Crop Production

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South Carolina Update

When South Carolina producers were surveyed in preparation for the *Crop Production 2015 Summary*, released January 12, 2016, there was significant unharvested acreage of cotton, peanuts, and soybeans due to excessively wet conditions. NASS re-contacted respondents in early February who previously had reported acreage for these crops to determine how many of those acres were actually harvested and record the actual production from those acres. Based on this updated information, several changes were made to the estimates published in the *Crop Production 2015 Summary*. Because unharvested soybean production is a component of on-farm stocks, changes were made to the December 1 on-farm stocks level comparable with the production adjustments.

Orange Production Up 2 Percent from February Forecast

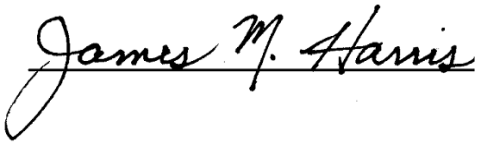
The United States all orange forecast for the 2015-2016 season is 5.36 million tons, up 2 percent from the previous forecast but down 16 percent from the 2014-2015 final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 71.0 million boxes (3.20 million tons), is up 3 percent from last month's forecast but down 27 percent from last season's final utilization. Early, midseason, and Navel varieties in Florida are forecast at 36.0 million boxes (1.62 million tons), unchanged from last month but down 24 percent from last season's final utilization. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 35.0 million boxes (1.58 million tons), is up 6 percent from last month but down 29 percent from last season's final utilization.

The California Valencia orange forecast is 10.5 million boxes (420,000 tons), up 5 percent from previous forecast and up 11 percent from the previous season. This results in a California all orange forecast of 52.5 million boxes (2.10 million tons), up 1 percent from the previous forecast. Objective survey measurements taken during January and February indicated that fruit set per tree was higher than the previous year and the most since 2010, but the measured average fruit size was slightly below the previous year. The forecast for Texas is carried forward from the previous forecast.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield forecast for the 2015-2016 season is 1.45 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix, unchanged from the February forecast but down 3 percent from last season's final yield of 1.50 gallons per box. The early and midseason portion is final at 1.35 gallons per box, unchanged from last month but down 5 percent from last season's final yield of 1.42 gallons per box. The Valencia portion is projected at 1.60 gallons per box, unchanged from the February forecast but up 1 percent from last year's final yield of 1.58 gallons per box. All projections of yield assume the processing relationships this season will be similar to those of the past several seasons.

This report was approved on March 9, 2016.

Secretary of Agriculture
Designate
Robert Johansson



Agricultural Statistics Board
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Contents

Sugarcane Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by Use – States and United States: 2014 and 2015

Use and State	Area harvested		Yield per acre [1]		Production [1]	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(tons)	(tons)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)
For sugar						
Florida	392.0	409.0	38.4	41.5	15,053	16,974
Hawaii [2]	14.2	16.5	88.8	86.2	1,261	1,422
Louisiana [2]	386.0	385.0	29.5	31.0	11,387	11,935
Texas [2]	31.5	37.0	37.9	36.0	1,194	1,332
United States	823.7	847.5	35.1	37.4	28,895	31,663
For seed						
Florida	16.0	15.0	42.8	46.0	685	690
Hawaii [2]	2.2	2.2	20.4	20.0	45	44
Louisiana [2]	25.0	25.0	29.5	31.0	738	775
Texas [2]	1.6	2.0	37.9	36.0	61	72
United States	44.8	44.2	34.1	35.8	1,529	1,581
For sugar and seed						
Florida	408.0	424.0	38.6	41.7	15,738	17,664
Hawaii [2]	16.4	18.7	79.6	78.4	1,306	1,466
Louisiana [2]	411.0	410.0	29.5	31.0	12,125	12,710
Texas [2]	33.1	39.0	37.9	36.0	1,255	1,404
United States	868.5	891.7	35.0	37.3	30,424	33,244

[1] Net tons.
[2] Estimates are carried forward from the *Crop Production 2015 Summary* released January 2016.

Utilized Production of Citrus Fruits by Crop – States and United States: 2014-2015 and Forecasted March 1, 2016

[The crop year begins with the bloom of the first year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year]

Crop and State	Utilized production boxes [1]		Utilized production ton equivalent	
	2014-2015	2015-2016	2014-2015	2015-2016
	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)
Oranges				
California, all	49,000	52,500	1,960	2,100
Early, mid, and Navel [2 3]	39,500	42,000	1,580	1,680
Valencia	9,500	10,500	380	420
Florida, all	96,800	71,000	4,356	3,195
Early, mid, and Navel [3]	47,400	36,000	2,133	1,620
Valencia	49,400	35,000	2,223	1,575
Texas, all [2]	1,452	1,410	62	60
Early, mid, and Navel [2 3]	1,170	1,130	50	48
Valencia [2]	282	280	12	12
United States, all	147,252	124,910	6,378	5,355
Early, mid, and Navel [3]	88,070	79,130	3,763	3,348
Valencia	59,182	45,780	2,615	2,007
Grapefruit				
California [2]	3,800	3,700	152	148
Florida, all	12,900	10,700	548	455
Red	9,650	8,200	410	349
White	3,250	2,500	138	106
Texas [2]	4,250	5,100	170	204
United States	20,950	19,500	870	807
Tangerines and mandarins				
Arizona [4 5]	170	(NA)	7	(NA)
California [2 4]	18,200	21,000	728	840
Florida	2,270	1,400	108	67
United States	20,640	22,400	843	907
Lemons [2]				
Arizona	2,000	1,600	80	64
California	20,500	20,000	820	800
United States	22,500	21,600	900	864
Tangelos				
Florida	680	400	31	18

(NA) Not available.

[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 Arizona and California-80, Florida-95; lemons-80; tangelos-90.

[2] Estimates for current year carried forward from previous forecast.

[3] Navel and miscellaneous varieties in California. Early (including Navel) and midseason varieties in Florida and Texas. Small quantities of Temples in Florida.

[4] Includes tangelos and tangors.

[5] Estimates discontinued in 2015-2016.

