

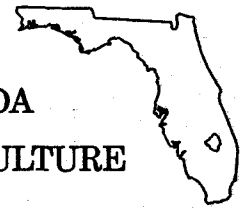


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CITRUS

COMMERCIAL CITRUS TREE INVENTORY PRELIMINARY REPORT



FLORIDA
AGRICULTURE

September 3, 1998

ALL CITRUS DECREASES TO 845,260 ACRES

This State's Biennial Commercial Citrus Inventory shows 845,260 acres of citrus as of January 1998. A net decrease of 12,427 acres has occurred in the past two years. During 1996 and 1997, a total of 36,898 acres was planted while 49,325 acres were removed. The 36,898 new acres are the fewest acres set in any two-year period since 1978.

St. Lucie County is still the leader with 103,894 acres of citrus, followed by Polk with 102,457 and Hendry with 100,124. Hendry County continues to lead in total trees and tree density with 154 trees per acre. St. Lucie County has 117 trees per acre and Polk has 113. There has been a decline in acreage in 20 of the 33 citrus counties in the past two years.

The Gulf Citrus area of Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee counties had only a slight increase in acreage since the previous census, increasing from 179,093 to 179,948. However, the Gulf area experienced a gain of 353,300 trees from 26,811,000 trees in 1996 to the current level of 27,164,300.

ORANGE ACREAGE REACHES 658,390

All orange acreage increased to 658,390 as of January 1998 compared to 656,598 acres in 1996. Along with this 0.3 percent increase in acreage there was a 1.4 percent increase in tree numbers. There are currently 85.4 million orange trees compared to 84.2 million trees in 1996. Bearing acreage for all oranges is up 2.4 percent from 1996. There are currently 609,194 bearing acres as compared to 594,775 in 1996. Bearing trees from this census are for use with the 1997-98 harvest season and include those trees planted in 1994 and earlier years.

Hamlin orange acreage is 216,587, up 0.2 percent from the 216,157 acres reported in 1996. Valencias showed a 2 percent increase to 314,310 acres, up from 307,878 acres in the previous census. Navel acreage has decreased 4.9 percent to 25,150 from 26,434 in 1996. A 15 percent decrease in Ambersweet oranges from 15,704 acres in 1996 to 13,314 in 1998 was recorded for this survey.

GRAPEFRUIT DECREASES TO 132,817

Grapefruit acreage decreased 8 percent in the past two years to 132,817. Colored varieties decreased 6.5 percent from 81,348 acres in 1996 to 76,025 in 1998. White seedless grapefruit acreage is 51,641, down 7.5 percent from the 55,802 acres in 1996. Seedy grapefruit acreage at 3,427 is down 23 percent from 4,458 acres in 1996.

SPECIALTY ACREAGE DECREASED 4.6 PERCENT

Specialty citrus types decreased 4.6 percent to 54,053 in 1998 from 56,673 acres in 1996. Temples continued to decline in acreage. The steady decline in Dancy tangerine acreage continued. Sunburst tangerine acreage decreased 1.8 percent, from 12,929 acres in 1996 to 12,693 acres in 1998. Honey tangerines increased 6.2 percent

to 9,533 acres in 1998 from 8,976 in 1996. Orlando tangelos, the main tangelo variety, were down 9 percent over the level of the previous census. There was a 3.3 percent decrease in Minneola tangelo acreage. The lemon acreage increased 5.8 percent.

