



**FLORIDA CROP AND
LIVESTOCK
REPORTING SERVICE**
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FLORIDA AGRICULTURE

CITRUS

LEMON PRODUCTION AND VALUE

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Production of Florida lemons in 1982 was 720,000 boxes, about 40 percent less than the 1981 crop. In contrast to the 1981 freeze, the January 1982, freeze was very severe on the East Coast growing areas where true lemons are grown. The Meyer crop on the west coast suffered considerably less damage.

The \$13.30 per box returns for true lemons reflects the small harvest and strong demand for

fresh lemons in the summer months. Meyer lemons, which are all processed, returned \$2.00 per box, slightly less than last season's \$2.20 per box. Only 17 percent of the lemon crop (mostly trues) was shipped fresh.

The 1982 bearing acreage decreased sharply. Most of the true lemon acreage north of Palm Beach County was lost.

Total value of the crop was \$3,005,000, less than half of the previous season's value.

Florida lemons: Bearing acreage, production, season average on-tree prices and value for crop years 1968 through 1982

Season	True lemons			Meyer lemons			All lemons			
	Bearing acres	Production	Price per box	Bearing acres	Production	Price per box	Bearing acres	Production	Price per box	Value of production
	1,000 acres	1,000 boxes	Dols.	1,000 acres	1,000 boxes	Dols.	1,000 acres	1,000 boxes	Dols.	1,000 dols.
1968	5.8	430	1.60	1.6	540	1.30	7.4	970	1.42	1,377
1969	6.3	890	1.75	1.7	620	1.05	8.0	1,510	1.47	2,220
1970	6.7	750	2.05	1.7	495	1.00	8.4	1,245	1.61	2,004
1971	7.1	1,140	2.50	1.6	325	1.50	8.7	1,465	2.23	3,267
1972	6.8	1,180	3.00	1.6	670	1.40	8.4	1,850	2.47	4,570
1973	6.3	1,010	3.25	1.6	590	1.45	7.9	1,600	2.58	4,128
1974	6.0	1,150	2.50	1.6	530	.70	7.6	1,680	1.92	3,231
1975	5.4	850	3.60	1.5	450	1.45	6.9	1,300	2.85	3,697
1976	5.6	900	2.45	1.4	470	1.30	7.0	1,370	2.05	2,808
1977	3.7	200	4.55	1.4	190	1.55	5.1	390	3.05	1,190
1978	3.5	370	5.25	1.4	330	1.60	4.9	700	3.50	2,450
1979	3.9	770	8.90	1.3	480	2.50	5.2	1,250	6.45	8,063
1980	3.8	850	7.90	1.3	630	3.95	5.1	1,480	6.20	9,176
1981	3.7	870	6.70	1.3	340	2.20	5.0	1,210	5.45	6,602
1982	2.0	140	13.30	1.2	580	2.00	3.2	720	4.20	3,005