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## Orange Production Down 1 Percent from February Forecast

**The United States all orange** forecast for the 2024-2025 season is 2.42 million tons, down 1 percent from the previous forecast and down 12 percent from the 2023-2024 final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 11.6 million boxes (522,000 tons), is up 1 percent from the previous forecast but down 35 percent from last season's final utilization. In Florida, early, midseason, and Navel varieties are forecast at 4.60 million boxes (207,000 tons), up 2 percent from the previous forecast but down 32 percent from last season's final utilization. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 7.00 million boxes (315,000 tons), is unchanged from the previous forecast but down 38 percent from last season's final utilization.

The California Valencia orange forecast is 7.50 million boxes (300,000 tons), down 11 percent from the previous forecast and down 19 percent from the previous season. This results in a California all orange forecast of 46.5 million boxes (1.86 million tons), down 2 percent from the previous forecast and down 2 percent from last season's final utilization. The forecast for Texas is carried forward from the previous forecast.

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This report was approved on March 11, 2025.



Secretary of Agriculture  
Designate  
Seth Meyer



Agricultural Statistics Board  
Chairperson  
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**Sugarcane Area Harvested, Yield, and Production – States and United States: 2023 and 2024**

State	Area harvested		Yield per acre <sup>1</sup>		Production <sup>1</sup>	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(tons)	(tons)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)
<b>For sugar</b>						
Florida .....	391.0	381.0	44.4	45.1	17,360	17,183
Louisiana .....	481.0	498.0	29.9	31.1	14,382	15,488
Texas <sup>2</sup> .....	16.5	(NA)	22.5	(NA)	371	(NA)
United States .....	888.5	879.0	36.1	37.2	32,113	32,671
<b>For seed</b>						
Florida .....	16.6	15.7	49.8	53.3	827	837
Louisiana .....	24.5	25.3	33.7	34.5	826	873
Texas <sup>2</sup> .....	-	(NA)	(X)	(NA)	-	(NA)
United States .....	41.1	41.0	40.2	41.7	1,653	1,710
<b>For sugar and seed</b>						
Florida .....	407.6	396.7	44.6	45.4	18,187	18,020
Louisiana .....	505.5	523.3	30.1	31.3	15,208	16,361
Texas <sup>2</sup> .....	16.5	(NA)	22.5	(NA)	371	(NA)
United States .....	929.6	920.0	36.3	37.4	33,766	34,381

- Represents zero.

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Net tons.

<sup>2</sup> Estimates discontinued in 2024.

## Utilized Production of Citrus Fruits by Crop – States and United States: 2023-2024 and Forecasted March 1, 2025

[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	
	2023-2024	2024-2025	2023-2024	2024-2025
	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)
<b>Oranges</b>				
California, all .....	47,500	46,500	1,900	1,860
Early, mid, and Navel <sup>2 3</sup> .....	38,200	39,000	1,528	1,560
Valencia .....	9,300	7,500	372	300
Florida, all .....	17,960	11,600	808	522
Early, mid, and Navel <sup>3</sup> .....	6,760	4,600	304	207
Valencia .....	11,200	7,000	504	315
Texas, all <sup>2</sup> .....	1,180	900	50	39
Early, mid, and Navel <sup>3</sup> .....	690	600	29	26
Valencia .....	490	300	21	13
United States, all .....	66,640	59,000	2,758	2,421
Early, mid, and Navel <sup>3</sup> .....	45,650	44,200	1,861	1,793
Valencia .....	20,990	14,800	897	628
<b>Grapefruit</b>				
California <sup>2</sup> .....	4,300	3,700	172	148
Florida .....	1,790	1,200	76	51
Texas <sup>2</sup> .....	2,400	2,500	96	100
United States .....	8,490	7,400	344	299
<b>Tangerines and mandarins <sup>4</sup></b>				
California <sup>2</sup> .....	27,400	25,000	1,096	1,000
Florida .....	450	350	21	17
United States .....	27,850	25,350	1,117	1,017
<b>Lemons <sup>2</sup></b>				
Arizona .....	950	900	38	36
California .....	24,600	26,000	984	1,040
Florida <sup>5</sup> .....	(NA)	600	(NA)	27
United States .....	25,550	27,500	1,022	1,103

(NA) Not available.