Soybeans for Beans Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area planted			Area harvested		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)
Alabama	440	480	500	430	470	490
Arkansas	3,270	3,230	3,200	3,240	3,200	3,170
Delaware	165	185	175	163	183	173
Florida	32	39	33	30	37	31
Georgia	235	300	325	230	290	315
Illinois	9,500	9,800	9,800	9,480	9,770	9,720
Indiana	5,200	5,450	5,550	5,190	5,440	5,500
Iowa	9,300	9,850	9,850	9,250	9,770	9,800
Kansas	3,600	4,000	3,900	3,540	3,960	3,860
Kentucky	1,670	1,760	1,840	1,660	1,750	1,810
Louisiana	1,130	1,410	1,430	1,120	1,395	1,395
Maryland	485	510	520	480	505	515
Michigan	1,930	2,050	2,030	1,920	2,040	2,020
Minnesota	6,700	7,350	7,600	6,620	7,270	7,550
Mississippi	2,010	2,210	2,300	1,990	2,190	2,270
Missouri	5,650	5,650	4,550	5,610	5,590	4,480
Nebraska	4,800	5,400	5,300	4,770	5,330	5,270
New Jersey	90	105	105	88	103	103
New York	280	330	305	278	327	301
North Carolina	1,480	1,750	1,820	1,450	1,730	1,790
North Dakota	4,650	5,900	5,750	4,630	5,870	5,720
Ohio	4,500	4,700	4,750	4,490	4,690	4,740
Oklahoma	345	375	395	335	365	375
Pennsylvania	560	570	580	555	565	575
South Carolina	320	450	475	310	440	370
South Dakota	4,600	5,150	5,150	4,580	5,110	5,120
Tennessee	1,580	1,640	1,750	1,550	1,610	1,720
Texas	105	155	130	92	135	115
Virginia	610	650	630	600	640	620
West Virginia	23	27	27	22	26	26
Wisconsin	1,580	1,800	1,880	1,550	1,790	1,870
United States	76,840	83,276	82,650	76,253	82,591	81,814

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Soybeans for Beans Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production – States and United States: 2013-2015 (continued)

State	Yield per acre			Production		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
	(bushels)	(bushels)	(bushels)	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)
Alabama	43.5	40.0	41.0	18,705	18,800	20,090
Arkansas	43.5	49.5	49.0	140,940	158,400	155,330
Delaware	40.5	47.5	40.0	6,602	8,693	6,920
Florida	41.0	43.0	38.0	1,230	1,591	1,178
Georgia	40.5	40.0	43.0	9,315	11,600	13,545
Illinois	50.0	56.0	56.0	474,000	547,120	544,320
Indiana	51.5	55.5	50.0	267,285	301,920	275,000
Iowa	45.5	51.0	56.5	420,875	498,270	553,700
Kansas	37.0	35.5	38.5	130,980	140,580	148,610
Kentucky	50.0	47.5	49.0	83,000	83,125	88,690
Louisiana	48.5	56.5	41.0	54,320	78,818	57,195
Maryland	39.5	46.0	40.0	18,960	23,230	20,600
Michigan	44.5	42.5	49.0	85,440	86,700	98,980
Minnesota	42.0	41.5	50.0	278,040	301,705	377,500
Mississippi	46.0	52.0	46.0	91,540	113,880	104,420
Missouri	36.0	46.5	40.5	201,960	259,935	181,440
Nebraska	53.5	54.0	58.0	255,195	287,820	305,660
New Jersey	39.5	44.0	32.0	3,476	4,532	3,296
New York	48.0	44.5	43.0	13,344	14,552	12,943
North Carolina	33.5	40.0	32.0	48,575	69,200	57,280
North Dakota	30.5	34.5	32.5	141,215	202,515	185,900
Ohio	49.5	52.5	50.0	222,255	246,225	237,000
Oklahoma	30.5	28.0	31.0	10,218	10,220	11,625
Pennsylvania	49.0	49.0	44.0	27,195	27,685	25,300
South Carolina	28.5	35.0	26.5	8,835	15,400	9,805
South Dakota	40.5	45.0	46.0	185,490	229,950	235,520
Tennessee	46.5	46.0	46.0	72,075	74,060	79,120
Texas	25.5	38.5	26.0	2,346	5,198	2,990
Virginia	38.5	39.5	34.5	23,100	25,280	21,390
West Virginia	46.5	51.0	48.0	1,023	1,326	1,248
Wisconsin	39.0	44.0	49.5	60,450	78,760	92,565
United States	44.0	47.5	48.0	3,357,984	3,927,090	3,929,160

Cotton Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production by Type – States and United States: 2013-2015

Type and State	Area planted			Area harvested		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)
Upland						
Alabama	365.0	350.0	315.0	359.0	348.0	313.0
Arizona	160.0	150.0	89.0	159.0	149.0	88.0
Arkansas	310.0	335.0	210.0	305.0	330.0	205.0
California	93.0	57.0	47.0	92.0	56.0	46.0
Florida	131.0	107.0	85.0	127.0	105.0	84.0
Georgia	1,370.0	1,380.0	1,130.0	1,340.0	1,370.0	1,120.0
Kansas	27.0	31.0	16.0	26.0	29.0	15.0
Louisiana	130.0	170.0	115.0	128.0	168.0	112.0
Mississippi	290.0	425.0	320.0	287.0	420.0	315.0
Missouri	255.0	250.0	185.0	246.0	245.0	175.0
New Mexico	39.0	43.0	35.0	31.0	33.0	31.0
North Carolina	465.0	465.0	385.0	460.0	460.0	365.0
Oklahoma	185.0	240.0	215.0	125.0	210.0	205.0
South Carolina	258.0	280.0	235.0	250.0	278.0	105.0
Tennessee	250.0	275.0	155.0	233.0	270.0	140.0
Texas	5,800.0	6,200.0	4,800.0	3,100.0	4,600.0	4,500.0
Virginia	78.0	87.0	85.0	77.0	86.0	84.0
United States	10,206.0	10,845.0	8,422.0	7,345.0	9,157.0	7,903.0
American Pima						
Arizona	1.5	15.0	17.5	1.5	14.5	17.0
California	187.0	155.0	117.0	186.0	154.0	116.0
New Mexico	3.5	5.4	7.0	3.4	5.3	6.9
Texas	9.0	17.0	17.0	8.5	16.0	15.0
United States	201.0	192.4	158.5	199.4	189.8	154.9
All						
Alabama	365.0	350.0	315.0	359.0	348.0	313.0
Arizona	161.5	165.0	106.5	160.5	163.5	105.0
Arkansas	310.0	335.0	210.0	305.0	330.0	205.0
California	280.0	212.0	164.0	278.0	210.0	162.0
Florida	131.0	107.0	85.0	127.0	105.0	84.0
Georgia	1,370.0	1,380.0	1,130.0	1,340.0	1,370.0	1,120.0
Kansas	27.0	31.0	16.0	26.0	29.0	15.0
Louisiana	130.0	170.0	115.0	128.0	168.0	112.0
Mississippi	290.0	425.0	320.0	287.0	420.0	315.0
Missouri	255.0	250.0	185.0	246.0	245.0	175.0
New Mexico	42.5	48.4	42.0	34.4	38.3	37.9
North Carolina	465.0	465.0	385.0	460.0	460.0	365.0
Oklahoma	185.0	240.0	215.0	125.0	210.0	205.0
South Carolina	258.0	280.0	235.0	250.0	278.0	105.0
Tennessee	250.0	275.0	155.0	233.0	270.0	140.0
Texas	5,809.0	6,217.0	4,817.0	3,108.5	4,616.0	4,515.0
Virginia	78.0	87.0	85.0	77.0	86.0	84.0
United States	10,407.0	11,037.4	8,580.5	7,544.4	9,346.8	8,057.9

