

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

FEBRUARY FORECAST CITRUS MATURITY TEST RESULTS AND FRUIT SIZE



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February 9, 2012

All Orange Production Down 1 Percent from January **Non-Valencia Orange Production Unchanged Valencia Orange Production Down 1 Percent All Grapefruit Production Down 3 Percent All Tangerine Production Down 2 Percent Tangelo Production Unchanged** FCOJ Yield 1.63 Gallons per Box (42° Brix)

2011-2012 SEASON **FORECAST DATES** March 9, 2012 June 12, 2012 April 10, 2012 July 11, 2012 May 10, 2012

Citrus Production by Type and State - United States

Crop and State		Production	2011-2012 Forecast			
Crop and State	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	January	February	
	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	
Non-Valencia Oranges ¹						
Florida	84,600	68,600	70,300	73,000	73,000	
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 ²³	150					
United States	120,550	112,460	120,000	118,292	118,292	
Valencia Oranges						
Florida	77,900	65,100	70,000	74,000	73,000	
California ²	12,000	15,000	13,500	13,500	13,500	
Texas ²	159	275	249	334	334	
Arizona ^{2 3}	100					
United States	90,159	80,375	83,749	87,834	86,834	
All Oranges						
Florida	162,500	133,700	140,300	147,000	146,000	
California ²	46,500	57,500	61,500	57,500	57,500	
Texas ² Arizona ²³	1,459	1,635	1,949	1,626	1,626	
	250 210,709	100.035	202 740	206 426	205,126	
United States	210,709	192,835	203,749	206,126	205,126	
Grapefruit						
Florida-All	21,700	20,300	19,750	19,200	18,700	
White	6,600	6,000	5,850	5,200	5,200	
Colored	15,100	14,300	13,900	14,000	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 ^{2 3}	25					
United States	32,025	30,400	30,150	27,477	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	24,000	20,200	20,000	20,200	20,200	
Florida	4.450	000	4.450	4 400	4.400	
	1,150	900	1,150	1,100	1,100	
Tangerines						
Florida-All	3,850	4,450	4,650	4,400	4,300	
Early ⁴	2,550	2,250	2,600	2,400	2,400	
Honey	1,300	2,200	2,050	2,000	1,900	
California 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	14,900	14,800	

Early, midseason, Navel, and Temple varieties
Estimates carried forward from October.

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

⁴ Fallglo and Sunburst varieties.

⁵ Includes tangelos and tangors.

All Oranges 146.0 Million Boxes

The 2011-2012 Florida all orange forecast released today by the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board is 146.0 million boxes, down 1 percent from last month's forecast, but 4 percent more than last season's production. The total is comprised of 73.0 million boxes of the non-Valencia oranges (early, midseason, Navel, and Temple varieties) and 73.0 million boxes of Valencia oranges.

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 February forecast has deviated from final production by an average of 3 percent with 2 seasons above and 6 below, with differences ranging from 4 percent below to 9 percent above. All references in this release to "average", "minimum", or "maximum" refer to the previous 8 non-hurricane seasons unless noted.

Non-Valencia Oranges 73.0 Million Boxes

The forecast of non-Valencia production is continued at 73.0 million boxes. Final size and drop measurement were completed in December and the only new indicator is the Row Count Survey. The survey conducted on January 30-31, 2012 shows 80 percent of the rows have been harvested. Estimated utilization to February 1, 2012, including non-certified use, is 59.9 million boxes. The Navel portion in the non-Valencia forecast is 2.6 million boxes, 4 percent of the total.

Valencia Oranges Reduced to 73.0 Million Boxes

The forecast of Valencia production is lowered by 1.0 million boxes to 73.0 million. Current fruit size is close to average and is expected to be about average at harvest. At current projections, it will take 207 pieces of fruit to fill a 90-pound equivalent box, up from 206 pieces last month. Projected droppage is unchanged at 16 percent, about one percentage point higher than average. Picking of Valencia oranges is just beginning with less than one million boxes certified as of February 1, 2012.

All Grapefruit 18.7 Million Boxes

The forecast of all grapefruit production is reduced by 500 thousand boxes to 18.7 million boxes. The white grapefruit forecast remains unchanged at 5.2 million boxes. As projected, white grapefruit final size is below average and final droppage is well above the average of the seasons used in the regression. The colored grapefruit forecast is reduced by 500 thousand boxes to 13.5 million boxes. Final fruit size for colored grapefruit ended lower than projected and droppage exceeded the maximum of the seasons used in the regressions.

All Tangerines 4.3 Million Boxes

The forecast of all tangerine production is reduced 100 thousand boxes to 4.3 million boxes. The harvest of the early tangerines (Fallglo and Sunburst) is over for the season and the forecast remains at 2.4 million boxes. The reduction is in the later maturing Honey variety, now forecasted at 1.9 million boxes. The primary reasons for the decrease are smaller than projected average size and higher than projected droppage. The Row Count Survey conducted January 30-31, 2012 shows 32 percent of the rows harvested.

Tangelos 1.1 Million Boxes

The forecast of tangelo production remains unchanged from the initial forecast of 1.1 million boxes. Certified utilization surpassed over 900,000 boxes according to the Citrus Administrative Committee's report dated January 29, 2012. The Row Count Survey shows more than three-quarters of the rows harvested.