<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 mid-season varieties in Florida and Texas.

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

<sup>5</sup> Estimates began with the 2024-2025 crop year.

## Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Domestic Units – United States: 2024 and 2025

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2025 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2024	2025	2024	2025
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	2,373		1,875	
Corn for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	90,594		82,896	
Corn for silage .....	(NA)		6,100	
Hay, all .....	(NA)		49,390	
Alfalfa .....	(NA)		14,612	
All other .....	(NA)		34,778	
Oats .....	2,213		886	
Proso millet .....	481		427	
Rice .....	2,910		2,867	
Rye .....	2,206		402	
Sorghum for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	6,300		5,605	
Sorghum for silage .....	(NA)		306	
Wheat, all .....	46,079		38,469	
Winter .....	33,390	34,115	26,103	
Durum .....	2,064		2,036	
Other spring .....	10,625		10,330	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	2,751.5		2,710.0	
Cottonseed .....	(X)		(X)	
Flaxseed .....	148		140	
Mustard seed .....	185.0		176.9	
Peanuts .....	1,801.0		1,758.0	
Rapeseed .....	17.5		15.7	
Safflower .....	116.6		108.0	
Soybeans for beans .....	87,050		86,050	
Sunflower .....	720.8		686.1	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all .....	11,182.0		8,271.2	
Upland .....	10,975.0		8,070.5	
American Pima .....	207.0		200.7	
Sugarbeets .....	1,104.3		1,085.5	
Sugarcane .....	(NA)		920.0	
Tobacco .....	(NA)		167.5	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Chickpeas .....	502.0		492.4	
Dry edible beans .....	1,533.0		1,503.6	
Dry edible peas .....	976.0		939.9	
Lentils .....	936.0		903.0	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Hops .....	(NA)		44.8	
Maple syrup .....	(NA)		(NA)	
Mushrooms .....	(NA)		(NA)	
Peppermint oil .....	(NA)		23.2	
Potatoes .....	930.0		925.4	
Spearmint oil .....	(NA)		10.3	

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Domestic Units – United States:  
2024 and 2025 (continued)**

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2025 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield per acre		Production	
	2024	2025	2024	2025
			(1,000)	(1,000)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	bushels	76.7	143,836	
Corn for grain .....	bushels	179.3	14,866,744	
Corn for silage .....	tons	20.2	123,093	
Hay, all .....	tons	2.48	122,462	
Alfalfa .....	tons	3.41	49,840	
All other .....	tons	2.09	72,622	
Oats .....	bushels	76.5	67,793	
Proso millet .....	bushels	32.9	14,061	
Rice <sup>2</sup> .....	cwt	7,748	222,133	
Rye .....	bushels	36.6	14,729	
Sorghum for grain .....	bushels	61.3	343,850	
Sorghum for silage .....	tons	13.3	4,062	
Wheat, all .....	bushels	51.2	1,971,301	
Winter .....	bushels	51.7	1,348,930	
Durum .....	bushels	39.3	80,051	
Other spring .....	bushels	52.5	542,320	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	pounds	1,784	4,834,030	
Cottonseed .....	tons	(X)	4,401.0	
Flaxseed .....	bushels	17.3	2,420	
Mustard seed .....	pounds	577	102,015	
Peanuts .....	pounds	3,668	6,448,020	
Rapeseed .....	pounds	2,019	31,705	
Safflower .....	pounds	1,200	129,585	
Soybeans for beans .....	bushels	50.7	4,366,492	
Sunflower .....	pounds	1,670	1,145,605	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all <sup>2</sup> .....	bales	836	14,414.0	
Upland <sup>2</sup> .....	bales	829	13,946.0	
American Pima <sup>2</sup> .....	bales	1,119	468.0	
Sugarbeets .....	tons	32.5	35,278	
Sugarcane .....	tons	37.4	34,381	
Tobacco .....	pounds	1,942	325,220	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Chickpeas <sup>2</sup> .....	cwt	1,144	5,632	
Dry edible beans <sup>2</sup> .....	cwt	2,081	31,289	
Dry edible peas <sup>2</sup> .....	cwt	1,775	16,679	
Lentils <sup>2</sup> .....	cwt	1,002	9,049	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Hops .....	pounds	1,944	87,072.2	
Maple syrup .....	gallons	(NA)	5,860	
Mushrooms .....	pounds	(NA)	658,739	
Peppermint oil .....	pounds	103	2,391	
Potatoes .....	cwt	454	420,242	
Spearmint oil .....	pounds	132	1,357	

