To: Dr. Boitshoko Ntshabele
Chief Executive Officer
Citrus Growers Association of Southern Africa
Hillcrest 3650
KwaZulu Natal, South Africa

From: Nicholas Gutierrez
USA Consultant – CGA
Elkridge, Maryland USA

Subject: February - 2026 USA Report

USDA & USTR Cabinet Level Leadership:

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA):

Secretary of Agriculture – Brooke Rollins

Deputy Secretary – Stephen Vaden

Under-Secretary for Marketing & Regulatory Programs/MRP (Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service and the Agricultural Marketing Service) **–** Dudley Hoskins

Under-Secretary for Trade & Foreign Agricultural Affairs/TFAA (Foreign Agricultural Service) **–** Luke Lindberg

U.S. Trade Representative (USTR):

U.S. Trade Representative – Greer Jamison

USTR Chief Agricultural Negotiator – Julie Callahan

U.S. Department of State:

Secretary of State – Marco Rubio

U.S. Ambassador to the African Union: Stephanie Sanders Sullivan

U.S. Ambassador to South Africa – Leo Brent Bozell III

U.S. Ambassador to Botswana: Howard Van Vranken

U.S. Ambassador to eSwatini: No Nominee to date

Communication with USDA - Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS):

Botswana Citrus Market Access – Pest Risk Assessment (PRA) & Risk Management Document (RMD):

Carried out discussions with APHIS-Plant Protection & Quarantine to gain an update on the latest status concerning APHIS decision-making to finalize the Pest Risk Assessment (PRA); in relation to the 2 fruit flies of contention between both plant health services. This decision is critical in order to reach an agreement to finalize the PRA and APHIS Risk Management Document (RMD). After this step is carried out, APHIS can then move forward through consensus by USDA leadership to publish a final regulation allowing market access. DPH continues waiting for a response from APHIS after providing a detailed video conference presentation followed by written justification to eliminate *Ceratitis cosyra* (Mango or Marula fruit fly) and *Dacus ciliatus* (Lesser Pumpkin fly). Removal of these 2 fruit fly pests from the APHIS PRA and RMD are extremely important because neither fruit fly presents a risk of infesting commercial citrus. Equally important, APHIS is also proposing a mandatory irradiation treatment to address *D. ciliatus* in mandarin/tangerine varieties without allowing for a cold treatment option.

APHIS trade directors stated that they are still waiting for their risk assessor staff to make this decision. I reminded that over 2 ½-3 months have already past waiting for an official response with another potential export season for Botswana now in jeopardy. I also reiterated that the cold treatment for mandarin/tangerine varieties should still be a viable mitigation option similar to South Africa since lepidoptera leaf roller pests such as the False Codling Moth are more difficult to eliminate vs. Tephritidae fruit flies. This was the rationale APHIS utilized in 1998/99 where the 22-day cold treatment was approved for South Africa citrus exports to the United States.

APHIS also cautioned that once the PRA and RMD are agreed to by each side, it may be difficult for USDA political leadership to allow for publication of a final rule within the Federal Register. Although the overall bilateral relationship is good between the U.S. and Botswana, USDA is still working internally how to manage and prioritize their agricultural trade policy with smaller countries. USDA has been focusing on promoting U.S. exports to larger countries or geographical regions such as Asia without spending much time on the smaller markets.

Communication with the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR):

Communication with USTR on February 18, regarding AGOA renewal and to determine current discussions with DTIC to exempt mandarin/tangerine, grapefruit, lemon, and lime varieties from import tariffs similar to orange fruit.

On February 3, President Trump signed the 2026 federal budget known as the Consolidated Appropriations Act into law that extends AGOA through December 31, 2026. At the same time, USTR reported that the legislation does not contain any specific provision to penalize or bar South Africa participation.

USTR stated that the Administration has been in recent negotiations with DTIC where USTR is linking tariff exemptions for South African mandarin, grapefruit, lemon, and lime varieties with improved access for U.S. poultry. USTR believes that South Africa is not working in "good faith" concerning the established Tariff-Rate Quota (TRQ) which is set at some 72,000 tons but USTR noted that only 11,000 tons were exported in 2024. However, due to the disagreement, USTR explained that the U.S. has not exported poultry for a long period in 2025 and added that South Africa included a 60% import tariff. USTR added that USDA and the U.S. poultry industry were also displeased with other annoyances such as DoA permitting issues.