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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Cotton Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production by Type – States and United States: 2013-2015 (continued)

Type and State	Yield per acre			Production [1]		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(1,000 bales) [2]	(1,000 bales) [2]	(1,000 bales) [2]
Upland						
Alabama	789	901	843	590.0	653.0	550.0
Arizona	1,449	1,579	1,555	480.0	490.0	285.0
Arkansas	1,133	1,145	1,112	720.0	787.0	475.0
California	1,737	1,834	1,722	333.0	214.0	165.0
Florida	661	878	857	175.0	192.0	150.0
Georgia	831	900	986	2,320.0	2,570.0	2,300.0
Kansas	757	794	864	41.0	48.0	27.0
Louisiana	1,223	1,154	814	326.0	404.0	190.0
Mississippi	1,203	1,232	1,021	719.0	1,078.0	670.0
Missouri	968	1,117	1,111	496.0	570.0	405.0
New Mexico	929	931	821	60.0	64.0	53.0
North Carolina	799	1,038	686	766.0	995.0	522.0
Oklahoma	591	615	866	154.0	269.0	370.0
South Carolina	691	912	686	360.0	528.0	150.0
Tennessee	853	878	1,035	414.0	494.0	302.0
Texas	646	644	613	4,170.0	6,175.0	5,750.0
Virginia	941	1,239	823	151.0	222.0	144.0
United States	802	826	760	12,275.0	15,753.0	12,508.0
American Pima						
Arizona	1,024	993	904	3.2	30.0	32.0
California	1,574	1,558	1,490	610.0	500.0	360.0
New Mexico	847	761	1,043	6.0	8.4	15.0
Texas	847	840	896	15.0	28.0	28.0
United States	1,527	1,432	1,348	634.2	566.4	435.0
All						
Alabama	789	901	843	590.0	653.0	550.0
Arizona	1,445	1,527	1,449	483.2	520.0	317.0
Arkansas	1,133	1,145	1,112	720.0	787.0	475.0
California	1,628	1,632	1,556	943.0	714.0	525.0
Florida	661	878	857	175.0	192.0	150.0
Georgia	831	900	986	2,320.0	2,570.0	2,300.0
Kansas	757	794	864	41.0	48.0	27.0
Louisiana	1,223	1,154	814	326.0	404.0	190.0
Mississippi	1,203	1,232	1,021	719.0	1,078.0	670.0
Missouri	968	1,117	1,111	496.0	570.0	405.0
New Mexico	921	907	861	66.0	72.4	68.0
North Carolina	799	1,038	686	766.0	995.0	522.0
Oklahoma	591	615	866	154.0	269.0	370.0
South Carolina	691	912	686	360.0	528.0	150.0
Tennessee	853	878	1,035	414.0	494.0	302.0
Texas	646	645	614	4,185.0	6,203.0	5,778.0
Virginia	941	1,239	823	151.0	222.0	144.0
United States	821	838	771	12,909.2	16,319.4	12,943.0

[1] Production ginned and to be ginned.
[2] 480-pound net weight bale.

Cottonseed Production – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Production		
	2013	2014	2015 [1]
	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)
Alabama	165.0	195.0	161.0
Arizona	163.0	172.0	109.0
Arkansas	252.0	288.0	166.0
California	355.0	276.0	195.0
Florida	38.0	40.0	44.0
Georgia	701.0	754.0	677.0
Kansas	14.0	16.0	9.0
Louisiana	118.0	139.0	65.0
Mississippi	220.0	306.0	216.0
Missouri	205.0	208.0	148.0
New Mexico	14.0	15.0	23.0
North Carolina	255.0	318.0	162.0
Oklahoma	45.0	80.0	124.0
South Carolina	108.0	143.0	46.0
Tennessee	139.0	156.0	96.0
Texas	1,368.0	1,959.0	1,869.0
Virginia	43.0	60.0	43.0
United States	4,203.0	5,125.0	4,153.0

[1] Estimates based on 3-year average lint-seed ratio.

Peanut Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area planted			Area harvested		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)
Alabama	140.0	175.0	200.0	138.0	173.0	197.0
Florida	140.0	175.0	190.0	131.0	167.0	180.0
Georgia	430.0	600.0	785.0	426.0	589.0	777.0
Mississippi	34.0	32.0	44.0	33.0	31.0	42.0
New Mexico	7.0	4.5	5.0	7.0	4.5	5.0
North Carolina	82.0	94.0	90.0	81.0	93.0	88.0
Oklahoma	17.0	12.0	10.0	16.0	11.0	9.0
South Carolina	81.0	112.0	112.0	78.0	108.0	82.0
Texas	120.0	130.0	170.0	117.0	127.0	168.0
Virginia	16.0	19.0	19.0	16.0	19.0	19.0
United States	1,067.0	1,353.5	1,625.0	1,043.0	1,322.5	1,567.0

State	Yield per acre			Production		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)
Alabama	3,550	3,150	3,350	489,900	544,950	659,950
Florida	3,950	4,000	3,650	517,450	668,000	657,000
Georgia	4,430	4,135	4,470	1,887,180	2,435,515	3,473,190
Mississippi	3,700	4,000	3,600	122,100	124,000	151,200
New Mexico	3,100	3,500	3,000	21,700	15,750	15,000
North Carolina	3,900	4,320	3,400	315,900	401,760	299,200
Oklahoma	3,700	4,000	3,500	59,200	44,000	31,500
South Carolina	3,500	3,800	3,200	273,000	410,400	262,400
Texas	3,620	3,620	3,500	423,540	459,740	588,000
Virginia	3,950	4,450	3,850	63,200	84,550	73,150
United States	4,001	3,923	3,963	4,173,170	5,188,665	6,210,590