(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: 2024 and 2025

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2025 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2024	2025	2024	2025
	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	960,330		758,790	
Corn for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	36,662,490		33,547,180	
Corn for silage .....	(NA)		2,468,610	
Hay, all <sup>2</sup> .....	(NA)		19,987,640	
Alfalfa .....	(NA)		5,913,330	
All other .....	(NA)		14,074,310	
Oats .....	895,580		358,560	
Proso millet .....	194,660		172,800	
Rice .....	1,177,650		1,160,250	
Rye .....	892,750		162,690	
Sorghum for grain <sup>1</sup> .....	2,549,550		2,268,290	
Sorghum for silage .....	(NA)		123,840	
Wheat, all <sup>2</sup> .....	18,647,710		15,568,020	
Winter .....	13,512,600	13,806,000	10,563,620	
Durum .....	835,280		823,950	
Other spring .....	4,299,830		4,180,450	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	1,113,500		1,096,710	
Cottonseed .....	(X)		(X)	
Flaxseed .....	59,890		56,660	
Mustard seed .....	74,870		71,590	
Peanuts .....	728,850		711,450	
Rapeseed .....	7,080		6,350	
Safflower .....	47,190		43,710	
Soybeans for beans .....	35,228,260		34,823,570	
Sunflower .....	291,700		277,660	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all <sup>2</sup> .....	4,525,240		3,347,270	
Upland .....	4,441,470		3,266,050	
American Pima .....	83,770		81,220	
Sugarbeets .....	446,900		439,290	
Sugarcane .....	(NA)		372,310	
Tobacco .....	(NA)		67,770	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Chickpeas .....	203,150		199,270	
Dry edible beans .....	620,390		608,490	
Dry edible peas .....	394,980		380,370	
Lentils .....	378,790		365,440	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Hops .....	(NA)		18,130	
Maple syrup .....	(NA)		(NA)	
Mushrooms .....	(NA)		(NA)	
Peppermint oil .....	(NA)		9,390	
Potatoes .....	376,360		374,500	
Spearmint oil .....	(NA)		4,170	

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Metric Units – United States:  
2024 and 2025 (continued)**

