



CITRUS MARCH FORECAST MATURITY TEST RESULTS AND FRUIT SIZE

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
2290 Lucien Way, Suite 300, Maitland, FL 32751
(407) 648-6013 · (407) 648-6029 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/fl

March 9, 2012

All Orange Production up 1 percent from February
Non-Valencia Orange Production up 1 percent
Valencia Orange Production unchanged
All Grapefruit Production unchanged
All Tangerine Production unchanged
Tangelo Production increased 5 percent
FCOJ Yield 1.64 gallons per Box (42° Brix)

FORECAST DATES		–	2011-2012 SEASON	
April 10, 2012			May 10, 2012	
June 12, 2012			July 11, 2012	

Citrus Production by Type and State – United States

Crop and State	Production			2011-2012 Forecast	
	2008-2009 (1,000 boxes)	2009-2010 (1,000 boxes)	2010-2011 (1,000 boxes)	February (1,000 boxes)	March (1,000 boxes)
Non-Valencia Oranges¹					
Florida.....	84,600	68,600	70,300	73,000	74,000
California ²	34,500	42,500	48,000	44,000	44,000
Texas ²	1,300	1,360	1,700	1,292	1,292
Arizona ³	150				
United States.....	120,550	112,460	120,000	118,292	119,292
Valencia Oranges					
Florida.....	77,900	65,100	70,000	73,000	73,000
California.....	12,000	15,000	13,500	13,500	14,000
Texas ²	159	275	249	334	334
Arizona ³	100				
United States.....	90,159	80,375	83,749	86,834	87,334
All Oranges					
Florida.....	162,500	133,700	140,300	146,000	147,000
California.....	46,500	57,500	61,500	57,500	58,000
Texas ²	1,459	1,635	1,949	1,626	1,626
Arizona ³	250				
United States.....	210,709	192,835	203,749	205,126	206,626
Grapefruit					
Florida-All.....	21,700	20,300	19,750	18,700	18,700
White.....	6,600	6,000	5,850	5,200	5,200
Colored.....	15,100	14,300	13,900	13,500	13,500
California ²	4,800	4,500	4,100	3,300	3,300
Texas ²	5,500	5,600	6,300	4,977	4,977
Arizona ³	25				
United States.....	32,025	30,400	30,150	26,977	26,977
Lemons					
California ²	21,000	21,000	21,000	19,500	19,500
Arizona ²	3,000	2,200	2,500	700	700
United States.....	24,000	23,200	23,500	20,200	20,200
Tangelos					
Florida.....	1,150	900	1,150	1,100	1,150
Tangerines					
Florida-All.....	3,850	4,450	4,650	4,300	4,300
Early ⁴	2,550	2,250	2,600	2,400	2,400
Honey.....	1,300	2,200	2,050	1,900	1,900
California ^{2 5}	6,700	9,900	9,900	10,300	10,300
Arizona ^{2 5}	250	350	300	200	200
United States.....	10,800	14,700	14,850	14,800	14,800

¹ Early, midseason, Navel, and Temple varieties

² Estimates carried forward from January.

³ Estimates discontinued beginning with the 2009-2010 crop year.

⁴ Fallglo and Sunburst varieties.

⁵ Includes tangelos and tangors.

All Oranges 147.0 Million Boxes

The 2011-2012 Florida all orange forecast released today by the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board is 147.0 million boxes, up 1.0 million boxes from February and 5 percent more than last season's production. The total is comprised of 74.0 million boxes of non-Valencia oranges (early, midseason, Navel, and Temple varieties) and 73.0 million boxes of Valencia oranges. The Navel portion of the non-Valencia forecast is 2.6 million boxes, 4 percent of the total. The hurricane seasons of 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 have been excluded from the usual 10-year regression analysis and from comparisons of the current season to previous seasons. For those previous 8 seasons, the March forecast has deviated from final production by an average of 2 percent with 5 seasons below and 3 above, with differences ranging from 3 percent below to 2 percent above. All references to "average" or "minimum" refer to the previous 8 non-hurricane seasons unless noted.

Non-Valencia Oranges 74.0 Million Boxes

The forecast of non-Valencia orange production is increased to 74.0 million boxes or 1 percent more than last month's forecast, based on utilization to the 1st first of the month. The route survey (Row Count) conducted February 28-29 showed 98 percent of the rows have been harvested. The Navel forecast, included in the non-Valencia forecast remains unchanged at 2.6 million boxes.

