United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

CITRUS

FEBRUARY FORECAST
MATURITY TEST RESULTS AND FRUIT SIZE

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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February 10, 2015

Florida All Orange Production Unchanged
Florida Non-Valencia Orange Production Unchanged
Florida Valencia Orange Production Unchanged
Florida All Grapefruit Production Unchanged
Florida All Tangerine Production Unchanged
Florida Tangelo Production Down 13 Percent
FCOJ Yield 1.57 Gallons per Box (42º Brix)

2014-2015 SEASON FORECAST DATES

March 10, 2015 — April 9, 2015
May 12, 2015 — June 10, 2015
July 10, 2015

Citrus Production by Type and State – United States

Crop and State	Production [1]			2014-2015 Forecasted Production [1]	
	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	January	February
	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)
Non-Valencia Oranges [2]					
Florida	**74,200**	**67,100**	**53,300**	**48,000**	**48,000**
California [3]	45,500	42,500	39,000	40,000	40,000
Texas [3]	1,108	1,499	1,400	1,670	1,670
United States	120,808	111,099	93,700	89,670	89,670
Valencia Oranges					
Florida	**72,500**	**66,500**	**51,300**	**55,000**	**55,000**
California [3]	12,500	12,000	11,000	10,000	10,000
Texas [3]	311	289	376	345	345
United States	85,311	78,789	62,676	65,345	65,345
All Oranges					
Florida	**146,700**	**133,600**	**104,600**	**103,000**	**103,000**
California [3]	58,000	54,500	50,000	50,000	50,000
Texas [3]	1,419	1,788	1,776	2,015	2,015
United States	206,119	189,888	156,376	155,015	155,015
Grapefruit					
Florida-All	**18,850**	**18,350**	**15,650**	**15,000**	**15,000**
White	**5,350**	**5,250**	**4,150**	**4,000**	**4,000**
Colored	**13,500**	**13,100**	**11,500**	**11,000**	**11,000**
California [3]	4,000	4,500	4,000	4,000	4,000
Texas [3]	4,800	6,100	5,700	6,000	6,000
United States	27,650	28,950	25,350	25,000	25,000
Lemons					
California [3]	20,500	21,000	19,000	20,000	20,000
Arizona [3]	750	1,800	1,800	2,200	2,200
United States	21,250	22,800	20,800	22,200	22,200
Tangelos					
Florida	**1,150**	**1,000**	**880**	**800**	**700**
Tangerines					
Florida-All	**4,290**	**3,280**	**2,900**	**2,500**	**2,500**
Early [4]	**2,330**	**1,910**	**1,750**	**1,400**	**1,450**
Honey	**1,960**	**1,370**	**1,150**	**1,100**	**1,050**
California [3 5]	10,800	13,000	14,500	15,500	15,500
Arizona [3 5]	200	200	200	220	220
United States	15,290	16,480	17,600	18,220	18,220

[1] Net pounds per box: oranges in California-80, Florida-90, Texas-85; grapefruit in California-80, Florida-85, Texas-80; lemons-80; tangelos-90; tangerines and mandarins in Arizona and California-80, Florida-95.
[2] Navel and miscellaneous varieties in California. Early (including Navel) and midseason varieties in Florida and Texas. Includes small quantities of tangerines in Texas and Temples in Florida.
[3] Estimates carried forward from previous forecast.
[4] Fallglo and Sunburst varieties.
[5] Includes mandarins, tangelos, and tangors.

Regressions

Regression data used are from the 2006-2007 through 2013-2014 seasons. All references to "average", "minimum", and "maximum" refer to these 8 seasons unless noted.

All Oranges 103.0 Million Boxes

The 2014-2015 Florida all orange forecast released today by the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board is 103.0 million boxes, unchanged from January, and 2 percent less than last season's final production. The total includes 48.0 million boxes of the non-Valencia oranges (early, midseason, Navel, and Temple varieties) and 55.0 million boxes of Valencia oranges. For the previous 8 seasons used in the regressions, the February all orange forecast has deviated from final production by an average of 4 percent, with 3 seasons above and 5 below, and differences ranging from 4 percent below to 10 percent above.