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2025 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield per hectare		Production	
	2024	2025	2024	2025
	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)
<b>Grains and hay</b>				
Barley .....	4.13		3,131,660	
Corn for grain .....	11.26		377,632,690	
Corn for silage .....	45.24		111,668,090	
Hay, all <sup>2</sup> .....	5.56		111,095,660	
Alfalfa .....	7.65		45,214,090	
All other .....	4.68		65,881,570	
Oats .....	2.74		984,010	
Proso millet .....	1.85		318,900	
Rice .....	8.68		10,075,780	
Rye .....	2.30		374,130	
Sorghum for grain .....	3.85		8,734,190	
Sorghum for silage .....	29.76		3,684,980	
Wheat, all <sup>2</sup> .....	3.45		53,650,020	
Winter .....	3.48		36,711,860	
Durum .....	2.64		2,178,630	
Other spring .....	3.53		14,759,530	
<b>Oilseeds</b>				
Canola .....	2.00		2,192,680	
Cottonseed .....	(X)		3,992,520	
Flaxseed .....	1.08		61,470	
Mustard seed .....	0.65		46,270	
Peanuts .....	4.11		2,924,770	
Rapeseed .....	2.26		14,380	
Safflower .....	1.34		58,780	
Soybeans for beans .....	3.41		118,836,440	
Sunflower .....	1.87		519,640	
<b>Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops</b>				
Cotton, all <sup>2</sup> .....	0.94		3,138,280	
Upland .....	0.93		3,036,380	
American Pima .....	1.25		101,890	
Sugarbeets .....	72.85		32,003,660	
Sugarcane .....	83.77		31,189,920	
Tobacco .....	2.18		147,520	
<b>Dry beans, peas, and lentils</b>				
Chickpeas .....	1.28		255,460	
Dry edible beans .....	2.33		1,419,250	
Dry edible peas .....	1.99		756,550	
Lentils .....	1.12		410,460	
<b>Potatoes and miscellaneous</b>				
Hops .....	2.18		39,500	
Maple syrup .....	(NA)		29,300	
Mushrooms .....	(NA)		298,800	
Peppermint oil .....	0.12		1,080	
Potatoes .....	50.90		19,061,860	
Spearmint oil .....	0.15		620	

(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: 2024 and 2025

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2025 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2025-2026 season. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Production	
	2024	2025
<b>Citrus</b> <sup>1</sup>		
Grapefruit ..... 1,000 tons	344	299
Lemons ..... 1,000 tons	1,022	1,103
Oranges ..... 1,000 tons	2,758	2,421
Tangerines and mandarins ..... 1,000 tons	1,117	1,017
<b>Noncitrus</b>		
Apples, commercial ..... million pounds	11,110.0	
Apricots ..... tons	36,000	
Avocados ..... tons		
Blueberries, Cultivated ..... 1,000 pounds		
Blueberries, Wild (Maine) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Cherries, Sweet ..... tons	355,000	
Cherries, Tart ..... million pounds	222.0	
Coffee (Hawaii) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Cranberries ..... barrel	8,240,000	
Dates ..... tons		
Grapes ..... tons	6,365,000	
Kiwifruit (California) ..... tons		
Nectarines (California) ..... tons		
Olives (California) ..... tons		
Papayas (Hawaii) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Peaches ..... tons	719,000	
Pears ..... tons	520,000	
Plums (California) ..... tons		
Prunes (California) ..... tons		
Raspberries, all ..... 1,000 pounds		
Strawberries ..... 1,000 cwt		
<b>Nuts and miscellaneous</b>		
Almonds, shelled (California) ..... 1,000 pounds	2,800,000	
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon) ..... tons		
Macadamias (Hawaii) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Pecans, in-shell ..... 1,000 pounds	270,900	
Pistachios (California) ..... 1,000 pounds		
Walnuts, in-shell (California) ..... tons	670,000	

<sup>1</sup> Production years are 2024-2025 and 2025-2026.

