



**Forecast update (variation in the December forecast):**

**February, 10 2026**

**Total orange crop production forecast: 292.60 million boxes (0.7% decrease)**

**Hamlin, Westin and Rubi: 46.23 million boxes (unchanged)**

**Other early season: 17.65 million boxes (unchanged)**

**Pera: 87.65 million boxes (unchanged)**

**Valencia and Folha Murcha: 104.27 million boxes (1.8% decrease)**

**Natal: 36.80 million boxes (0.7% decrease)**

**Publication Schedule 2025-2026**

Final crop forecast: April 10, 2026

**Table 1 – Orange crop forecast update by sector and variety group – citrus belt**

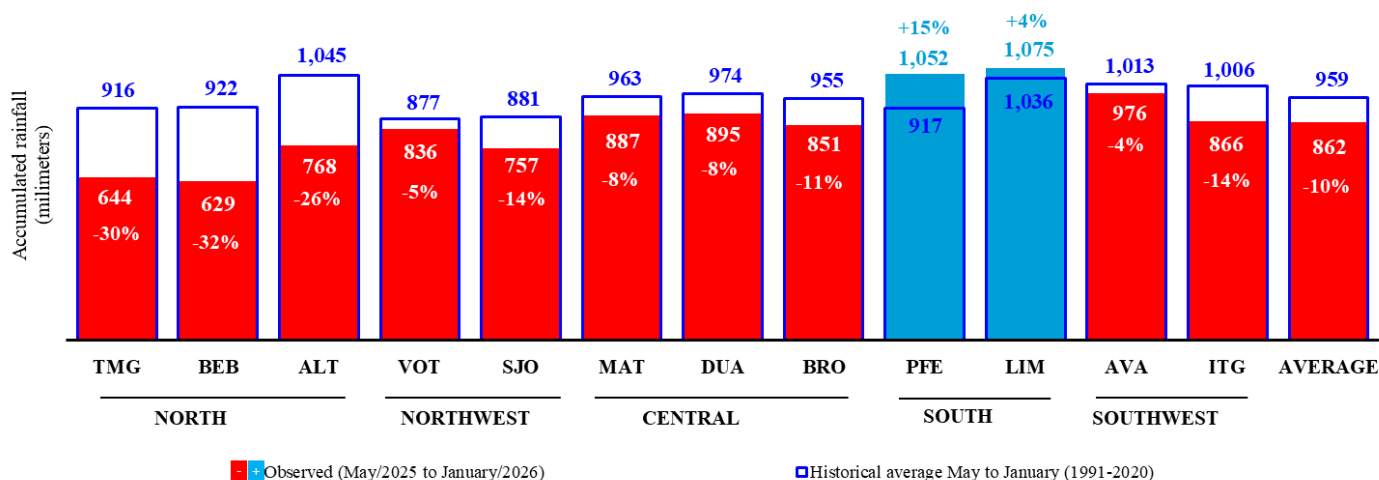
Month	Forecast components				Crop forecast 2025-2026			Crop forecast update 2025-2026		
	December/2025 and February/2026 (strike-through values were presented in December, to their left are their respective values updated in February)				December/2025			February/2026		
	Bearing trees	Fruit per tree at stripping	Fruit estimated per box	Estimated drop rate	Per tree	Per hectare	Total	Per tree	Per hectare	Total
Sector and variety group	(1,000 trees)	(number)	(number)	(percentage)	(boxes/tree)	(boxes/hectare)	(1,000,000 boxes)	(boxes/tree)	(boxes/hectare)	(1,000,000 boxes)
<b>CITRUS BELT</b>										
Hamlin, Westin and Rubi....	27,322.37	692	305	16.9	1.69	795	46.23	1.69	795	46.23
Other early.....	12,477.78	526	272	18.5	1.41	771	17.65	1.41	771	17.65
Pera.....	67,129.82	498	267	22.0	1.31	679	87.65	1.31	679	87.65
Valencia and Folha Murcha	56,767.51	695	253 <del>248</del>	25.6	1.87	929	106.23	1.84	912	104.27
Natal.....	19,013.25	753	250 <del>248</del>	28.5	1.95	982	37.05	1.94	976	36.80
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>182,710.73</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>267 <del>265</del></b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>1.61</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>294.81</b>	<b>1.60</b>	<b>808</b>	<b>292.60</b>
<b>NORTH SECTOR</b>										
Hamlin, Westin and Rubi....	6,695.54	642	304 <del>307</del>	16.0	1.58	687	10.55	1.59	691	10.62
Other early.....	3,098.88	394	283 <del>284</del>	11.0	1.11	603	3.43	1.11	607	3.45
Pera.....	15,002.13	466	250 <del>247</del>	26.9	1.23	660	18.48	1.22	652	18.25
Valencia and Folha Murcha	13,818.66	747	241 <del>240</del>	14.0	2.39	1,135	33.08	2.38	1,130	32.95
Natal.....	3,254.20	712	233 <del>232</del>	20.1	2.19	976	7.13	2.18	973	7.11
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>41,869.41</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>256 <del>255</del></b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>1.74</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>72.67</b>	<b>1.73</b>	<b>846</b>	<b>72.38</b>
<b>NORTHWEST SECTOR</b>										
Hamlin, Westin and Rubi....	1,610.87	570	276 <del>279</del>	7.7	1.69	690	2.72	1.71	697	2.75