However, USTR stated that there may be some positive news to report with DTIC recently submitting a proposal to resolve this irritant where it is currently being shared with the U.S. industry. Expressing some encouragement, USTR indicated that the proposal looked, "promising."

U.S. Supreme Court Rules Against Administration Tariff Policy under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA):

On February 20, the Supreme Court voted via a 6-3 ruling against President Trump's sweeping tariffs on U.S. trading partners which the Court said violated federal law. The ruling dealt a major blow to the administration's economic agenda and left trade deals in limbo as world leaders tried to figure out next steps in the bilateral negotiation process.

However, after the Supreme Court ruling, the Administration immediately imposed an Executive Order that implemented a global 10% tariff that was then raised by President Trump to 15% for the next 120 days. President Trump has always been a strong advocate for tariffs since the 1970-80s with tariffs now being a critical component of his Administration's trade policy.

The Trump administration is currently considering new national security tariffs on a half-dozen industries in the wake of a Supreme Court decision last week that invalidated many of the president's second-term levies.

The new tariffs being considered could cover industries such as large-scale batteries, cast iron and iron fittings, plastic piping, industrial chemicals and power grid and telecom equipment, according to people familiar with the plans. They would be issued under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, which gives the president broad powers to impose tariffs based on national security risks.

The new Section 232 tariffs would be issued separately from other levies that President Trump has already announced since the Supreme Court threw out many of his tariffs. Those announced include a new 15% tariff that Trump can keep in place for five months, and a number of levies planned for after that period, which would be issued under another legal authority, Section 301 of the Trade Act.

Products tariffed under Section 232 have so far been exempted from Trump's other second-term levies. Trump has already used Section 232 to issue tariffs on sectors such as steel, aluminum, copper, cars, trucks, and auto parts during his second term, and those levies aren't affected by the Supreme Court decision last week.

It remains unclear when the tariff investigations, run by the U.S. Commerce Department, will be announced, and when tariffs will ultimately be imposed. Section 232 requires lengthy investigations before levies can be imposed, but once in place can be altered by the president unilaterally.

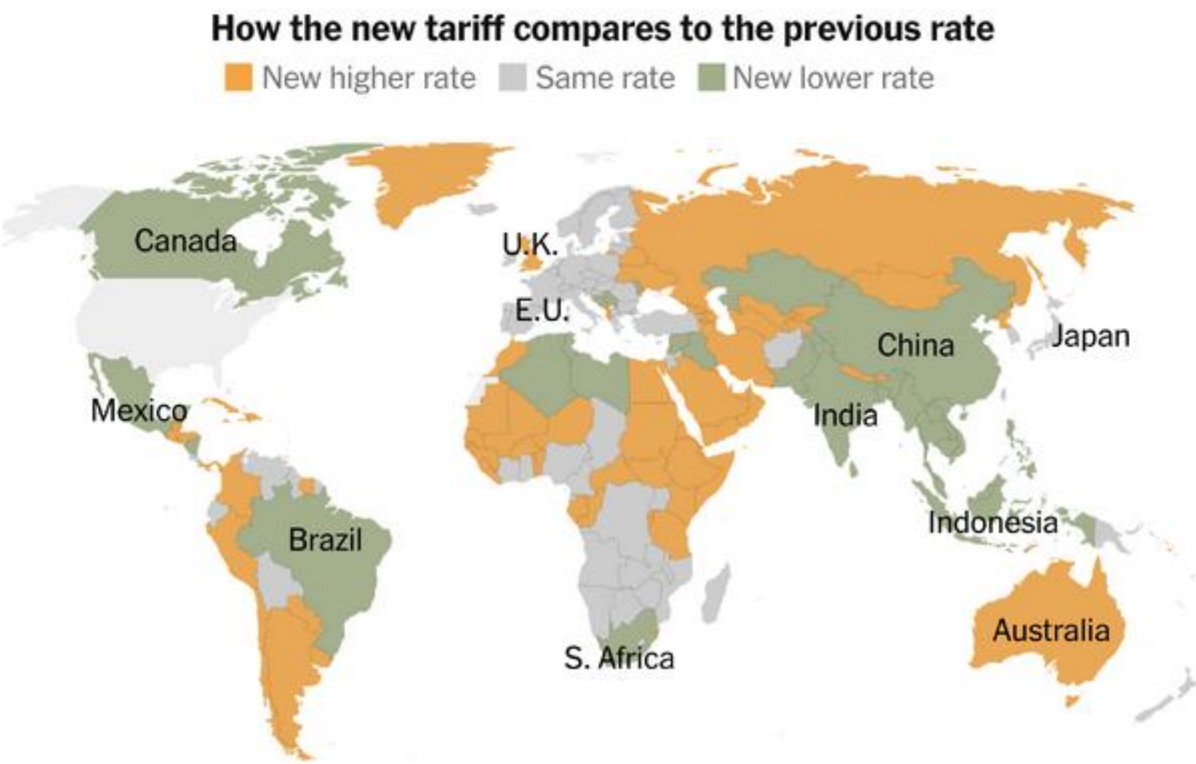
Trump Executive Order 14257 Dated November 14, 2025 – Remains Current Granting U.S. Agricultural Tariff Exemption for South Africa Orange Fruit --

