAY FORECAST

MATURITY TEST RESULTS AND FRUIT SIZE

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ALL ORANGES 157.6 MILLION BOXES

The Florida all orange forecast released today by the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board remains at 157.6 million boxes. Comprising the total are 84.6 million boxes of the early-midseason-Navel varieties (including Temples) and 73.0 million boxes of the later maturing Valencia oranges. The May forecast has deviated from final production by an average of 1.1% in the past eight non-hurricane seasons. During that period, four forecasts were above and four were below actual production. The monthly Row Count (route survey), conducted April 29-30, showed 79% of the rows harvested. This level of completion is a good indicator that supports the current forecast.

EARLY-MIDSEASON-NAVELS 84.6 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of early-midseason-Navel oranges (including Temples) is final at 84.6 million boxes. The Row Count survey conducted April 29-30 showed over 99% of the rows harvested, indicating a complete harvest. The April 26 report from the Citrus Administrative Committee shows estimated weekly utilization dropping below 10,000 boxes the second week of April. The Navel portion of the crop is final at 3.0 million boxes.

FORECAST DATES — 2008-09 SEASON

June 10, 2009 July 10, 2009

VALENCIAS 73.0 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of Valencia oranges remains at 73.0 million boxes. Although the data collected from the March Size and Drop survey is considered final, an additional survey is conducted in April. Although fruit size is slightly larger than last season, it is smaller than any other non-hurricane season since 1998-99. The rate of drop continued to be slightly above average. The monthly Row Count survey shows harvest past the halfway mark, with weekly certifications the final two weeks of April over 6.0 million boxes. Estimated utilization to the 1st of the month is 40.6 million boxes, compared to actual utilization of 41.9 million boxes at the same time last season.

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

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	2006-07	2007-08	Apr 9, 2009	May 12, 2009
--- 1,000 boxes ---				
EARLY, MIDSEASON, AND NAVAL ORANGES:				
FLORIDA ^{1/}	65,600	83,500	84,600	84,600
California	34,500	45,000	38,000	38,000
Texas	1,600	1,500	1,550	1,550
Arizona	200	230	150	150
Total Above				
Varieties	101,900	130,230	124,300	124,300
VALENCIAS:				
FLORIDA	63,400	86,700	73,000	73,000
California	11,500	17,000	15,000	15,000
Texas	380	234	150	150
Arizona	100	150	150	150
Total Valencias	75,380	104,084	88,300	88,300
ALL ORANGES:				
FLORIDA	129,000	170,200	157,600	157,600
California	46,000	62,000	53,000	53,000
Texas	1,980	1,734	1,700	1,700
Arizona	300	380	300	300
Total All Oranges	177,280	234,314	212,600	212,600

COMPONENTS USED IN THE MAY FORECAST^{1/}

Type	Bearing trees	Fruit per tree	Percent droppage	Fruit per box
	(1,000)			
ORANGES:				
Early-mid	24,596	1,079	11	257
Navel	1,231	469	11	139
Valencia	34,151	574	15	220

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

FCOJ YIELD 1.65 GALLONS PER BOX

The projected all orange yield for frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) is raised to 1.65 gallons per box from 1.64 last month. Final yield for all oranges in 2007-08 was a record 1.67274 gallons per box. The early-midseason orange yield, as reported by the Florida Department of Citrus, is final at 1.597195 gallons per box, which is a new record. The Valencia yield is now projected at 1.73 gallons per box, up from 1.70 last month. The record high yield for Valencias was last season at 1.79034 gallons per box.

^{1/} Includes Temples

GRAPEFRUIT NOW 22.5 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of all grapefruit for utilization (including an allocation of 700,000 boxes of gift fruit and local sales) is now at 22.5 million boxes. Reductions were made only in the colored component. The forecast of **white** grapefruit remains at 7.0 million boxes, and **colored** grapefruit is now 15.5 million boxes. If realized, this forecast will be 15% less than harvested last season.

The comparison of weekly and current utilization to results of the Row Count survey is the primary indication used in setting the May grapefruit forecast.

The Row Count survey conducted April 29-30 shows 97% of the grapefruit rows harvested. Weekly utilization during the month of April was between 500,000 and 700,000 boxes, primarily for processing.

The **white** grapefruit forecast is held at 7.0 million boxes. Weekly utilization for the month of April was steady between 300,000 and 400,000 boxes. Based on the current forecast, there are just over 850,000 boxes remaining to be harvested. The Row Count survey conducted April 29-30 shows 94% of white grapefruit rows harvested, with a significant amount of the remaining fruit on the East Coast. Almost all the white grapefruit harvested during April was processed. Estimated utilization to May 1 (including an allocation for other use) is 6.1 million boxes, compared to 8.3 million boxes actual utilization the same time last season.

