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Released February 8, 2018, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

## Orange Production Down 1 Percent from January Forecast

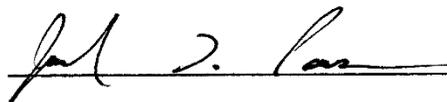
**The United States all orange** forecast for the 2017-2018 season is 3.94 million tons, down 1 percent from last month and down 24 percent from the 2016-2017 final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 45.0 million boxes (2.03 million tons), is down 2 percent from last month and down 35 percent from last season's final utilization. Early, midseason, and Navel varieties in Florida are forecast at 19.0 million boxes (855,000 tons), unchanged from last month but down 42 percent from last season's final utilization. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 26.0 million boxes (1.17 million tons), is down 4 percent from last month and down 27 percent from last season's final utilization. California and Texas orange production forecasts were carried forward from the previous month.

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This report was approved on February 8, 2018.



Secretary of Agriculture  
Designate  
Robert Johansson



Agricultural Statistics Board  
Chairperson  
Joseph L. Parsons

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## Sugarcane Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by Use – States and United States: 2016 and 2017

Use and State	Area harvested		Yield per acre <sup>1</sup>		Production <sup>1</sup>	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(tons)	(tons)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)
<b>For sugar</b>						
Florida .....	400.0	397.7	40.3	39.8	16,120	15,828
Hawaii <sup>2</sup> .....	15.5	(NA)	86.2	(NA)	1,336	(NA)
Louisiana <sup>3</sup> .....	400.0	415.0	28.8	31.4	11,520	13,031
Texas <sup>3</sup> .....	37.7	40.7	37.0	36.8	1,395	1,498
United States .....	853.2	853.4	35.6	35.6	30,371	30,357
<b>For seed</b>						
Florida .....	17.0	16.1	46.1	45.0	784	725
Hawaii <sup>2</sup> .....	-	(NA)	-	(NA)	-	(NA)
Louisiana <sup>3</sup> .....	31.0	25.0	28.8	31.4	893	785
Texas <sup>3</sup> .....	1.9	1.2	37.0	42.6	70	51
United States .....	49.9	42.3	35.0	36.9	1,747	1,561
<b>For sugar and seed</b>						
Florida .....	417.0	413.8	40.5	40.0	16,904	16,553
Hawaii <sup>2</sup> .....	15.5	(NA)	86.2	(NA)	1,336	(NA)
Louisiana <sup>3</sup> .....	431.0	440.0	28.8	31.4	12,413	13,816
Texas <sup>3</sup> .....	39.6	41.9	37.0	37.0	1,465	1,549
United States .....	903.1	895.7	35.6	35.6	32,118	31,918

- Represents zero.

(NA) Not available.

<sup>1</sup> Net tons.

<sup>2</sup> Estimates discontinued in 2017.

<sup>3</sup> Estimates for current year carried forward from an earlier estimate.

## Utilized Production of Citrus Fruits by Crop – States and United States: 2016-2017 and Forecasted February 1, 2018

[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 <sup>1</sup>		Utilized production ton equivalent	
	2016-2017	2017-2018	2016-2017	2017-2018
	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)
<b>Oranges</b>				
California, all <sup>2</sup> .....	50,300	46,000	2,012	1,840
Early, mid, and Navel <sup>3</sup> .....	39,300	35,000	1,572	1,400
Valencia .....	11,000	11,000	440	440
Florida, all .....	68,750	45,000	3,094	2,025
Early, mid, and Navel <sup>3</sup> .....	33,000	19,000	1,485	855
Valencia .....	35,750	26,000	1,609	1,170
Texas, all <sup>2</sup> .....	1,370	1,830	58	78
Early, mid, and Navel <sup>3</sup> .....	1,090	1,430	46	61
Valencia .....	280	400	12	17
United States, all .....	120,420	92,830	5,164	3,943
Early, mid, and Navel <sup>3</sup> .....	73,390	55,430	3,103	2,316
Valencia .....	47,030	37,400	2,061	1,627
<b>Grapefruit</b>				
California <sup>2</sup> .....	4,000	4,200	160	168
Florida, all .....	7,760	4,650	330	198
Red .....	6,280	3,800	267	162
White .....	1,480	850	63	36
Texas <sup>2</sup> .....	4,800	4,100	192	164
United States .....	16,560	12,950	682	530
<b>Tangerines and mandarins <sup>4</sup></b>				
California <sup>2</sup> .....	23,900	21,000	956	840
Florida .....	1,620	860	77	41
United States .....	25,520	21,860	1,033	881
<b>Lemons <sup>2</sup></b>				
Arizona .....	1,650	1,250	66	50
California .....	20,500	20,500	820	820
United States .....	22,150	21,750	886	870

