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Orange Production Down 2 Percent from December Forecast

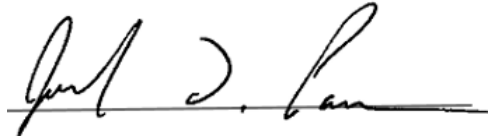
The United States all orange forecast for the 2020-2021 season is 4.53 million tons, down 2 percent from the previous forecast and down 13 percent from the 2019-2020 final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 54.0 million boxes (2.43 million tons), is down 4 percent from the previous forecast and down 20 percent from last season's final utilization. In Florida, early, midseason, and Navel varieties are forecast at 20.0 million boxes (900,000 tons), down 9 percent from the previous forecast and down 33 percent from last season's final utilization. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 34.0 million boxes (1.53 million tons), is unchanged from the previous forecast but down 10 percent from last season's final utilization.

The California all orange forecast is 51.0 million boxes (2.04 million tons), up 1 percent from the previous forecast but down 4 percent from last season's final utilization. The California Navel orange forecast is 42.0 million boxes (1.68 million tons), is unchanged from the previous forecast but down 5 percent from last season's final utilization. The California Valencia orange forecast is 9.0 million boxes (360,000 tons), is up 6 percent from the previous forecast but unchanged from last season's final utilization. The Texas all orange forecast, at 1.50 million boxes (64,000 tons), is unchanged from the previous forecast but up 12 percent from last season's final utilization.

This report was approved on January 12, 2021.



Secretary of
Agriculture
Sonny Perdue



Agricultural Statistics Board
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Utilized Production of Citrus Fruits by Crop – States and United States: 2019-2020 and Forecasted January 1, 2021

[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 | |
|--|--|----------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | 2019-2020 (1,000 boxes) | 2020-2021 (1,000 boxes) | 2019-2020 (1,000 tons) | 2020-2021 (1,000 tons) |
| Oranges | | | | |
| California, all | 53,300 | 51,000 | 2,132 | 2,040 |
| Early, mid, and Navel ² | 44,300 | 42,000 | 1,772 | 1,680 |
| Valencia | 9,000 | 9,000 | 360 | 360 |
| Florida, all | 67,300 | 54,000 | 3,028 | 2,430 |
| Early, mid, and Navel ² | 29,650 | 20,000 | 1,334 | 900 |
| Valencia | 37,650 | 34,000 | 1,694 | 1,530 |
| Texas, all | 1,340 | 1,500 | 57 | 64 |
| Early, mid, and Navel ² | 1,150 | 1,300 | 49 | 55 |
| Valencia | 190 | 200 | 8 | 9 |
| United States, all | 121,940 | 106,500 | 5,217 | 4,534 |
| Early, mid, and Navel ² | 75,100 | 63,300 | 3,155 | 2,635 |
| Valencia | 46,840 | 43,200 | 2,062 | 1,899 |
| Grapefruit | | | | |
| California | 3,800 | 4,200 | 152 | 168 |
| Florida, all | 4,850 | 4,600 | 207 | 196 |
| Red ³ | 4,060 | (NA) | 173 | (NA) |
| White ³ | 790 | (NA) | 34 | (NA) |
| Texas | 4,400 | 5,000 | 176 | 200 |
| United States | 13,050 | 13,800 | 535 | 564 |
| Tangerines and mandarins ⁴ | | | | |
| California | 22,000 | 23,000 | 880 | 920 |
| Florida | 1,020 | 1,100 | 48 | 52 |
| United States | 23,020 | 24,100 | 928 | 972 |
| Lemons | | | | |
| Arizona | 1,800 | 1,900 | 72 | 76 |
| California | 25,700 | 24,000 | 1,028 | 960 |
| United States | 27,500 | 25,900 | 1,100 | 1,036 |

(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 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 discontinued in 2020-2021.

⁴ Includes tangelos and tangors.

