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Orange Production Up 4 Percent from March Forecast

The United States all orange forecast for the 2025-2026 season is 2.53 million tons, up 4 percent from the previous forecast and up 7 percent from the 2024-2025 revised utilization. The California all orange forecast is 48.5 million boxes (1.94 million tons), up 4 percent from the previous forecast and up 10 percent from last season's revised utilization. The California Navel orange forecast is 40.0 million boxes (1.60 million tons), up 5 percent from the previous forecast and up 8 percent from last season's revised utilization. The California Valencia orange forecast is 8.50 million boxes (340,000 tons), unchanged from previous forecast but up 23 percent from last season's revised utilization.

The Florida all orange forecast, at 12.2 million boxes (550,000 tons), is up 2 percent from the previous forecast but down 1 percent from last season's revised utilization. In Florida, early, midseason, and Navel varieties are forecast at 4.70 million boxes (212,000 tons), up 4 percent from the previous forecast and up 2 percent from last season's final utilization. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 7.50 million boxes (338,000 tons), is unchanged from previous forecast but down 2 percent from last season's utilization. The Texas all orange forecast, at 910,000 boxes (39,000 tons), is up 1 percent from the previous forecast and up 7 percent from last season's utilization.

This report was approved on April 9, 2026.



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Utilized Production of Citrus Fruits by Crop – States and United States: 2024-2025 and Forecasted April 1, 2026

[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	
	2024-2025 (1,000 boxes)	2025-2026 (1,000 boxes)	2024-2025 (1,000 tons)	2025-2026 (1,000 tons)
Oranges				
California, all	44,100	48,500	1,764	1,940
Early, mid, and Navel ²	37,200	40,000	1,488	1,600
Valencia	6,900	8,500	276	340
Florida, all	12,280	12,200	553	550
Early, mid, and Navel ²	4,600	4,700	207	212
Valencia	7,680	7,500	346	338
Texas, all	850	910	37	39
Early, mid, and Navel ²	530	560	23	24
Valencia	320	350	14	15
United States, all	57,230	61,610	2,354	2,529
Early, mid, and Navel ²	42,330	45,260	1,718	1,836
Valencia	14,900	16,350	636	693
Grapefruit				
California	4,300	4,300	172	172
Florida	1,300	1,250	55	53
Texas	2,000	2,000	80	80
United States	7,600	7,550	307	305
Tangerines and mandarins ³				
California	30,400	30,000	1,216	1,200
Florida	400	450	19	21
United States	30,800	30,450	1,235	1,221
Lemons				
Arizona	1,120	950	45	38
California	26,400	26,000	1,056	1,040
Florida	670	900	30	41
United States	28,190	27,850	1,131	1,119

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 in Arizona-80, California-80, Florida-90.

² Navel and miscellaneous varieties in California. Early (including Navel) and midseason varieties in Florida and Texas.

³ Includes tangelos and tangors.

Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Domestic Units – United States: 2025 and 2026

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

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)
Grains and hay				
Barley	2,299	2,352	1,761	
Corn for grain ¹	98,788	95,338	91,258	
Corn for silage	(NA)		6,208	
Hay, all	(NA)	(NA)	49,557	50,113
Alfalfa	(NA)		14,676	
All other	(NA)		34,881	
Oats	2,370	2,361	944	
Proso millet	442		397	
Rice	2,812	2,319	2,740	
Rye	2,229		341	
Sorghum for grain ¹	6,640	6,120	6,020	
Sorghum for silage	(NA)		448	
Wheat, all	45,328	43,775	37,241	
Winter	33,153	32,410	25,508	
Durum	2,185	1,950	2,123	
Other spring	9,990	9,415	9,610	
Oilseeds				
Canola	2,338.5	2,685.0	2,306.0	
Cottonseed	(X)		(X)	
Flaxseed	248	230	234	
Mustard seed	126.2		111.8	
Peanuts	1,953.0	1,674.0	1,906.0	
Rapeseed	18.6		16.6	
Safflower	116.5		108.5	
Soybeans for beans	81,215	84,700	80,437	
Sunflower	1,288.2	1,385.5	1,246.2	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all	9,282.5	9,640.0	7,804.9	
Upland	9,141.0	9,510.0	7,666.7	
American Pima	141.5	130.0	138.2	
Sugarbeets	1,079.0	1,063.0	1,059.8	
Sugarcane	(NA)		946.0	
Tobacco	(NA)	(NA)	171.3	171.6
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Chickpeas	536.0	499.0	520.3	
Dry edible beans	1,366.0	1,236.0	1,334.6	
Dry edible peas	1,173.0	1,174.0	1,063.0	
Lentils	1,072.0	832.0	949.0	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Hops	(NA)		41.7	
Maple syrup	(NA)		(NA)	
Mushrooms	(NA)		(NA)	
Peppermint oil	(NA)		22.9	
Potatoes	902.0		896.8	
Spearmint oil	(NA)		11.6	