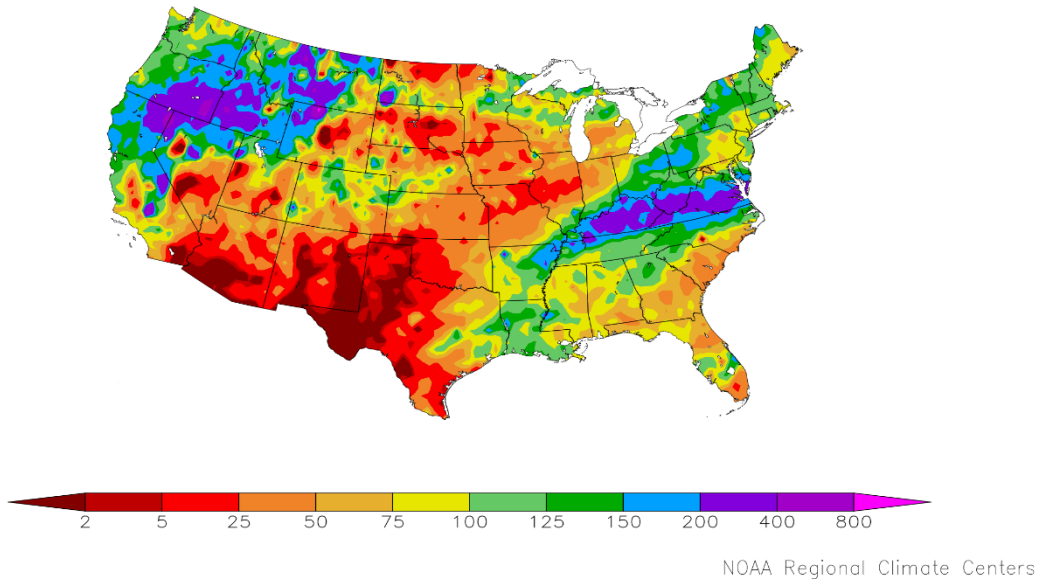
## Fruits and Nuts Production in Metric Units – United States: 2024 and 2025

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2025 crop year, except citrus which is for the 2025-2026 season. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

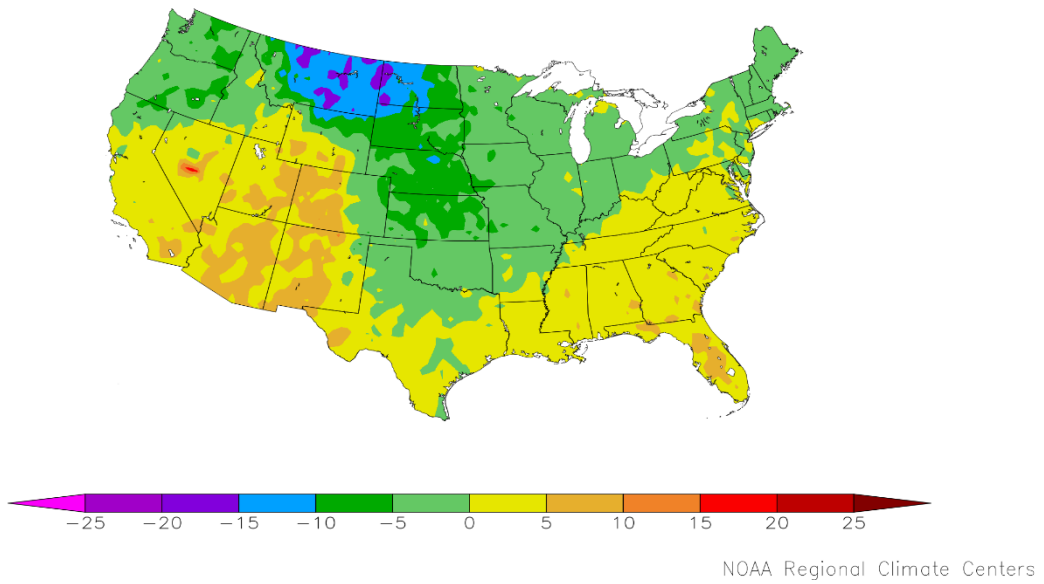
Crop	Production	
	2024	2025
	(metric tons)	(metric tons)
<b>Citrus<sup>1</sup></b>		
Grapefruit .....	312,070	271,250
Lemons .....	927,140	1,000,620
Oranges .....	2,502,020	2,196,290
Tangerines and mandarins .....	1,013,330	922,610
<b>Noncitrus</b>		
Apples, commercial .....	5,039,410	
Apricots .....	32,660	
Avocados .....		
Blueberries, Cultivated .....		
Blueberries, Wild (Maine) .....		
Cherries, Sweet .....	322,050	
Cherries, Tart .....	100,700	
Coffee (Hawaii) .....		
Cranberries .....	373,760	
Dates .....		
Grapes .....	5,774,230	
Kiwifruit (California) .....		
Nectarines (California) .....		
Olives (California) .....		
Papayas (Hawaii) .....		
Peaches .....	652,270	
Pears .....	471,740	
Plums (California) .....		
Prunes (California) .....		
Raspberries, all .....		
Strawberries .....		
<b>Nuts and miscellaneous</b>		
Almonds, shelled (California) .....	1,270,060	
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon) .....		
Macadamias (Hawaii) .....		
Pecans, in-shell .....	122,880	
Pistachios (California) .....		
Walnuts, in-shell (California) .....	607,810	

