

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

CITRUS APRIL FORECAST MATURITY TEST RESULTS AND FRUIT SIZE



Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services 1222 Woodward St. · Orlando, FL 32803 (407) 648-6013 · (407) 648-6029 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/fl

April 10, 2007

ALL ORANGES REDUCED TO 130.7 MILLION BOXES

The USDA Agricultural Statistics Board forecast of Florida orange production is lowered by 1.3 million boxes from last month to 130.7 million boxes. The adjustment is in the early-midseason-Navel portion where harvest is relatively over. The forecast of the Valencia portion is maintained at 65.0 million boxes. The difference between the all orange October forecast and the current forecast is 4.3 million boxes, or just more than three percent.

If realized, all orange utilization will be 17 million boxes less than harvested last season. In the past 10 seasons, the April forecast has differed from final production by one and one-half percent, with four seasons higher and six seasons lower.

EARLY-MIDSEASON-NAVEL ORANGES ADJUSTED TO 65.7 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of early-midseason-Navel oranges is adjusted downward 1.3 million boxes to 65.7 million (including an allocation of one million boxes for other use). The Row Count survey conducted on March 28-29 shows one percent of the rows not harvested. The **Navel** portion of the forecast is final at 2.85 million boxes.

VALENCIAS REMAIN 65.0 MILLION BOXES

CITRUS PRODUCTION: APRIL 1, 2007 Forecasts by varieties and states, with comparisons

Crop and State	Produ	ction	Forecast						
Crop and State	2004-05	2005-06	Mar 9, 2007	Apr 10, 2007					
1,000 boxes									
EARLY, MIDSEASON, AND NAVEL ORANGES:									
FLORIDA ^{1/}	79,100	75,000	67,000	65,700					
California	44,000	47,000	27,000	27,000					
Texas	1,500	1,400	1,710	1,580					
Arizona	240	250	200	200					
Total Above Varieties	124,840	123,650	95,910	94,480					
VALENCIAS:									
FLORIDA	70,700	72,700	65,000	65,000					
California	20,500	13,500	10,000	10,000					
Texas	270	200	270	270					
Arizona	190	200	150	150					
Total Valencias	91,660	86,600	75,420	75,420					
ALL ORANGES:									
FLORIDA	149,800	147,700	132,000	130,700					
California	64,500	60,500	37,000	37,000					
Texas	1,770	1,600	1,980	1,850					
Arizona	430	450	350	350					
Total All Oranges	216,500	210,250	171,330	169,900					

¹/ Includes Temples beginning in 2006-07. Historic Temple production listed on page 2.

FORECAST DATES — 2006-07 SEASON

May 11, 2007 July 12, 2007

The Valencia forecast is maintained at 65.0 million boxes. The final size and drop survey for Valencia oranges was completed during March. Final droppage is slightly above average at 15 percent. While final size is just above the hurricane free 10 year mean, the average size on the unharvested samples in March was the same as the average size from the previous month's samples. Citrus producing areas in Florida have experienced extremely dry weather over the past month which might have contributed to the lack of growth. It is projected that 198 pieces of fruit will fill a 1-3/5 bushel box at harvest.

The Row Count survey conducted on March 28-29 shows 21 percent of Valencia rows harvested. This indicator supports the current forecast when compared to utilization. Estimated utilization to the first of the month is 16.5 million boxes compared to 12.5 million boxes actual utilization the same time last season.

COMPONENTS USED IN THE APRIL FORECAST 1/

COMPONENTS USED IN THE APRIL FORECAST							
Туре	Bearing trees	Fruit per tree	Percent droppage	Fruit per box			
	(1,000)			_			
ORANGES:							
Early-mid	27,209	696	8	233			
Navel	1,467	342	10	130			
Valencia	37,133	428	15	198			

^{1/} Survey data is considered final in December for Navels, January for early-midseason oranges, and April for Valencias.

