

Report on fruit size and droppage rate for the orange 2015-2016 season

April 11, 2016

This publication presents the final estimated fruit size (pieces of fruit to make a standard 40.8 kg box at harvest) and droppage rate of the 2015-2016 season. 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. 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 – Oranges¹: Final fruits per box (average size) and droppage rate estimated at the closing of the 2015-2016 season (April/2016) by sector, age and variety groups

| Sector, age and variety | Final fruit per box forecasted | Final droppage forecasted |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | (number) | (percent) |
| North..... | 237 | 18.09 |
| Northwest..... | 219 | 14.81 |
| Central..... | 211 | 19.94 |
| South..... | 237 | 22.28 |
| Southwest..... | 225 | 11.16 |
| 3 to 5 years..... | 228 | 11.21 |
| 6 to 10 years..... | 223 | 14.93 |
| Above 10 years..... | 228 | 20.98 |
| Hamlin, Westin e Rubi..... | 272 | 12.12 |
| Valencia Americana, Valencia Argentina, Seleta and Pineapple..... | 233 | 11.91 |
| Pera Rio..... | 225 | 15.51 |
| Valencia e Valencia Folha Murcha..... | 200 | 22.62 |
| Natal..... | 211 | 19.71 |
| Citrus Belt..... | 226 | 17.49 |

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