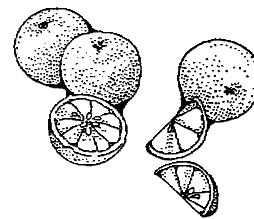


2005-06 California Valencia Orange Objective Measurement Report



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USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service,
California Field Office

The 2005-06 Valencia orange forecast is 22.0 million (37.5-pound) cartons, 39 percent below last season's estimated total of 36.0 million cartons. Objective measurement survey data indicated an average fruit set of 492 oranges per tree in the State of California. Fruit sizes have decreased this year, with an average diameter of 2.640 inches.

A special thanks goes to the many Valencia orange farm operators and owners who provided information on their operations.

Vic Tolomeo, Director
Jack Rutz and Sarah Hoffman, Deputy Directors

The Valencia Orange Objective Measurement Survey was reinstated in the year 2000. This year, Valencia oranges were sampled from 650 groves or blocks. The sample blocks were distributed in proportion to the bearing acres in each county and the year the trees were planted. Two trees were sampled in each selected block. Sampling was done by measuring branches, randomly selecting a branch at that stage, then moving to the next stage and repeating the steps until a terminal branch was selected. All oranges on intermediate and terminal branches were counted. Two separate random counts were taken in each tree. The two counts were mathematically combined to arrive at an estimated total fruit count per tree.

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CALIFORNIA VALENCIA ORANGE DATA

Crop Year	Number of Sampled Groves	Bearing Acres	Average			
			Trees Per Acre	Set Per Tree	Diameter as of March 1	Diameter as of July 1
					(Inches)	
2000-01	782	68,000	125	477	2.614	2.867
2001-02	804	65,000	126	518	2.654	2.831
2002-03	780	60,000	126	653	2.584	2.750
2003-04	785	52,000	126	392	2.707	2.870
2004-05	589	45,500	123	807	2.644	2.807
2005-06	650	45,000	123	492	2.640	2.800 ^{1/}

^{1/} Projected

CALIFORNIA VALENCIA ORANGE ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE 1/

Crop Year	Bearing	Non-Bearing <u>2/</u>	Yield Per Acre	Production	Value Per Unit <u>3/</u>	Total Value
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Cartons</i>	<i>Cartons</i>	<i>\$/Carton</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
1994-95	73,000	---	576	42,000,000	4.74	199,042
1995-96	75,000	---	533	40,000,000	5.26	210,190
1996-97	76,000	---	632	48,000,000	4.39	210,370
1997-98	73,200	4,800	684	50,000,000	4.52	225,740
1998-99	73,500	---	408	30,000,000	6.14	184,210
1999-00	71,000	---	676	48,000,000	1.74	83,494
2000-01	68,000	---	558	38,000,000	4.22	160,140
2001-02	65,000	1,080	600	39,000,000	3.76	146,538
2002-03	60,000	---	667	40,000,000	3.27	130,672
2003-04	52,000	443	423	22,000,000	6.48	142,444
2004-05	45,500	---	791	36,000,000	6.06	218,232
2005-06 <u>4/</u>	45,000	---	489	22,000,000	---	---

1/ Net weight per carton is 37.5 pounds.

2/ Non-bearing shown only in year when acreage surveys were conducted.

3/ Equivalent packinghouse door returns.

4/ Forecast