Florida Commercial Citrus Acreage

Census years	Oranges	Grapefruit	Specialty fruit	Total
1966	673,086	103,224	81,772	858,082
1968	713,400	119,883	97,966	931,249
1970	715,806	124,050	101,615	941,471
1972	659,418	124,142	94,459	878,019
1974	642,431	130,326	91,341	864,098
1976	628,567	137,909	85,893	852,369
1978	616,020	136,342	78,873	831,235
1980	627,174	139,944	78,165	845,283
1982	636,864	139,939	71,053	847,856
1984	573,991	134,680	52,694	761,365
1986	466,252	117,845	40,395	624,492
1988	536,737	119,606	41,586	697,929
1990	564,809	125,300	42,658	732,767
1992	608,636	135,166	47,488	791,290
1994	653,370	146,915	53,457	853,742
1996	656,598	144,416	56,673	857,687
1998	658,390	132,817	54,053	845,260

Florida Commercial Citrus Acreage Changes Between Censuses

Census years	Two year change		Net change	Total
	Gross loss	New plantings		
1966	NA ^{1/}	NA ^{1/}	NA ^{1/}	858,082
1968	13,910	87,077	+73,167	931,249
1970	26,114	36,336	+10,222	941,471
1972 ^{2/}	82,948	19,496	-63,452	878,019
1974	40,181	26,260	-13,921	864,098
1976	40,518	28,789	-11,729	852,369
1978 ^{2/}	49,127	27,993	-21,134	831,235
1980	25,925	39,973	+14,048	845,283
1982 ^{2/}	51,942	54,515	+2,573	847,856
1984 ^{2/}	159,719	73,228	-86,491	761,365
1986 ^{2/}	185,598	48,725	-136,873	624,492
1988	52,240	125,677	+73,437	697,929
1990 ^{2/}	85,858	120,696	+34,838	732,767
1992	74,704	133,227	+58,523	791,290
1994	45,214	107,666	+62,452	853,742
1996	35,947	39,892	+3,945	857,687
1998	49,325	36,898	-12,427	845,260

^{1/} First census via aerial photography in 1966. ^{2/} January freezes in 1971, 1977, 1981, 1982, 1985, and 1986. December freezes in 1983, 1985, and 1989.

1998 Florida Commercial Citrus Inventory
All citrus, number of acres, by variety and year set

Year Set	All Citrus	Oranges					Grapefruit		
		Early	Midseason	Late	Unidentified	Total	White	Colored	Seedy
ACRES									
Pre-1954	34,305	6,045	5,515	15,258	9	26,827	1,960	2,831	1,245
1954-63	57,632	17,974	8,468	22,619	0	49,061	4,321	936	163
1964-73	89,777	19,331	10,121	23,362	0	52,814	19,038	10,454	670
1974	6,945	1,069	973	1,535	0	3,577	1,296	1,938	69
1975	6,283	1,230	761	2,042	0	4,033	815	1,230	104
1976	5,483	1,438	572	2,006	0	4,016	300	988	26
1977	6,793	1,955	550	2,056	0	4,561	288	1,681	75
1978	7,107	1,995	583	2,258	0	4,836	268	1,726	42
1979	10,021	3,280	829	3,383	0	7,492	251	1,765	29
1980	9,111	3,418	744	3,602	0	7,764	260	742	24
1981	14,431	6,878	837	4,266	0	11,981	300	1,702	38
1982	15,461	7,365	854	4,526	0	12,745	290	2,148	31
1983	25,844	12,291	2,203	7,920	0	22,414	370	2,206	92
1984	17,005	7,680	911	5,519	2	14,112	322	2,047	6
1985	17,104	8,358	1,011	6,262	1	15,632	182	682	15
1986	33,574	15,948	1,102	12,963	5	30,018	268	1,950	57
1987	59,363	24,991	3,050	23,178	5	51,224	1,015	4,333	135
1988	47,318	16,601	2,226	18,597	30	37,454	1,344	4,874	79
1989	65,550	21,628	2,585	27,633	12	51,858	3,902	5,658	107
1990	59,133	18,030	2,028	25,968	47	46,073	4,071	4,947	129
1991	73,692	26,864	3,068	27,969	99	58,000	2,835	7,476	67
1992	65,618	20,342	3,577	25,276	76	49,271	2,961	6,942	104
1993	40,853	11,273	2,497	15,928	51	29,749	1,781	3,926	61
1994	19,229	4,991	1,130	7,459	102	13,682	1,171	1,557	20
Bearing	787,632	260,975	56,195	291,585	439	609,194	49,609	74,739	3,388
1995	20,730	6,637	1,095	8,685	637	17,054	1,349	785	17
1996	15,633	3,285	268	5,540	3,754	12,847	406	317	12
1997	21,265	3,674	749	8,500	6,372	19,295	277	184	10
Non-bearing	57,628	13,596	2,112	22,725	10,763	49,196	2,032	1,286	39
Total	845,260	274,571	58,307	314,310	11,202	658,390	51,641	76,025	3,427

