NASDA Survey Training

April Citrus Survey
(CITRUS PROD)

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

NOD-Training Group
March 2021
General Survey Information

- “Essentially” an Ag Yield survey for citrus crops in AZ, CA, & TX
- Project Code: 133-Citrus Fruit Survey
- Questionnaires:
  - Mailed out around March 24th
  - Web reporting option available
- Release:
  - Crop Production
  - April 9, 12 noon EST
Survey Information

• Looking for 2020 – 2021 season expected production of Lemons, Oranges, and Grapefruit
  – Depending on state

• At this point, we’re not asking about end use
  – Just expected production...regardless of if the fruit will be used for fresh market, processing, etc

• Like with most fruits and vegetables:
  – A wide variety of units may be reported
  – Sometimes with varying weights
  – Questionnaire is set up to handle whatever is reported
Extra Orange Information

• Navel Oranges:
  – Seedless, peel and segment easily, and are thought to be one of the world’s best tasting oranges
    • The “winter orange” – usually available December through May

• Valencia Oranges:
  – Thin skinned, has seeds, and are considered one of the best oranges for juicing
    • The “summer orange” – typically available March through September

• Mandarins:
  – “Mandarin Oranges” is a term that applies to an entire group of citrus fruits including such varieties as Clementine, Honey, Pixie, and tangerines in general. Smaller than Navel or Valencia Oranges. Have a thin, loose skin making them easy to peel.
Grapefruit and Pummelo Extra Information

• Pummelo:
  – One of the four original citrus species from which the rest of cultivated citrus hybridized. Is the largest of the citrus family. Native to South and Southeast Asia.

• Grapefruit:
  – A relatively new citrus fruit. Is believed to be a hybrid between the pummelo and the orange.
    • The grapefruit’s name alludes to clusters of the fruit on the tree, which often appear similar to grapes.
Screening Questions

• Any acres in 2020 – 2021 of:
  • Oranges, Lemons, Mandarins, Mandarin hybrids, Grapefruit, or Pummelos?
    – If “NO”, Will this operation plant any of these citrus fruits in the future?
      • Yes/No/DK: all route you to the end of the survey

• Additional screening for each type of Citrus
  – Does this operation have any [specific type of citrus] acres?
    • If “NO”, Will this operation have any [specific type of citrus] acres in the future?
      – Yes/No/DK: all route you to the next citrus crop

USDA
AGRICULTURE CENSUS
Survey Questions

- Total acres of [specific fruit] on April 1
  - Of these, how many are bearing age this year
    - Even if no production this year (due to freeze, disease, etc), still record the bearing age acres

- Expected total production for 2020 – 2021 season
  - Quantity, unit, pounds per unit
Arizona

• **Lemons:**
  – Will ask for total acres, bearing acres, and expected total production

• **Valencia Oranges, Navel and other Non-Valencia Oranges, Mandarins and Mandarin Hybrids, and Grapefruit and Pummelos:**
  – Will only ask for acres on this operation on April 1
Texas

• Valencia Oranges, Navel and Other Non-Valencia Oranges, Grapefruit and Pummelos:
  – Will ask for total acres, bearing acres, and expected total production

• Mandarins and Mandarin Hybrids, and Lemons:
  – Will only ask for acres on this operation on April 1
California

• Valencia Oranges, Navel and other Non-Valencia Oranges, Mandarins and Mandarin Hybrids, Lemons, Grapefruit and Pummelos:
  – Will ask for total acres, bearing acres, and expected total production for all five types of citrus crops
No Citrus and/or Out of Business

• Screening doesn’t thoroughly cover this
• Leave good notes if the operation has no citrus acres or is completely out of business (no agricultural activity)
  – What happened? New operator? Any other info?
Things to Watch Out For

• Current total and/or bearing acres differs from previous
• Bearing acres cannot be greater than total acres
• Low bearing to total acres ratio
  – We are asking about bearing age....and not what will actually bear a crop this year
    • This can cause some confusion if there is a late frost, disease/insect issues, etc. that impact production
• Bearing acres reported but no production reported
  – Can be possible: crop was lost to a late freeze, etc.
• Yield seems high or low
Things to remember

• Referring to 2020 - 2021 crop year expected production
  – Be sensitive with producers about February 2021 weather conditions (freeze) particularly in TX

• Watch the decimal points: acres, pounds per unit

• Remember, bearing age
  – Even in cases of limited or no production this year
Citrus Fun Facts

• **Lemons** turn from green to yellow because of temperature changes, not ripeness, so green patches are OK, but avoid brown spots, because that means rotting.

• Christopher Columbus brought **citrus** seeds with him to the Americas in 1493, introducing the fruit there.

• Around 85% of all **oranges** produced are used for juice.

• A single **grapefruit** tree can produce over 1,500 pounds of fruit each year.
Conclusion

• Encounter anything odd or unexpected leave a note
• Practice on your iPad
• Contact your supervisor or RFO with any questions
• Have a Great Survey!