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Domestic Units – United States:
2025 and 2026 (continued)**

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

Crop	Yield per acre		Production	
	2025	2026	2025 (1,000)	2026 (1,000)
Grains and hay				
Barleybushels	80.0		140,849	
Corn for grainbushels	186.5		17,020,549	
Corn for silage tons	21.8		135,540	
Hay, all tons	2.48		123,031	
Alfalfa tons	3.42		50,213	
All other tons	2.09		72,818	
Oatsbushels	73.8		69,626	
Proso milletbushels	35.9		14,239	
Rice ²cwt	7,544		206,707	
Ryebushels	36.5		12,459	
Sorghum for grainbushels	72.6		436,825	
Sorghum for silage tons	16.4		7,325	
Wheat, allbushels	53.3		1,984,537	
Winterbushels	54.9		1,401,554	
Durumbushels	40.6		86,223	
Other springbushels	51.7		496,760	
Oilseeds				
Canola pounds	2,017		4,650,910	
Cottonseed tons	(X)		4,204.0	
Flaxseedbushels	22.2		5,202	
Mustard seed pounds	636		71,120	
Peanuts pounds	3,767		7,179,850	
Rapeseed pounds	2,126		35,290	
Safflower pounds	1,319		143,160	
Soybeans for beansbushels	53.0		4,261,858	
Sunflower pounds	1,863		2,321,852	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ²bales	856		13,918.0	
Upland ²bales	847		13,530.0	
American Pima ²bales	1,348		388.0	
Sugarbeets tons	33.2		35,140	
Sugarcane tons	36.4		34,445	
Tobacco pounds	2,093		358,570	
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Chickpeas ²cwt	1,315		6,844	
Dry edible beans ²cwt	2,012		26,855	
Dry edible peas ²cwt	1,738		18,480	
Lentils ²cwt	1,112		10,557	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Hops pounds	1,996		83,143.4	
Maple syrupgallons	(NA)		5,771	
Mushrooms pounds	(NA)		669,930	
Peppermint oil pounds	108		2,471	
Potatoescwt	460		412,860	
Spearmint oil pounds	139		1,609	

(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: 2025 and 2026

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

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)
Grains and hay				
Barley	930,380	951,830	712,660	
Corn for grain ¹	39,978,520	38,582,340	36,931,200	
Corn for silage	(NA)		2,512,320	
Hay, all ²	(NA)	(NA)	20,055,220	20,280,230
Alfalfa	(NA)		5,939,230	
All other	(NA)		14,115,990	
Oats	959,120	955,470	382,030	
Proso millet	178,870		160,660	
Rice	1,137,990	938,480	1,108,850	
Rye	902,050		138,000	
Sorghum for grain ¹	2,687,140	2,476,700	2,436,230	
Sorghum for silage	(NA)		181,300	
Wheat, all ²	18,343,790	17,715,300	15,071,060	
Winter	13,416,690	13,116,000	10,322,830	
Durum	884,250	789,150	859,160	
Other spring	4,042,850	3,810,160	3,889,070	
Oilseeds				
Canola	946,370	1,086,590	933,220	
Cottonseed	(X)		(X)	
Flaxseed	100,360	93,080	94,700	
Mustard seed	51,070		45,240	
Peanuts	790,360	677,450	771,340	
Rapeseed	7,530		6,720	
Safflower	47,150		43,910	
Soybeans for beans	32,866,900	34,277,240	32,552,050	
Sunflower	521,320	560,700	504,320	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ²	3,756,530	3,901,210	3,158,560	
Upland	3,699,270	3,848,600	3,102,640	
American Pima	57,260	52,610	55,930	
Sugarbeets	436,660	430,190	428,890	
Sugarcane	(NA)		382,840	
Tobacco	(NA)	(NA)	69,320	69,440
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Chickpeas	216,910	201,940	210,560	
Dry edible beans	552,810	500,200	540,100	
Dry edible peas	474,700	475,110	430,190	
Lentils	433,830	336,700	384,050	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Hops	(NA)		16,860	
Maple syrup	(NA)		(NA)	
Mushrooms	(NA)		(NA)	
Peppermint oil	(NA)		9,270	
Potatoes	365,030		362,930	
Spearmint oil	(NA)		4,690	