<sup>1</sup> Production years are 2024-2025 and 2025-2026.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
2/1/2025 – 2/28/2025



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
2/1/2025 – 2/28/2025



## February Weather Summary

Like January, February featured a sharp cold wave peaking just after the middle of the month. However, winter wheat's protective snow cover across the Plains was much more expansive during the latter outbreak, limiting winterkill losses that might otherwise have occurred. There were also several less-severe cold spells, leading to February temperatures averaging 5 to 15°F below normal across the northern half of the Plains. Colder-than-normal conditions also spilled into the Northwest, as well as much of the southern Plains and Midwest. Conversely, warmer-than-normal weather dominated the Southeast and Southwest, with February temperatures averaging at least 5°F above normal in Florida cities such as Orlando and Tallahassee, as well as Southwestern communities such as Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Phoenix, Arizona. Florida's peninsula, along with Deep South Texas, escaped the February cold snap without a freeze.

According to USDA/NASS, more than one-quarter of the winter wheat was rated in very poor to poor condition at the end of February in several key production states, including South Dakota (42 percent), Nebraska (38 percent), Texas (33 percent), and Oklahoma (29 percent). The crop was faring better in top-producer Kansas (54 percent good to excellent, and 14 percent very poor to poor). In Colorado and Montana, 67 percent of the winter wheat was rated in good to excellent condition on February 28. Meanwhile, statewide topsoil moisture rated very short to short across the Plains and Rockies ranged from 35 percent in Kansas to 83 percent in South Dakota. Additionally, topsoil moisture was rated at least one-half very short to short in New Mexico (79 percent), Nebraska (71 percent), Texas (64 percent), Wyoming (64 percent), and Colorado (58 percent). In Texas, drought- and freeze-related impacts left 65 percent of the rangeland and pastures in very poor to poor condition by the end of February.

In contrast, robust February precipitation was broadly observed, including an area stretching from Oregon and northern California to the northern High Plains. Even southern California experienced some limited drought relief. Wet February weather also affected portions of the central Plains and the South. In the latter region, a mid-month deluge led to extensive flooding in Kentucky and neighboring states. Top-ten crests were reported along the Kentucky River, which rose to its highest level in 4 years in Kentucky locations such as Heidelberg and Ravenna. Elsewhere in Kentucky, significant lowland flooding was observed along the Cumberland, Green, and Rolling Fork Rivers. Near-record flooding was measured along parts of the Obion River in western Tennessee, with the community of Obion noting its highest water level since January 1937. Snow and bitterly cold conditions immediately trailed the mid-South flooding, complicating recovery efforts.

During the 5-week period ending March 4, drought coverage across the Lower 48 States increased from 39.64 to 44.41 percent, according to the *U.S. Drought Monitor*. Most of the drought deterioration was observed across the southern Plains and the Southwest, and to a lesser degree, portions of the Midwest and southern Atlantic region. Spring and summer runoff prospects across the western United States were decidedly mixed, ranging from abysmal in much of Arizona and New Mexico to mostly favorable from Oregon and northern California to the northern Rockies. The Sierra Nevada served as a transition zone, with the end-of-February average snow-water equivalency of 19 inches (about 85 percent of normal) belying the fact that there was a large variation from 15 inches in the south to more than 23 inches in the north. According to the California Department of Water Resources, the Sierra Nevada snowpack gained an average of approximately 8 inches of water equivalency during February.