Valencia Oranges 73.0 Million Boxes

The forecast of Valencia production is unchanged at 73.0 million boxes. Estimated utilization to the 1st of the month is 4.7 million boxes. Fruit size is projected to be about average, requiring 207 pieces of fruit to fill a 90 pound box, unchanged from the last month. Fruit droppage, expected to be 16 percent at harvest, is above average, also unchanged from last month.

All Grapefruit 18.7 Million Boxes

The forecast of all grapefruit production remains unchanged at 18.7 million boxes, including an allocation of 700,000 boxes for non-certified gift fruit and local sales. Of the total grapefruit forecast, 5.2 million boxes are white and 13.5 million boxes are the colored varieties. The Size and Drop surveys conducted in February continue to show droppage for white grapefruit to be well above average and fruit size to be close to the minimum. For colored grapefruit, the surveys confirmed smaller than average size and close to the maximum droppage. The route survey conducted February 28-29 shows that 65 percent of the white rows and 70 percent of the colored rows are harvested.

All Tangerines 4.3 Million Boxes

The forecast of all tangerine production is unchanged at 4.3 million boxes, consisting of the early varieties (Fallglo and Sunburst) at 2.4 million boxes and Honey tangerines forecast at 1.9 million boxes. Harvest of the early tangerine varieties is over for the season and the forecast remains unchanged. The later variety Honey tangerine continues to be harvested at an average rate of about 200,000 boxes per week with estimated utilization to the 1st of the month over 1.5 million boxes. The Honey tangerine Size and Drop surveys were final last month and Row Count indications show that nearly 80 percent of the Honey tangerines are harvested.

Tangelos increased to 1.15 Million Boxes

The forecast of tangelo production is increased 50,000 boxes from the previous forecast. The change is based on total utilization which has surpassed 1.1 million boxes including an allocation for non-certified use. The Row Count survey showed 97 percent of the rows are harvested.

FCOJ Yield 1.64 Gallons per Box

The projection for frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) is increased to 1.64 gallons per box of 42° Brix concentrate for all oranges, up from 1.63 gallons per box in February. The late (Valencia) projection is 1.76 gallons per box, up from 1.73 gallons per box last month. In Report No. 21, for the period ending February 25, 2012, the Florida Department of Citrus reports the non-Valencia season average is 1.555402 gallons per box. Last season's final yield for all oranges was 1.586081 gallons per box. Last season's final yield for the components were 1.522652 for non-Valencia oranges and 1.664737 for Valencia oranges.

Forecast Components, by Variety — Florida: March 2012

[Survey data is considered final in December for Navels, January for early-midseason oranges, February for grapefruit, and April for Valencias]

Type	Bearing trees (1,000 trees)	Fruit per tree (number)	Droppage (percent)	Fruit per box (number)
ORANGES				
Early-midseason	23,909	919	13	235
Navel	1,046	481	17	137
Valencia	32,467	567	16	207
GRAPEFRUIT				
White	1,377	443	16	101
Colored	3,486	430	18	105

Maturity

Regular bloom fruit samples of Valencia oranges were collected from groves on established routes on February 28-29, 2012, in Florida's five major citrus producing areas and tested March 1, 2012. Acid levels are lower than the previous season while solids (Brix) are higher, resulting in higher ratios. Unfinished juice per box and solids per box are up this month and higher than last season at this time.

Acids and solids (Brix) are higher in the Indian River than in other areas, with lower ratios. Unfinished juice and solids per box are also higher for Indian River fruit.

Citrus Unadjusted Maturity Tests — Florida: 2010-2011 and 2011-2012

[Averages of regular bloom fruit from sample groves. Juice and solids per box are unadjusted and not comparable to juice processing plant test results. 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]

Fruit type (number of groves) test date	Acid		Solids (Brix)		Ratio		Unfinished juice per box		Solids per box	
	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)			(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
LATE ORANGES (147-142)										
Oct 1	2.56	2.11	8.95	8.93	3.52	4.28	43.81	48.45	3.91	4.32
Nov 1	2.01	1.53	9.68	9.45	4.85	6.30	48.84	51.56	4.72	4.87
Dec 1	1.62	1.37	10.41	10.32	6.50	7.63	51.48	54.98	5.36	5.68
Jan 1	1.50	1.17	11.05	11.38	7.46	9.85	51.02	55.92	5.63	6.36
Feb 1	1.30	1.12	11.97	12.16	9.34	11.04	50.87	55.44	6.09	6.74
Mar 1	1.14	1.00	12.35	12.52	10.93	12.74	51.57	55.55	6.37	6.96

