

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service



CITRUS MATURITY TEST RESULTS

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Results of the first orange and grapefruit maturity tests for the 2012-2013 season, using only regular bloom fruit, are listed below. Over three-fourths of the grapefruit sample groves are located in the Indian River District while nearly 90 percent of the orange sample groves are in the other four areas. Sample groves and trees remain relatively constant from season to season. Fruit was picked from trees throughout the five areas of the citrus growing region on September 4-5, 2012. Each sample was weighed, juiced, and tested in the Florida Agricultural Statistics Service (FASS) laboratory on September 6-7, 2012. The next monthly maturity and yield test results will be published in the forecast release on October 11, 2012, and will include late oranges.

The percent of solids (Brix) is below the level of 2011-2012 for each of the orange and grapefruit types. Acid levels for midseason oranges and white seedless grapefruit are the lowest since the September series began in the 1997-1998 season. Acid levels for early oranges and colored seedless grapefruit are second lowest in the series. Resulting ratios are the highest in the series for all fruit types except the early oranges.

Compared to the 2011-2012 season, unfinished juice per box is higher for early oranges and the solids per box is the highest in the series. The measurements for white seedless grapefruit are both the highest in the series. Levels are only slightly lower for midseason oranges and colored seedless grapefruit compared to the 2011-2012 season.

Results on this page are averages for the State. The table on page two reports averages for the Indian River District separately from the other areas. The percent of acid is higher and ratios are lower in all fruit types from the Indian River District when compared to other areas. Unfinished juice per box and solids per box are notably higher in the Indian River colored seedless grapefruit.

Citrus Unadjusted Maturity Tests by Type, September 1 – Florida: Crop Years 2008-2009 through 2012-2013

[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 0.040 short strainer and standard 5/8 inch orifice tube. The beam settings are also identical to past tests and no restrictors are used]

Crop year	Groves sampled	Acid	Solids (Brix)	Ratio	Unfinished juice per box	Solids per box
	(number)	(percent)	(percent)		(pounds)	(pounds)
Early Oranges 2008-2009	120 120 120 120 120	1.45 1.54 1.67 1.38 1.24	9.25 9.25 9.19 9.58 9.38	6.51 6.11 5.55 7.02 7.70	46.91 42.04 41.62 44.96 46.39	4.34 3.89 3.82 4.31 4.35
Midseason Oranges 2008-2009. 2009-2010. 2010-2011. 2011-2012. 2012-2013.	55 55 55	1.66 1.72 1.99 1.54 1.41	9.00 9.23 9.34 9.38 9.35	5.49 5.45 4.91 6.21 6.77	45.09 42.79 40.86 45.85 45.84	4.06 3.95 3.81 4.30 4.28
White Seedless Grapefruit 2008-2009	50 50 50 50 50	1.70 1.75 1.88 1.64 1.52	9.53 9.79 10.19 10.17 9.91	5.61 5.60 5.45 6.27 6.52	30.94 31.48 31.82 33.91 35.04	2.95 3.08 3.24 3.45 3.47
Colored Seedless Grapefruit 2008-2009	50 50 50 50 50	1.70 1.75 1.82 1.62 1.52	9.79 10.06 10.33 10.17 10.15	5.80 5.78 5.80 6.29 6.70	32.52 31.49 31.99 35.68 35.51	3.18 3.17 3.30 3.63 3.61

Citrus Fruit Maturity Test Averages, by Area - Florida: September 1, 2012

Fruit type	Groves sampled	Acid	Solids (Brix)	Ratio	Unfinished juice per box	Solids per box
	(number)	(percent)	(percent)		(pounds)	(pounds)
ORANGES:						
Early Indian River	9	1.27	9.32	7.39	46.94	4.37
Other Areas	111	1.23	9.38	7.73	46.34	4.35
Midseason Indian River Other Areas	11 44	1.53 1.37	9.28 9.36	6.16 6.93	45.64 45.89	4.23 4.29
GRAPEFRUIT:						
White Seedless Indian River Other Areas	38 12	1.54 1.47	10.00 9.62	6.50 6.59	35.27 34.31	3.52 3.30
Colored Seedless Indian River Other Areas	40 10	1.53 1.49	10.18 10.05	6.68 6.77	36.52 31.45	3.72 3.16