FCOJ YIELD 1.65 GALLONS PER BOX

The projection of FCOJ for all oranges is raised from 1.62 to a record 1.65 gallons per box. The early and mid portion is final at a rounded 1.56 gallons. The late season portion is now projected at 1.78 gallons per box, higher than the previous record of 1.75 set last season.

GRAPEFRUIT CONTINUED AT 28.0 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of all grapefruit for utilization (including an allocation of 700,000 boxes of gift fruit and local sales) remains at 28.0 million boxes. The forecast includes 10.0 million boxes of **white** and 18.0 million boxes of **colored** grapefruit. This forecast, if realized, will be 45 percent more than harvested last season.

The comparison of current utilization to results of the Row Count survey is the primary consideration used in setting the April grapefruit forecast. The Row Count survey conducted March 28-29 shows 75 percent of the grapefruit rows harvested. The Central and Western citrus producing areas, at 94 percent each, have a much higher percentage of rows harvested than the rest of the State.

The **white** grapefruit forecast, at 10.0 million boxes, is 54 percent more than harvested last year. The Row Count survey shows 80 percent of white grapefruit rows harvested. Analysis indicates that the remaining rows will provide sufficient fruit to achieve the forecast. Weekly utilization for the month of March was between six and seven hundred thousand boxes, primarily for processing. Estimated utilization to April 1 is 7.2 million boxes, compared to 5.6 million boxes actual utilization the same time last season.

The **colored** grapefruit forecast is maintained at 18.0 million boxes. The Row Count survey shows a lower percentage of colored grapefruit

CITRUS PRODUCTION: April 1, 2007 forecasts by varieties and States, with comparisons

Crop and State	Produ	uction	Forecast					
	2004-05	2005-06	Mar 9, 2007	Apr 10, 2007				
	1,000 boxes							
GRAPEFRUIT:								
Florida-All	12,800	19,300	28,000	28,000				
White	3,400	6,500	10,000	10,000				
Colored	9,400	12,800	18,000	18,000				
California	6,100	6,000	4,800	4,800				
Texas	6,600	5,200	6,500	6,500				
Arizona	140	100	100	100				
Total Grapefruit	25,640	30,600	39,400	39,400				
LEMONS:								
California	20,500	21,000	16,500	16,500				
Arizona	2,400	3,800	2,500	2,500				
Total Lemons	22,900	24,800	19,000	19,000				
TEMPLES:	650	700	1/	1/				
TANGELOS: Florida	1,550	1,400	1,250	1,250				
TANGERINES:								
Florida-All	4,450	5,500	4,800	4,600				
Early ^{2/}	2,450	2,850	2,400	2,400				
Honey	2,000	2,650	2,400	2,200				
California 3/	2,900	3,600	2,600	2,600				
Arizona 3/	400	550	300	300				
Total Tangerines	7,750	9,650	7,700	7,500				

^{1/} Included in early-midseason-Navel oranges.

COMPONENTS	Heed IN THE	A DDII	EODECACT 1/
COMPONENTS	OSED IN THE	APKIL	FURECASI

Туре	Bearing trees	Fruit per tree	Percent droppage	Fruit per box
	(1,000)			
GRAPEFRUI	T:			
White	2,067	469	12	84
Colored	4,243	447	16	91

^{1/} January survey data is considered final.

harvested than white. Unlike last season, the majority of colored grapefruit have been harvested for the fresh market. The quality of grapefruit is excellent this year, and the crop has been referred to as a "vintage" crop. Estimated utilization to April 1 is 14.0 million boxes, compared to 11.3 million boxes actual utilization the same time last year.

TANGERINES NOW 4.6 MILLION BOXES

The forecast of all tangerines is lowered to 4.6 million boxes. Forecast for the early varieties (**Fallglo and Sunburst**) is unchanged at 2.4 million boxes and the later maturing **Honey** variety is now at 2.2 million boxes.