Other early.....	2,356.53	435	246 <del>242</del>	18.7	1.31	763	3.08	1.29	753	3.04
Pera.....	8,272.51	335	231 <del>233</del>	16.4	1.07	472	8.88	1.08	476	8.95
Valencia and Folha Murcha	2,666.32	536	241 <del>246</del>	20.0	1.56	709	4.16	1.59	723	4.24
Natal.....	1,439.05	418	233 <del>214</del>	12.0	1.54	844	2.21	1.41	775	2.03
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>16,345.28</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>1.29</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>21.05</b>	<b>1.29</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>21.01</b>
<b>CENTRAL SECTOR</b>										
Hamlin, Westin and Rubi....	7,433.62	682	314 <del>311</del>	22.1	1.53	776	11.39	1.51	766	11.25
Other early.....	4,346.47	617	279 <del>281</del>	20.0	1.57	852	6.84	1.59	860	6.90
Pera.....	19,386.95	495	263	17.6	1.38	754	26.85	1.38	754	26.84
Valencia and Folha Murcha	16,393.87	605	250 <del>245</del>	28.6	1.58	814	25.85	1.55	798	25.34
Natal.....	5,114.10	691	253 <del>264</del>	28.9	1.66	852	8.50	1.74	891	8.89
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>52,675.01</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>23.4</b>	<b>1.51</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>79.43</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>79.22</b>
<b>SOUTH SECTOR</b>										
Hamlin, Westin and Rubi....	5,039.47	638	314 <del>312</del>	19.3	1.48	724	7.46	1.47	718	7.39
Other early.....	494.31	421	307 <del>304</del>	17.1	1.03	512	0.51	1.01	502	0.50
Pera.....	12,493.76	506	291 <del>296</del>	24.2	1.16	616	14.46	1.18	626	14.70
Valencia and Folha Murcha	9,776.21	678	268 <del>269</del>	36.0	1.44	682	14.11	1.45	685	14.16
Natal.....	3,421.75	660	247 <del>246</del>	35.6	1.54	888	5.28	1.54	886	5.27
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>31,225.50</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>282 <del>283</del></b>	<b>28.9</b>	<b>1.34</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>41.82</b>	<b>1.35</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>42.02</b>
<b>SOUTHWEST SECTOR</b>										
Hamlin, Westin and Rubi....	6,542.87	825	296 <del>299</del>	12.8	2.16	1,016	14.11	2.17	1,024	14.22
Other early.....	2,181.59	654	265 <del>262</del>	22.2	1.74	913	3.79	1.72	906	3.76
Pera.....	11,974.47	647	281 <del>280</del>	23.2	1.59	819	18.98	1.58	816	18.91
Valencia and Folha Murcha	14,112.45	790	260 <del>247</del>	28.1	2.06	1,081	29.03	1.95	1,027	27.58
Natal.....	5,784.15	968	258 <del>249</del>	30.6	2.41	1,174	13.93	2.33	1,138	13.50
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>40,595.53</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>271 <del>265</del></b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>1.97</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>79.84</b>	<b>1.92</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>77.97</b>