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Estimates for current year carried forward from previous forecast.

<sup>3</sup> Navel and miscellaneous varieties in California. Early (including Navel) and midseason varieties in Florida and Texas.

<sup>4</sup> Includes tangelos and tangors.

## Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Domestic Units – United States: 2017 and 2018

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2018 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	2,481		1,954	
Corn for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	90,167		82,703	
Corn for silage .....	(NA)		6,434	
Hay, all .....	(NA)		53,784	
Alfalfa .....	(NA)		16,563	
All other .....	(NA)		37,221	
Oats .....	2,588		801	
Proso millet .....	478		404	
Rice .....	2,463		2,374	
Rye .....	1,961		286	
Sorghum for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	5,626		5,045	
Sorghum for silage .....	(NA)		284	
Wheat, all .....	46,012		37,586	
Winter .....	32,696	32,608	25,291	
Durum .....	2,307		2,136	
Other spring .....	11,009		10,159	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	2,077.0		2,002.0	
Cottonseed .....	(X)		(X)	
Flaxseed .....	303		272	
Mustard seed .....	103.0		95.4	
Peanuts .....	1,870.6		1,775.6	
Rapeseed .....	10.1		9.7	
Safflower .....	162.0		143.2	
Soybeans for beans .....	90,142		89,522	
Sunflower .....	1,403.0		1,344.7	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all .....	12,611.5		11,348.9	
Upland .....	12,360.0		11,101.0	
American Pima .....	251.5		247.9	
Sugarbeets .....	1,131.2		1,114.1	
Sugarcane .....	(NA)		895.7	
Tobacco .....	(NA)		321.5	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Austrian winter peas .....	26.5		9.4	
Dry edible beans .....	2,092.0		2,012.7	
Chickpeas, all .....	618.8		599.3	
Large .....	439.3		424.5	
Small .....	179.5		174.8	
Dry edible peas .....	1,128.0		1,050.5	
Lentils .....	1,104.0		1,022.0	
Wrinkled seed peas .....	(NA)		(NA)	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Hops .....	(NA)		53.3	
Maple syrup .....	(NA)		(NA)	
Mushrooms .....	(NA)		(NA)	
Peppermint oil .....	(NA)		60.4	
Potatoes, all .....	1,034.3		1,025.5	
Spring .....	58.0		57.7	
Summer .....	68.3		65.5	
Fall .....	908.0		902.3	
Spearmint oil .....	(NA)		22.3	
Sweet potatoes .....	161.6		159.3	
Taro (Hawaii) .....	(NA)		0.4	

