

Summary of results:

February 11, 2016

Total orange crop production forecast¹: increase of 1.3%

Hamlin, Westin and Rubi: increase of 0.15%

Valencia Americana, Valencia Argentina, Seleta, Pineapple: increase of 0.6%

Pera Rio: unchanged (non-representative increase of 0.04%)

Valencia and Valencia Folha Murcha: increase of 3.5%

Natal: increase of 0.4%

Forecast Dates 2015/16

Final Estimate: April 11, 2016

Orange production forecast update by sector and variety group – citrus belt

Month	Forecast Components				Orange production forecast update 2015/16					
	December / February (strike-through values were presented in December, to their left are their respective values updated in February)				December			February		
Region and Variety Group	Bearing Trees	Fruits per tree at stripping ²	Fruits forecasted by box	Fruit loss from droppage forecast	By Tree	By Hectare	Total	By Tree	By Hectare	Total
	(1,000 trees)	(number)	(number)	(percentage)	(boxes/tree)	(boxes/hectare)	(1,000,000 boxes)	(boxes/tree)	(boxes/hectare)	(1,000,000 boxes)
TOTAL										
Hamlin, Westin and Rubi.....	28,786	672	275 276	12.12	2.03	857	58.35	2.03	859	58.44
Other early season ³	7,860	524	235 237	11.91	1.84	775	14.50	1.86	780	14.60
Pera Rio.....	58,495	398	232	15.51 15.73	1.37	623	80.10	1.37	623	80.13
Valencia and V.Folha Murcha ⁴	60,006	485	212 220	23.00	1.61	682	96.40	1.66	706	99.81
Natal.....	18,979	572	223 225	19.71 19.50	1.94	786	36.79	1.95	789	36.94
Average.....	(X)	498	234 237	17.62 17.65	1.64	709	(X)	1.67	719	(X)
Total.....	174,126	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	286.14	(X)	(X)	289.92
NORTH SECTOR										
Hamlin, Westin and Rubi.....	7,864	816	275 276	12.12	2.46	1,040	19.34	2.46	1,041	19.36
Other early season ³	1,970	459	235 237	11.91	1.62	729	3.19	1.63	733	3.21
Pera Rio.....	10,567	408	232	15.51 15.73	1.40	690	14.83	1.40	690	14.84
Valencia and V.Folha Murcha ⁴	13,713	481	212 220	23.00	1.59	693	21.86	1.65	718	22.64
Natal.....	3,849	424	223 225	19.71 19.50	1.44	571	5.53	1.44	574	5.56
Average.....	(X)	523	234 237	17.62 17.65	1.71	756	(X)	1.73	766	(X)
Subtotal.....	37,963	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	64.75	(X)	(X)	65.61
NORTHWEST SECTOR										
Hamlin, Westin and Rubi.....	2,911	344	275 276	12.12	1.04	452	3.02	1.04	453	3.03
Other early season ³	1,388	377	235 237	11.91	1.33	572	1.84	1.33	576	1.85
Pera Rio.....	9,535	286	232	15.51 15.73	0.98	406	9.38	0.98	406	9.39
Valencia and V.Folha Murcha ⁴	3,737	209	212 220	23.00	0.69	313	2.59	0.72	324	2.68
Natal.....	1,483	587	223 225	19.71 19.50	1.99	688	2.95	2.00	690	2.96
Average.....	(X)	310	234 237	17.62 17.65	1.04	434	(X)	1.04	437	(X)
Subtotal.....	19,054	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	19.78	(X)	(X)	19.91
CENTRAL SECTOR										
Hamlin, Westin and Rubi.....	7,858	469	275 276	12.12	1.41	565	11.11	1.42	566	11.13
Other early season ³	2,877	597	235 237	11.91	2.10	805	6.05	2.12	811	6.09
Pera Rio.....	15,685	376	232	15.51 15.73	1.29	581	20.29	1.29	582	20.30
Valencia and V.Folha Murcha ⁴	16,419	409	212 220	23.00	1.36	535	22.25	1.40	554	23.03
Natal.....	4,615	525	223 225	19.71 19.50	1.78	654	8.21	1.79	656	8.24
Average.....	(X)	431	234 237	17.62 17.65	1.43	584	(X)	1.45	592	(X)
Subtotal.....	47,454	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	67.91	(X)	(X)	68.79
SOUTH SECTOR										
Hamlin, Westin and Rubi.....	4,925	675	275 276	12.12	2.03	862	10.02	2.04	862	10.03
Other early season ³	607	525	235 237	11.91	1.85	796	1.12	1.86	803	1.13
Pera Rio.....	12,605	420	232	15.51 15.73	1.44	642	18.20	1.44	642	18.20
Valencia and V.Folha Murcha ⁴	14,161	566	212 220	23.00	1.88	748	26.57	1.94	775	27.51
Natal.....	3,068	629	223 225	19.71 19.50	2.13	834	6.54	2.14	838	6.57
Average.....	(X)	534	234 237	17.62 17.65	1.77	737	(X)	1.79	749	(X)
Subtotal.....	35,366	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	62.45	(X)	(X)	63.44
SOUTHWEST SECTOR										
Hamlin, Westin and Rubi.....	5,228	942	275 276	12.12	2.84	1,294	14.86	2.85	1,296	14.88
Other early season ³	1,017	644	235 237	11.91	2.26	1,045	2.30	2.28	1,054	2.32
Pera Rio.....	10,103	501	232	15.51 15.73	1.72	840	17.40	1.72	841	17.41
Valencia and V.Folha Murcha ⁴	11,978	583	212 220	23.00	1.93	948	23.13	2.00	981	23.95
Natal.....	5,964	671	223 225	19.71 19.50	2.27	1,088	13.56	2.28	1,092	13.61
Average.....	(X)	630	234 237	17.62 17.65	2.08	1,000	(X)	2.10	1,013	(X)
Subtotal.....	34,290	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	71.25	(X)	(X)	72.17