South African orange fruit are still covered by the U.S. tariff exemption created by President Trump's Executive Order from November 14, 2025. Based on all available reporting, nothing in the Supreme Court ruling issued on February 20, 2026, indicates that this exemption has been overturned or suspended.

U.S. Congressional Legislative Support Lacking –
Some Republicans want Congress to reauthorize the tariffs by passing a bill through reconciliation, which would sidestep a Democratic filibuster. However, President Trump's problem is that there probably isn't enough support within his own party to get that done. On Monday, House Speaker Mike Johnson (Republican-Louisiana) told reporters he didn't think there was enough consensus to codify Trump's tariffs. Senate Majority Leader John Thune (Republican-South Dakota) told reporters the tariffs are "probably not an issue that we have the votes for." Another huge factor for consideration is that Congressional elections will take place in November, and the general public does not support the Administration's tariff policy with some 65% against. In addition, the economy is not doing well with inflation and affordability being major concerns for the majority of Americans.

Status of Trade Agreements Prior to Trump Tariff Ruling —

Countries that had struck trade deals with Mr. Trump to get lower tariff rates are now stuck with them. Last week, Japan committed to $36 billion in investments in the United States and Indonesia signed an agreement in Washington under threat of damaging levies. The court ruling has left their leaders wondering if their agreements will stand.



<u>**Produce Industry Reacts With Uncertainty to the Supreme Court Ruling that the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) is Unconstitutional:**</u> (Fresh Plaza/February 27)

Many in the industry are unsure of what exactly this will mean. "I have no idea–we don't know when we will be fined again and how much. At this point, nothing changes but insecurity is increasing," says Elena

Kong of Love April. "The customs broker doesn't know what is going to happen, importers don't know the costs, and the customers don't know how much they'll end up paying."

"We are being very cautious regarding the new announcement from last week," says G.T. Parris of Greenyard USA/Seald Sweet. "Like many in our industry, we were somewhat surprised by the ruling from the Supreme Court of the United States — whether it is correct or not is not for us to debate. The subsequent response from Donald Trump has only added further uncertainty as to where this situation may be headed."

Clarity with the President's "State of the Union" address to Congress on February 24?? --
He notes that in turn, the company's growers have been calling and asking what this means for the upcoming season. "Unfortunately, we do not have a clear answer at this time. We will be watching the State of the Union address closely in hopes that it provides additional clarity. However, it appears this may ultimately be decided through legal channels, which could take weeks or even months," says Parris.

It's an additional challenge given these tariffs are applying to food which is an essential item. "With the new food pyramid guidelines in place, we would hope these products would be left out of political uncertainty so the focus can remain on lowering prices for consumers and ensuring families continue to have access to fresh fruits and vegetables," adds Parris.

"The ongoing changes to tariffs have created significant turmoil for our industry, leaving us yearning for clarity amidst the confusion," notes Anthony Serafino of Exp. Group LLC. "This constant state of uncertainty is not sustainable, and we feel we are owed a refund in light of the decision. We align with the Supreme Court's position on the implications of these tariffs."