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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## Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Domestic Units – United States: 2017 and 2018 (continued)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2018 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield per acre		Production	
	2017	2018	2017 (1,000)	2018 (1,000)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	bushels	72.6	141,923	
Corn for grain .....	bushels	176.6	14,604,067	
Corn for silage .....	tons	19.9	128,356	
Hay, all .....	tons	2.44	131,455	
Alfalfa .....	tons	3.32	55,068	
All other .....	tons	2.05	76,387	
Oats .....	bushels	61.7	49,391	
Proso millet .....	bushels	36.1	14,567	
Rice <sup>2</sup> .....	cwt	7,507	178,228	
Rye .....	bushels	33.9	9,696	
Sorghum for grain .....	bushels	72.1	363,832	
Sorghum for silage .....	tons	13.3	3,772	
Wheat, all .....	bushels	46.3	1,740,582	
Winter .....	bushels	50.2	1,269,437	
Durum .....	bushels	25.7	54,909	
Other spring .....	bushels	41.0	416,236	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	pounds	1,558	3,118,680	
Cottonseed .....	tons	(X)	6,725.0	
Flaxseed .....	bushels	14.1	3,842	
Mustard seed .....	pounds	632	60,250	
Peanuts .....	pounds	4,074	7,233,600	
Rapeseed .....	pounds	2,139	20,750	
Safflower .....	pounds	1,256	179,896	
Soybeans for beans .....	bushels	49.1	4,391,553	
Sunflower .....	pounds	1,613	2,168,737	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all <sup>2</sup> .....	bales	899	21,263.0	
Upland <sup>2</sup> .....	bales	889	20,570.0	
American Pima <sup>2</sup> .....	bales	1,342	693.0	
Sugarbeets .....	tons	31.7	35,325	
Sugarcane .....	tons	35.6	31,918	
Tobacco .....	pounds	2,209	710,161	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Austrian winter peas <sup>2</sup> .....	cwt	1,330	125	
Dry edible beans <sup>2</sup> .....	cwt	1,781	35,845	
Chickpeas, all <sup>2</sup> .....	cwt	1,152	6,905	
Large <sup>2</sup> .....	cwt	1,165	4,945	
Small <sup>2</sup> .....	cwt	1,121	1,960	
Dry edible peas <sup>2</sup> .....	cwt	1,350	14,177	
Lentils <sup>2</sup> .....	cwt	732	7,482	
Wrinkled seed peas .....	cwt	(NA)	357	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Hops .....	pounds	1,959	104,366.0	
Maple syrup .....	gallons	(NA)	4,271	
Mushrooms .....	pounds	(NA)	928,605	
Peppermint oil .....	pounds	96	5,778	
Potatoes, all .....	cwt	430	441,307	
Spring .....	cwt	343	19,790	
Summer .....	cwt	331	21,679	
Fall .....	cwt	443	399,838	
Spearmint oil .....	pounds	125	2,796	
Sweet potatoes .....	cwt	224	35,646	
Taro (Hawaii) .....	pounds	10,530	3,686	

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Area planted for all purposes.

<sup>2</sup> Yield in pounds.

## Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Metric Units – United States: 2017 and 2018