Hay Stocks on Farms – States and United States: May 1 and December 1, 2019 and 2020

| State | May 1 | | December 1 | |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | 2019 (1,000 tons) | 2020 (1,000 tons) | 2019 (1,000 tons) | 2020 (1,000 tons) |
| Alabama | 200 | 120 | 1,100 | 1,800 |
| Arizona | 35 | 45 | 280 | 300 |
| Arkansas | 190 | 340 | 2,000 | 1,800 |
| California | 270 | 420 | 1,350 | 1,640 |
| Colorado | 300 | 410 | 2,000 | 1,700 |
| Connecticut | 6 | 8 | 43 | 30 |
| Delaware | 2 | 2 | 16 | 10 |
| Florida | 80 | 80 | 540 | 520 |
| Georgia | 265 | 170 | 1,110 | 1,210 |
| Idaho | 400 | 490 | 2,400 | 2,500 |
| Illinois | 175 | 220 | 750 | 1,000 |
| Indiana | 130 | 140 | 730 | 800 |
| Iowa | 345 | 510 | 2,180 | 2,430 |
| Kansas | 630 | 1,420 | 5,300 | 5,000 |
| Kentucky | 500 | 625 | 3,000 | 3,825 |
| Louisiana | 55 | 120 | 660 | 660 |
| Maine | 22 | 30 | 115 | 150 |
| Maryland | 78 | 60 | 315 | 290 |
| Massachusetts | 12 | 8 | 55 | 60 |
| Michigan | 180 | 220 | 930 | 900 |
| Minnesota | 280 | 360 | 1,690 | 2,240 |
| Mississippi | 100 | 130 | 960 | 1,050 |
| Missouri | 480 | 1,410 | 6,900 | 6,000 |
| Montana | 1,100 | 1,040 | 5,100 | 4,800 |
| Nebraska | 1,070 | 1,380 | 4,200 | 4,200 |
| Nevada | 65 | 80 | 935 | 400 |
| New Hampshire | 6 | 7 | 30 | 36 |
| New Jersey | 16 | 29 | 70 | 90 |
| New Mexico | 105 | 50 | 330 | 210 |
| New York | 260 | 350 | 1,600 | 1,000 |
| North Carolina | 235 | 180 | 1,300 | 1,120 |
| North Dakota | 1,000 | 1,290 | 4,200 | 3,700 |
| Ohio | 180 | 220 | 1,250 | 1,300 |
| Oklahoma | 740 | 1,350 | 4,200 | 4,100 |
| Oregon | 170 | 400 | 1,900 | 1,600 |
| Pennsylvania | 290 | 350 | 1,650 | 1,410 |
| Rhode Island | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| South Carolina | 95 | 75 | 360 | 400 |
| South Dakota | 1,200 | 2,350 | 6,250 | 5,800 |
| Tennessee | 485 | 425 | 2,900 | 2,930 |
| Texas | 1,550 | 1,950 | 5,600 | 6,400 |
| Utah | 280 | 300 | 1,300 | 1,250 |
| Vermont | 48 | 36 | 165 | 145 |
| Virginia | 270 | 310 | 1,800 | 2,050 |
| Washington | 290 | 160 | 1,050 | 1,100 |
| West Virginia | 75 | 95 | 660 | 770 |
| Wisconsin | 330 | 310 | 1,770 | 1,790 |
| Wyoming | 310 | 350 | 1,440 | 1,500 |
| United States | 14,906 | 20,426 | 84,488 | 84,020 |

Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Domestic Units – United States: 2020 and 2021

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2021 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

| Crop | Area planted | | Area harvested | |
|---|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| | 2020 | 2021 | 2020 | 2021 |
| | (1,000 acres) | (1,000 acres) | (1,000 acres) | (1,000 acres) |
| Grains and hay | | | | |
| Barley | 2,621 | | 2,133 | |
| Corn for grain ¹ | 90,819 | | 82,467 | |
| Corn for silage | (NA) | | 6,719 | |
| Hay, all | (NA) | | 52,238 | |
| Alfalfa | (NA) | | 16,230 | |
| All other | (NA) | | 36,008 | |
| Oats | 2,984 | | 1,004 | |
| Proso millet | 609 | | 484 | |
| Rice | 3,036 | | 2,987 | |
| Rye | 1,955 | | 330 | |
| Sorghum for grain ¹ | 5,880 | | 5,095 | |
| Sorghum for silage | (NA) | | 239 | |
| Wheat, all | 44,349 | | 36,746 | |
| Winter | 30,415 | 31,991 | 23,024 | |
| Durum | 1,684 | | 1,662 | |
| Other spring | 12,250 | | 12,060 | |
| Oilseeds | | | | |
| Canola | 1,825.0 | | 1,789.0 | |
| Cottonseed | (X) | | (X) | |
| Flaxseed | 305 | | 296 | |
| Mustard seed | 97.0 | | 91.4 | |
| Peanuts | 1,664.2 | | 1,615.8 | |
| Rapeseed | 11.2 | | 10.1 | |
| Safflower | 136.0 | | 126.7 | |
| Soybeans for beans | 83,084 | | 82,318 | |
| Sunflower | 1,718.7 | | 1,665.7 | |
| Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops | | | | |
| Cotton, all | 12,092.5 | | 8,701.5 | |
| Upland | 11,890.0 | | 8,507.0 | |
| American Pima | 202.5 | | 194.5 | |
| Sugarbeets | 1,162.2 | | 1,142.3 | |
| Sugarcane | (NA) | | 940.5 | |
| Tobacco | (NA) | | 198.1 | |
| Dry beans, peas, and lentils | | | | |
| Chickpeas | 269.8 | | 262.9 | |
| Dry edible beans | 1,740.0 | | 1,676.5 | |
| Dry edible peas | 1,002.0 | | 976.0 | |
| Lentils | 528.0 | | 514.0 | |
| Potatoes and miscellaneous | | | | |
| Hops | (NA) | | 58.6 | |
| Maple syrup | (NA) | | (NA) | |
| Mushrooms | (NA) | | (NA) | |
| Peppermint oil | (NA) | | 50.1 | |
| Potatoes | 921.0 | | 914.1 | |
| Spearmint oil | (NA) | | 17.7 | |

