UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
CROP REPORTING BOARD

M A R C H 1, 1941 R E P O R T

ON CITRUS FRUIT, MILK PRODUCTION, AND EGG PRODUCTION

Washington, D. C.
March 10,1941

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CROP REPORT as of March 1, 1941

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
CROP REPORTING BOARD

Washington, D. C., March 10, 1941
3:00 P.M. (E.T.)

GENERAL CROP REPORT AS OF MARCH 1, 1941

During February the unusually mild weather which prevailed over most northern and western portions of the country resulted in record high rates of milk production per cow and of egg production per 100 hens on March 1, but cold weather in the Southeast with frost on March 2 in Florida will materially reduce shipments of tender vegetables until late in April. In California the abnormally heavy rains during the last two months while favorable for some non-irrigated crops, have interfered with winter vegetable production and delayed the planting of spring vegetables. While excessive rains have caused some local damage to oranges, the 1940-41 crop in California and the United States is expected to be the largest on record. A record crop of lemons is also being harvested and the grapefruit crop is expected to be the second largest.

CITRUS FRUITS: Orange production for the 1940-41 season is now placed at 82,261,000 boxes. This indicated production, the largest of record, is about 1 percent larger than was indicated a month ago due to increases in the early and midseason and tangerine crops in Florida, which turned out somewhat larger than was expected earlier in the season. The United States orange crop in 1939-40 totaled 75,646,000 boxes, and the 1938-39 crop was 78,531,000 boxes.

Production of oranges, including tangerines, in Florida is now estimated at 29,800,000 boxes compared with 28,000,000 last season (1939-40) and 33,300,000 boxes two seasons ago (1938-39). The early and midseason crop, including tangerines, is placed at 18,800,000 boxes compared with 18,000,000 boxes in 1939-40; the Valencia crop is indicated to be 11,000,000 boxes compared with 10,000,000 boxes last season. Growing conditions in Florida citrus areas were generally favorable during February. Harvest of early and midseason varieties has been practically completed, and harvest of Valencias, -- somewhat later than usual, -- is now getting under way. A larger portion of the early and midseason crop in Florida was utilized by processing plants than in any previous year. Although official estimates of quantities processed have not yet been prepared, preliminary reports indicate that approximately one-tenth of the crop (exclusive of tangerines) was used by processors.

The California orange crop for the 1940-41 season is now placed at 48,757,000 boxes, the largest of record for that State, compared with 44,404,000 boxes in 1939-40, and 41,420,000 boxes in 1938-39. Indicated production of Navel and miscellaneous varieties is now placed at 19,975,000 boxes. This production is about 2 percent smaller than was indicated on February 1, due to losses from "water rot" -- mostly in southern California -- caused by excessive rains during the last 3 months. Production of Navel and miscellaneous oranges last season (1939-40) was 17,521,000 boxes; in 1938-39 the crop totaled 17,970,000 boxes. Harvest of these varieties in central California is nearly complete. Carlot shipments from northern and central California areas through March 1 totaled 8,321 cars. This movement is about 11 percent larger than carlot movement to the same date last season. The California Valencia orange crop, harvest of which will start in major producing areas about the first of April, is placed at 28,782,000 boxes, the same as was indicated a month ago. The 1939-40 Valencia crop was 26,883,000 boxes, and the 1938-39 crop was 23,450,000 boxes. It is not yet possible to determine definitely whether or not the 1940-41 Valencia crop will ultimately show damage from the excessive rainfall of the last 2 months. It appears likely, however, on the basis of present indications that such losses as may occur probably will be relatively small and will be offset by increased "sizing" brought about by above-normal moisture supplies.

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The 1940-41 Texas orange crop is estimated at 2,850,000 boxes, compared with 2,360,000 boxes in 1939-40. Production of oranges in Arizona for the 1940-41 season is indicated to be 600,000 boxes, compared with 520,000 boxes in 1939-40. Harvest of the early and midseason crop in Arizona is complete and picking of Valencias has started.

The United States grapefruit crop for the 1940-41 season is placed at 40,040,000 boxes compared with 35,175,000 boxes in 1939-40, and 43,594,000 boxes in 1938-39.