Soybean Stocks by Position – States and United States: December 1, 2015

State	On farms	Off farms [1]	Total all positions
	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)
Alabama	(D)	(D)	(D)
Arizona	(NA)	(D)	(D)
Arkansas	(D)	32,928	(D)
California	(NA)	(D)	(D)
Colorado	(NA)	250	250
Delaware	(D)	2,747	(D)
Florida	(D)	(D)	(D)
Georgia	(D)	10,739	(D)
Idaho	(NA)	(D)	(D)
Illinois	215,000	238,216	453,216
Indiana	135,000	84,329	219,329
Iowa	195,000	261,572	456,572
Kansas	25,000	81,321	106,321
Kentucky	(D)	11,997	(D)
Louisiana	(D)	5,406	(D)
Maryland	(D)	10,635	(D)
Michigan	28,000	36,224	64,224
Minnesota	145,000	121,741	266,741
Mississippi	(D)	10,540	(D)
Missouri	81,000	48,510	129,510
Montana	(NA)	(D)	(D)
Nebraska	70,000	144,371	214,371
Nevada	(NA)	(D)	(D)
New England	(NA)	(D)	(D)
New Jersey	(D)	(D)	(D)
New Mexico	(NA)	(D)	(D)
New York	(D)	982	(D)
North Carolina	(D)	12,791	(D)
North Dakota	66,000	45,093	111,093
Ohio	105,000	74,002	179,002
Oklahoma	(D)	4,693	(D)
Oregon	(NA)	(D)	(D)
Pennsylvania	(D)	5,984	(D)
South Carolina	(D)	2,025	(D)
South Dakota	82,000	79,362	161,362
Tennessee	(D)	10,190	(D)
Texas	(D)	2,170	(D)
Utah	(NA)	(D)	(D)
Virginia	(D)	6,762	(D)
Washington	(NA)	7,485	7,485
West Virginia	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wisconsin	22,500	41,468	63,968
Wyoming	(NA)	(D)	(D)
Unallocated [2]	139,000	10,784	280,373
United States	1,308,500	1,405,317	2,713,817

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
(NA) Not available.
[1] Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.
[2] "Off farms unallocated" includes State data withheld to avoid disclosure of individual operations. "On farms unallocated" includes minor producing States' data not published separately.

Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Domestic Units – United States: 2015 and 2016

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2016 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)
Grains and hay				
Barley	3,558		3,109	
Corn for grain [1]	87,999		80,749	
Corn for silage	(NA)		6,221	
Hay, all	(NA)		54,437	
Alfalfa	(NA)		17,778	
All other	(NA)		36,659	
Oats	3,088		1,276	
Proso millet	445		418	
Rice	2,614		2,575	
Rye	1,569		360	
Sorghum for grain [1]	8,459		7,851	
Sorghum for silage	(NA)		306	
Wheat, all	54,644		47,094	
Winter	39,461	36,609	32,257	
Durum	1,936		1,896	
Other spring	13,247		12,941	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1,777.0		1,714.5	
Cottonseed	(X)		(X)	
Flaxseed	463		456	
Mustard seed	44.0		40.1	
Peanuts	1,625.0		1,567.0	
Rapeseed	1.2		1.1	
Safflower	168.2		159.1	
Soybeans for beans	82,650		81,814	
Sunflower	1,859.1		1,799.4	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all	8,580.5		8,057.9	
Upland	8,422.0		7,903.0	
American Pima	158.5		154.9	
Sugarbeets	1,158.8		1,144.3	
Sugarcane	(NA)		891.7	
Tobacco	(NA)		326.6	
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas	34.0		21.0	
Dry edible beans	1,764.4		1,711.4	
Dry edible peas	1,143.0		1,083.5	
Lentils	493.0		476.0	
Wrinkled seed peas	(NA)		(NA)	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Hops	(NA)		43.6	
Maple syrup	(NA)		(NA)	
Mushrooms	(NA)		(NA)	
Peppermint oil	(NA)		65.2	
Potatoes, all	1,065.2		1,053.3	
Spring	70.1		68.5	
Summer	50.5		47.1	
Fall	944.6		937.7	
Spearmint oil	(NA)		27.2	
Sweet potatoes	156.9		153.1	
Taro (Hawaii)	(NA)		0.3	

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Domestic Units – United States: 2015 and 2016 (continued)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2016 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop		Yield per acre		Production	
		2015	2016	2015	2016
				(1,000)	(1,000)
Grains and hay					
Barley	bushels	68.9		214,297	
Corn for grain	bushels	168.4		13,601,198	
Corn for silage	tons	20.4		126,894	
Hay, all	tons	2.47		134,388	
Alfalfa	tons	3.32		58,974	
All other	tons	2.06		75,414	
Oats	bushels	70.2		89,535	
Proso millet	bushels	33.9		14,159	
Rice [2]	cwt	7,470		192,343	
Rye	bushels	31.9		11,496	
Sorghum for grain	bushels	76.0		596,751	
Sorghum for silage	tons	14.6		4,475	
Wheat, all	bushels	43.6		2,051,752	
Winter	bushels	42.5		1,370,188	
Durum	bushels	43.5		82,484	
Other spring	bushels	46.3		599,080	
Oilseeds					
Canola	pounds	1,677		2,875,010	
Cottonseed	tons	(X)		4,153.0	
Flaxseed	bushels	22.1		10,095	
Mustard seed	pounds	671		26,927	
Peanuts	pounds	3,963		6,210,590	
Rapeseed	pounds	1,382		1,520	
Safflower	pounds	1,347		214,251	
Soybeans for beans	bushels	48.0		3,929,160	
Sunflower	pounds	1,625		2,923,730	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops					
Cotton, all [2]	bales	771		12,943.0	
Upland [2]	bales	760		12,508.0	
American Pima [2]	bales	1,348		435.0	
Sugarbeets	tons	30.8		35,278	
Sugarcane	tons	37.3		33,244	
Tobacco	pounds	2,178		711,236	
Dry beans, peas, and lentils					
Austrian winter peas [2]	cwt	1,238		260	
Dry edible beans [2]	cwt	1,760		30,121	
Dry edible peas [2]	cwt	1,687		18,283	
Lentils [2]	cwt	1,108		5,276	
Wrinkled seed peas	cwt	(NA)		384	
Potatoes and miscellaneous					
Hops	pounds	1,807		78,846.0	
Maple syrup	gallons	(NA)		3,414	
Mushrooms	pounds	(NA)		952,619	
Peppermint oil	pounds	90		5,882	
Potatoes, all	cwt	418		440,498	
Spring	cwt	296		20,251	
Summer	cwt	334		15,734	
Fall	cwt	431		404,513	
Spearmint oil	pounds	113		3,070	
Sweet potatoes	cwt	203		31,016	
Taro (Hawaii)	pounds	10,300		3,502	

(NA) Not available.
(X) Not applicable.
[1] Area planted for all purposes.
[2] Yield in pounds.

Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Metric Units – United States: 2015 and 2016

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2016 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)
Grains and hay				
Barley	1,439,890		1,258,180	
Corn for grain [1]	35,612,320		32,678,310	
Corn for silage	(NA)		2,517,580	
Hay, all [2]	(NA)		22,030,110	
Alfalfa	(NA)		7,194,580	
All other	(NA)		14,835,530	
Oats	1,249,680		516,380	
Proso millet	180,090		169,160	
Rice	1,057,860		1,042,080	
Rye	634,960		145,690	
Sorghum for grain [1]	3,423,270		3,177,220	
Sorghum for silage	(NA)		123,840	
Wheat, all [2]	22,113,880		19,058,470	
Winter	15,969,470	14,815,300	13,054,090	
Durum	783,480		767,290	
Other spring	5,360,930		5,237,090	
Oilseeds				
Canola	719,130		693,840	
Cottonseed	(X)		(X)	
Flaxseed	187,370		184,540	
Mustard seed	17,810		16,230	
Peanuts	657,620		634,150	
Rapeseed	490		450	
Safflower	68,070		64,390	
Soybeans for beans	33,447,630		33,109,310	
Sunflower	752,360		728,200	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all [2]	3,472,440		3,260,950	
Upland	3,408,300		3,198,270	
American Pima	64,140		62,690	
Sugarbeets	468,950		463,090	
Sugarcane	(NA)		360,860	
Tobacco	(NA)		132,150	
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas	13,760		8,500	
Dry edible beans	714,040		692,590	
Dry edible peas	462,560		438,480	
Lentils	199,510		192,630	
Wrinkled seed peas	(NA)		(NA)	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Hops	(NA)		17,660	
Maple syrup	(NA)		(NA)	
Mushrooms	(NA)		(NA)	
Peppermint oil	(NA)		26,390	
Potatoes, all [2]	431,080		426,260	
Spring	28,370		27,720	
Summer	20,440		19,060	
Fall	382,270		379,480	
Spearmint oil	(NA)		11,010	
Sweet potatoes	63,500		61,960	
Taro (Hawaii)	(NA)		140	

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Metric Units – United States: 2015 and 2016 (continued)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2016 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield per hectare		Production	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)
Grains and hay				
Barley	3.71		4,665,770	
Corn for grain	10.57		345,486,340	
Corn for silage	45.73		115,116,300	
Hay, all [2]	5.53		121,914,740	
Alfalfa	7.44		53,500,310	
All other	4.61		68,414,430	
Oats	2.52		1,299,600	
Proso millet	1.90		321,120	
Rice	8.37		8,724,530	
Rye	2.00		292,010	
Sorghum for grain	4.77		15,158,170	
Sorghum for silage	32.78		4,059,650	
Wheat, all [2]	2.93		55,839,540	
Winter	2.86		37,290,410	
Durum	2.93		2,244,850	
Other spring	3.11		16,304,290	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1.88		1,304,080	
Cottonseed	(X)		3,767,540	
Flaxseed	1.39		256,420	
Mustard seed	0.75		12,210	
Peanuts	4.44		2,817,080	
Rapeseed	1.55		690	
Safflower	1.51		97,180	
Soybeans for beans	3.23		106,934,210	
Sunflower	1.82		1,326,180	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all [2]	0.86		2,818,010	
Upland	0.85		2,723,300	
American Pima	1.51		94,710	
Sugarbeets	69.11		32,003,660	
Sugarcane	83.57		30,158,450	
Tobacco	2.44		322,610	
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas	1.39		11,790	
Dry edible beans	1.97		1,366,270	
Dry edible peas	1.89		829,300	
Lentils	1.24		239,320	
Wrinkled seed peas	(NA)		17,420	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Hops	2.03		35,760	
Maple syrup	(NA)		17,070	
Mushrooms	(NA)		432,100	
Peppermint oil	0.10		2,670	
Potatoes, all [2]	46.87		19,980,650	
Spring	33.14		918,570	
Summer	37.44		713,680	
Fall	48.35		18,348,400	
Spearmint oil	0.13		1,390	
Sweet potatoes	22.71		1,406,860	
Taro (Hawaii)	11.55		1,590	

(NA) Not available.
(X) Not applicable.
[1] Area planted for all purposes.
[2] Total may not add due to rounding.

Fruits and Nuts Production in Domestic Units – United States: 2015 and 2016

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2016 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2015-2016 season. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Production	
	2015	2016
Citrus [1]		
Grapefruit ..... 1,000 tons	870	807
Lemons ..... 1,000 tons	900	864
Oranges ..... 1,000 tons	6,378	5,355
Tangelos (Florida) ..... 1,000 tons	31	18
Tangerines and mandarins ..... 1,000 tons	843	907
Noncitrus		
Apples ..... million pounds	10,171.8	
Apricots ..... tons	53,008	
Avocados ..... tons		
Bananas (Hawaii) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Blackerries (Oregon) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Blueberries		
Cultivated ..... 1,000 pounds		
Wild (Maine) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Boysenberries (Oregon) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Raspberries, All ..... 1,000 pounds		
Cherries, Sweet ..... tons	338,485	
Cherries, Tart ..... million pounds	222.6	
Coffee ..... 1,000 pounds	33,189	
Cranberries ..... barrel	8,412,700	
Dates (California) ..... tons		
Figs (California) ..... tons		
Grapes ..... tons	8,046,400	
Kiwifruit (California) ..... tons		
Nectarines ..... tons		
Olives (California) ..... tons		
Papayas (Hawaii) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Peaches ..... tons	804,600	
Pears ..... tons	733,000	
Plums (California) ..... tons		
Prunes (California) ..... tons	100,000	
Prunes and Plums ..... tons		
Strawberries ..... 1,000 cwt	30,867	
Nuts and miscellaneous		
Almonds, shelled (California) ..... 1,000 pounds	1,800,000	
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon) ..... tons	39,000	
Macadamias (Hawaii) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Pecans, in-shell ..... 1,000 pounds	272,340	
Pistachios (California) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Walnuts, in-shell (California) ..... tons	575,000	