Non-Valencia Oranges 48.0 Million Boxes

The forecast of non-Valencia production is unchanged at 48.0 million boxes. Size and drop components were final last month. The Row Count survey conducted February 2-3, 2015, shows 76 percent of the early-midseason rows, and 96 percent of the Navel rows have been harvested. Estimated utilization to February 1, with an allocation for non-certified fruit, is 34.9 million boxes. The Navel forecast, included in the non-Valencia portion of the forecast, is lowered by 100,000 boxes to 1.4 million.

Valencia Oranges 55.0 Million Boxes

The forecast of Valencia production is unchanged at 55.0 million boxes. Current fruit size is above the minimum and is projected to be close to the minimum at harvest. Droppage measurements show a higher than average increase in the past month and droppage is expected to be well above average at harvest.

All Grapefruit 15.0 Million Boxes

The forecast of all grapefruit production remains at 15.0 million boxes. The white grapefruit forecast is unchanged at 4.0 million boxes. The colored grapefruit forecast unchanged at 11.0 million boxes. Final fruit size for both white and colored grapefruit is less than average. The final droppage rate for white grapefruit is below the maximum recorded last season while colored grapefruit droppage is above the maximum. The Row Count survey conducted February 2-3, 2015, indicated 33 percent of the colored grapefruit rows and 16 percent of the white grapefruit rows have been harvested.

All Tangerines 2.5 Million Boxes

The forecast of all tangerine production remains at 2.5 million boxes with adjustments in the components. The early tangerine varieties (Fallglo and Sunburst) are 1.45 million boxes, and the later maturing Honey tangerine variety are now at 1.05 million boxes. Early tangerine harvest is relatively complete for this season; the increase of 50,000 boxes is based on current utilization. The Honey tangerine forecast is decreased by 50,000 boxes due to smaller sizes and higher droppage than projected. Final Honey fruit size is below the minimum, requiring 337 pieces of fruit to fill a 1-3/5 bushel box. The droppage rate of 48 percent is above the maximum.

Tangelos 700 Thousand Boxes

The tangelo forecast is lowered 100,000 boxes to 700,000. Estimated utilization to February 1 is 601,000 boxes, including an allocation for non-certified fruit. The Row Count survey conducted February 2-3, 2015, showed 69 percent rows have been harvested.

FCOJ Yield 1.57 Gallons per Box

The projection for frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) is lowered to 1.57 gallons per box of 42° Brix concentrate. The yield projection for the non-Valencia oranges is raised to 1.46 gallons per box while the projection for Valencia oranges is lowered to 1.69 gallons per box. Last season's final yield for all oranges was 1.569080 gallons per box, as reported by the Florida Department of Citrus. Last season's final yields for the components were 1.521318 for non-Valencia oranges and 1.642463 for Valencia oranges.

Forecast Components, by Variety — Florida: February 2015

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

Type	Bearing trees	Fruit per tree	Droppage	Fruit per box
	(1,000 trees)	(number)	(percent)	(number)
ORANGES				
Early-midseason	22,707	890	22	303
Navel	970	295	21	139
Valencia	31,190	624	28	241
GRAPEFRUIT				
White	1,199	477	24	113
Colored	3,374	445	27	118

Maturity

Regular bloom fruit samples were collected from groves on established routes February 2-3, 2015 in Florida's five major citrus producing areas and tested February 4-5, 2015. Compared to last season, acid levels are higher for early and midseason oranges but lower for late oranges, while Brix is lower on early and midseason oranges but higher for late oranges. The result is lower ratios for early and midseason oranges but a higher ratio for late oranges. Solids per box is lower for early and midseason oranges but higher for late oranges. Compared to last season, unfinished juice per box is down for all fruit types. The Indian River acid level on late oranges is higher than in other areas, resulting in lower ratios. Unfinished juice is lower and solids per box is higher for Indian River late oranges when compared to other areas.