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Crop Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production in Metric Units – United States:
2025 and 2026 (continued)**

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

Crop	Yield per hectare		Production	
	2025	2026	2025	2026
	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)
Grains and hay				
Barley	4.30		3,066,620	
Corn for grain	11.71		432,341,860	
Corn for silage	48.94		122,959,820	
Hay, all ²	5.57		111,611,850	
Alfalfa	7.67		45,552,470	
All other	4.68		66,059,380	
Oats	2.65		1,010,620	
Proso millet	2.01		322,930	
Rice	8.46		9,376,070	
Rye	2.29		316,470	
Sorghum for grain	4.55		11,095,870	
Sorghum for silage	36.65		6,645,130	
Wheat, all ²	3.58		54,010,250	
Winter	3.70		38,144,050	
Durum	2.73		2,346,610	
Other spring	3.48		13,519,590	
Oilseeds				
Canola	2.26		2,109,620	
Cottonseed	(X)		3,813,800	
Flaxseed	1.40		132,140	
Mustard seed	0.71		32,260	
Peanuts	4.22		3,256,730	
Rapeseed	2.38		16,010	
Safflower	1.48		64,940	
Soybeans for beans	3.56		115,988,770	
Sunflower	2.09		1,053,170	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ²	0.96		3,030,290	
Upland	0.95		2,945,810	
American Pima	1.51		84,480	
Sugarbeets	74.33		31,878,470	
Sugarcane	81.62		31,247,980	
Tobacco	2.35		162,640	
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Chickpeas	1.47		310,440	
Dry edible beans	2.26		1,218,120	
Dry edible peas	1.95		838,240	
Lentils	1.25		478,860	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Hops	2.24		37,710	
Maple syrup	(NA)		28,860	
Mushrooms	(NA)		303,870	
Peppermint oil	0.12		1,120	
Potatoes	51.60		18,727,020	
Spearmint oil	0.16		730	

(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: 2025 and 2026

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

Crop	Production		
	2025	2026	
Citrus ¹			
Grapefruit	1,000 tons	307	305
Lemons	1,000 tons	1,131	1,119
Oranges	1,000 tons	2,354	2,529
Tangerines and mandarins	1,000 tons	1,235	1,221
Noncitrus			
Apples, commercial	million pounds	11,470.0	
Apricots	tons	30,700	
Avocados	tons		
Blueberries, Cultivated	1,000 pounds		
Blueberries, Wild (Maine)	1,000 pounds		
Cherries, Sweet	tons	383,000	
Cherries, Tart	million pounds	138.5	
Coffee (Hawaii)	1,000 pounds	18,200	
Cranberries	barrel	8,130,000	
Dates	tons		
Grapes	tons	5,590,000	
Kiwifruit (California)	tons		
Nectarines (California)	tons		
Olives (California)	tons		
Papayas (Hawaii)	1,000 pounds		
Peaches	tons	682,500	
Pears	tons	625,000	
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		
Macadamias (Hawaii)	1,000 pounds		
Pecans, in-shell	1,000 pounds		
Pistachios (California)	1,000 pounds		
Walnuts, in-shell (California)	tons	710,000	

¹ Production years are 2024-2025 and 2025-2026.