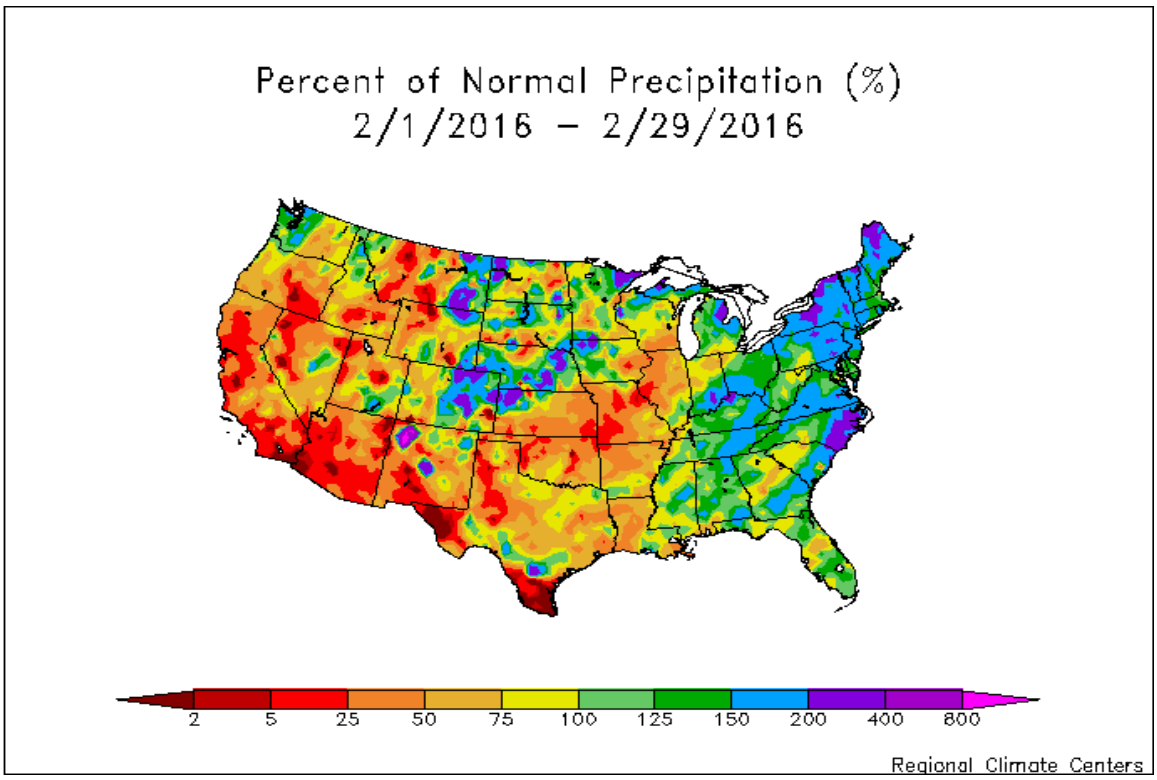
[1] Production years are 2014-2015 and 2015-2016.

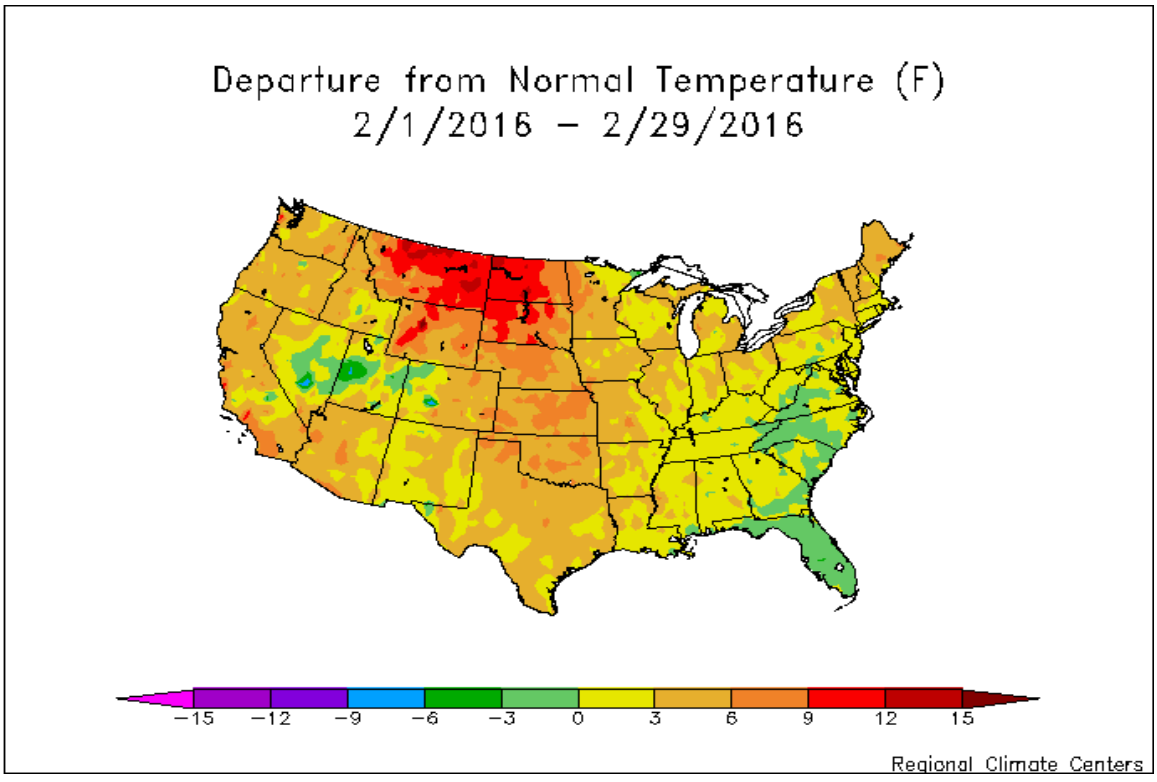
Fruits and Nuts Production in Metric Units – United States: 2015 and 2016

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2016 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2015-2016 season. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Production	
	2015	2016
	(metric tons)	(metric tons)
Citrus [1]		
Grapefruit	789,250	732,100
Lemons	816,470	783,810
Oranges	5,786,020	4,857,970
Tangelos (Florida)	28,120	16,330
Tangerines and mandarins	764,760	822,820
Noncitrus		
Apples	4,613,850	
Apricots	48,090	
Avocados		
Bananas (Hawaii)		
Blackberries (Oregon)		
Blueberries		
Cultivated		
Wild (Maine)		
Boysenberries (Oregon)		
Raspberries, All		
Cherries, Sweet	307,070	
Cherries, Tart	100,970	
Coffee	15,050	
Cranberries	381,590	
Dates (California)		
Figs (California)		
Grapes	7,299,570	
Kiwifruit (California)		
Nectarines		
Olives (California)		
Papayas (Hawaii)		
Peaches	729,920	
Pears	664,970	
Plums (California)		
Prunes (California)	90,720	
Prunes and Plums		
Strawberries	1,400,100	
Nuts and miscellaneous		
Almonds, shelled (California)	816,470	
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon)	35,380	
Macadamias (Hawaii)		
Pecans, in-shell	123,530	
Pistachios (California)		
Walnuts, in-shell (California)	521,630	

[1] Production years are 2014-2015 and 2015-2016.


Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
2/1/2016 – 2/29/2016
2
5
25
50
75
100
125
150
200
400
800
Regional Climate Centers


Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
2/1/2016 – 2/29/2016
−15
−12
−9
−6
−3
0
3
6
9
12
15
Regional Climate Centers

February Weather Summary

For the second time in 3 months, warmth stretched nearly coast to coast, with only small sections of the southern Atlantic States experiencing cooler-than-normal weather. Unlike December, when unprecedented warmth covered areas from the Mississippi Valley to the East Coast, February's record-setting high temperatures were focused across the Plains.

