



# 2008-09 California Valencia Orange Objective Measurement Report

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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The 2008-09 Valencia orange forecast is 30.0 million (37.5-pound) cartons, 6 percent below last season's estimated total of 32.0 million cartons. Objective measurement survey data indicated an average fruit set of 435 oranges per tree in the State of California. Fruit sizes increased this year, with an average diameter of 2.587 inches.

The Valencia Orange Objective Measurement Survey was reinstated in the year 2000. This year, Valencia oranges were sampled from 655 groves or blocks. The sample blocks were distributed in proportion to the bearing acres in each county and the year the trees were planted. Two trees were sampled in each selected block. Sampling was done by measuring branches, randomly selecting a branch at that stage, then moving to the next stage and repeating the steps until a terminal branch was selected. All oranges on intermediate and terminal branches were counted. Two separate random counts were taken in each tree. The two counts

were mathematically combined to arrive at an estimated total fruit count per tree. Fruit diameter measurements were made on the right quadrant of four trees surrounding the sampled tree. One out of every three blocks was selected for sizing.

A special thanks goes to the many Valencia orange farm operators and owners who provided information on their operations.

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## CALIFORNIA VALENCIA ORANGE DATA

Crop Year	Number of Samples Groves	Bearing Acres	Average			
			Trees Per Acre	Set Per Tree	Diameter as of March 1	Diameter as of July 1 a/
					(Inches)	
2001-02	804	65,000	126	518	2.654	2.831
2002-03	780	60,000	126	653	2.584	2.750
2003-04	785	53,000	126	392	2.707	2.870
2004-05	589	49,000	123	807	2.644	2.807
2005-06	650	46,000	123	492	2.640	2.800
2006-07 b/	---	---	---	---	---	---
2007-08	656	44,000	123	692	2.523	2.695
2008-09	655	45,000	124	435	2.587	2.764

a/ Projected data for 2008-09.

b/ Survey not conducted.

**CALIFORNIA VALENCIA ORANGE ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE 1/**

Crop Year	Bearing	Non-Bearing 2/	Yield Per Acre	Production	Value Per Unit 3/	Total Value
	Acres	Acres	Cartons	Cartons	\$/Carton	\$1,000
1995-96	75,000	---	533	40,000,000	5.26	210,190
1996-97	76,000	---	632	48,000,000	4.39	210,370
1997-98	73,200	4,800	684	50,000,000	4.52	225,740
1998-99	73,500	---	408	30,000,000	6.14	184,210
1999-00	71,000	---	676	48,000,000	1.74	83,494
2000-01	68,000	---	558	38,000,000	4.22	160,140
2001-02	65,000	1,080	600	39,000,000	3.76	146,538
2002-03	64,000	---	626	40,000,000	3.27	130,672
2003-04	57,000	443	386	22,000,000	6.24	137,242
2004-05	53,000	402	774	41,000,000	4.19	171,690
2005-06	50,000	---	560	28,000,000	6.46	180,970
2006-07	49,000	---	470	23,000,000	5.52	126,931
2007-08	44,000	492	727	32,000,000	4.23	135,414
2008-09 4/	45,000	---	667	30,000,000	---	---

1/ Net weight per carton is 37.5 pounds.

2/ Non-bearing shown only in year when acreage surveys were conducted.

3/ Equivalent packinghouse door returns.

4/ Forecast.