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2018 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	1,004,040		790,760	
Corn for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	36,489,680		33,469,080	
Corn for silage .....	(NA)		2,603,780	
Hay, all <sup>2</sup> .....	(NA)		21,765,850	
Alfalfa .....	(NA)		6,702,880	
All other .....	(NA)		15,062,970	
Oats .....	1,047,340		324,160	
Proso millet .....	193,440		163,490	
Rice .....	996,750		960,730	
Rye .....	793,600		115,740	
Sorghum for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	2,276,790		2,041,660	
Sorghum for silage .....	(NA)		114,930	
Wheat, all <sup>2</sup> .....	18,620,600		15,210,680	
Winter .....	13,231,740	13,196,130	10,235,010	
Durum .....	933,620		864,420	
Other spring .....	4,455,230		4,111,250	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	840,540		810,190	
Cottonseed .....	(X)		(X)	
Flaxseed .....	122,620		110,080	
Mustard seed .....	41,680		38,610	
Peanuts .....	757,010		718,570	
Rapeseed .....	4,090		3,930	
Safflower .....	65,560		57,950	
Soybeans for beans .....	36,479,570		36,228,660	
Sunflower .....	567,780		544,190	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all <sup>2</sup> .....	5,103,750		4,592,790	
Upland .....	5,001,970		4,492,460	
American Pima .....	101,780		100,320	
Sugarbeets .....	457,790		450,870	
Sugarcane .....	(NA)		362,480	
Tobacco .....	(NA)		130,100	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Austrian winter peas .....	10,720		3,800	
Dry edible beans .....	846,610		814,520	
Chickpeas <sup>2</sup> .....	250,420		242,530	
Large .....	177,780		171,790	
Small .....	72,640		70,740	
Dry edible peas .....	456,490		425,130	
Lentils .....	446,780		413,590	
Wrinkled seed peas .....	(NA)		(NA)	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Hops .....	(NA)		21,560	
Maple syrup .....	(NA)		(NA)	
Mushrooms .....	(NA)		(NA)	
Peppermint oil .....	(NA)		24,440	
Potatoes, all <sup>2</sup> .....	418,570		415,010	
Spring .....	23,470		23,350	
Summer .....	27,640		26,510	
Fall .....	367,460		365,150	
Spearmint oil .....	(NA)		9,020	
Sweet potatoes .....	65,400		64,470	
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: 2017 and 2018 (continued)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2018 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield per hectare		Production	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	3.91		3,090,010	
Corn for grain .....	11.08		370,960,390	
Corn for silage .....	44.72		116,442,600	
Hay, all <sup>2</sup> .....	5.48		119,253,970	
Alfalfa .....	7.45		49,956,850	
All other .....	4.60		69,297,120	
Oats .....	2.21		716,910	
Proso millet .....	2.02		330,370	
Rice .....	8.41		8,084,290	
Rye .....	2.13		246,290	
Sorghum for grain .....	4.53		9,241,760	
Sorghum for silage .....	29.77		3,421,900	
Wheat, all <sup>2</sup> .....	3.11		47,370,880	
Winter .....	3.38		34,548,410	
Durum .....	1.73		1,494,380	
Other spring .....	2.76		11,328,090	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	1.75		1,414,610	
Cottonseed .....	(X)		6,100,820	
Flaxseed .....	0.89		97,590	
Mustard seed .....	0.71		27,330	
Peanuts .....	4.57		3,281,110	
Rapeseed .....	2.40		9,410	
Safflower .....	1.41		81,600	
Soybeans for beans .....	3.30		119,518,490	
Sunflower .....	1.81		983,720	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all <sup>2</sup> .....	1.01		4,629,470	
Upland .....	1.00		4,478,590	
American Pima .....	1.50		150,880	
Sugarbeets .....	71.08		32,046,300	
Sugarcane .....	79.88		28,955,520	
Tobacco .....	2.48		322,120	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Austrian winter peas .....	1.49		5,670	
Dry edible beans .....	2.00		1,625,900	
Chickpeas, all <sup>2</sup> .....	1.29		313,210	
Large .....	1.31		224,300	
Small .....	1.26		88,900	
Dry edible peas .....	1.51		643,060	
Lentils .....	0.82		339,380	
Wrinkled seed peas .....	(NA)		16,190	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Hops .....	2.20		47,340	
Maple syrup .....	(NA)		21,360	
Mushrooms .....	(NA)		421,210	
Peppermint oil .....	0.11		2,620	
Potatoes, all <sup>2</sup> .....	48.23		20,017,350	
Spring .....	38.44		897,660	
Summer .....	37.10		983,340	
Fall .....	49.67		18,136,350	
Spearmint oil .....	0.14		1,270	
Sweet potatoes .....	25.08		1,616,880	
Taro (Hawaii) .....	11.80		1,670	

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Area planted for all purposes.

<sup>2</sup> Total may not add due to rounding.

## Fruits and Nuts Production in Domestic Units – United States: 2017 and 2018

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2018 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2017-2018 season. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Production	
	2017	2018
<b>Citrus <sup>1</sup></b>		
Grapefruit ..... 1,000 tons	682	530
Lemons ..... 1,000 tons	886	870
Oranges ..... 1,000 tons	5,164	3,943
Tangerines and mandarins ..... 1,000 tons	1,033	881
<b>Noncitrus</b>		
Apples ..... million pounds	10,444.0	
Apricots ..... tons	55,500	
Avocados ..... tons		
Bananas (Hawaii) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Blackberries (Oregon) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Blueberries, Cultivated ..... 1,000 pounds		
Blueberries, Wild (Maine) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Boysenberries (Oregon) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Cherries, Sweet ..... tons	432,760	
Cherries, Tart ..... million pounds	238.2	
Coffee (Hawaii) ..... 1,000 pounds	24,966	
Cranberries ..... barrel	9,050,000	
Dates ..... tons		
Figs (California) ..... tons		
Grapes ..... tons	7,505,300	
Kiwifruit (California) ..... tons		
Nectarines ..... tons		
Olives (California) ..... tons		
Papayas (Hawaii) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Peaches ..... tons	735,200	
Pears ..... tons	707,000	
Plums (California) ..... tons		
Prunes (California) ..... tons	105,000	
Raspberries, all ..... 1,000 pounds		
Strawberries ..... 1,000 cwt	30,534	
<b>Nuts and miscellaneous</b>		
Almonds, shelled (California) ..... 1,000 pounds	2,250,000	
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon) ..... tons	36,000	
Macadamias (Hawaii) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Pecans, in-shell ..... 1,000 pounds	277,400	
Pistachios (California) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Walnuts, in-shell (California) ..... tons	650,000	