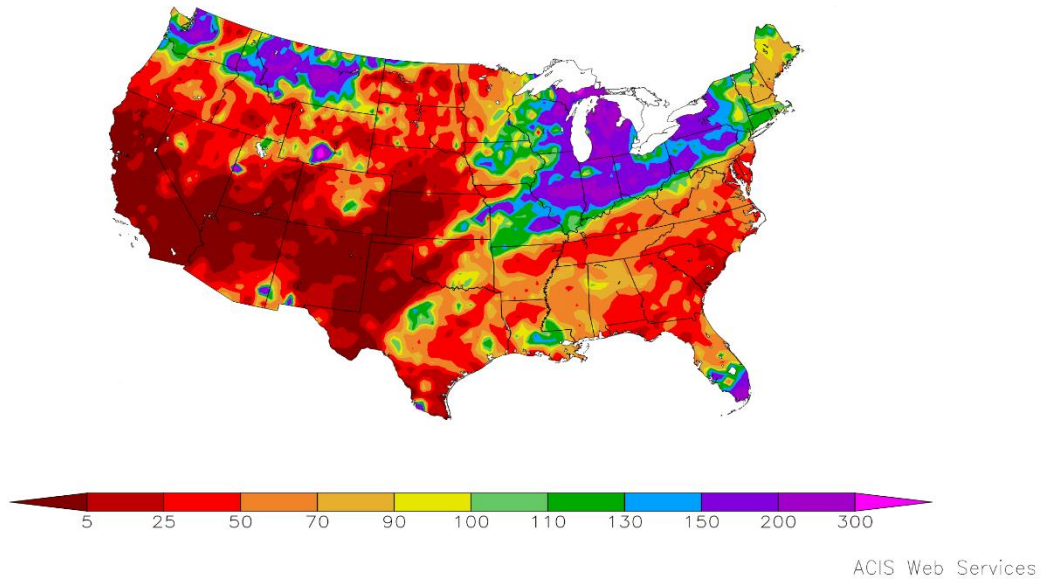
Fruits and Nuts Production in Metric Units – United States: 2025 and 2026

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

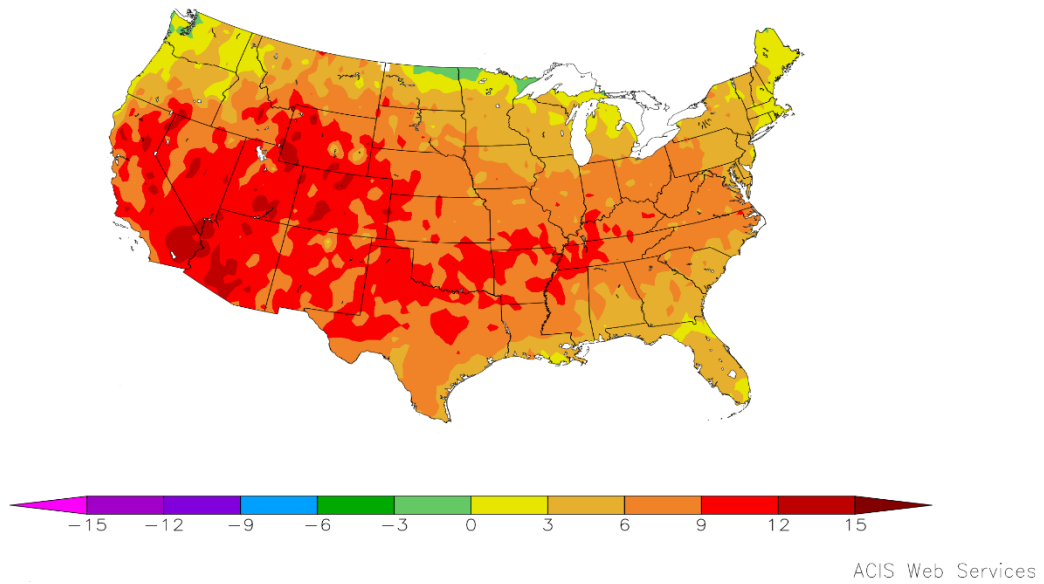
Crop	Production	
	2025	2026
	(metric tons)	(metric tons)
Citrus ¹		
Grapefruit	278,510	276,690
Lemons	1,026,030	1,015,140
Oranges	2,135,510	2,294,270
Tangerines and mandarins	1,120,370	1,107,670
Noncitrus		
Apples, commercial	5,202,700	
Apricots	27,850	
Avocados		
Blueberries, Cultivated		
Blueberries, Wild (Maine)		
Cherries, Sweet	347,450	
Cherries, Tart	62,820	
Coffee (Hawaii)	8,260	
Cranberries	368,770	
Dates		
Grapes	5,071,160	
Kiwifruit (California)		
Nectarines (California)		
Olives (California)		
Papayas (Hawaii)		
Peaches	619,150	
Pears	566,990	
Plums (California)		
Prunes (California)		
Raspberries, all		
Strawberries		
Nuts and miscellaneous		
Almonds, shelled (California)	1,360,780	
Hazelnuts, in-shell (Oregon)		
Macadamias (Hawaii)		
Pecans, in-shell		
Pistachios (California)		
Walnuts, in-shell (California)	644,100	