Production of grapefruit in Florida for the current marketing season (1940-41) is indicated to be 21,000,000 boxes, compared with 15,900,000 boxes produced last season (1939-40) and 23,300,000 boxes produced 2 seasons ago (1938-39). Carlot shipments of Florida grapefruit through March 1 totaled 9507 cars. This movement is about 37 percent larger than movement to the same date last season. On the basis of the total quantity of Florida grapefruit handled by processing plants to date, it seems likely that the total quantity utilized in this manner for the entire season probably will at least equal and may, possibly, exceed all previous records.

Production of grapefruit in Texas for 1940-41 is estimated at 14,400,000 boxes, the same as last season (1939-40). The 1938-39 Texas crop was 15,670,000 boxes. Texas groves are in excellent condition and soil moisture supplies are ample. The average size of fruit remaining for harvest is considerably larger than usual, and present growing conditions are favorable for further size development.

The 1940-41 Arizona grapefruit crop is placed at 2,800,000 boxes, compared with 2,900,000 boxes in 1939-40. About 30 percent of the total crop in that State has been harvested to date. The supply of soil moisture in Arizona groves is considerably above normal due to heavy rains during the last few weeks. Average sizes are somewhat larger than usual due to the abundant moisture supplies. The California grapefruit crop is indicated to be 1,840,000 boxes compared with 1,975,000 boxes produced last season. No serious damage to California grapefruit is expected from the heavy rains of recent weeks.

California lemon production for the 1940-41 season is indicated to be 13,588,000 boxes--the largest production of record. Production last season (1939-40) was 11,963,000 boxes, and the 1938-39 crop was 11,105,000 boxes. Growers report that the prevalence of relatively warm winter and early spring temperatures, together with the unusually large soil moisture supplies now available, probably will hasten fruit growth, and thus bring about maturity somewhat earlier than may be desirable from a marketing standpoint.

MILK PRODUCTION PER COW continued at record high levels through February. In the herds kept by crop correspondents, production per cow on March 1 was about 8 percent higher than the 10-year average for the date and more than 1 percent above the high record for March 1, set in 1930 and equaled last year. The number of milk cows on farms has also increased about 2 percent during the last 12 months, so total milk production on March 1 appears to have been fully 3 percent above production at the same season last year. The quantity of milk produced per capita in the United States appears to have been higher than on the same date in any of the previous 16 years for which records are available.

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While March 1 milk production per cow was above average for the date in all major groups of States, production was particularly high in northern and western areas where February weather was unusually mild. In States from Michigan to Montana, and also in Illinois, Kansas and Colorado, production per cow equaled or exceeded previous high March 1 figures.

In Southern States, from Texas eastward, below normal February temperatures were less favorable to milk production and tended to delay the early spring development of pastures. On March 1 production pwe cow was well below average for the date in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Florida. Farmers in these States reported an unusually small proportion of their milk cows in production for March 1.

In nearly all parts of the country the liberal rations of grains and concentrates that farmers have fed their milk cows appear to have aided in maintaining the above-normal rate of production. During the first half of this winter's feeding season, milk cows in reporters' herds have received 12 to 15 percent more grain and concentrates per cow than average for the 1931-40 period. With the seasonal trend in rate of feeding still moving upward toward its spring peak, March 1 reports from farmers in a limited number of important dairy States indicate that the rate of feeding continued relatively high.

In the United States as a whole, milk production per cow in herds kept by crop correspondents averaged 13.77 pounds on March 1 compared with 13.62 pounds on the date last year and a 1930-39 March 1 average of 12.75 pounds. In these herds, 67.6 percent of the milk cows were reported in production on March 1. This percentage was the same as that reported a year ago, was only slightly below the record high March 1 figure of 67.8 percent in 1932, and exceeded the percentages reported on March 1 in other years for which records are available.

RANGE CONDITIONS: Condition of range in the western range States on March 1 continued above average and the high condition of cattle and sheep reflected the mild, open winter that has prevailed generally since December. Moisture supplies are favorable for spring feed over all the area except in the Northern Great Plains States, where winter precipitation has been short.

EGG PRODUCTION: The March 1 rate of lay in farm flocks reached a record high level of 43.9 eggs per 100 layers compared with 40.7 eggs a year ago and the 10-year (1930-39) average of 39.2 eggs. Because of a favorable fall and winter and ample feed supplies, the rate of egg production has been on a record high level since last September in all months except December, when it was exceeded only by the rate of December 1939.