<sup>1</sup> Production years are 2016-2017 and 2017-2018.

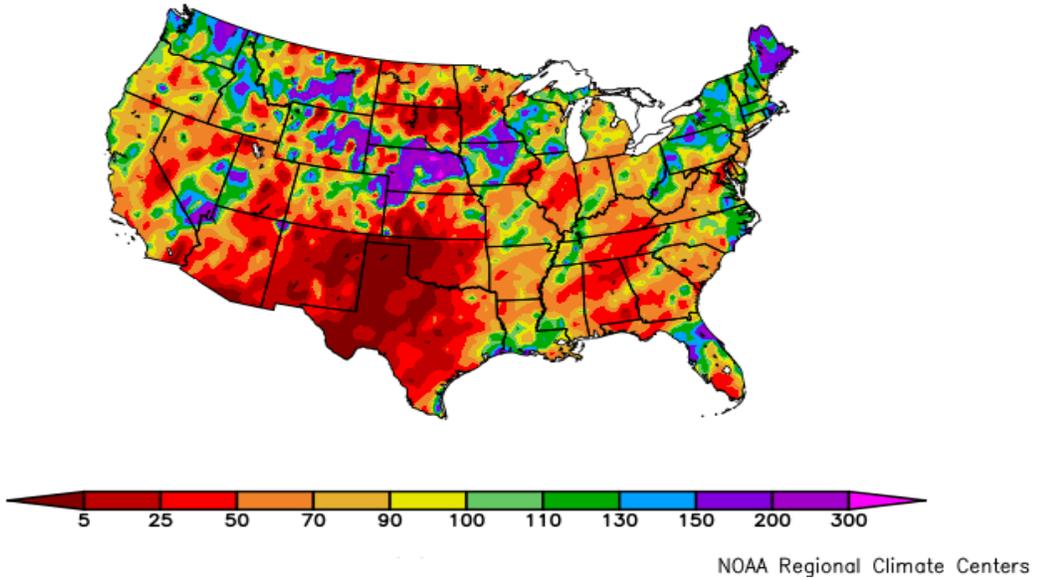
## Fruits and Nuts Production in Metric Units – United States: 2017 and 2018

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2018 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2017-2018 season. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