¹ Production years are 2024-2025 and 2025-2026.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
3/1/2026 – 3/31/2026



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
3/1/2026 – 3/31/2026



March Weather Summary

Highlights: Historic and unprecedented warmth gripped the western and central United States for much of March, prematurely melting Western mountain snowpack and contributing to conditions conducive to spring wildfires on the Plains. According to the California Department of Water Resources, the Sierra Nevada lost about two-thirds of its snow-water equivalency during March, from 15 inches at the beginning of the month to around 5 inches by April 1. At the beginning of April, mountain snowpack had been completely eliminated, or nearly so, in many Southwestern watersheds, portending a summer of sharply reduced streamflow and surface-water reserves. Very warm, mostly dry weather, particularly across the Nation's southwestern quadrant, also sharply reduced topsoil moisture availability for rangeland, pastures, and winter wheat. In drier areas of the Deep South, drought adversely affected some emerging summer crops. Ironically, several sharp cold snaps, the worst of which struck around mid-March, threatened a variety of Southeastern fruit crops, including blueberries and peaches.

Monthly average temperature records were broken by more than 5°F in some Southwestern locations. In Phoenix, Arizona, for example, the monthly average temperature of 78.8°F was 12.5°F above normal, eclipsing the March 2004 record of 72.3°F. Record-shattering March warmth extended as far north as the northern Intermountain West and as far east as the High Plains. In fact, monthly temperatures averaged at least 6 to 12°F above normal along and south of a line from northwestern California to southern Montana, then extending southeastward into the central Appalachians, excluding areas along and near the Gulf Coast. Near- or slightly below-normal March temperatures were restricted to portions of the Nation's northern tier, including western Washington, northern Maine, and areas near Lake Superior.

According to the *U.S. Drought Monitor*, drought coverage across the Lower 48 States was above 50 percent each week starting February 24, peaking at 59.91 percent on March 31. The last time National drought coverage topped 60 percent was November 8, 2022, along with 4 weeks earlier that year. Previously, the only instances of National drought coverage exceeding 60 percent were 25 non-consecutive weeks in 2012-13, starting on July 10 and ending on January 8. At the end of March 2026, Extreme to Exceptional Drought (D3 to D4) was observed in portions of twenty-four States, led by Florida (nearly 80 percent). Double-digit coverage of D3 to D4 was observed on March 31 in a dozen States, including Georgia (63 percent), Arkansas (61 percent), Utah (59 percent), Colorado (48 percent), Nebraska (43 percent), and Oklahoma (35 percent).

During the first 3 months of 2026, wildfires scorched more than 1.6 million acres of vegetation, more than twice the 10-year January-March average of approximately 0.7 million acres. The largest blaze of the month (and the year to date) was the Morrill Fire, which was ignited on March 12 and quickly charred more than 642,000 acres of cured vegetation north and northwest of Lake McConaughy, Nebraska, in becoming the largest wildfire in modern State history. Elsewhere in Nebraska, other incidents that began around the same time included the 129,000-acre Cottonwood Fire, southeast of North Platte, and the 36,000-acre Road 203 Fire, mostly in the Nebraska National Forest. About 2 weeks later, on March 26, additional wildfires flaring across the western half of Nebraska included the 36,000-acre Ashby Fire and the 14,000-acre Minor Fire.