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Domestic Units – United States:
2020 and 2021 (continued)**

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2021 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

| Crop | Yield per acre | | Production | |
|---|----------------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | 2020 | 2021 | 2020 (1,000) | 2021 (1,000) |
| Grains and hay | | | | |
| Barley | bushels | 77.5 | 165,324 | |
| Corn for grain | bushels | 172.0 | 14,182,479 | |
| Corn for silage | tons | 20.5 | 137,729 | |
| Hay, all | tons | 2.43 | 126,812 | |
| Alfalfa | tons | 3.27 | 53,067 | |
| All other | tons | 2.05 | 73,745 | |
| Oats | bushels | 65.1 | 65,355 | |
| Proso millet | bushels | 19.0 | 9,210 | |
| Rice ² | cwt | 7,619 | 227,583 | |
| Rye | bushels | 34.9 | 11,532 | |
| Sorghum for grain | bushels | 73.2 | 372,960 | |
| Sorghum for silage | tons | 13.1 | 3,125 | |
| Wheat, all | bushels | 49.7 | 1,825,820 | |
| Winter | bushels | 50.9 | 1,171,022 | |
| Durum | bushels | 41.4 | 68,808 | |
| Other spring | bushels | 48.6 | 585,990 | |
| Oilseeds | | | | |
| Canola | pounds | 1,931 | 3,454,950 | |
| Cottonseed | tons | (X) | 4,587.0 | |
| Flaxseed | bushels | 19.3 | 5,706 | |
| Mustard seed | pounds | 895 | 81,770 | |
| Peanuts | pounds | 3,796 | 6,133,900 | |
| Rapeseed | pounds | 1,971 | 19,910 | |
| Safflower | pounds | 1,167 | 147,800 | |
| Soybeans for beans | bushels | 50.2 | 4,135,477 | |
| Sunflower | pounds | 1,790 | 2,982,410 | |
| Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops | | | | |
| Cotton, all ² | bales | 825 | 14,953.0 | |
| Upland ² | bales | 813 | 14,401.0 | |
| American Pima ² | bales | 1,362 | 552.0 | |
| Sugarbeets | tons | 29.4 | 33,618 | |
| Sugarcane | tons | 37.7 | 35,457 | |
| Tobacco | pounds | 1,966 | 389,413 | |
| Dry beans, peas, and lentils | | | | |
| Chickpeas ² | cwt | 1,625 | 4,273 | |
| Dry edible beans ² | cwt | 1,966 | 32,963 | |
| Dry edible peas ² | cwt | 2,235 | 21,813 | |
| Lentils ² | cwt | 1,442 | 7,411 | |
| Potatoes and miscellaneous | | | | |
| Hops | pounds | 1,770 | 103,810.3 | |
| Maple syrup | gallons | (NA) | 4,372 | |
| Mushrooms | pounds | (NA) | 816,367 | |
| Peppermint oil | pounds | 99 | 4,984 | |
| Potatoes | cwt | 453 | 414,248 | |
| Spearmint oil | pounds | 121 | 2,134 | |