Costs and companies and affordability --
He also notes that the escalating costs associated with these tariffs are placing a tremendous burden on the company's products, which directly impacts consumer affordability, an issue that is increasingly critical for customers. "We are anxiously awaiting further clarification on what these developments will mean for our operations and their broader implications for the market. Just as it seemed we were beginning to achieve some stability with recent trade agreements, we find ourselves confronted with yet another unexpected challenge stemming from an executive order issued by the Trump Administration. This has added an additional layer of complexity to an already volatile situation," says Serafino.

On Friday, the International Fresh Produce Association (IFPA) put out its statement following the Supreme Court announcement. "IFPA welcomes the Supreme Court's decision clarifying the limits of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act and reaffirming that broad, country-specific tariffs fall outside their intended scope. The global trade of fresh produce is essential to the health and well-being of people in every nation, and today's ruling helps restore predictability to a uniquely complex, seasonally driven marketplace."

<u>U.S. Mandarin and Tangerine Imports to Surge to a Record 555,000 Metric Tons as California Output Dips:</u> (Fresh Fruit Portal/February 3)

In a season defined by shifting supply dynamics and a seemingly insatiable consumer appetite for easy-peelers, the United States is on track to set a new record for tangerine and mandarin imports.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the country's imports are forecast to climb by four percent, reaching an all-time high of 555,000 metric tons in the 2025/26 marketing year.

This marks the second consecutive year of record-breaking import volumes, a trend that underscores the growing importance of foreign supply in the American fruit bowl.

USDA noted that imports are now expected to account for nearly half of all U.S. fresh tangerine and mandarin consumption.

The surge in imports is largely the result of a projected dip in domestic production.

After a bumper year in 2024/25, California, which accounts for nearly all U.S. tangerine and mandarin production—is entering a lower-yielding cycle, leading to a nationwide output forecast of 997,000 tons, down 10 percent.

While the Golden State's harvest typically dominates the window between November and May, the gap left by a lighter crop is being filled by a diverse trio of international partners: Chile, Peru, and Morocco.

Chile and Peru remain the heavy hitters for the U.S. market, primarily supplying fruit during the May-to-October window.

The U.S. has historically been Chile's primary destination for small citrus, usually receiving over 90 percent of the Andean country's output.

Meanwhile, Morocco—the third-largest supplier—is expected to increase shipments between November and April, supplementing the lower local volumes during the peak winter months.

Despite the forecast record import levels, the USDA notes that the total U.S. supply of tangerines and mandarins will actually fall by about five percent to 1.6 million tons. This suggests that while imports are working overtime, they won't quite fully offset the contraction in domestic harvests, potentially keeping prices firm for retailers and wholesalers alike.

Global Snapshot: Production Inches Up as Exports Boom --

While the U.S. market is navigating a domestic squeeze, the global citrus landscape remains resilient. Despite substantial gains in markets such as China, Turkey, and Morocco, growth has been offset by significant declines in the European Union and the United States.

According to the USDA, global tangerine and mandarin production is forecast to rise slightly (less than one percent) to a total of 38.4 million tons.

China remains the undisputed titan of the mandarin world. Its production is forecast to rise by 100,000 tons, bringing it to a staggering 27.1 million tons. This growth is being fueled by favorable weather conditions in the powerhouse growing regions of Guangxi and Yunnan. As the world's largest producer and consumer, the Asian Giant's steady output provides a stable floor for the global market, even as it directs more fruit toward its own domestic processing industry.

Conversely, the European Union is facing a tougher season. Production in the EU is forecast to drop by six percent to 2.8 million tons. The report cites delayed fruit ripening in Spain and smaller fruit sizes in Italy as the primary culprits. This contraction is expected to lead to lower consumption within the bloc, as higher prices and limited availability of premium-sized fruit impact shelves.

An Export Renaissance --

Global fresh tangerine and mandarin exports are projected to jump by more than 10 percent, reaching 4.8 million tons.