Conversely, wetter-than-normal March weather affected much of the Midwest, extending across portions of the northern Plains and Northeast. Although much of the Corn Belt benefited from a boost in soil moisture in advance of spring planting, flooding developed early in the month across southern Indiana, especially along the White River and its tributaries. Additionally, a mid-month storm system from the upper Midwest into the upper Great Lakes region increased livestock stress—especially for animals progressing through lambing and calving—amid heavy snow, high winds, and falling temperatures. On March 15-16, as much as 24 to 36 inches of snow blanketed northern sections of Wisconsin and Michigan.

Toward the end of March, Midwestern winter wheat was mostly faring well, with the portion of the crop rated in good to excellent condition ranging from 53 percent in Missouri to 69 percent in Michigan. Conversely, at least one-half of the winter wheat was rated very poor to poor on March 29 in Nebraska (51 percent) and Colorado (50 percent), according to USDA/NASS. Serious topsoil moisture shortages existed across large sections of the Plains and Rockies, led by New Mexico (100 percent very short to short), Colorado (96 percent), and Nebraska (93 percent). Due to March warmth, fast-developing wheat as far north as the central Plains needed moisture for sustenance, with 23 percent of the crop already jointed by March 29 in Kansas, along with 8 percent in Colorado. Winter wheat in top-producer Kansas was rated

40 percent good to excellent near the end of March, down from 62 percent on November 23, 2025. Locations on the High Plains reporting no measurable precipitation during March included Dalhart and Midland, Texas; Guymon, Oklahoma; Burlington, La Junta, Lamar, and Trinidad, Colorado; and Dodge City, Garden City, and Goodland, Kansas.

There were several March outbreaks of severe weather, mainly along and east of a line from western Texas to Lake Michigan, resulting in more than 200 tornadoes, based on preliminary reports from the National Weather Service. The Nation's first tornado-related fatalities of the year occurred on March 5 and 6, with four deaths apiece in Michigan and Oklahoma. Three additional tornado-related fatalities occurred on March 10 from a supercell storm that traveled from Illinois into Indiana—part of the same system that produced monstrous hail, up to 6 inches in diameter, near Kankakee, Illinois. Soon after, high winds—unrelated to thunderstorm activity—raked the northern Plains, with peak gusts on March 12 ranging from 70 to 90 mph or higher in many communities.

March Agricultural Summary

March weather patterns across most of the United States' agricultural regions were marked by widespread warmth, with many areas reporting monthly temperatures 3 to 9°F above normal. Parts of the Southwest and Rocky Mountains experienced anomalies of up to 12°F above normal. Meanwhile, March precipitation varied widely, with many States experiencing significant dryness while others saw periods of rain or snow. Much of the Southeast, High Plains, and West recorded below-average precipitation, delaying planting in several areas and increasing concerns about early-season soil moisture. In contrast, portions of the Midwest, Northeast, and Northern Rockies received above-normal precipitation, helping to recharge soil profiles despite creating periodic delays in field operations in some locations.

Crop Comments

Grapefruit: The United States 2025-2026 grapefruit crop is forecast at 305,000 tons, down 2 percent from the previous forecast and down 1 percent from last season's revised utilization. The California forecast, at 4.30 million boxes (172,000 tons), is unchanged from the previous forecast and from last season's revised total.

Tangerines and mandarins: The United States tangerine and mandarin crop is forecast at 1.22 million tons, up 11 percent from the previous forecast but down 1 percent from last season's revised utilization. The California tangerine and mandarin forecast, at 30.0 million boxes (1.20 million tons), is up 11 percent from the previous forecast but down 1 percent from last season's revised total.

Lemons: The 2025-2026 United States lemon crop is forecast at 1.12 million tons, up 4 percent from the previous forecast but down 1 percent from last season's revised utilization. The California forecast, at 26.0 million boxes (1.04 million tons), is up 4 percent from previous forecast but down 2 percent from the 2024-2025 season's revised total.

Statistical Methodology

Survey procedures: The orange objective yield survey for the April 1 forecast was conducted in Florida. In August and September of last year, the number of bearing trees and number of fruit per tree is determined. In August, September, December, and March, 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 April 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 April 1 forecast.

Revision policy: The April 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 April 1 production forecasts, the "Root Mean Square Error," a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the April 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. For example, the "Root Mean Square Error" for the April 1 orange production forecast is 3.9 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 3.9 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 6.8 percent.