(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: 2020 and 2021

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2021 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

| Crop | Area planted | | Area harvested | |
|---|--------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| | 2020 | 2021 | 2020 | 2021 |
| | (hectares) | (hectares) | (hectares) | (hectares) |
| Grains and hay | | | | |
| Barley | 1,060,690 | | 863,200 | |
| Corn for grain ¹ | 36,753,540 | | 33,373,570 | |
| Corn for silage | (NA) | | 2,719,110 | |
| Hay, all ² | (NA) | | 21,140,200 | |
| Alfalfa | (NA) | | 6,568,120 | |
| All other | (NA) | | 14,572,080 | |
| Oats | 1,207,590 | | 406,310 | |
| Proso millet | 246,460 | | 195,870 | |
| Rice | 1,228,640 | | 1,208,810 | |
| Rye | 791,170 | | 133,550 | |
| Sorghum for grain ¹ | 2,379,580 | | 2,061,900 | |
| Sorghum for silage | (NA) | | 96,720 | |
| Wheat, all ² | 17,947,600 | | 14,870,740 | |
| Winter | 12,308,650 | 12,946,440 | 9,317,580 | |
| Durum | 681,500 | | 672,590 | |
| Other spring | 4,957,450 | | 4,880,560 | |
| Oilseeds | | | | |
| Canola | 738,560 | | 723,990 | |
| Cottonseed | (X) | | (X) | |
| Flaxseed | 123,430 | | 119,790 | |
| Mustard seed | 39,250 | | 36,990 | |
| Peanuts | 673,490 | | 653,900 | |
| Rapeseed | 4,530 | | 4,090 | |
| Safflower | 55,040 | | 51,270 | |
| Soybeans for beans | 33,623,260 | | 33,313,270 | |
| Sunflower | 695,540 | | 674,090 | |
| Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops | | | | |
| Cotton, all ² | 4,893,710 | | 3,521,410 | |
| Upland | 4,811,760 | | 3,442,700 | |
| American Pima | 81,950 | | 78,710 | |
| Sugarbeets | 470,330 | | 462,280 | |
| Sugarcane | (NA) | | 380,610 | |
| Tobacco | (NA) | | 80,150 | |
| Dry beans, peas, and lentils | | | | |
| Chickpeas | 109,190 | | 106,390 | |
| Dry edible beans | 704,160 | | 678,460 | |
| Dry edible peas | 404,290 | | 393,760 | |
| Lentils | 213,680 | | 208,010 | |
| Potatoes and miscellaneous | | | | |
| Hops | (NA) | | 23,730 | |
| Maple syrup | (NA) | | (NA) | |
| Mushrooms | (NA) | | (NA) | |
| Peppermint oil | (NA) | | 20,270 | |
| Potatoes | 372,720 | | 369,930 | |
| Spearmint oil | (NA) | | 7,160 | |

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Metric Units – United States:
2020 and 2021 (continued)**

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2021 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

| Crop | Yield per hectare | | Production | |
|---|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 2020 | 2021 | 2020 | 2021 |
| | (metric tons) | (metric tons) | (metric tons) | (metric tons) |
| Grains and hay | | | | |
| Barley | 4.17 | | 3,599,510 | |
| Corn for grain | 10.79 | | 360,251,560 | |
| Corn for silage | 45.95 | | 124,945,650 | |
| Hay, all ² | 5.44 | | 115,041,910 | |
| Alfalfa | 7.33 | | 48,141,570 | |
| All other | 4.59 | | 66,900,340 | |
| Oats | 2.33 | | 948,630 | |
| Proso millet | 1.07 | | 208,880 | |
| Rice | 8.54 | | 10,322,990 | |
| Rye | 2.19 | | 292,930 | |
| Sorghum for grain | 4.59 | | 9,473,620 | |
| Sorghum for silage | 29.31 | | 2,834,950 | |
| Wheat, all ² | 3.34 | | 49,690,680 | |
| Winter | 3.42 | | 31,870,000 | |
| Durum | 2.78 | | 1,872,650 | |
| Other spring | 3.27 | | 15,948,030 | |
| Oilseeds | | | | |
| Canola | 2.16 | | 1,567,140 | |
| Cottonseed | (X) | | 4,161,260 | |
| Flaxseed | 1.21 | | 144,940 | |
| Mustard seed | 1.00 | | 37,090 | |
| Peanuts | 4.25 | | 2,782,290 | |
| Rapeseed | 2.21 | | 9,030 | |
| Safflower | 1.31 | | 67,040 | |
| Soybeans for beans | 3.38 | | 112,549,240 | |
| Sunflower | 2.01 | | 1,352,800 | |
| Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops | | | | |
| Cotton, all ² | 0.92 | | 3,255,630 | |
| Upland | 0.91 | | 3,135,450 | |
| American Pima | 1.53 | | 120,180 | |
| Sugarbeets | 65.97 | | 30,497,740 | |
| Sugarcane | 84.51 | | 32,166,050 | |
| Tobacco | 2.20 | | 176,630 | |
| Dry beans, peas, and lentils | | | | |
| Chickpeas | 1.82 | | 193,820 | |
| Dry edible beans | 2.20 | | 1,495,180 | |
| Dry edible peas | 2.50 | | 985,790 | |
| Lentils | 1.62 | | 336,160 | |
| Potatoes and miscellaneous | | | | |
| Hops | 1.98 | | 47,090 | |
| Maple syrup | (NA) | | 21,860 | |
| Mushrooms | (NA) | | 370,300 | |
| Peppermint oil | 0.11 | | 2,260 | |
| Potatoes | 50.79 | | 18,789,970 | |
| Spearmint oil | 0.14 | | 970 | |