As a result, winter wheat prematurely broke dormancy across the central and southern Plains, leaving the crop vulnerable to potential spring freeze events. On the northern Plains, where February temperatures averaged more than 10°F above normal in some locations, wheat lost some winter hardiness and was often buffeted by mild, breezy conditions. The Plains' most impressive warm spells peaked on February 18 and 27, with numerous monthly record highs established on both dates. During February, the portion of the winter wheat crop rated in good to excellent condition declined in Texas, from 49 to 40 percent, in part due to short-term dryness. Pockets of dryness also developed elsewhere across the southern half of the Plains. In contrast, early-month snowfall provided wheat with beneficial moisture across much of Nebraska, eastern Colorado, and northwestern Kansas.

Uncharacteristic of a strong, mature El Niño, February was disappointingly dry across much of the West. During February, the average water content of the high-elevation Sierra Nevada snowpack was nearly steady at 20 to 22 inches, with only minor storms affecting key watersheds. Since February is typically an important month for Sierra Nevada snowpack accumulation, the percent of historic average dropped from about 115 percent of average on February 1 to just 85 percent by month's end. Farther north, ongoing precipitation from the Pacific Northwest to the northern Rockies benefited winter grains and helped to further build high-elevation snowpack.

Meanwhile, mild, occasionally stormy conditions prevailed across the Midwest, although a mid-month cold snap briefly resulted in some of the coldest weather of the season. Overwintering conditions remained mostly favorable for Midwestern wheat, with more than two-thirds of the crop rated in good to excellent condition at the end of February in Ohio (72 percent) and Indiana (67 percent).

Similarly, the mid-month cold spell interrupted an otherwise mild regime in the Northeast, while cool conditions were a little more persistent in the Southeast. An abundance of precipitation fell during February across most of the eastern one-third of the country, with some of the heaviest rain occurring in the coastal Carolinas. Severe weather outbreaks were noted across portions of the South and East on February 2-3, 15-16, and 23-24. From the Ohio Valley into the Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic States, some of the precipitation—especially around mid-month—fell as snow, sleet, or freezing rain.

By February 29, only one-eighth (12.5 percent) of the country was covered by snow, compared with 60.2 percent at the end of February 2015. At the same time, just 14.3 percent of the Nation was experiencing drought on March 1, according to the United States Drought Monitor, versus 34.8 percent on October 20, 2015. Drought coverage across the contiguous United States has not been lower in more than 5 years, since October 2010.

February Agricultural Summary

Above-normal temperatures blanketed much of the United States during February. Temperatures recorded in the northern Great Plains were much higher than normal with most of Montana and North Dakota recording temperatures over 9°F above normal. Conversely, portions of the Great Basin and virtually all of Florida recorded below average temperatures for the month. Precipitation levels for the month were generally within 2 inches of normal across the Nation. Areas with totals more than 2 inches above normal were reported along the Atlantic Coast, Tennessee Valley, and western Washington. Elsewhere, monthly precipitation in some areas near the United States-Mexican border totaled less than 2 percent of normal.

Winter wheat conditions declined over the previous month in some northern locations due to lack of protective snow cover. In Montana, the percent of the crop in the good to excellent categories dropped 19 percentage points during February with 53 percent rated in these two categories on February 28. In North Dakota, winter wheat condition decreased 11 percentage points over the month to 54 percent good to excellent. Michigan winter wheat was rated 62 percent good to excellent at the end of the month, down 11 percentage points from January 31. Conversely, Kansas winter wheat condition

was rated at 59 percent in the good to excellent categories as of February 28, up 4 percentage points from the end of January. Due to warmer weather, South Dakota winter wheat condition increased 2 percentage points in the good to excellent categories to 69 percent by the end of the month.

Temperatures across Arizona started out mostly above normal for the month of February. During the last two weeks, the highest temperatures were in the low 90's. Alfalfa conditions were mostly good to excellent, depending on location. Alfalfa harvesting was active on about two-thirds of the fields. Durum wheat and barley plantings were completed in February. Vegetable and citrus harvesting activities continued throughout the month of February. Pasture conditions were mostly fair to good and durum wheat conditions were mostly good.

Warm, sunny weather assisted in drying California row crop fields so groundwork and preparation could continue throughout the month. With dry conditions, some fields required spraying for weeds. Citrus packing houses continued to pick and pack a variety of citrus for domestic and export markets. Warm weather aided almond bloom progression and most almond orchards were in full bloom by the end of the month. The application of bloom sprays continued through February. Bees were active in almond orchards during the month. Some hives were moved into stone fruit orchards as the early varieties started to bloom. Certified producers continued to grow winter vegetables and sell produce such as cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, carrots, and Brussel sprouts at the local farmer's markets. Valley and foothill non-irrigated pasture grasses and forbs capitalized on the February precipitation and the above normal monthly temperatures with a flourish of new growth.

In Florida, fieldwork and soil preparation for spring plantings continued in the Panhandle. Sugarcane harvest continued through February in Glades and Hendry Counties. By end of month, potato planting was complete. During vegetable harvest, some damage to crops was noted in southwest counties due to cold wet weather conditions which reduced quality and volume. The lowest temperatures of the season were recorded across the citrus growing area during February. Citrus processing plants ran at full capacity during the month. Early and midseason oranges were harvested and processed. Harvesting of Hamlin, Navel, and Pineapple oranges, as well as early tangerines continued throughout the month. Valencia oranges, Honey tangerines, colored grapefruit, a small amount of white grapefruit, and midseason oranges were being harvested for fresh fruit. Some pastures were in poor condition due to standing water and frost. Ranchers were providing supplemental feed due to lack of forage crops.

Texas experienced moderate weather conditions for the month of February. Precipitation throughout the State was scarce with the eastern part of the State receiving the highest levels ranging from trace amounts to upwards of 3 inches. Hail was experienced in areas of the Edwards Plateau, North East, and South Texas. Winter wheat conditions throughout Texas were rated fair to good during February. Cotton harvest concluded during the first half of the month. Pecan harvest was on its finishing stage. Pasture and range conditions were rated mostly fair to good. Cattle continued to be in good condition as supplemental feeding remained active across much of the State.

Crop Comments

Sugarcane: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2015 is forecast at 33.2 million tons, of which 31.7 million tons are expected to be utilized for sugar and 1.58 million tons for seed. Total production is up 1 percent from last month and up 9 percent from the previous year. Producers intend to harvest 891,700 acres for sugar and seed during the 2015 crop year, unchanged from the previous forecast. Expected yield for sugar and seed is forecast at 37.3 tons per acre, up 0.2 ton from the previous forecast and up 2.3 tons per acre from the previous season. Hawaii, Louisiana, and Texas sugarcane estimates were carried forward from the *Crop Production 2015 Summary* released in January 2016.