Also, shown in the following table is a 20-year record for oranges of the differences between the April 1 forecast and the final estimate. Changes for oranges between the April 1 forecast and the final estimates during the past 20-years have averaged 145,000 tons, ranging from 0 ton to 502,000 tons. The April 1 forecast for oranges has been below the final estimate 6 times, above 13 times, and equal 1 time. The difference does not imply that the April 1 forecasts this year are likely to understate or overstate final production.

Reliability of April 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
	(percent)	(percent)	(thousands)	(thousands)	(thousands)	(number)	(number)
Oranges tons	3.9	6.8	145	0	502	6	13

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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Fleming Gibson, Head, Fruits, Vegetables, and Special Crops Section	(202) 236-2428
Joshua Bates – Asparagus, Hemp, Maple Syrup, Soybeans	(202) 690-3234
Natasha Bruton – Cotton System Consumption and Stocks, Grain Crushings, Fats and Oils, Flour Milling Products, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Plums, Prunes	(202) 690-1042
Noemi Guindin – Crop Progress and Condition, Kiwifruit	(202) 720-7324
Michelle Harder – Hay, Kale, Peanuts, Raspberries	(202) 690-8533
Deonne Holiday – Almonds, Carrots, Coffee, Cranberries, Garlic, Onions Proso Millet, Rye, Tobacco.....	(202) 720-4288
Bret Holliman – Apricots, Barley, Chickpeas, Nectarines, Peaches, Snap Beans, Tomatoes	(202) 720-7235
James Johanson – Dry Edible Beans, Lettuce, Macadamias, Wheat	(202) 720-8068
Greg Lemmons – Beets, Corn, Flaxseed, Pears, Rice, Sweet Corn	(202) 720-9526
Krishna Rizal – Artichokes, Celery, Grapefruit, Lemons, Mandarins and Tangerines, Mint, Mushrooms, Olives, Oranges, Pistachios	(202) 720-5412
Chris Singh – Apples, Cucumbers, Hazelnuts, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Squash, Sugarbeets, Sugarcane, Sweet Potatoes.....	(202) 720-4285
Becky Sommer – Cabbage, Cotton, Cotton Ginnings, Sorghum, Walnuts, Strawberries.....	(202) 720-5944
Travis Thorson – Blueberries, Canola, Mustard Seed, Rapeseed, Safflower, Spinach, Sunflower	(202) 720-7369
Antonio Torres – Cantaloupes, Dry Edible Peas, Grapes, Green Peas, Honeydews, Lentils, Oats, Sweet Cherries, Tart Cherries, Watermelons.....	(202) 720-2157
Chris Wallace – Avocados, Bell Peppers, Chile Peppers, Dates, Floriculture, Hops, Papayas, Pecans	(202) 720-4215

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- Economics, Statistics, and Market Information (ESMIS) – National Agricultural Library (NAL) website houses NASS’s and other agency archived reports at <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov>. To receive the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the website, create a new account and subscribe to the reports. You should whitelist notifications@esmis.nal.usda.gov in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@usda.gov.

If you have specific questions you would like an expert to respond to, please visit our “Ask A Specialist” website at www.nass.usda.gov/Contact_Us/Ask_a_Specialist.

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Spring 2026

USDA Data Users' Meeting

April 22, 2026

1 p.m. CST

Join in-person or virtually

www.nass.usda.gov/go/data_users



USDA Spring Data Users' Meeting **Join Us Online or in Kansas City** **April 22, 2026**

Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
1 Memorial Drive
Kansas City, MO 64198

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will hold an open forum for users of U.S. domestic and international agriculture data. NASS is organizing the 2026 Spring Data Users' Meeting in cooperation with five other USDA agencies – Agricultural Marketing Service, Economic Research Service, Farm Service Agency, Foreign Agricultural Service, and World Agricultural Outlook Board – and the Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. Agency representatives will provide updates on recent and pending changes in statistical and information programs important to agriculture, answer questions, and welcome comments and input from data users.

For registration details or additional information about the Data Users' Meeting, see the meeting page on the NASS website (https://www.nass.usda.gov/go/data_users).