## Total orange production<sup>1</sup> is updated at 292.60 million boxes

The third update of the 2025-2026 orange crop forecast for the São Paulo and West-Southwest Minas Gerais citrus belt, published on February 10, 2026, by Fundecitrus, carried out in cooperation with professor (retired) from FCAV/Unesp<sup>2</sup>, is 292.60 million boxes of 40.8 kg (90-pound box). In comparison to the May forecast, the crop season is expected to yield 22 million fewer boxes, a decline of 7%. Compared to the last forecast released in December, which projected 294.81 million boxes, the new estimate indicates a 0.7% reduction, corresponding to a decrease of 2.21 million boxes. This downward trend is due to the estimated smaller average size of late variety oranges, namely Valencia, Folha Murcha, and Natal. It is also estimated that approximately 25.73 million boxes will be harvested in the Triângulo Mineiro region.

From May 2025 to January 2026, the average accumulated rainfall in the citrus belt was 862 millimeters, which represents a 10% deficit in relation to the historical average (1991-2020), according to Climatempo Meteorologia. Regions of the Southern sector, which include Porto Ferreira and Limeira, were the only areas that recorded rainfall volumes above the historical average, registering increases of 15% and 4%, respectively. On the other hand, Northern sector regions still show the highest deficit rates, with reductions ranging from 26 to 32%. São José do Rio Preto and Itapetininga recorded downward levels of 14%, followed by Brotas with 11%, Matão and Duartina with 8%, Votuporanga with 5%, and Avaré with 4%, as shown in Graph 1.



**Graph 1 – Accumulated rainfall from May 2025 to January 2026 in the Citrus Belt regions**

Source: Fundecitrus, based on data from Climatempo Meteorologia

Field monitoring survey indicated that 87% of the crop had been harvested by mid-January 2026, with an average fruit weight of only 153 grams (5.40 oz per fruit), which is 1 gram (0.035 oz) below the previous forecast. This decrease was caused by late varieties, whose fruits did not grow as expected during this period. The accumulated harvest of the Valencia and Folha Murcha varieties group reached 75%, with a new orange weight estimate of 161 grams (5.68 oz per fruit), whereas the Natal variety achieved 77% harvest rate, with a projected weight of 163 grams (5.75 oz per fruit). The survey also showed that the harvest of the early varieties Hamlin, Westin, and Rubi, as well as of other early varieties, had already been completed, with weight levels falling within the projected range. Similarly, the harvest of the mid-season Pera variety reached 97%, with fruit weight meeting expectations.

On the current forecast, considering the average of all varieties, the number of oranges needed to fill a 40.8 kg box increased from 265 (154 grams/5.43 per fruit) to 267 (153 grams/5.40 per fruit). The number of oranges per box for the Valência and Folha Murcha varieties went up from 248 fruits per box (165 grams/5.82 oz per fruit) to 253 fruits (161 grams/5.68 oz per fruit), as well as for the Natal variety, which rose from 248 fruits (165 grams/5.82 oz per fruit) to 250 fruits (163 grams/5.75 oz per fruit). The fruit average size for the other



varieties has remained stable, with 305 fruits per box (134 grams/4.72 oz per fruit) for the Hamlin, Westin, and Rubi varieties, 272 fruits per box (150 grams/5.29 oz per fruit) for the other early varieties, and 267 fruits per box (153 grams/5.40 per fruit) for the Pera variety. The sizes by sector and variety are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2 – Average fruit size, as pieces of fruit per box, by sector and variety<sup>3</sup>**