1998 Florida Commercial Citrus Inventory
All citrus, number of acres, by variety and year set

Year Set	Grapefruit		Temples	Tangelos	Tangerines					Other Citrus
	Unidentified	Total			Fallglo	Sunburst	Robinson	Dancy	Honey	
	ACRES									
Pre-1954	0	6,036	884	364	0	2	0	176	7	9
1954-63	0	5,420	998	1,194	0	0	94	52	674	139
1964-73	0	30,162	2,285	2,696	0	7	207	170	1,012	424
1974	0	3,303	19	13	0	0	6	3	1	23
1975	0	2,149	22	41	0	0	6	9	6	17
1976	0	1,314	10	23	0	0	9	7	23	81
1977	0	2,044	13	22	0	0	6	5	36	106
1978	0	2,036	19	71	0	0	6	5	14	120
1979	0	2,045	31	35	0	0	7	4	226	181
1980	0	1,026	28	31	0	17	19	7	114	105
1981	0	2,040	71	74	0	39	52	1	78	95
1982	0	2,469	41	63	0	66	10	6	36	25
1983	0	2,668	95	161	0	165	14	10	214	103
1984	0	2,375	58	149	0	170	22	8	79	32
1985	0	879	28	107	0	132	29	15	186	96
1986	0	2,275	167	405	0	260	73	64	215	97
1987	0	5,483	159	807	12	919	129	54	410	166
1988	0	6,297	173	1,048	19	1,354	208	97	454	214
1989	0	9,667	312	921	323	1,378	287	35	577	192
1990	1	9,148	95	851	489	1,300	230	44	600	303
1991	0	10,378	206	1,189	460	2,318	325	27	567	222
1992	19	10,026	154	1,081	732	2,449	208	74	1,216	407
1993	19	5,787	157	527	1,167	1,301	457	23	1,015	670
1994	64	2,812	126	323	254	315	103	5	657	952
Bearing	103	127,839	6,151	12,196	3,456	12,192	2,507	901	8,417	4,779
1995	71	2,222	141	147	83	192	81	2	457	351
1996	804	1,539	83	194	75	186	7	2	378	322
1997	746	1,217	79	131	72	123	18	4	281	45
Non-bearing	1,621	4,978	303	472	230	501	106	8	1,116	718
Total	1,724	132,817	6,454	12,668	3,686	12,693	2,613	909	9,533	5,497