(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: 2020 and 2021

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2021 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2020-2021 season. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

| Crop | Production | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|-------|
| | 2020 | 2021 | |
| Citrus ¹ | | | |
| Grapefruit | 1,000 tons | 535 | 564 |
| Lemons | 1,000 tons | 1,100 | 1,036 |
| Oranges | 1,000 tons | 5,217 | 4,534 |
| Tangerines and mandarins | 1,000 tons | 928 | 972 |
| Noncitrus | | | |
| Apples, commercial | million pounds | 10,650.0 | |
| Apricots | tons | 34,800 | |
| Avocados | tons | | |
| Blueberries, Cultivated | 1,000 pounds | | |
| Blueberries, Wild (Maine) | 1,000 pounds | | |
| Cherries, Sweet | tons | 334,000 | |
| Cherries, Tart | million pounds | 197.0 | |
| Coffee (Hawaii) | 1,000 pounds | | |
| Cranberries | barrel | 8,970,000 | |
| Dates | tons | | |
| Grapes | tons | 7,180,000 | |
| Kiwifruit (California) | tons | | |
| Nectarines (California) | tons | | |
| Olives (California) | tons | | |
| Papayas (Hawaii) | 1,000 pounds | | |
| Peaches | tons | 645,500 | |
| Pears | tons | 800,000 | |
| Plums (California) | tons | | |
| Prunes (California) | tons | | |
| Raspberries, all | 1,000 pounds | | |
| Strawberries | 1,000 cwt | | |
| Nuts and miscellaneous | | | |
| Almonds, shelled (California) | 1,000 pounds | 3,000,000 | |
| Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon) | tons | 71,000 | |
| Macadamias (Hawaii) | 1,000 pounds | | |
| Pecans, in-shell | 1,000 pounds | 306,500 | |
| Pistachios (California) | 1,000 pounds | | |
| Walnuts, in-shell (California) | tons | 780,000 | |

¹ Production years are 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

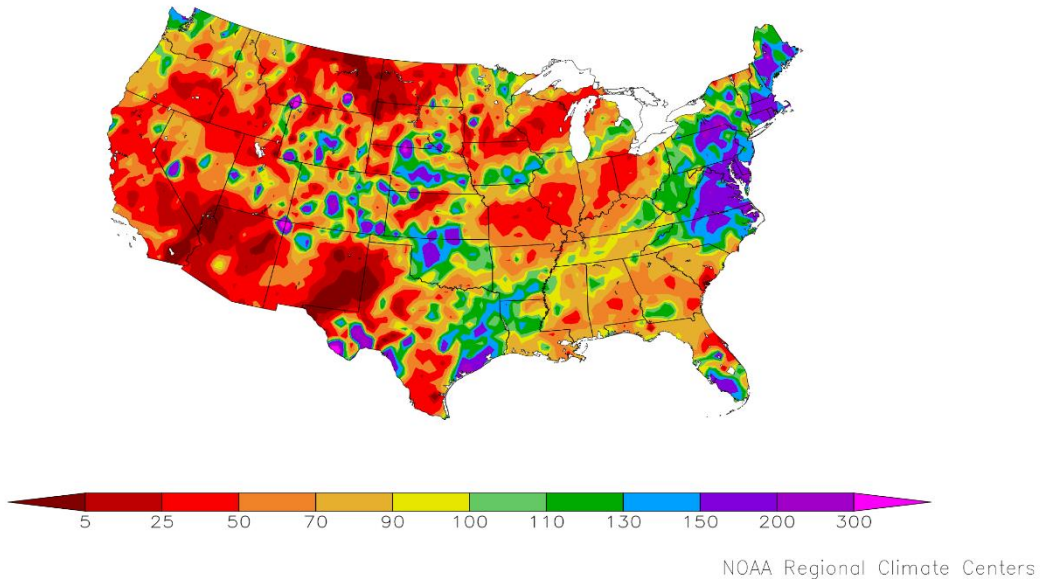
Fruits and Nuts Production in Metric Units – United States: 2020 and 2021

