

## Florida citrus production lowest in decades

The final forecast of the 2016-2017 season for Florida's struggling citrus industry shows the orange crop falling 16 percent from the previous season — which, itself, had been at a five-decades low.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture reported Wednesday, in the final forecast for the 2016-2017 season, that Florida growers have harvested enough oranges to fill 68.7 million 90-pound boxes. Growers produced 81.6 million boxes of oranges in the 2015-2016 season.

Not all news is bad however, as the USDA forecast shows Valencia oranges up 200,000 boxes from last month, and is now at 68.7 million boxes. The total comprises 33.0 million boxes of non-Valencia oranges (early, midseason, and Navel varieties), unchanged from last month, and 35.7 million boxes of Valencia oranges, up 200,000 boxes from last month.

Crop and State	Production <sup>1</sup>		2016-2017 Forecasted Production <sup>1</sup>	
	2014-2015 (1,000 boxes)	2015-2016 (1,000 boxes)	June (1,000 boxes)	July (1,000 boxes)
<b>Non-Valencia Oranges <sup>2</sup></b>				
Florida	47,400	36,100	33,000	33,000
California	39,000	47,200	43,000	40,000
Texas	1,170	1,351	1,050	1,090
United States	87,570	84,651	77,050	74,090
<b>Valencia Oranges</b>				
Florida	49,550	45,600	35,500	35,700
California	9,200	11,300	8,000	8,000
Texas	282	340	320	280
United States	59,032	57,240	43,820	43,980
<b>All Oranges</b>				
Florida	96,950	81,700	68,500	68,700
California	48,200	58,500	51,000	48,000
Texas	1,452	1,691	1,370	1,370
United States	146,602	141,891	120,870	118,070
<b>Grapefruit</b>				
Florida-All	12,900	10,800	7,800	7,800
White	3,250	2,490	1,500	1,500
Red	9,650	8,310	6,300	6,300
California	4,800	3,800	3,800	4,000
Texas	4,250	4,800	4,700	4,800
United States	21,950	19,400	16,300	16,600
<b>Lemons</b>				
California	20,600	20,900	19,000	19,000
Arizona	2,000	1,750	1,700	1,650
United States	22,600	22,650	20,700	20,650
<b>Tangelos</b>				
Florida	665	390	(NA)	(NA)
<b>Tangerines and Tangelos <sup>3</sup></b>				
Florida-All	2,265	1,415	1,620	1,620
Early <sup>4</sup>	1,445	785	600	600
Royal <sup>5</sup>	(NA)	(NA)	210	210
Honey	820	630	530	530
Tangelo	(NA)	(NA)	280	280
California	18,700	21,600	22,000	24,000
Arizona <sup>6</sup>	170	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
United States	21,135	23,015	23,620	25,620

The forecast of Florida grapefruit production is unchanged at 7.80 million boxes. These numbers show that production dropped 28 percent from the prior year. Of the total grapefruit forecast, 1.50 million boxes are white and 6.30 million boxes are the red varieties.

The Florida tangerine and tangelo forecast remains at 1.62 million boxes. The forecast includes 600,000 boxes of the early tangerines (Fallglo and Sunburst), 210,000 boxes of Royal tangerines, 530,000 thousand boxes of Honey tangerines, and 280,000 boxes of tangelos.

Rapport USDA : <http://www.freshplaza.com/2017/0713/cit0717.pdf>

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