1998 Florida Commercial Citrus Inventory
All citrus, number of trees, by variety and year set

Year Set	All Citrus	Oranges					Grapefruit		
		Early	Midseason	Late	Unidentified	Total	White	Colored	Seedy
1,000 TREES									
Pre-1954	3,000.1	524.0	496.5	1,383.9	1.1	2,405.5	160.9	214.9	98.4
1954-63	5,415.1	1,625.3	862.3	2,216.6	0.0	4,704.2	326.1	73.4	14.9
1964-73	9,439.7	2,117.9	1,150.4	2,655.2	0.0	5,923.5	1,716.4	970.0	57.7
1974	769.9	125.6	119.1	184.4	0.0	429.1	127.3	200.3	6.1
1975	690.0	135.9	87.3	247.0	0.0	470.2	78.7	119.6	8.8
1976	605.5	155.0	68.8	240.4	0.0	464.2	27.1	93.7	2.1
1977	738.1	213.8	63.9	229.5	0.0	507.2	29.7	168.1	7.2
1978	769.9	223.8	65.7	256.5	0.0	546.0	27.6	168.7	3.7
1979	1,137.6	366.5	105.8	419.9	0.0	892.2	25.6	166.1	2.6
1980	1,080.1	393.3	87.1	447.7	0.0	928.1	25.3	78.4	2.2
1981	1,677.7	792.7	107.3	526.3	0.0	1,426.3	29.8	171.3	3.2
1982	1,765.5	843.9	107.8	548.0	0.0	1,499.7	27.3	207.2	2.8
1983	3,061.5	1,450.5	272.1	972.5	0.1	2,695.2	36.6	225.2	10.0
1984	2,038.2	921.5	111.1	679.2	0.1	1,711.9	30.3	231.9	0.7
1985	2,199.6	1,039.0	125.5	851.6	0.2	2,016.3	17.8	79.3	1.4
1986	4,411.6	2,085.1	139.0	1,756.9	0.7	3,981.7	26.8	219.7	5.9
1987	7,783.3	3,256.7	392.9	3,146.1	0.6	6,796.3	99.8	501.0	13.6
1988	6,383.4	2,262.7	296.9	2,608.5	4.9	5,173.0	149.3	550.9	7.8
1989	9,418.8	3,190.6	360.1	4,131.3	2.6	7,684.6	444.7	680.2	10.7
1990	8,498.5	2,522.8	283.9	3,969.7	4.3	6,780.7	465.5	602.5	12.1
1991	10,349.5	3,756.9	400.0	4,162.2	15.2	8,334.3	309.6	934.6	6.0
1992	9,155.8	2,782.3	501.9	3,664.6	8.9	6,957.7	345.3	870.0	10.6
1993	5,897.9	1,598.8	382.2	2,281.9	6.9	4,269.8	211.7	535.0	5.4
1994	2,802.9	679.6	185.0	1,111.1	13.1	1,988.8	143.7	215.5	1.8
Bearing	99,090.2	33,064.2	6,772.6	38,691.0	58.7	78,586.5	4,882.9	8,277.5	295.7
1995	2,921.3	901.6	139.5	1,268.2	83.9	2,393.2	159.8	105.1	1.5
1996	2,266.9	455.3	35.3	854.7	528.4	1,873.7	48.2	44.6	1.1
1997	2,831.8	491.5	95.7	1,139.0	851.0	2,577.2	36.4	26.2	0.9
Non-bearing	8,020.0	1,848.4	270.5	3,261.9	1,463.3	6,844.1	244.4	175.9	3.5
Total	107,110.2	34,912.6	7,043.1	41,952.9	1,522.0	85,430.6	5,127.3	8,453.4	299.2