## February Agricultural Summary

February was warmer than normal for most of the Great Basin, Mid-Atlantic, Central and Southern Rockies, South, and Southwest. Large parts of the Central Rockies and Southwest, as well as parts of the Southeast, recorded temperatures 5°F or more above normal. In contrast, most of the Midwest, Northeast, Pacific Northwest, Plains, and Northern Rockies were cooler than normal for the month. Parts of Montana and North Dakota recorded temperatures 15°F or more below normal. While much of the Midwest, Plains, Southeast, and Southwest remained drier than normal, parts of the Pacific Northwest, Ohio Valley, Northern Rockies, and Virginia, as well as parts of California and the Northern Plains, recorded at least twice the normal amount of precipitation. Locations in the Pacific Northwest recorded at least 15 inches of precipitation for the month.

## Crop Comments

**Sugarcane:** Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed is forecast at 34.4 million tons, down less than 1 percent from last month but up 3 percent from last season in comparable States. Producers intend to harvest 920,000 acres for sugar and seed during the 2024 crop year, up slightly from last month and up 1 percent from last season, in comparable States. Yields for sugar and seed are expected to average 37.4 tons per acre, down 0.1 ton from last month but up 0.8 ton from last season, in comparable States. Record high sugarcane for sugar and seed production is expected in Louisiana.

Beginning in 2024, estimates for sugarcane were discontinued in Texas.

**Grapefruit:** The United States 2024-2025 grapefruit crop is forecast at 299,000 tons, up 1 percent from the previous forecast but down 13 percent from last season's final utilization. The Florida forecast, at 1.20 million boxes (51,000 tons), is up 9 percent from previous forecast but down 33 percent from the last season. California and Texas grapefruit production forecasts were carried forward from the previous forecast.

**Tangerines and mandarins:** The United States tangerine and mandarin crop is forecast at 1.02 million tons, unchanged from the previous forecast but down 9 percent from the last season's final utilization. The Florida tangerine and mandarin forecast, at 350,000 boxes (17,000 tons) is unchanged from last forecast but down 22 percent from last year. The California tangerine and mandarin production forecast was carried forward from the previous forecast.

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey procedures:** The orange objective yield survey for the March 1 forecast was conducted in Florida. In August and September last year, the number of bearing trees and the number of fruit per tree was 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 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 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 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 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 4.7 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 4.7 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 8.1 percent.

Also, shown in the following table is a 20-year record for oranges of the differences between the March 1 forecast and the final estimate. Changes between the March 1 orange forecast and the final estimates during the past 20-years have averaged 185,000 tons, ranging from 7,000 tons to 733,000 tons. The March 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 8 times and above 12 times. This does not imply that the March 1 forecast for oranges this year is likely to understate or overstate final production.

### Reliability of March 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 .....tons	(percent) 4.7	(percent) 8.1	(thousands) 185	(thousands) 7	(thousands) 733	(number) 8	(number) 12

## 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](mailto:nass@usda.gov)

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Robert Little – Blueberries, Cabbage, Dry Edible Beans, Kale, Lettuce, Macadamia, Maple Syrup, Pears, Raspberries, Spinach.....	(202) 720-3250
Krishna Rizal – Artichokes, Asparagus, Celery, Grapefruit, Kiwifruit, Lemons, Mandarins and tangerines, Mint, Mushrooms, Olives, Oranges, Pistachios .....	(202) 720-5412
Chris Singh – Apples, Cucumbers, Hazelnuts, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Squash, Strawberries, Sugarbeets, Sugarcane, Sweet Potatoes .....	(202) 720-4285
Antonio Torres – Beets, Cantaloupes, Dry Edible Peas, Grapes, Green Peas, Honeydews, Lentils, Sweet Cherries, Tart Cherries, Walnuts, Watermelons .....	(202) 720-2157
Chris Wallace – Avocados, Bell Peppers, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Chile Peppers, Dates, Floriculture, Hops, Papayas, Pecans.....	(202) 720-4215



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