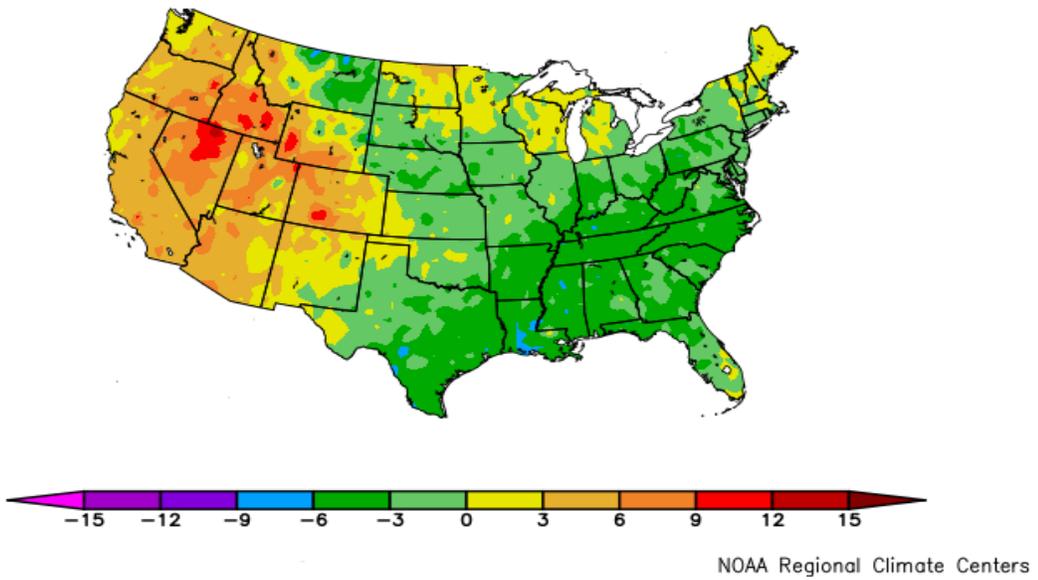
Crop	Production	
	2017 (metric tons)	2018 (metric tons)
<b>Citrus<sup>1</sup></b>		
Grapefruit .....	618,700	480,810
Lemons .....	803,770	789,250
Oranges .....	4,684,700	3,577,030
Tangerines and mandarins .....	937,120	799,230
<b>Noncitrus</b>		
Apples .....	4,737,320	
Apricots .....	50,350	
Avocados .....		
Bananas (Hawaii) .....		
Blackberries (Oregon) .....		
Blueberries, Cultivated .....		
Blueberries, Wild (Maine) .....		
Boysenberries (Oregon) .....		
Cherries, Sweet .....	392,590	
Cherries, Tart .....	108,050	
Coffee (Hawaii) .....	11,320	
Cranberries .....	410,500	
Dates .....		
Figs (California) .....		
Grapes .....	6,808,690	
Kiwifruit (California) .....		
Nectarines .....		
Olives (California) .....		
Papayas (Hawaii) .....		
Peaches .....	666,960	
Pears .....	641,380	
Plums (California) .....		
Prunes (California) .....	95,250	
Raspberries, all .....		
Strawberries .....	1,384,990	
<b>Nuts and miscellaneous</b>		
Almonds, shelled (California) .....	1,020,580	
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon) .....	32,660	
Macadamias (Hawaii) .....		
Pecans, in-shell .....	125,830	
Pistachios (California) .....		
Walnuts, in-shell (California) .....	589,670	

<sup>1</sup> Production years are 2016-2017 and 2017-2018.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
1/1/2018 – 1/31/2018



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
1/1/2018 – 1/31/2018



## January Weather Summary

Amid intensifying drought and wild temperature variations, rangeland, pasture, and winter wheat conditions deteriorated across the southern half of the Plains. Between November 26, 2017, and the end of January, winter wheat rated in very poor to poor condition sharply increased from 10 percent to 79 percent in Oklahoma; 14 percent to 44 percent in Kansas; and 7 percent to 28 percent in Colorado.

In contrast, enough snow fell from Montana to Nebraska to provide winter wheat with highly beneficial moisture and insulation. Despite early-January cold blasts that locally resulted in temperatures below -40°F, winter wheat rated very poor to poor improved during the 2 months ending in late January from 38 percent to 21 percent in South Dakota; 10 percent to 8 percent in Nebraska; and 15 percent to 3 percent in Montana.

Meanwhile, Western precipitation was often confined to the northern tier of the region except during one notable storm, from January 7-9. During that renegade storm, heavy rain swept across southern California and the southern Great Basin. At the height of the event, mudslides and debris flows devastated several southern California communities, some of which had recently dealt with wildfires.

Outside of the western United States, one of the month's most significant storms brought blizzard conditions to parts of the Plains and upper Midwest on January 21-22. Snowfall totals locally in excess of a foot were reported from Nebraska into the upper Great Lakes region.

Elsewhere, periods of rain and wintry precipitation affected the South, East, and lower Midwest. Those regions also had to contend with early- to mid-month cold waves, including some of the South's coldest weather in more than 20 years. The Southern cold wave, which peaked on January 17-18, was preceded by multiple rounds of snow.