1998 Florida Commercial Citrus Inventory
All citrus, number of trees, by variety and year set

Year Set	Grapefruit		Temples	Tangelos	Tangerines					Other Citrus
	Unidentified	Total			Fallglo	Sunburst	Robinson	Dancy	Honey	
	1,000 TREES									
Pre-1954	0.0	474.2	76.9	27.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	14.3	0.7	1.0
1954-63	0.0	414.4	93.4	100.4	0.0	0.0	10.6	4.3	73.8	14.0
1964-73	0.0	2,744.1	256.3	285.8	0.0	1.3	26.3	16.6	121.7	64.1
1974	0.0	333.7	1.9	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.1	3.3
1975	0.0	207.1	2.3	4.4	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.8	0.6	3.6
1976	0.0	122.9	0.8	2.3	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.7	3.0	10.1
1977	0.0	205.0	1.5	3.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.4	3.8	16.1
1978	0.0	200.0	2.1	7.1	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.4	1.6	11.9
1979	0.0	194.3	2.9	3.9	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.5	21.9	20.9
1980	0.0	105.9	2.9	3.3	0.0	2.4	1.9	0.7	18.1	16.8
1981	0.0	204.3	7.7	7.9	0.0	4.0	6.4	0.1	9.8	11.2
1982	0.0	237.3	4.5	6.2	0.0	8.6	1.1	0.4	4.1	3.6
1983	0.0	271.8	11.0	19.2	0.0	21.1	1.8	0.9	27.1	13.4
1984	0.0	262.9	6.6	17.8	0.0	21.4	2.1	0.8	10.9	3.8
1985	0.0	98.5	3.2	14.2	0.0	17.7	3.7	1.7	32.2	12.1
1986	0.0	252.4	21.0	52.5	0.0	38.9	10.8	7.8	31.8	14.7
1987	0.0	614.4	17.9	113.5	1.9	133.5	17.1	5.5	59.2	24.0
1988	0.0	708.0	21.1	140.8	2.9	191.7	34.8	14.1	58.6	38.4
1989	0.0	1,135.6	37.4	127.2	52.1	213.2	40.8	4.9	97.7	25.3
1990	0.1	1,080.2	11.2	129.7	82.2	215.8	34.9	4.7	108.5	50.6
1991	0.0	1,250.2	23.6	156.7	78.7	353.7	37.0	3.7	78.4	33.2
1992	4.3	1,230.2	18.4	148.1	123.7	374.5	28.2	8.4	195.7	70.9
1993	1.9	754.0	19.7	73.0	194.1	210.7	72.1	2.4	175.1	127.0
1994	7.2	368.2	30.3	41.6	44.0	49.0	13.9	0.6	113.4	153.1
Bearing	13.5	13,469.6	674.6	1,486.7	579.6	1,857.9	349.4	95.0	1,247.8	743.1
1995	8.0	274.4	28.3	21.5	13.4	30.4	13.3	0.1	81.4	65.3
1996	93.7	187.6	10.5	32.4	12.9	31.5	1.0	0.3	62.3	54.7
1997	84.0	147.5	10.4	16.1	11.5	17.9	2.6	0.4	44.1	4.1
Non-bearing	185.7	609.5	49.2	70.0	37.8	79.8	16.9	0.8	187.8	124.1
Total	199.2	14,079.1	723.8	1,556.7	617.4	1,937.7	366.3	95.8	1,435.6	867.2

Florida Commercial Citrus Inventory
Acreage and tree numbers, by county and year of inventory