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2021 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2020-2021 season. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

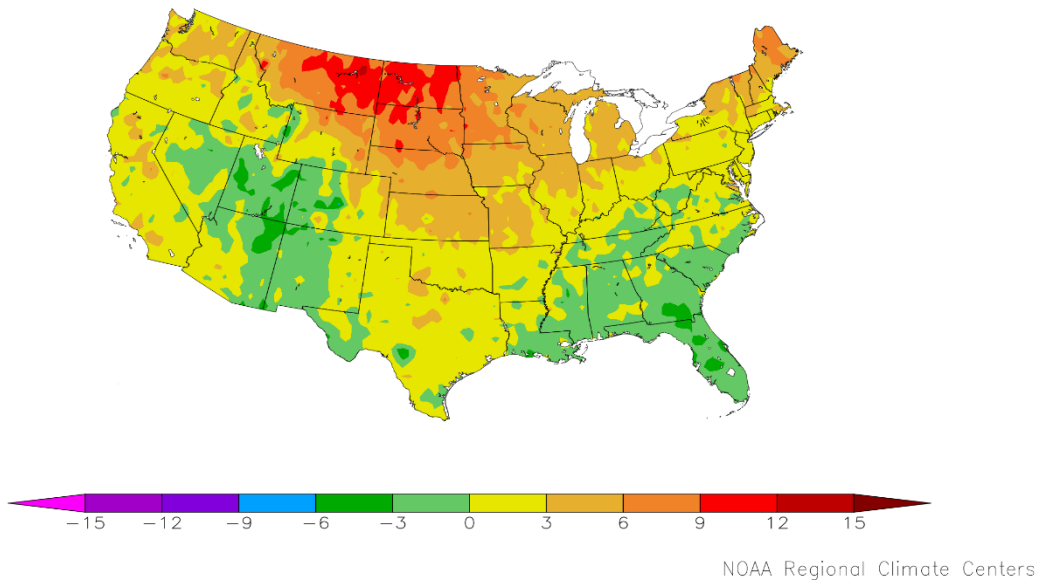
| Crop | Production | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | 2020 (metric tons) | 2021 (metric tons) |
| Citrus¹ | | |
| Grapefruit | 485,340 | 511,650 |
| Lemons | 997,900 | 939,840 |
| Oranges | 4,732,780 | 4,113,180 |
| Tangerines and mandarins | 841,870 | 881,780 |
| Noncitrus | | |
| Apples, commercial | 4,830,760 | |
| Apricots | 31,570 | |
| Avocados | | |
| Blueberries, Cultivated | | |
| Blueberries, Wild (Maine) | | |
| Cherries, Sweet | 303,000 | |
| Cherries, Tart | 89,360 | |
| Coffee (Hawaii) | | |
| Cranberries | 406,870 | |
| Dates | | |
| Grapes | 6,513,590 | |
| Kiwifruit (California) | | |
| Nectarines (California) | | |
| Olives (California) | | |
| Papayas (Hawaii) | | |
| Peaches | 585,590 | |
| Pears | 725,750 | |
| Plums (California) | | |
| Prunes (California) | | |
| Raspberries, all | | |
| Strawberries | | |
| Nuts and miscellaneous | | |
| Almonds, shelled (California) | 1,360,780 | |
| Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon) | 64,410 | |
| Macadamias (Hawaii) | | |
| Pecans, in-shell | 139,030 | |
| Pistachios (California) | | |
| Walnuts, in-shell (California) | 707,600 | |

¹ Production years are 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
12/1/2020 – 12/31/2020