Grapefruit: The United States 2015-2016 grapefruit crop is forecast at 807,000 tons, up 1 percent from last month's forecast but down 7 percent from last season's final utilization. In Florida, expected production, at 10.7 million boxes, is up 2 percent from last month but down 17 percent from last year. California and Texas grapefruit production forecasts were carried forward from the previous forecast.

Tangelos: Florida's tangelo forecast is 400,000 boxes (18,000 tons), unchanged from last month but down 41 percent from last season's final utilization. The production is the lowest since the 1958-1959 season. The Row Count Survey conducted February 29 and March 1 showed 89 percent of the rows were harvested.

Tangerines and mandarins: The United States tangerine and mandarin crop is forecast at 907,000 tons, down slightly from last month but up 8 percent last season's final utilization. If realized this will be the largest production ever recorded. The Florida forecast is down 7 percent from the previous month and down 38 percent from last year. The California tangerine and mandarin production forecast was carried forward from the previous forecast. Estimates for Arizona have been discontinued.

Florida citrus: In the citrus growing region, reported daily high temperatures were cooler than average for this time of the year. Although a couple days early in the month reached 80 degrees or higher, most highs were in the mid to lower 70s, with a few days never getting above the mid-60s. Rainfall, for the first time in several months, was below historical averages. About half the monitored weather stations recorded less than two inches of rainfall for the month. In Desoto County both Arcadia and Joshua recorded above three inches of rainfall for the month. Canals and ditches remained full in all areas due to the excessive rainfall earlier in the season. According to the March 1, 2016 U.S. Drought Monitor, the entire citrus region was drought free.

Trees in well cared for groves looked healthy. Growers were removing dead or dying trees in most areas. Bloom was in various stages across the citrus region. Some trees bloomed early and already had small fruit forming on the trees, while other groves showed only a few white pedals on healthy trees.

All processing plants transitioned from early-midseason oranges to the later variety Valencia oranges. Only a few plants processed grapefruit, mostly eliminations from groves spot picked for fresh fruit. At the beginning of the month, packinghouses were accepting early and midseason oranges, Honey tangerines, tangelos, and grapefruit, but by the end of the month most were taking Valencia oranges. Red grapefruit groves that had been spot picked were being revisited a second or third time. Caretakers were hedging and topping trees after harvest. Some growers were fertilizing and spraying. Limited mowing, mostly before harvest, was done on an as needed basis.

California citrus: Early rains in February slowed the harvesting of citrus. Citrus packing houses continued to pack Navel, Cara Cara and Blood oranges, lemons, Mandarins, and Minneola tangelos. Melo Gold and Oro Blanco hybrid grapefruit were packed for shipment to domestic and foreign markets. Citrus groves continued to be pruned and skirted, with pruned brush being shredded. In Ventura County, high winds and low humidity caused Valencia orange trees to lose excessive amounts of oranges. New citrus trees continued to be planted to replace old groves. Seedless tangerines were netted to prevent cross pollination during the upcoming citrus bloom season.

California noncitrus fruits and nuts: Pruning of various fruit trees continued, where soil conditions allowed. Fair weather allowed for winter weed spraying to continue. A few varieties of stone fruit began to bloom early in the central portion of the State. Manual weed control was performed on berms along with pre-emergent herbicides. Kiwifruit were harvested and packed for shipment. In Sutter County, pitted and natural condition prunes were packed and shipped for domestic and foreign consumption. Pruning, tying of trellises, and application of herbicide in vineyards continued in many counties throughout the month. In Tulare County, numerous early varieties of stone fruit were in full bloom. Pomegranate orchards continued to be pruned. In Stanislaus County, herbicides were applied to the floors of cherry orchards. In San Joaquin County, pruning in cherry orchards and vineyards continued. In Madera County, plums were blooming and the pruning of grapevines continued. Beehives continued to arrive to be placed in almond orchards in several counties. In Madera County, bud swell in almonds were reported early in the month. In San Joaquin County, reports were received of almonds still pushing buds with some beginning to bloom. In Sutter County, almond began to bloom at mid-month. In Fresno, Madera, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, and Tulare Counties, early varieties of almonds orchards were reported to be in full bloom, while some late variety almond orchards were beginning to bloom. Throughout the month, nut packing houses continued to pack shelled and in-shell walnuts, shelled pecans, and pistachios for domestic and foreign markets.

Statistical Methodology

Survey procedures: The orange objective yield survey for the March 1 forecast was conducted in Florida, which accounts for nearly 60 percent of the United States production. Bearing tree numbers are determined at the start of the season based on a fruit tree inventory conducted every year, combined with ongoing review based on administrative data or special surveys. From mid-July to mid-September, the number of fruit per tree is determined. In August and subsequent months, fruit size measurement and fruit droppage surveys are conducted, which are combined with the previous components to develop the current forecast of production. California and Texas conduct grower and packer surveys on a quarterly basis in October, January, April, and July. California also conducts objective measurement surveys in September for Navel oranges and in March for Valencia oranges.

Estimating procedures: State level objective yield estimates for Florida oranges were reviewed for errors, reasonableness, and consistency with historical estimates. The Florida Field Office submits its analysis of the current situation to the Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB). The ASB uses the Florida survey data and their analyses to prepare the published March 1 forecast. Reports from growers and packers in California and Texas were also used for setting estimates. These three States submit their analyses of the current situation to the Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB). The ASB uses the survey data and the State analyses to prepare the published March 1 forecast.

Revision policy: The March 1 production forecasts will not be revised. A new forecast will be made each month throughout the growing season. End-of-season estimates will be published in the *Citrus Fruits Summary* released in September. The production estimates are based on all data available at the end of the marketing season, including information from marketing orders, shipments, and processor records. Allowances are made for recorded local utilization and home use.

Reliability: To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the March 1 production forecasts, the "Root Mean Square Error," a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the March 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 March 1 orange production forecast is 3.0 percent. However, if the three abnormal production seasons (one freeze season and two hurricane seasons) are excluded, the “Root Mean Square Error” is 3.2 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current orange production forecast will not be above or below the final estimates by more than 3.0 percent, or 3.2 percent excluding abnormal seasons. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 5.3 percent, or 5.5 percent excluding abnormal seasons.

Changes between the March 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 210,000 tons (218,000 tons, excluding abnormal seasons), ranging from 18,000 tons to 600,000 tons regardless of exclusions. The March 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 9 times and above 11 times (below 8 times and above 9 times, excluding abnormal seasons). The difference does not imply that the March 1 forecasts this year are likely to understate or overstate final production.

USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

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