County	1992	1994	1996	1998	1992	1994	1996	1998
	ACRES				1,000 TREES			
Brevard	11,084	11,663	11,569	10,715	1,159.4	1,219.4	1,197.4	1,114.3
Broward	365	246	108	99	25.9	18.9	9.4	9.5
Charlotte	15,981	19,995	21,183	21,522	1,939.7	2,695.2	3,062.4	3,171.8
Citrus	200	233	242	258	19.7	24.2	25.1	26.5
Collier	34,167	36,534	36,583	35,655	4,869.9	5,310.0	5,331.6	5,251.0
Dade	6,076	1,668	2,618	2,792 ¹	963.1	290.4	440.8	470.9 ¹
DeSoto	58,058	62,407	66,182	67,192	7,206.1	7,975.5	8,541.7	8,752.4
Glades	9,136	9,270	9,402	10,776	1,265.8	1,326.0	1,422.6	1,683.8
Hardee	52,630	54,211	52,578	52,340	5,445.9	5,879.1	5,838.9	5,928.7
Hendry	87,396	98,604	99,770	100,124	12,797.2	14,964.0	15,353.1	15,408.5
Hernando	1,035	1,109	1,114	1,101	122.9	133.3	135.0	133.7
Highlands	62,217	74,035	76,586	75,909	7,295.4	9,085.7	9,862.9	9,949.3
Hillsborough	27,120	27,739	28,236	27,428	2,582.2	2,814.4	2,970.4	2,918.1
Indian River	65,446	69,240	66,561	64,138	6,377.0	7,145.0	7,145.1	6,945.6
Lake	18,604	21,053	21,468	20,864	2,398.5	2,776.1	2,862.0	2,815.0
Lee	10,559	12,238	12,155	11,871	1,364.1	1,602.4	1,641.3	1,649.2
Manatee	20,919	23,940	24,200	23,807	2,248.2	2,775.7	2,865.5	2,876.5
Marion	917	1,138	1,147	1,181	113.1	139.2	141.4	147.9
Martin	46,335	48,221	47,090	46,439	5,622.2	6,232.7	6,365.7	6,323.1
Okeechobee	10,439	11,270	12,206	12,244	1,099.0	1,261.1	1,459.9	1,487.6
Orange	9,470	10,402	10,029	9,188	1,049.5	1,202.4	1,180.6	1,101.1
Osceola	15,625	15,654	15,404	15,535	1,603.8	1,638.5	1,647.6	1,696.6
Palm Beach	14,787	12,885	12,746	10,617	1,715.7	1,629.8	1,674.7	1,418.2
Pasco	10,828	11,555	11,567	11,360	1,382.9	1,484.2	1,506.0	1,488.5
Pinellas	208	248	211	168	16.9	20.7	17.7	15.1
Polk	91,899	104,007	103,884	102,457	9,511.1	11,290.3	11,527.7	11,620.6
Putnam	75	122	123	191	11.6	21.0	21.1	31.6
St. Lucie	105,117	108,448	107,224	103,894	11,364.8	12,196.9	12,275.0	12,109.7
Sarasota	2,065	2,516	2,414	2,332	212.1	272.7	263.4	253.9
Seminole	1,206	1,462	1,412	1,411	110.3	145.6	141.5	142.5
Volusia	1,326	1,453	1,502	1,477	121.7	137.2	144.9	144.4
Other Counties ²	0	176	173	175	0.0	24.8	24.4	24.6
Total	791,290	853,742	857,687	845,260	92,015.7	103,732.4	107,096.8	107,110.2

¹ Dade Lime plantings through October 1996.

² Flagler and Sumter.

Florida Commercial Citrus Inventory
Acreege and tree numbers, by variety and year of inventory

Variety	1992	1994	1996	1998	1992	1994	1996	1998
	ACRES				1,000 TREES			
ORANGES:								
Hamlin	195,137	211,705	216,157	216,587	23,210.0	26,036.6	26,994.6	27,288.8
Navel	22,183	25,362	26,434	25,150	2,581.1	3,096.3	3,295.7	3,174.2
Ambersweet		15,041	15,704	13,314		2,158.6	2,283.0	1,928.3
Other early	21,842	19,001	19,886	19,520	2,669.4	2,306.1	2,522.7	2,521.3
Pineapple	58,632	58,217	55,616	53,266	6,447.9	6,745.6	6,594.9	6,380.1
Other mids	3,794	4,181	4,704	5,041	337.9	438.6	597.4	663.0
Valencia	269,074	300,704	307,878	314,310	32,478.2	38,093.6	40,384.2	41,952.9
Unidentified	37,974	19,159	10,219	11,202	5,101.8	2,739.0	1,482.9	1,522.0
Total Oranges	608,636	653,370	656,598	658,390	72,826.3	81,614.4	84,155.4	85,430.6
GRAPEFRUIT:								
Seedy	5,187	4,879	4,458	3,427	423.3	404.5	381.4	299.2
White seedless	54,108	56,320	55,802	51,641	4,854.8	5,275.1	5,419.2	5,127.3
Colored seedless	70,151	80,422	81,348	76,025	7,183.8	8,657.2	8,947.1	8,453.4
Unidentified	5,720	5,294	2,808	1,724	657.3	667.2	369.2	199.2
Total Grapefruit	135,166	146,915	144,416	132,817	13,119.2	15,004.0	15,116.9	14,079.1
SPECIALTY:								
Temples	7,878	7,222	6,808	6,454	805.2	746.5	713.3	723.8
Orlando Tangelos	8,445	9,709	9,432	8,579	953.0	1,150.5	1,137.5	1,046.1
Minneola Tangelos	2,705	3,285	3,296	3,187	294.5	382.0	397.6	388.9
Other Tangelos	1,026	1,106	994	902	130.3	149.5	134.1	121.7
K-Early Citrus			353	279			42.9	34.8
Sunburst Tangerines	7,039	11,867	12,929	12,693	1,037.0	1,791.9	1,971.4	1,937.7
Robinson Tangerines	2,361	3,139	3,388	2,613	328.5	442.4	478.7	366.3
Dancy Tangerines	1,677	1,602	1,358	909	161.2	163.0	142.7	95.8
Honey Tangerines	6,376	7,838	8,976	9,533	842.1	1,109.8	1,340.4	1,435.6
Fallglo Tangerines			3,769	3,686			635.3	617.4
Limes	6,638	2,235	3,035	2,827	1,028.6	344.1	483.3	476.4
True Lemons	626	536	1,029	968	103.0	89.5	172.4	166.4
Meyer Lemons	75	79	79	204	14.2	15.3	15.3	33.1
Other Citrus	2,642	4,839	1,227	1,219	372.6	729.5	159.6	156.5
Total Specialty	47,488	53,457	56,673	54,053	6,070.2	7,114.0	7,824.5	7,600.5
Total Citrus	791,290	853,742	857,687	845,260	92,015.7	103,732.4	107,096.8	107,110.2