Although the rate of lay reached a new high March 1 record this year for the country as a whole, it exceeded the previous March 1 record in only one geographic division (North Atlantic). However, the March 1 rate exceeded last year in all parts of the country, with increases of 15 percent in the South Central, 13 percent in the West North Central, 4 percent in the East North Central, and 2 percent in the North Atlantic, South Atlantic and Western regions.

The 10-year (1930-39) March 1 average rate of lay was exceeded in all parts of the country by this year's high rate. Increases over the 10-year average were percent in the West North Central, 13 percent in the North Atlantic, 12 percent in the East North Central, 9 percent in the West, 8 percent in the South Central and 7 percent in the South Atlantic areas.

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CITRUS FRUITS

Crop and State	Average 1929-38	Production 1/ 1938	1939	Indicated 1940
		Thousand boxes		
ORANGES:				
California, all	34,957	41,420	44,404	48,757
Valencias	19,830	23,450	26,883	28,782
Navels and misc.	15,127	17,970	17,521	19,975
Florida, all	19,614	33,300	28,000	29,800
Early and midseason 2/	12,125	17,150	15,600	16,000
Valencias 2/	8,108	12,750	10,000	11,000
Tangerines 2/	2,467	3,400	2,400	2,800
Texas	947	2,815	2,360	2,850
Arizona	213	430	520	600
Alabama	79	96	75	1
Mississippi	44	85	59	(3)
Louisiana	271	385	228	253
7 States 4/	56,125	78,531	75,646	82,261
GRAPEFRUIT:				
Florida, all	14,037	23,300	15,900	21,000
Seedless 2/	5,033	7,800	6,500	7,200
Other 2/	10,533	15,500	9,400	13,800
Texas	5,029	15,670	14,400	14,400
Arizona	1,252	2,700	2,900	2,800
California	1,640	1,924	1,975	1,840
4 States 4/	21,958	43,594	35,175	40,040
LEMONS:				
California 4/	8,233	11,106	11,963	13,588
LIMES:				
Florida	28	95	95	5/ 80

1/ Relates to crop from bloom of year shown. In California the picking season adopted extends from November 1 to October 31. In other States the season begins about September 1. For some States in certain years, production includes some quantities donated to charity and/or eliminated on account of market conditions.
2/ Short-time average.
3/ Failure reported.
4/ Net content of boxes varies. In California and Arizona the approximate average for oranges is 70 lb. net and grapefruit 60 lb.; in Florida and other States oranges 90 lb. and grapefruit 80 lb.; California lemons, about 76 lb. net.
5/ December 1 indicated production.

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MILK PRODUCED PER MILK COW IN HERDS KEPT BY REPORTERS 1/

State	March 1, (Avg.) 1930-39	March 1, 1939	March 1, 1940	March 1, 1941
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Maine	12.6	12.4	13.2	13.5
New Hampshire	14.5	13.9	14.9	13.5
Vermont	13.4	13.3	14.1	14.0
Massachusetts	17.4	17.8	17.3	17.9
Connecticut	17.0	16.1	17.2	17.1
New York	15.4	16.5	17.0	16.7
New Jersey	18.8	18.5	19.3	19.1
Pennsylvania	16.2	17.0	16.9	16.9
North Atlantic	15.77	16.52	16.75	16.56
Ohio	14.2	14.6	14.7	14.7
Indiana	12.9	13.5	13.8	13.8
Illinois	14.0	14.4	15.1	15.2
Michigan	16.3	17.0	17.0	18.0
Wisconsin	15.9	16.1	16.8	17.2
East North Central	14.93	15.34	15.76	16.07
Minnesota	16.8	17.8	18.7	18.9
Iowa	14.0	15.3	16.0	15.7
Missouri	8.5	9.0	9.2	9.1
North Dakota	11.6	12.1	14.2	14.8
South Dakota	10.9	11.8	12.7	12.0
Nebraska	13.0	14.3	13.8	13.5
Kansas	13.3	14.4	13.4	14.4
West North Central	12.99	13.93	14.65	14.55
Maryland	13.3	14.5	15.6	15.4
Virginia	9.4	10.3	10.0	10.4
West Virginia	8.7	8.6	8.2	8.4
North Carolina	9.9	10.7	10.7	10.6
South Carolina	9.3	9.9	9.6	9.8
Georgia	8.1	8.8	8.5	8.6
South Atlantic	9.63	10.33	10.38	10.47
Kentucky	9.3	9.9	9.6	9.9
Tennessee	8.3	9.2	8.6	8.9
Mississippi	6.5	6.3	5.4	5.8
Arkansas	7.2	7.7	7.0	7.7
Oklahoma	9.6	10.5	9.5	9.7
Texas	8.6	8.1	7.8	7.9
South Central	8.22	8.62	8.08	8.46
Montana	11.6	12.6	12.2	13.5
Idaho	15.7	15.8	16.4	16.7
Wyoming	11.2	11.8	12.6	12.7
Colorado	12.8	14.3	13.7	14.6
Washington	15.3	16.2	16.2	16.7
Oregon	13.8	14.2	14.7	15.2
California	17.8	18.3	17.3	18.4
Western	14.18	15.20	15.19	15.88
United States	12.75	13.40	13.62	13.77