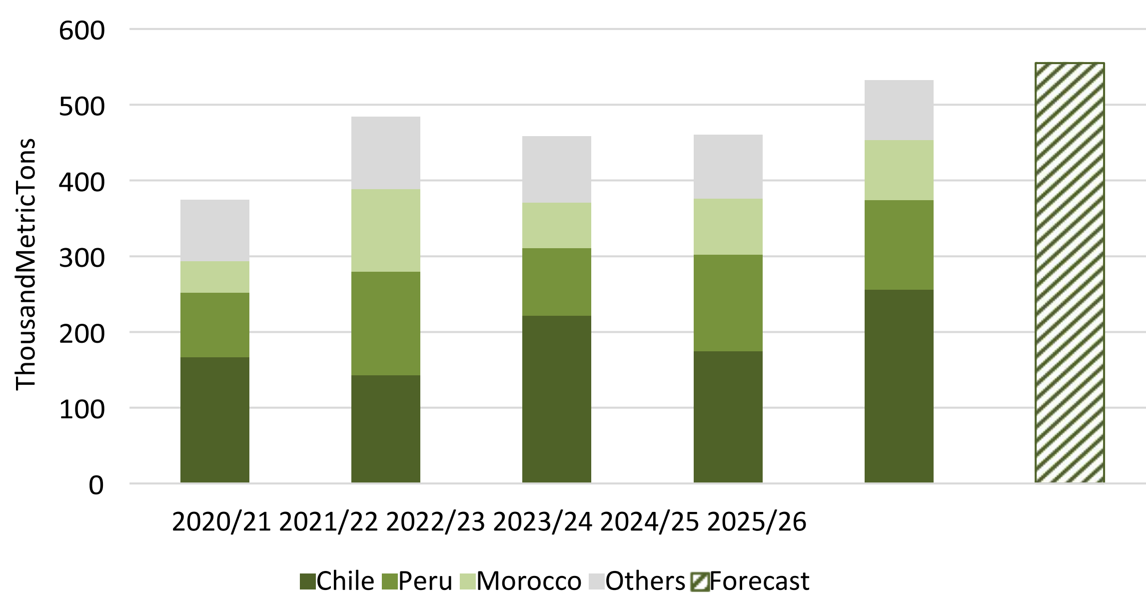
The surge is driven by the world's top five exporters—China, Turkey, Morocco, South Africa, and Pakistan—all of whom are expecting to ship higher volumes.

Turkey is finally overcoming weather challenges from previous years. The USDA expects the country to be the main driver of the global export spike with a projected one million on rebounding production. International demand is also up, driven mainly by Russia, which will see its Turkish shipments increase this year, hitting a record 1.1 million tons.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) Report – Citrus - World Markets & Trade: (January 2026)

U.S. Tangerine/Mandarin Imports Forecast at a Record High 555,000 Metric Tons –

U.S. Tangerine/Mandarin Imports Forecast at a Record High



Source: Trade Data Monitor, LLC. Tangerines/Mandarins include the following HS Codes: 080520, 080521, 080522, 080529.

U.S. tangerine/mandarin imports are forecast up 4 percent to 555,000 metric tons in marketing year 2025/26 (November 2025 – October 2026). If realized, this will set a record for the second consecutive year and account for nearly half of U.S. fresh tangerine/mandarin consumption. Imports are projected up on lower U.S. production and higher exportable supplies in Morocco and Chile.

U.S. tangerine/mandarin production is projected down 10 percent to 997,000 tons. California produces nearly all of the U.S. crop and is forecast to have lower output in 2025/26 after a bumper crop in 2024/25. Morocco, the third largest source for U.S. imports, ships mainly between November and April, overlapping with California's main harvest window. Morocco exports are forecast up slightly in 2025/26 and are expected to supplement lower U.S. production.