Florida Commercial Citrus Inventory
All citrus, number of acres, by area and year of inventory

Area	Oranges		Grapefruit		Specialty types		Total	
	1996	1998	1996	1998	1996	1998	1996	1998
	ACRES							
Indian River	93,517	90,955	95,180	90,760	9,575	9,772	198,272	191,487
Northern	38,671	37,526	1,974	1,803	7,334	7,105	47,979	46,434
Central	163,192	163,859	14,937	12,733	16,004	15,151	194,133	191,743
Western	159,662	161,139	6,339	5,399	7,820	6,729	173,821	173,267
Southern	201,556	204,911	25,986	22,122	15,940	15,296	243,482	242,329
Total	656,598	658,390	144,416	132,817	56,673	54,053	857,687	845,260

CITRUS INVENTORY PROCEDURES

This biennial inventory, the seventeenth in a series which began in January 1966, was conducted using current aerial photography. Aerial photos of the 14,000 square miles covering virtually all of Florida's citrus were taken during a four month period beginning the first of November 1997.

The inventory procedure starts with a complete mapping and indexing of all citrus plantings onto scaled photo enlargements from the previous census. Aided by stereoscopic viewing, the current aerial photos are compared with photos from the previous census to detect grove changes, tree removals and new tree plantings. Each change observed by the photo interpreter is followed by a visit and ground check which usually results in a revised tree count for the grove. The ground checks are performed by experienced field personnel. Acreages are measured from photo enlargements with a digital planimeter. Tree numbers are from actual tree counts of expansions from measured acreage. Block sizes are reduced as necessary for excessive counts of dead trees or empty spaces, as well as barnyards, turn rows, swale ditches and irrigation ponds.

A record for each separate planting or block is maintained in the data system. A new record is created for each new planting, and records of plantings which no longer exist are removed. In non-freeze years, less than one-third of all blocks require a visit to complete the biennial census.

Production areas were redesigned in 1986 to give greater efficiency for objective forecasting purposes. The principal change was to place all the northern freeze-prone regions in a single area. The Indian River Marketing District was set apart, as were the southern flatwoods plantings. This stratification provides greater homogeneity within each sampling stratum.

The Division of Plant Industry assisted in completing this survey with seven trained citrus technologists using four wheel-drive vehicles.