1/ Averages represent the reported daily milk production of herds kept by reporters divided by the total number of milk cows (in milk or dry) in these herds. Figures for New England States are based on combined returns from crop and special dairy reporters and are weighted by counties. Figures for other States, regions, and U.S. are based on returns from crop reporters only. The regional averages are based in part on records of less important dairy States not shown separately, as follows: North Atlantic, Rhode Island; South Atlantic, Delaware and Florida; South Central, Alabama and Louisiana; Western, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Nevada.

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EGGS PRODUCED PER 100 LAYERS, MARCH 1 1/

State & Division:	Av. 1930-39	1939	1940	1941
		Number		
Me.	46.9	54.3	52.5	54.6
N.H.	47.5	52.0	50.0	51.6
Vt.	43.6	49.3	52.8	48.4
Mass.	49.6	50.4	54.3	58.5
R.I.	44.0	47.2	51.4	57.1
Conn.	47.8	52.4	55.0	54.5
N.Y.	41.1	45.3	46.4	46.6
N.J.	40.7	49.3	46.1	50.0
Pa.	42.4	48.7	45.8	46.9
N. ATL.	42.8	48.2	47.4	48.5
Ohio	40.4	44.8	42.0	43.7
Ind.	41.3	43.8	43.8	44.8
Ill.	35.0	37.3	36.1	39.2
Mich.	37.5	40.5	42.5	44.4
Wis.	37.2	41.2	43.1	42.2
E.N.CENT.	38.1	41.3	40.9	42.5
Minn.	29.7	32.5	38.9	38.0
Iowa	31.1	33.6	33.9	37.2
Mo.	38.7	39.1	35.7	43.2
N.Dak.	21.3	19.5	28.5	29.7
S.Dak.	26.1	25.1	28.8	32.2
Nebr.	37.1	38.9	36.5	44.0
Kans.	42.0	41.6	40.7	48.4
W.N.CENT.	34.2	35.2	35.7	40.4
Del.	41.5	49.9	47.0	50.1
Md.	40.7	48.8	45.1	45.2
Va.	42.0	47.8	46.3	45.9
W.Va.	42.2	47.3	41.0	41.0
N.C.	43.9	48.2	47.2	48.2
S.C.	43.7	47.4	45.7	44.8
Ga.	41.3	42.7	37.1	42.0
Fla.	49.9	51.6	52.2	50.6
S. ATL.	42.7	47.5	44.7	45.5
Ky.	38.1	42.7	35.5	42.3
Tenn.	37.3	40.0	34.3	42.1
Ala.	44.1	47.2	38.0	45.8
Miss.	41.8	43.3	32.5	42.3
Ark.	40.4	41.5	36.0	45.0
La.	41.4	43.5	39.2	43.7
Okla.	43.2	43.3	41.2	46.6
Tex.	45.4	45.9	45.4	48.6
S. CENT.	42.1	43.7	39.5	45.5
Mont.	31.5	31.3	38.3	43.4
Idaho	39.2	40.6	42.4	46.9
Wyo.	35.0	33.9	38.4	45.5
Colo.	37.9	38.5	40.7	44.5
New Mex.	41.2	39.6	46.4	44.5
Ariz.	47.1	51.2	55.3	53.7
Utah	47.3	45.2	47.4	53.3
Nev.	43.6	37.3	53.4	45.0
Wash.	45.0	46.9	47.0	50.8
Oreg.	46.8	45.3	49.2	52.1
Calif.	49.1	47.7	52.0	49.7
WEST.	44.9	44.6	48.0	49.1
U.S.	39.2	41.4	40.7	43.9

1/ As reported for farm flocks of less than 400 layers.

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