(X) Not applicable.

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

² Weighted average per stratum area.

³ Valencia Americana, Valencia Argentina, Seleta and Pineapple.

⁴ V. Folha Murcha – Valencia Folha Murcha.

Total orange production forecast¹ update is 289.92 million boxes

The orange production forecast update of the São Paulo and West-Southwest of Minas Gerais citrus belt for the 2015-2016 season, published by Fundecitrus on February 11, 2016 with the cooperation of Markestrat, FEA-RP/USP and FCAV/Unesp² – is of 289.92 million boxes (40.8 kg). This amount represents a 1.3% increase in comparison with the forecast update published in December 2015 and a 3.8% increase in comparison with the first forecast published in May 2015.

The rain volume registered in December and January in the citrus belt remained above the historical average (2010-2014), in consonance with the same climate phenomena attributed to El Niño³, already mentioned in the December update that included a comparative analysis of the rain volume in the second semester of 2015 in relation to the five previous years. Such above average rain volume was one of the factors that contributed to the increase in fruit size and weight in December and January and, consequently, increasing the trend of reduction in the number of oranges required to reach the weight of 40.8 kg (box). The average size updated in February, considering all varieties, is 234 fruit/box, that is, three fruits less than the December forecast update.

Another factor that contributed to the reduction of the amount of fruit required for composing a 40.8 kg box is the smaller number of fruit/tree, because orange trees tend to compensate such smaller amount with a higher development of fruits. The Hamlin, Westin and Rubi varieties presented a slight increase in size, requiring 275 fruits per a 40.8 kg box, where the forecast update of December 2015 projected 276 fruit/box. Other early season varieties were updated to 235 fruit/box (two fruit less than the previous forecast). Pera Rio to 232 fruit/box (unchanged), Valencia and Valencia Folha Murcha to 212 fruit/box (eight fruits less). As regards Natal, the forecast update is 223 fruit/box (two fruits less). According to the data presented, it was observed that the increase in fruit sizes was higher in the late season varieties group – Valencia and Valencia Folha Murcha. This fact was a result of the more intense rain volume in November coinciding with the peak of these varieties harvest.

The forecast for the average rate of fruit loss from droppage, considering all varieties, is updated to 17.62%, slightly lower than the 17.65% forecast updated in December 2015. The forecast update for the loss from droppage of the Hamlin, Westin and Rubi varieties remains 12.12%. Likewise the other early season varieties, which forecast update also remains 11.91%. Pera Rio was reduced to 15.51% (previous: 15.73%). And, Valencia and Valencia Folha Murcha were updated to 23% (remaining equal to the previous update), and Natal to 19.71% (previous: 19.50%) It is estimated that, by the end of January, 92.1% of the production will have been harvested, where 99.3% of Hamlin, Westin and Rubi varieties; 98.2% of other early season fruit; 93.5% of Pera Rio; 87.9% of Valencia and Valencia Folha Murcha and 88.3% of Natal.

The orange production forecast update is based on the blocks' monitoring research, conducted on a monthly basis by Fundecitrus technicians in several blocks distributed throughout the citrus belt, in order to gather the information related to fruit size and fruit loss from droppage. Data provided by the orange processing companies (members of Fundecitrus association) are also used in this forecast update. Such data enables to ascertain the average fruit size, per variety at processing. Because fruit processing includes fruits from all regions of the citrus belt, such data aggregates a high level of reliability to the orange production forecast update methodology. Data collection was conducted on an individual basis and was compiled under strict confidentiality. Complete details of the blocks' monitoring research are available at www.fundecitrus.com.br.

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

² Exact Sciences Department.

³ "El Niño may continue until next summer". Available at: <http://www.somarmeteorologia.com.br/security/defesa_civil/clima3.php>. Accessed on JAN 29 2016.