United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

CITRUS

MAY FORECAST
MATURITY TEST RESULTS

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
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May 10, 2024

Florida All Orange Production is Down 5 Percent from April
Florida Non-Valencia Orange Production Unchanged
Florida Valencia Orange Production Down 8 Percent
Florida All Grapefruit Production Down 10 Percent
Florida All Tangerine and Tangelo Unchanged

FORECAST DATES - 2023-2024 SEASON	
June 12, 2024	July 12, 2024

Citrus Production by Type – States and United States

Crop and State	Production [1]		2023-2024 Forecasted Production [1]	
	2021-2022	2022-2023	April	May
	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)
Non-Valencia Oranges [2]				
Florida	**18,250**	**6,150**	**6,800**	**6,800**
California [3]	31,500	36,100	38,000	38,000
Texas [3]	170	570	700	700
United States	49,920	42,820	45,500	45,500
Valencia Oranges				
Florida	**22,950**	**9,670**	**12,000**	**11,000**
California [3]	7.600	8,600	8,000	8,000
Texas [3]	30	560	400	400
United States	30,580	18,830	20,400	19,400
All Oranges				
Florida	**41,200**	**15,820**	**18,800**	**17,800**
California [3]	39,100	44,700	46,000	46,000
Texas [3]	200	1,130	1,100	1,100
United States	80,500	61,650	65,900	64,900
Grapefruit				
Florida-All	**3,330**	**1,810**	**2,000**	**1,800**
Red	**2,830**	**1,560**	**1,750**	**1,550**
White	**500**	**250**	**250**	**250**
California [3]	4,100	4,300	4,100	4,100
Texas [3]	1,700	2,250	2,600	2,600
United States	9,130	8,360	8,700	8,500
Lemons [3]				
Arizona	1,250	1,400	1,050	1,050
California	25,200	26,000	22,000	22,000
United States	26,450	27,400	23,050	23,050
Tangerines and Tangelos				
Florida	**750**	**480**	**500**	**500**
California [3 4]	17,500	23,550	22,000	22,000
United States	18,250	24,030	22,500	22,500

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

All Oranges 17.8 Million Boxes

The 2023-2024 Florida all orange forecast released today by the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board is lowered one million boxes to 17.8 million boxes. If realized, this will be 13 percent more than last season's final production. The forecast consists of 6.80 million boxes of non-Valencia oranges (early, mid-season, and Navel varieties) and 11.0 million boxes of Valencia oranges.

Non-Valencia Oranges 6.80 Million Boxes

The forecast of non-Valencia orange production remains at 6.80 million boxes. The Navel forecast, included in the non-Valencia portion of the forecast at 180,000 boxes is 3 percent of the non-Valencia total.

Valencia Oranges 11.0 Million Boxes

The forecast of Valencia orange production is lowered one million boxes to 11.0 million boxes. The Row Count survey conducted April 29-30, 2024, indicated 97 percent of the Valencia rows are harvested. Processors were surveyed regarding fruit processed through April 30th and the estimated quantity remaining to be processed to the end of the season. Analysis of the results of the processors survey support decreasing the Valencia orange forecast.

All Grapefruit 1.80 Million Boxes

The forecast of all grapefruit production is 1.80 million boxes. The white grapefruit forecast is 250,000 boxes. The red grapefruit forecast is 1.55 million boxes. The Row Count survey, conducted April 29-30, 2024, indicated harvest on grapefruit is relatively complete.

Tangerines and Tangelos 500,000 Boxes

The forecast for tangerines and tangelos is unchanged at 500,000 boxes. This forecast number includes all certified tangerine and tangelo varieties.

Maturity Tests

There were no maturity test for this forecast.

Reliability

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the May 1 Florida production forecasts, the "Root Mean Square Error," a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the May 1 production forecast and the final estimate is expressed as a percentage of the final estimate. The average of squared percentage deviations for the latest 20-year period is computed. The square root of the average becomes statistically the "Root Mean Square Error." Probability statements can be made concerning expected differences in the current forecast relative to the final end-of-season estimate, assuming that factors affecting this year's forecast are not different from those influencing recent years.

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the May 1 Florida all orange production forecast is 2.2 percent. If you exclude the four abnormal production seasons (four hurricane seasons), the "Root Mean Square Error" is 2.3 percent. This means chances are 2 out of 3 that the current all orange production forecast will not be above or below the final estimates by more than 2.2 percent, or 2.3 percent excluding abnormal seasons. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 3.8 percent including abnormal seasons, or 4.0 percent excluding abnormal seasons.

Changes between the May 1 Florida all orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 1.97 million boxes (2.02 million, excluding abnormal seasons), ranging from 0.10 million boxes to 5.60 million boxes including abnormal seasons, (0.50 to 5.60 million boxes excluding abnormal seasons). The May 1 forecast for all oranges has been below the final estimate 12 times, above 8 times, (below 10 times, above 6 times, excluding abnormal seasons). The difference does not imply that the May 1 forecasts this year are likely to understate or overstate final production.