

**Report on fruit size and droppage rate**

**April 10, 2017**

This publication presents the final estimates of fruit size (pieces of fruit to make a standard 40.8 kg box at harvest) and droppage rate for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 orange crops. The precision of the overall average of the citrus belt is higher than that of the sectors, ages or variety groups, due to the larger sample size.

The information was obtained from the monitoring research conducted on 900 blocks since June, which cease to be visited as their harvest is concluded. The details of this methodology are found in the document “Methodology for the Orange Production Forecast Update” available at [www.fundecitrus.com.br](http://www.fundecitrus.com.br). Another source included in this study is the size of fruits received throughout the season by the orange juice companies that are members of Fundecitrus – Citrusuco, Cutrale and Louis Dreyfus – for the purpose of industrial processing. Each processing company provides, under confidentiality, the individual data to an independent consulting firm to ascertain the average size of the fruits processed.

**Table 1 – Oranges<sup>1</sup>: Final estimates of fruits per box (average size) and droppage rate for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 crops by sector, age and variety groups**

Sector, age and variety	Final estimate of fruit per box		Final estimate of droppage rate	
	(number)	(number)	(percentage)	(percentage)
North.....	237	220	18.09	10.18
Northwest.....	219	224	14.81	12.73
Central.....	211	214	19.94	16.25
South.....	237	230	22.28	13.58
Southwest.....	225	224	11.16	12.75
3 to 5 years.....	228	229	11.21	9.14
6 to 10 years.....	223	221	14.93	11.22
Above 10 years.....	228	222	20.98	16.15
Hamlin, Westin e Rubi.....	272	243	12.12	9.40
Valencia Americana, Valencia Argentina, Seleta and Pineapple.....	233	210	11.91	10.30
Pera Rio.....	225	224	15.51	12.00
Valencia e Valencia Folha Murcha.....	200	211	22.62	17.00
Natal.....	211	220	19.71	17.50
<b>Citrus Belt.....</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>17.49</b>	<b>13.73</b>

<sup>1</sup> Hamlin, Westin, Rubi, Valencia Americana, Valencia Argentina, Seleta, Pineapple, Pera Rio, Valencia, Valencia Folha Murcha and Natal.