## January Agricultural Summary

For much of the eastern half of the Nation, January started off colder than average. From the Great Plains eastward, average temperatures were 10°F or more below normal, with parts of the Great Lakes and New England recording average temperatures below -10°F. As the month progressed, temperatures became milder for the Eastern States, and while a cold snap hit along the Gulf Coast and Middle Mississippi Valley, average temperatures stayed out of the negatives. The Pacific and Rockies States' temperatures were much less variable and higher than normal for the majority of the month. Those States' temperature did cool towards the end of the month, however. January was dry for many of the Plains States, with extreme drought conditions worsening in Northern Texas and Oklahoma. Severe droughts were also reported in the Northern Plains, lower Rockies, and the middle to lower Mississippi Valley. Much the precipitation that fell during January was relegated to the States in and east of the Appalachian Mountains. Rain also fell near continuously along the Washington and Oregon Coasts.

During the last week of January, the majority of the winter wheat acreage in reporting States was estimated to be in fair to good condition. Drought conditions in Kansas persisted, leading to 55 percent of the State's winter wheat acreage to be rated in fair to good condition, and decrease of 30 percentage points from December. Only 1 percent of Kansas' winter wheat acreage was rated in excellent condition, down from 3 percent in December. Oklahoma's winter wheat crop appeared to be in the worst condition, with 79 percent of the 2018 crop rated in poor to very poor condition.

Pasture and range conditions in the drought stricken Plains States were mostly fair to very poor. Nearly half of Oklahoma and Montana's pasture and range land was rated in poor to very poor condition. Similarly dry conditions in California caused 60 percent of the State's range and pasture land to be rate in poor to very poor condition.

Dry conditions were experienced throughout much of Florida in January, leading to continued irrigation. Otherwise, citrus grove operations were normal for this time of the year; including minimal spraying and harvesting. Fresh harvest of early tangerines and Navel oranges finished for the season by the end of the month. Processing plants were taking packinghouse eliminations and processing field run on early and mid-season oranges. Unseasonably cold temperatures in the middle of the month caused minor damage to some vegetable crops in southern Florida.

## Crop Comments

**Grapefruit:** The United States 2017-2018 grapefruit crop is forecast at 530,000 tons, unchanged from last month but 22 percent below last season's final utilization. In Florida, expected production, at 4.65 million boxes (198,000 tons), is unchanged from last month but down 40 percent from last year. California and Texas grapefruit production forecasts were carried forward from the previous month.

**Tangerines and mandarins:** The United States tangerine and mandarin crop is forecast at 881,000 tons, unchanged from last month but down 15 percent from last season's final utilization. The Florida forecast, at 860,000 boxes (41,000 tons), is unchanged from last month but down 47 percent from the 2016-2017 season. The California tangerine and mandarin forecast was carried forward from the previous month.

**Florida citrus:** In the citrus growing region, reported daily high temperatures were average or below on most days. Daytime highs ranged in the 60s and 70s, while nighttime lows were mostly in the 40s and 50s. A cold snap during the third week of the month brought temperatures below previous season lows across the citrus region. Several cold pockets had temperatures in the mid-20s. In the Northern citrus area, Eustis (Lake County) recorded 24 degrees. In the Central citrus area, Avon Park (Polk County) dropped to 25 degrees. As far south as Arcadia (Desoto County) temperatures were at 26 degrees. Growers reported a small portion of the citrus crop sustained minor damage to the fruit or trees. Groves were not cold enough for a long enough period of time to cause any major harm. Monthly rainfall totals in the Northern, Central, and Western areas were average or above, while totals in the Southern and Indian River areas were mostly below average. According to the February 1, 2018 U.S. Drought Monitor, the complete citrus growing region remained drought free.

Early and midseason orange harvest is about over for the season. Earlier variety Valencia oranges, including Vernia and Valquarius, were being harvested in small quantities. Most specialty fruit being harvested for the fresh market was winding down. Fallglo and Sunburst are over for the season. A few mid-season tangerines were being harvested to include Autumn Honey, Tango, and Orri. Royal tangerines and Honey tangerines were just getting started. Grapefruit continued to come in. A larger portion of the white grapefruit was going to the processed market, while red grapefruit was being equally distributed among the packinghouses and processing plants. Grove operations included using discing, mowing, and chopping to clean row middles. Other grove activity observed involved pulling vines from trees, cleaning weeds from under trees, and cleaning ditches. Most growers were irrigating at regular intervals. Some caretakers were seen fertilizing and hedging and topping after harvest. A small amount of bloom was observed on some orange varieties.