Citrus Unadjusted Maturity Tests — Florida: 2013-2014 and 2014-2015

[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	
	2013-2014	2014-2015	2013-2014	2014-2015	2013-2014	2014-2015	2013-2014	2014-2015	2013-2014	2014-2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)			(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
ORANGES										
Early (30-34)										
Sep 1	1.47	1.41	9.26	9.01	6.40	6.45	43.39	43.42	4.01	3.91
Oct 1	(NA)	1.07	(NA)	9.02	(NA)	8.57	(NA)	49.39	(NA)	4.45
Nov 1	0.92	0.93	9.96	9.64	11.09	10.57	44.07	52.47	4.39	5.06
Dec 1	0.76	0.85	10.66	10.41	14.23	12.35	51.16	52.15	5.46	5.43
Jan 1	0.71	0.75	11.46	10.86	16.27	14.60	51.48	50.05	5.89	5.43
Feb 1	0.71	0.76	11.55	11.44	16.86	15.19	49.76	49.70	5.75	5.69
Midseason (17-21)										
Sep 1	1.73	1.59	9.15	8.88	5.38	5.69	41.62	42.67	3.81	3.79
Oct 1	(NA)	1.18	(NA)	8.94	(NA)	7.59	(NA)	48.72	(NA)	4.36
Nov 1	1.17	1.06	10.36	9.72	9.12	9.41	44.18	52.52	4.58	5.10
Dec 1	0.98	0.99	11.64	10.66	12.11	10.97	49.67	52.32	5.78	5.56
Jan 1	0.92	0.85	12.29	11.46	13.87	13.60	50.97	52.21	6.27	5.98
Feb 1	0.92	0.98	12.57	11.97	14.48	12.38	52.29	51.22	6.60	6.12
Late (148-148)										
Sep 1	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oct 1	(NA)	2.08	(NA)	8.69	(NA)	4.22	(NA)	45.19	(NA)	3.93
Nov 1	1.84	1.76	9.26	9.10	5.10	5.22	50.85	50.36	4.71	4.58
Dec 1	1.51	1.48	10.06	9.70	6.77	6.61	54.28	53.87	5.46	5.23
Jan 1	1.27	1.26	10.89	10.85	8.68	8.72	54.17	54.83	5.90	5.95
Feb 1	1.20	1.18	11.23	11.32	9.51	9.71	55.44	55.20	6.22	6.25

NA Not available.

Citrus Maturity Test Averages, by Areas — Florida: February 1, 2013-2014 and 2014-2015

Fruit type (number of groves)	Acid		Solids (Brix)		Ratio		Unfinished juice per box		Solids per box	
	2013-2014	2014-2015	2013-2014	2014-2015	2013-2014	2014-2015	2013-2014	2014-2015	2013-2014	2014-2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)			(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
ORANGES										
Late										
Indian River (29-29)	1.17	1.25	11.23	11.53	9.79	9.34	57.37	54.42	6.44	6.28
Other Areas (119-119)	1.20	1.16	11.23	11.27	9.45	9.80	54.96	55.39	6.17	6.24

Fruit Size Comparisons by Types to Previous Seasons

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

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

Type and number of fruit per 4/5 – bushel containers	2013	2014	2015	Type and number of fruit per 4/5 – bushel containers	2013	2014	2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)		(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
VALENCIA ORANGES				**WHITE GRAPEFRUIT** [1]			
64 or less	3.4	2.4	1.9	32 or less	5.1	6.0	5.9
80	14.6	11.9	11.5	36	10.5	10.9	10.6
100	34.0	29.8	30.4	40	10.8	11.9	14.2
125	29.8	31.4	32.3	48	15.0	14.5	18.3
163 or more	18.2	24.5	23.9	56	12.8	11.3	14.0
				63 or more	45.8	45.4	37.0
HONEY TANGERINES				**COLORED GRAPEFRUIT**			
80 or less	9.2	15.2	12.3	32 or less	1.5	3.4	3.8
100	19.1	22.0	15.6	36	7.7	8.3	9.3
120	29.2	26.0	19.2	40	10.0	10.8	14.8
176	17.3	14.3	11.8	48	14.8	15.7	16.4
210 or more	25.2	22.5	41.1	56	11.5	11.9	12.1
				63 or more	54.5	49.9	43.6

[1] Excludes seedy.

The charts below show the distribution of fruit sizes in 2015 compared to 2014. The diameter measurements shown are the minimum values of each eighth inch range, except for the smallest values.