Citrus Maturity Test Averages, by Areas — Florida: March 1, 2009-2010 and 2010-2011

Fruit type (number of groves)	Acid		Solids (Brix)		Ratio		Unfinished juice per box		Solids per box	
	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)			(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
ORANGES										
Late										
Indian River (27-26).....	1.25	1.05	12.68	12.78	10.16	12.36	48.91	56.58	6.22	7.23
Other Areas (117-116).	1.12	0.99	12.28	12.46	11.11	12.83	52.18	55.33	6.41	6.90

Fruit Size Comparisons by Types to Previous Seasons

Size frequency distributions from the February 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 include fruit from regular bloom and exclude fruit from summer bloom.

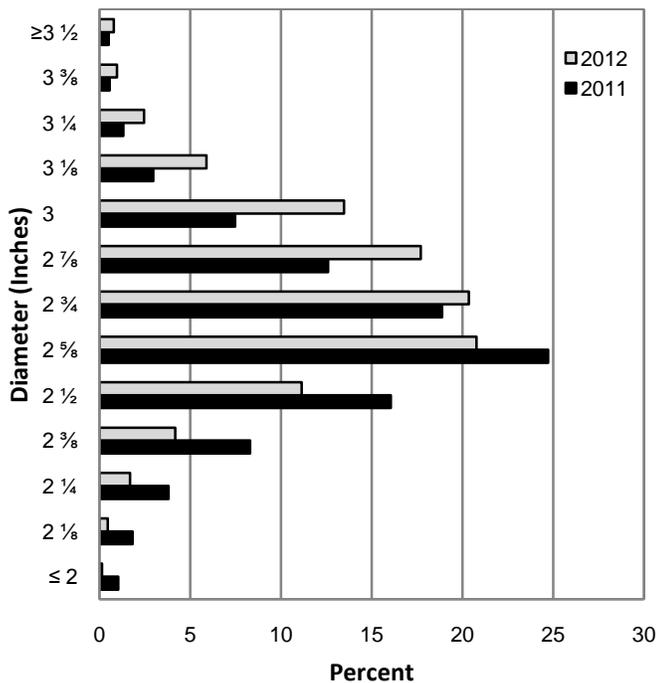
The charts below show the distribution of fruit sizes in 2012 compared to 2011. The diameter measurements shown are the minimum values of fruit measured, except for the smallest values.

Citrus Size Frequency Measurement Distributions, by Type — Florida: February Survey

Type and number of fruit per 4/5 – bushel containers	2010	2011	2012	Type and number of fruit per 4/5 – bushel containers	2010	2011	2012
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)		(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
VALENCIA ORANGES				WHITE GRAPEFRUIT ¹			
64 or less.....	5.1	3.6	6.5	32 or less.....	15.9	12.1	15.9
80.....	21.4	14.8	25.3	36.....	27.0	21.7	19.6
100.....	38.7	37.1	40.1	40.....	18.3	18.7	14.7
125.....	23.5	29.6	21.6	48.....	15.8	16.7	14.6
163 or more.....	11.3	14.9	6.5	56.....	8.5	11.3	9.4
				63 or more.....	14.5	19.5	25.8
HONEY TANGERINES				COLORED GRAPEFRUIT			
80 or less.....	28.7	20.9	16.4	32 or less.....	4.3	7.2	12.2
100.....	26.0	35.8	24.1	36.....	12.2	14.3	11.9
120.....	20.0	25.9	25.9	40.....	17.6	13.8	14.3
176.....	8.7	6.5	15.9	48.....	23.5	18.4	16.9
210 or more.....	16.6	10.9	17.7	56.....	16.1	13.5	12.9
				63 or more.....	26.3	32.8	31.8

¹ Excludes seedy.

Fruit Size Frequency Measurements, Valencia Oranges, by Diameter - Florida: February Survey



Fruit Size Frequency Measurements, White Seedless Grapefruit, by Diameter - Florida: February Survey