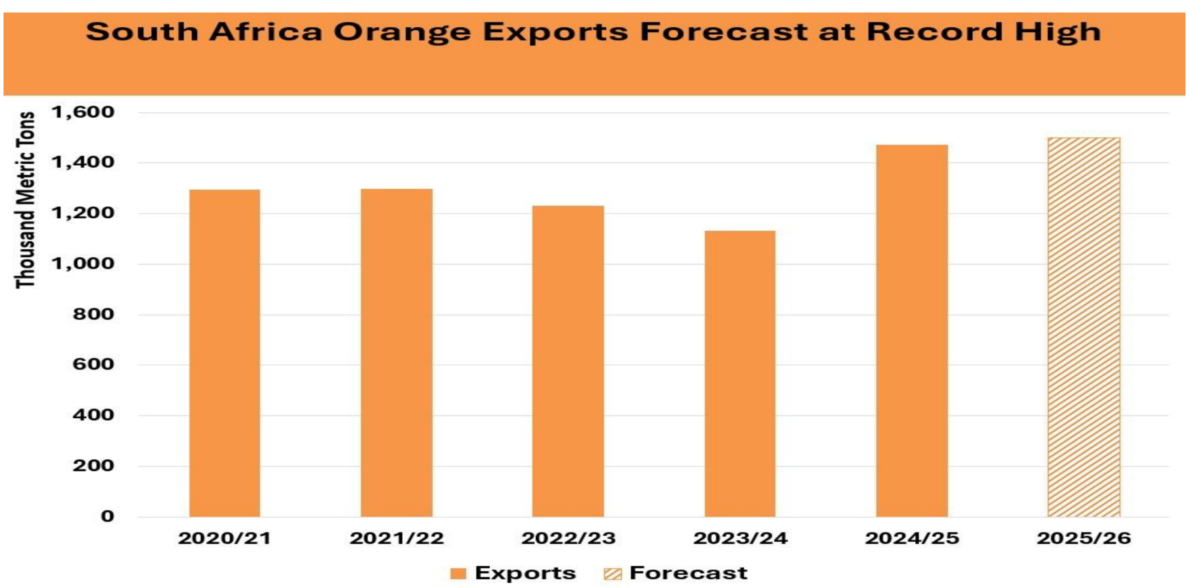
Chile and Peru are the top two sources for U.S. tangerine/mandarin imports, shipping mainly between May and October, complimenting California's November through May harvest period. Chile exports are forecast up slightly in 2025/26 and more than 90 percent of shipments have historically been destined for the United States. Peru exports are projected to remain stable. Since only minimal growth is expected in the top suppliers, imports are not projected to fully offset the decrease in domestic production. The total U.S. tangerine/mandarin supply is forecast at 1.6 million tons in 2025/26, 5 percent below the record volume reached in 2024/25.

Fresh Orange Highlights --

Global fresh orange production is projected up slightly to 45.9 million tons on larger crops in Brazil and Egypt, more than offsetting decreased production in Turkey, the European Union, and Mexico. Brazil production is forecast up 500,000 tons to 13.5 million on an expected return to normal weather conditions and improved practices to manage citrus greening, but production remains below the 5-year average. Egypt production is projected up 500,000 tons to 4.0 million on favorable weather conditions and increased area harvested as new orchards reach maturity. U.S. production is forecast roughly unchanged at 2.2 million tons with California, Florida, and Texas all expected to maintain steady production volumes year over year.

Global fresh orange consumption is forecast down slightly to 28.5 million tons despite the projected increase in global production. Oranges delivered to processors are forecast up 3 percent to 17.1 million tons as the increase in global fresh orange production is concentrated in Brazil and Egypt, two of the top three orange processing countries.

Global fresh orange exports are forecast up 2 percent to 4.9 million tons as increased exports from Egypt and South Africa more than offset lower Turkey exports. South Africa exports are forecast up 28,000 tons to 1.5 million, a record high for the second consecutive year. Improvements in quality mean that oranges are more likely to be exported than diverted to processing. European Union imports are forecast up 40,000 tons to 1.0 million as imports will be needed to supplement lower domestic production. U.S. imports and exports are both forecast up slightly to 275,000 tons and 330,000, respectively.