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
12/1/2020 – 12/31/2020



December Weather Summary

Mild weather and occasional storms benefited winter wheat across the Nation's mid-section, with crop conditions improving across the Great Plains between late November and the end of the year. Wheat rated in very poor to poor condition at the end of December stood at 5 percent in Montana, 8 percent in South Dakota, 15 percent in Nebraska, 17 percent in Kansas, and 34 percent in Colorado, compared to respective November 29 values of 10, 11, 26, 22, and 38 percent. Despite the mostly favorable December weather, significant soil moisture shortages persisted across parts of the Plains. By December 31, topsoil moisture was rated at least one-half very short to short in several states, including Colorado (77 percent), North Dakota (71 percent), Montana (61 percent), South Dakota (59 percent) and Nebraska (56 percent).

Meanwhile, significant drought persisted from Oregon and California to the central and southern Rockies. By December 29, drought covered 78.6 percent of the 11-state Western region and 49.0 percent of the contiguous United States, according to the *Drought Monitor*. A week earlier, National drought coverage had reached a 7-year high, peaking at 49.6 percent. By month's end, the average water equivalency of the high-elevation Sierra Nevada snowpack stood at just over 5 inches, barely one-half of late-December normal and about one-fifth of the typical spring maximum. Spring and summer water-supply concerns continued to mount in areas already experiencing below-average reservoir storage; that list included California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, and Oregon. In contrast, a La Niña-driven storm track primarily affected the Pacific Northwest, delivering heavy precipitation across western Washington.

Although heavy snow bypassed much of the West, occasional December accumulations occurred from the Plains into the Midwest and Northeast. At mid-month, one of the most significant winter storms in several years deposited 1 to 3 feet of snow in parts of the Northeast. On December 3, a holiday storm produced blizzard conditions in the upper Midwest and sparked a rain-to-snow event (on December 24-25) from the Appalachians into the lower Great Lakes region. A sharp, but short-lived, cold outbreak trailed the wintry weather into the Midwest and East. By December 26, freezes occurred as far south as northern Florida, remaining north of the State's citrus, sugarcane, strawberries, and winter vegetables. Other cool spells in Florida peaked on December 1-2, 8-9, and 17-18.

However, significant early-winter cold outbreaks were scarce, as December temperatures averaged more than 10°F above normal in parts of North Dakota and eastern Montana. In fact, near- or above-normal temperatures covered the country, except for cooler-than-normal conditions in the southern Atlantic States and parts of the Southwest. Despite a cool December, the warmest year on record wrapped up in numerous Southeastern locations, mainly across Florida, but extending as far north as the mid-Atlantic. In addition, several communities in Virginia, including Lynchburg and Roanoke, as well as some places in neighboring States, completed a record-wet year. Southeastern wetness hampered late-season harvest efforts for crops such as cotton and soybeans.

December Agricultural Summary

Most of the Nation's midsection was warmer than average during the month of December. Large parts of the Northern Plains recorded temperatures 6°F or more above normal. In the western third of the Nation temperatures were moderately cooler than normal for large parts of the Southwest, while moderately warmer temperatures were recorded in California and the Pacific Northwest. Large parts of the Northern Rockies were 6°F or more above normal for the month. In the eastern third of the Nation, generally cooler than normal temperatures were recorded in the lower Mississippi Valley and the Southeast. Parts of Georgia and Florida were 3°F or more below normal. In contrast, the Northeast was generally warmer than normal with large parts of New England recording temperatures 3°F or more above normal for the month. While much of the Nation remained drier than normal for the month of December, above normal amounts of precipitation were recorded in large parts of the mid-Atlantic and the Northeast. Pockets in the Delta, Florida, Nevada, the Southern and Central Plains, the Pacific Northwest, the Rockies, and Texas, also received higher than normal precipitation amounts.

Nationwide, 92 percent of the winter wheat acreage was emerged by November 29, three percentage points ahead of last year and 1 percentage point ahead of the 5-year average. As of November 29, forty-six percent of the 2021 winter wheat acreage was reported in good to excellent condition, 6 percentage points below the same time last year.

By November 29, eighty-four percent of the Nation's cotton acreage was harvested, 2 percentage points ahead of last year and 5 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

Ninety-six percent of the Nation's peanut acreage was harvested as of November 29, two percentage points behind last year but equal to the 5-year average.