The **colored** grapefruit forecast is reduced to 15.5 million boxes. The Row Count survey shows a higher percentage of colored grapefruit harvested than white. The primary reason is that the high quality colored grapefruit was harvested earlier in the season for the

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

Crop and State	Production		Forecast	
	2006-07	2007-08	Apr 9, 2009	May 12, 2009
	--- 1,000 boxes ---			
GRAPEFRUIT:				
Florida-All	27,200	26,600	23,000	22,500
White	9,300	9,000	7,000	7,000
Colored	17,900	17,600	16,000	15,500
California	5,500	5,200	4,400	4,400
Texas	7,100	6,100	6,200	6,200
Arizona	100	100	150	150
Total Grapefruit	39,900	38,000	33,750	33,250
LEMONS:				
California	18,500	14,800	19,000	19,000
Arizona	2,500	1,500	2,500	2,500
Total Lemons	21,000	16,300	21,500	21,500
TANGELOS: Florida	1,250	1,500	1,200	1,150
TANGERINES:				
Florida-All	4,600	5,500	4,000	3,900
Early ^{1/}	2,400	2,600	2,600	2,600
Honey	2,200	2,900	1,400	1,300
California ^{2/}	3,500	6,700	6,700	6,700
Arizona ^{2/}	300	400	250	250
Total Tangerines	8,400	12,600	10,950	10,850

^{1/} Fallglo and Sunburst varieties.

^{2/} Includes tangelos and tangors.

COMPONENTS USED IN THE MAY 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/} January survey data is considered final.

^{2/} Seedless variety only.

fresh market. Currently, only a few packinghouses remain open to receive fruit. Weekly utilization of colored grapefruit dropped below 100,000 boxes the third week of April, indicating the picking season is coming to an end.

Estimated utilization to May 1 is 14.9 million boxes (including an allocation for other use), compared to 16.9 million boxes actual utilization the same time last year.

ALL TANGERINES 3.9 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of all tangerines is lowered to 3.9 million boxes. The early tangerines continue at 2.6 million boxes while the Honey tangerines are reduced to 1.3 million boxes.

Harvest of the early varieties (Fallglo and Sunburst), including an allocation of 200,000 boxes for non-certified use, is 2.6 million boxes, with **Sunburst** accounting for ¾ of the total.

The forecast of the later maturing **Honey** variety is adjusted downward 100,000 boxes to 1.3 million boxes. The Row Count survey conducted April 29-30 supports the change in the forecast. With approximately 95% of the visited rows picked, the harvest of Honey tangerines is essentially complete. Estimated utilization the final week of April was only 2,000 boxes, confirming the nearing end to the harvest season. Freezing temperatures during late January and early February prompted some growers to accelerate the citrus harvest of the Honey variety to save fruit from any serious freeze damage.

TANGELOS 1.15 MILLION BOXES

The tangelo forecast is reduced to 1.15 million boxes, including an allocation for non-certified use. This forecast is approximately 23% less than last season's 1.5 million boxes, and is the lowest total since the 1964-65 season. Tangelos were relatively complete by the end of March. During April, total utilization was only 2,000 boxes, all of which were processed.

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>	

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

ORANGES:

Late (90-74)											
Oct 1	2.66	2.52	9.50	8.88	3.61	3.56	44.00	47.72	4.17	4.23	
Nov 1	2.00	1.93	9.28	9.36	4.71	4.93	49.23	52.06	4.57	4.87	
Dec 1	1.76	1.63	10.11	10.20	5.81	6.34	52.08	54.05	5.26	5.51	
Jan 1	1.39	1.42	11.15	11.17	8.09	8.00	53.56	55.65	5.97	6.21	
Feb 1	1.28	1.36	12.01	11.76	9.50	8.70	54.58	55.77	6.55	6.56	
Feb 15	NA	1.30	NA	12.08	NA	9.37	NA	56.90	NA	6.88	
Mar 1	1.17	1.25	12.62	12.62	10.87	10.22	54.99	55.81	6.94	7.04	
Apr 1	1.03	1.12	13.01	12.83	12.76	11.60	55.07	53.64	7.16	6.88	
May 1	0.92	0.94	13.46	13.09	14.87	14.04	55.37	55.25	7.45	7.24	

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, MAY 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:						
Late						
Indian River District	18	1.01	13.31	13.35	56.36	7.49
Other Areas	56	0.92	13.02	14.27	54.93	7.16

FRUIT SIZE COMPARISONS BY TYPES TO PREVIOUS SEASONS

Size frequency distributions developed from the April 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 April measurements

Type of fruit and size in 4/5-bushel containers	2007	2008	2009
	<i>--- Percent ---</i>		

VALENCIA ORANGES:

64 and larger	14.4	6.3	5.2
80	30.1	19.2	23.0
100	31.7	34.7	40.5
125	17.1	26.5	22.2
163 and smaller	6.7	13.3	9.1

The chart to the right describes the relationship 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 April measurements