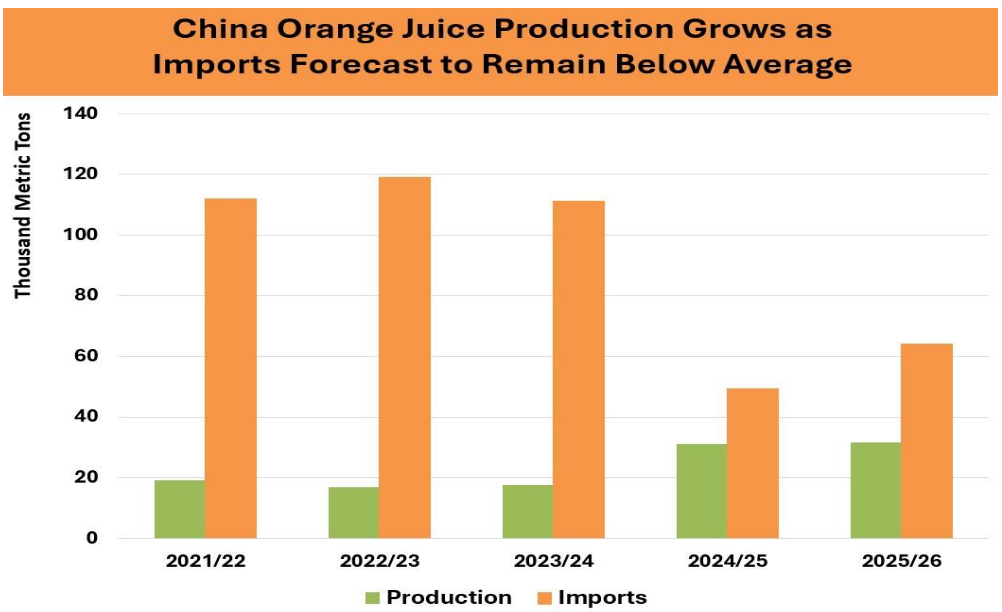


Orange Juice Highlights --

Global orange juice production is forecast up less than 1 percent to 1.4 million tons on higher Brazil production. Brazil production is forecast up slightly to 1.0 million tons as more oranges are delivered to processors and the industry increases efficiency. Global orange juice consumption is forecast up 4 percent to 1.2 million tons on increased U.S. consumption. Global ending stocks are projected unchanged at 250,000 tons.

Global orange juice exports are forecast up 35,000 tons to 1.3 million on higher Brazil and South Africa exports. Global orange juice imports are forecast up with increases projected in the top five importing countries because of Brazil's rebound in exportable supplies.

The largest import growth is projected for China with an increase of 15,000 tons to 64,000, although it remains below the 5-year average. China increased domestic orange juice production capacity and beginning stocks in response to lower supplies from Brazil in 2024/25. In 2025/26, production is forecast to continue growing but at a slower pace, and consumption is forecast roughly unchanged year over year.