The forecast of utilization for early tangerines remains at 2.4 million boxes (including an allocation of 200,000 boxes for other use). **Fallglo** tangerine harvest is complete at 630,000 boxes and **Sunburst** tangerine harvest is complete at 1,770,000 boxes. Tangerines are primarily a fresh fruit, and this year 69 percent of the early tangerines were picked for the fresh market.

The **Honey** tangerine forecast is lowered by 200,000 boxes this month. The Row Count survey conducted on March 28-29 shows harvest to this point is farther along than any of the last ten seasons. Utilization for the month of March was consistently over 100,000 boxes weekly. Comparison between the Row Count survey and utilization led to the decrease in the late variety tangerine forecast.

Estimated utilization to the first of the month is 1.7 million boxes compared to 1.8 million boxes actual utilization the same time last season. Honey tangerines are normally harvested heavily through the month of April and into May.

TANGELOS 1.25 MILLION BOXES

The tangelo forecast is held this month at 1,250,000 boxes (including an allocation of noncertified use). Tangelo utilization is complete and is 11 percent less than last season's 1.4 million boxes. Tangelos are harvested primarily for the processed market. This season, 66 percent of the fruit was picked for processing.

^{2/} Fallglo and Sunburst varieties.

^{3/} Includes tangelos and tangors.

UNADJUSTED MATURITY TESTS: Average of regular bloom fruit from sample groves, 2005-06 and 2006-07 seasons

Fruit type (No. groves)	Ad	cid		Solids (Brix) Ratio		Unfinished juice per box		Solids per box		
test date	2005-06	2006-07	2005-06	2006-07	2005-06	2006-07	2005-06	2006-07	2005-06	2006-07
	Per	cent	Pe	Percent			Pounds		Po	unds

Juice and solids per box are unadjusted and not comparable to plant test results.

ORANGES:

Late (130-125)		
Sep 1 NA NA NA NA NA NA NA	NA NA	
Oct 1 2.60 2.52 9.03 8.92 3.50 3.56 43.14 45.33	3.89 4.04	
Nov 1 1.99 2.06 9.14 9.83 4.64 4.84 48.20 48.94 4	4.41 4.81	
Dec 1 1.64 1.72 9.81 9.89 6.03 5.83 50.90 51.77	4.99 5.12	
Jan 1 1.41 1.43 10.71 10.90 7.64 7.74 52.39 51.81 §	5.61 5.64	
Feb 1 1.30 1.22 11.85 11.99 9.21 9.89 53.41 54.60 6	6.33 6.55	
Mar 1 1.19 1.13 12.50 12.61 10.60 11.25 53.22 54.76 6	6.66 6.91	
Apr 1 1.10 1.09 13.03 13.27 11.97 12.37 53.13 54.14	6.93 7.18	

NOTICE: 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.

MATURITY TEST AVERAGES BY AREAS, APRIL 1, 2007

Fruit type	Groves sampled	Acid	Solids (Brix)	Ratio	Unfinished juice per box	Solids per box
	Number	Percent	Percent	Pounds		Pounds
ORANGES:						
Late						
Indian River District	26	1.12	13.59	12.24	54.78	7.44
Other Areas	99	1.08	13.18	12.41	53.97	7.12

FRUIT SIZE COMPARISONS BY TYPES TO PREVIOUS SEASONS

Size frequency distributions developed from the March 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 relate to fruit from regular bloom and exclude summer bloom in all years.

FLORIDA CITRUS: Size frequency distributions from March measurements

nom water measurements							
Type of fruit and size in 4/5-bushel containers	2005	2006	2007				
	Percent						
VALENCIA ORANGES:							
64 and larger	4.7	3.0	12.7				
80	22.6	13.5	29.6				
100	43.1	34.8	34.5				
125	23.0	31.5	17.3				
163 and smaller	6.6	17.2	5.9				

The chart to the right describes the relationship of the fruit size measurements with those taken in the previous year. The diameter measurements shown are the minimum values of each eighth inch range, except for the smallest value.

CHART 1: Valencia orange size frequency by diameter from March measurements