By November 29, ninety-seven percent of the Nation's sunflower crop was harvested, 35 percentage points ahead of last year and 10 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

Crop Comments

Grapefruit: The United States 2020-2021 grapefruit crop is forecast at 564,000 tons, up 5 percent from both the previous forecast and last season's final utilization. In Texas, expected production, at 5.0 million boxes (200,000 tons), is up 2 percent from previous forecast and up 14 percent from the 2019-2020 season.

Lemons: The 2020-2021 United States lemon crop is forecast at 1.04 million tons, up 11 percent from previous forecast but down 6 percent from last season's final utilization. The California forecast, at 24.0 million boxes (960,000 tons), is up 9 percent from the previous forecast but down 7 percent from the 2019-2020 season.

Tangerines and mandarins: The United States tangerine and mandarin crop is forecast at 972,000 tons, unchanged from the previous forecast but up 5 percent from last season's final utilization. The Florida tangerine and mandarin forecast, at 1.10 million boxes (52,000 tons) is unchanged from the previous forecast but up 8 percent from last season. The California tangerine and mandarin forecast at 23.0 million boxes (920,000 tons) is unchanged from the previous forecast but up 5 percent from 2019-2020 season.

Hay stocks on farms: All hay stored on United States farms as of December 1, 2020 totaled 84.0 million tons, down 1 percent from December 1, 2019, which is the third lowest December 1 stocks since 1977. Disappearance from May 1, 2020 - December 1, 2020 totaled 63.2 million tons, up 7 percent from the same period in 2019.

Record low December 1 hay stock levels were estimated in Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island. During Autumn, dryness encroached upon New England resulting in a shorter grazing season. As a result, livestock producers began to feed hay stocks a bit earlier than expected.

Statistical Methodology

Survey procedures: The orange objective yield survey for the January 1 forecast was conducted in Florida. In August and September, the number of bearing trees and the number of fruit per tree is determined. In August and subsequent months, fruit size measurement and fruit droppage surveys are conducted, which combined with the previous components are used to develop the current forecast of production. California and Texas conduct grower on a quarterly basis in October, January, April, and July. California conducts an objective measurement survey 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. Reports from growers 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 January 1 forecast.

Revision policy: The January 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 January 1 production forecasts, the "Root Mean Square Error," a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the January 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 January 1 orange production forecast is 5.2 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 5.2 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 8.9 percent.

Changes between the January 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 298,000 tons, ranging from 2,000 tons to 843,000 tons. The January 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 6 times and above 14 times. The difference does not imply that the January 1 forecast this year is likely to understate or overstate final production.

Reliability of January 1 Crop Production Forecasts

[Based on data for the past twenty years]

| Crop | Root mean square error | 90 percent confidence interval | Difference between forecast and final estimate | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|--|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|
| | | | Production | | | Years | |
| | | | Average | Smallest | Largest | Below final | Above final |
| Oranges ¹ tons | (percent) 5.2 | (percent) 8.9 | (millions) 298 | (millions) 2 | (millions) 843 | (number) 6 | (number) 14 |

¹ Quantity is in thousands of units.

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@usda.gov

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|---|----------------|
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| Joshua Bates – Oats, Soybeans | (202) 690-3234 |
| David Colwell – Current Agricultural Industrial Reports | (202) 720-8800 |
| Becky Sommer – Cotton, Cotton Ginnings, Sorghum | (202) 720-5944 |
| James Johanson – Barley, County Estimates, Hay | (202) 690-8533 |
| Greg Lemmons – Corn, Flaxseed, Proso Millet | (202) 720-9526 |
| Jean Porter – Rye, Wheat | (202) 720-8068 |
| John Stephens – Peanuts, Rice | (202) 720-7688 |
| Travis Thorson – Sunflower, Other Oilseeds | (202) 720-7369 |
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| Anastasiya Osborne – Almonds, Apples, Asparagus, Carrots, Coffee, Onions Plums, Prunes, Sweet Corn, Tobacco | (202) 720-4288 |
| Krishna Rizal – Artichokes, Cauliflower, Celery, Grapefruit, Garlic, Hazelnuts, Kiwifruit, Lemons, Mandarins and tangerines, Mint, Mushrooms, Olives, Oranges | (202) 720-5412 |
| Fleming Gibson – Avocados, Bell Peppers, Broccoli, Cabbage, Chickpeas, Chile Peppers, Dates, Floriculture, Grapes, Hops, Pecans | (202) 720-2127 |
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