Group of varieties	Sector (hatched values were presented in December and their respective values updated in February are on the left)					
	North	Northwest	Central	South	Southwest	Total
	(Fruits per box)	(Fruits per box)	(Fruits per box)	(Fruits per box)	(Fruits per box)	(Fruits per box)
Hamlin, Westin and Rubi.....	304 <del>307</del>	276 <del>279</del>	314 <del>311</del>	314 <del>312</del>	296 <del>299</del>	<b>305</b>
Other earlies.....	283 <del>284</del>	246 <del>242</del>	279 <del>281</del>	307 <del>304</del>	265 <del>262</del>	<b>272</b>
Pera.....	250 <del>247</del>	231 <del>233</del>	263	291 <del>296</del>	281 <del>280</del>	<b>267</b>
Valencia and Folha Murcha.....	241 <del>240</del>	241 <del>246</del>	250 <del>245</del>	268 <del>269</del>	260 <del>247</del>	<b>253 <del>248</del></b>
Natal.....	233 <del>232</del>	233 <del>214</del>	253 <del>264</del>	247 <del>246</del>	258 <del>249</del>	<b>250 <del>248</del></b>
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>256 <del>255</del></b>	<b>242</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>282 <del>283</del></b>	<b>271 <del>265</del></b>	<b>267 <del>265</del></b>

<sup>3</sup> The precision of the overall average of the citrus belt is higher than that of the sectors, or variety groups, due to the larger sample size.

The estimated premature fruit drop rate was maintained at 23.0% in this updated forecast. This is the highest value recorded over 11 crop seasons and is associated with the increased severity of greening. Estimated percentages remain at 16.9% for Hamlin, Westin, and Rubi, 18.5% for other early varieties, 22.0% for Pera, 25.6% for Valência and Folha Murcha, and 28.5% for the Natal variety. According to a sector wide analysis, the fruit drop rate is still more intense in sectors where the incidence of greening is higher—such as the South, Central, and Southwest regions—and less intense in the North and Northwest regions, where greening prevalence is lower. Drop rates by sector and variety are detailed in Table 3.

**Table 3 – Average drop rates by sector and variety<sup>4</sup>**

Group of varieties	Sector (hatched values were presented in December and their respective values updated in February are on the left)					
	North	Northwest	Central	South	Southwest	Total
	(percentual)	(percentual)	(percentual)	(percentual)	(percentual)	(percentual)
Hamlin, Westin and Rubi.....	16.0	7.7	22.1	19.3	12.8	<b>16.9</b>
Other earlies.....	11.0	18.7	20.0	17.1	22.2	<b>18.5</b>
Pera.....	26.9	16.4	17.6	24.2	23.2	<b>22.0</b>
Valencia and Folha Murcha.....	14.0	20.0	28.6	36.0	28.1	<b>25.6</b>
Natal.....	20.1	12.0	28.9	35.6	30.6	<b>28.5</b>
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>23.4</b>	<b>28.9</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>23.0</b>

<sup>4</sup> The precision of the overall average of the citrus belt is higher than that of the sectors, or variety groups, due to the larger sample size.

The method used for the update is the same adopted in the previous crop season. Information was obtained from the monitoring survey started in May on 1,200 plots that are no longer visited when fruit harvest is complete. Other data used in this study is size of fruit received throughout the crop season by orange juice companies associated to Fundecitrus – Citrusuco, Cutrale and Louis Dreyfus – for industrial processing. Each processing company supplies individual data under confidentiality for the calculation of the average size of processed fruit.

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

<sup>2</sup> Department of Exact Sciences, FCAV/Unesp Jaboticabal Campus.