**California citrus:** Navel orange harvest continued throughout the month. Navel orangeworm sanitation was ongoing. Pomelos were harvested.

**California noncitrus fruits and nuts:** Pruning continued in stone fruit orchards and vineyards throughout the month. Persimmons harvest continued. Some older, poorly producing orchards and vineyards were removed and prepared for replanting. Winter dormant sprays were applied to some orchards as conditions permitted. Some older orchards were pushed out and the ground was prepped for planting. Pruning continued in nut orchards. Herbicides were applied in some pistachio groves. Some almonds were given a final shake to drop mummies that the mild winter did not remove. Early almond blooms were reported in Paso Robles. Olive growers continued to prune groves.

**Sugarcane:** Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2017 is forecast at 31.9 million tons, down 1 percent from last year. Producers intend to harvest 895,700 acres for sugar and seed during the 2017 crop year, down 1 percent from last year. Yield for sugar and seed is forecast at 35.6 tons per acre, unchanged from 2016.

The Florida sugarcane crop was negatively affected by three incidents during the growing season: drought following Hurricane Matthew, wet weather before and after Hurricane Irma, and three reported freeze events in January.

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey procedures:** The orange objective yield survey for the February 1 forecast was conducted in Florida, which produces about 60 percent of the United States production last season. In August and September 2017, 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 survey 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 February 1 forecast.

**Revision policy:** The February 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 August. 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 February 1 production forecasts, the "Root Mean Square Error," a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the February 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 February 1 orange production forecast is 5.1 percent. However, if you exclude the three abnormal production years (one freeze season and two hurricane seasons), the "Root Mean Square Error" is 5.4 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 5.1 percent, or 5.4 percent excluding abnormal seasons. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 8.9 percent, or 9.3 percent excluding abnormal seasons.

Changes between the February 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 349,000 tons (350,000 tons excluding abnormal seasons), ranging from 18,000 tons to 843,000 tons regardless of exclusions. The February 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 8 times and above 12 times (below 8 times and above 9 times, excluding abnormal seasons). The difference does not imply that the February 1 forecast this year is 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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

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James Johanson – County Estimates, Hay .....	(202) 690-8533
Jeff Lemmons – Oats, Soybeans .....	(202) 690-3234
Sammy Neal – Peanuts, Rice .....	(202) 720-7688
Joshua O’Rear – Crop Weather, Barley .....	(202) 720-7621
Jean Porter – Rye, Wheat .....	(202) 720-8068
Bianca Pruneda – Cotton, Cotton Ginnings, Sorghum.....	(202) 720-5944
Travis Thorson – Sunflower, Other Oilseeds .....	(202) 720-7369
Jorge Garcia-Pratts, Head, Fruits, Vegetables and Special Crops Section.....	(202) 720-2127
Vincent Davis – Apricots, Bananas, Cherries, Garlic, Lettuce, Mint, Papaya, Pears, Strawberries, Tomatoes.....	(202) 720-2157
Fleming Gibson – Avocados, Cauliflower, Celery, Citrus, Coffee, Dates, Figs, Kiwifruit, Nectarines, Olives, Green Peas, Taro, Watermelons .....	(202) 720-5412
Greg Lemmons – Blackberries, Blueberries, Boysenberries, Cranberries, Cucumbers, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Raspberries, Squash, Sugarbeets, Sugarcane, Sweet Potatoes .....	(202) 720-4285
Dan Norris – Artichokes, Austrian Winter Peas, Cantaloupes, Dry Beans, Dry Edible Peas, Honeydews, Lentils, Mushrooms, Peaches, Snap Beans .....	(202) 720-3250
Daphne Schaubert – Bell Peppers, Broccoli, Cabbage, Chile Peppers, Floriculture, Grapes, Hops, Maple Syrup, Tree Nuts, Spinach .....	(202) 720-4215
Chris Singh – Apples, Asparagus, Carrots, Lima Beans, Onions, Plums, Prunes, Sweet Corn, Tobacco .....	(202) 720-4288

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