FCOJ Yield 1.63 Gallons per Box

The projection for frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) is raised to 1.63 gallons per box of 42° Brix concentrate. The yield projection for the non-Valencia oranges remains at 1.54 gallons per box while the projection for Valencia oranges is now 1.73 gallons per box. Last season's final yield for all oranges was 1.586081 gallons per box, as reported by the Florida Department of Citrus. 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: February 2012

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

Туре	Bearing trees	Fruit per tree	Droppage	Fruit per box	
	(1,000 trees)	(number)	(percent)	(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 were collected from groves on established routes on January 30-31, 2012 in Florida's five major citrus producing areas and tested February 1-2, 2012. Acid levels are lower than the previous season on all orange varieties; solids (Brix) are higher on early and late oranges. The result is higher ratios this season on all orange varieties. Unfinished juice per box this month is down for all oranges compared to last month. Solids per box is also higher for all varieties compared to last month. Indian River acid levels and solids (Brix) for late oranges are higher 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)	Acid		Solids (Brix)		Ratio		Unfinished juice per box		Solids per box	
test date	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										
Early (28-24)										
Sep 1	1.74	1.42	9.19	9.58	5.34	6.81	41.08	45.31	3.77	4.34
Oct 1		1.04	9.54	9.96	7.25	9.76	46.98	49.06	4.48	4.88
Nov 1		0.83	10.41	10.71	10.69	13.36	50.52	49.91	5.25	5.35
Dec 1	0.84	0.73	11.18	11.38	13.60	15.78	50.05	50.73	5.59	5.78
Jan 1		0.72	11.65	12.05	14.08	17.06	48.62	52.11	5.67	6.27
Feb 1	0.74	0.71	12.48	12.60	17.03	17.98	45.97	50.41	5.74	6.36
Midseason (13-17)										
Sep 1	1.94	1.53	9.32	9.38	4.84	6.23	41.43	46.00	3.86	4.31
Oct 1	1.58	1.11	9.28	9.87	5.99	9.04	45.07	49.62	4.18	4.90
Nov 1		0.95	10.25	10.60	9.17	11.42	47.70	52.56	4.89	5.57
Dec 1	1.00	0.82	11.42	11.41	11.64	14.21	49.03	54.02	5.60	6.17
Jan 1	0.95	0.75	11.84	11.79	12.57	15.86	49.93	51.08	5.91	6.04
Feb 1	0.85	0.79	13.04	12.36	15.52	15.77	47.16	50.51	6.16	6.25
Late (147-147)										
Sep 1	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Oct 1		2.11	8.94	8.92	3.52	4.29	43.84	48.53	3.92	4.33
Nov 1		1.53	9.67	9.45	4.86	6.32	48.84	51.57	4.72	4.87
Dec 1		1.37	10.41	10.31	6.51	7.66	51.44	55.03	5.36	5.68
Jan 1	1.49	1.17	11.05	11.36	7.47	9.87	50.98	55.98	5.63	6.36
Feb 1	1.30	1.11	11.98	12.14	9.34	11.07	50.83	55.71	6.09	6.76

(NA) Not available.

Citrus Maturity Test Averages, by Areas — Florida: February 1, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012

Fruit type (number of groves)	Acid		Solids (Brix)		Ratio		Unfinished juice per box		Solids per box	
(number or groves)	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 (27-27)	1.43	1.21	12.23	12.41	8.58	10.38	49.67	57.56	6.09	7.14
Other Areas (120-120)	1.27	1.09	11.92	12.08	9.51	11.23	51.09	55.29	6.09	6.68

Fruit Size Comparisons by Types to Previous Seasons

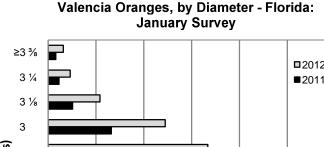
Size frequency distributions from the January size survey are shown in the following table. The distributions are by percent of fruit falling within the size range of each 4/5-bushel container. These frequency distributions include fruit from regular bloom and exclude fruit from summer bloom.

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

Type and number of fruit per 4/5 – bushel containers	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	3.8	2.8	5.9	32 or less	14.3	9.4	14.0
80	19.2	13.1	23.8	36	23.7	20.2	19.1
100	39.6	34.7	38.9	40	17.7	19.5	16.3
125	24.5	31.4	23.7	48	17.8	18.3	17.5
163 or more	12.9	18.0	7.7	56	11.3	12.4	10.3
				63 or more	15.2	20.2	22.8
HONEY TANGERINES				COLORED GRAPEFRUIT			
80 or less	23.9	18.0	24.2	32 or less	5.1	5.3	10.8
100	32.2	33.4	25.0	36	11.4	12.6	16.0
120	25.4	24.6	23.0	40	18.2	15.2	15.4
176	9.2	9.6	11.7	48	21.9	20.2	18.2
210 or more	9.3	14.4	16.1	56	15.7	16.1	11.9
				63 or more	27.7	30.6	27.7

Excludes seedy.

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



Fruit Size Frequency Measurements,

2012 **2011** Diameter (Inches) 2 1/8 2 3/4 2 % 2 1/2 2 % 2 1/4 2 1/8 ≤2 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 Percent

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