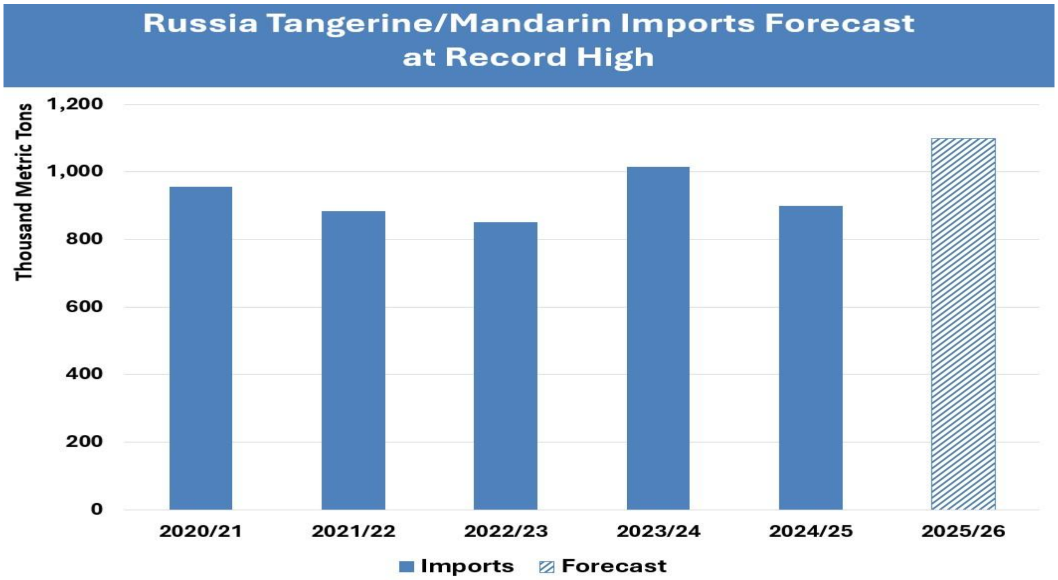


Fresh Tangerine/Mandarin Highlights –

Global fresh tangerine/mandarin production is forecast up less than 1 percent to 38.4 million tons as larger crops in China, Turkey, Morocco, South Africa, and Japan more than offset smaller EU and U.S. harvests. China production is forecast up 100,000 tons to 27.1 million on favorable weather conditions in top growing regions Guangxi and Yunnan. EU production is forecast down 6 percent to 2.8 million tons on delayed fruit ripening in Spain and smaller fruit sizes in Italy. U.S. production is forecast down 112,000 tons to 997,000 as California production is expected to fall after last year's bumper crop.

Fresh tangerine/mandarin consumption is forecast roughly unchanged at 36.2 million tons as lower consumption in the European Union and Turkey offset increased consumption in Russia and Japan. Processing volumes are also roughly unchanged at 1.5 million tons as increased processing in China more than offsets a decline in the United States.

Global fresh tangerine/mandarin exports are forecast up more than 10 percent to 4.8 million tons as increases are projected for the top five countries. Turkey accounts for most of this increase as exports are projected up 392,000 tons to 1.0 million on rebounding production and increased international demand. Russia imports are forecast up 200,000 tons to a record 1.1 million on increased shipments from Turkey.

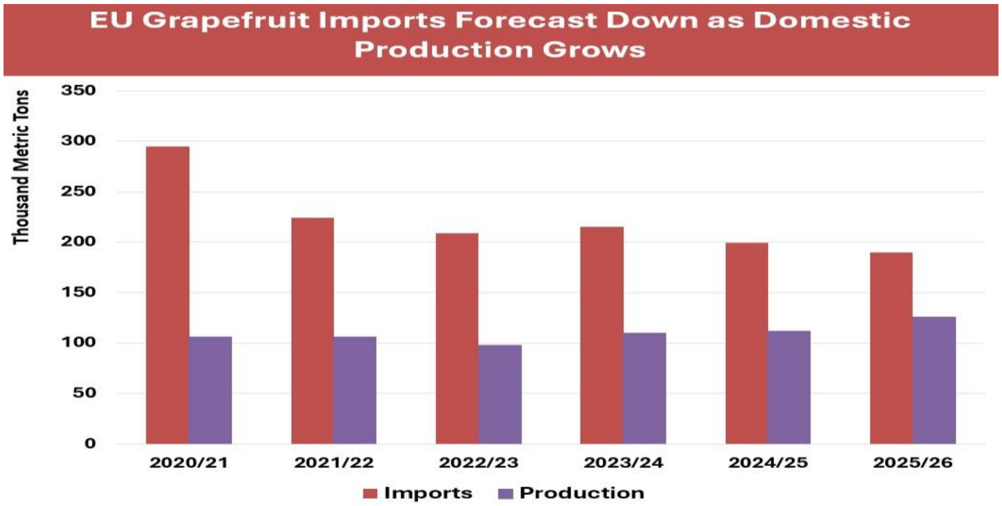


Fresh Grapefruit Highlights –

Global fresh grapefruit production is forecast up 2 percent to 7.0 million tons on larger crops in China, the United States, and the European Union. China production is forecast up 115,000 tons to 5.4 million as increased demand has led farmers to adopt new varieties. EU production is forecast up 14,000 tons to 126,000 on expanded area and projected recovery from last year's drought in top-producer Spain.

Global fresh grapefruit consumption and processing volumes are both projected up to 6.5 million tons and 500,000 tons, respectively.

Global fresh grapefruit exports are forecast up 17,000 tons to 634,000 on increased exports from South Africa and China. South Africa exports are forecast up 3 percent to 255,000 tons on higher production and increased export-quality fruit. EU imports are forecast down 9,000 tons to 190,000 as rising domestic production furthers the long-term decline in imports. China imports are forecast up 8,000 tons to 115,000 on increasing shipments from Laos that arrive mainly in April through July when there is a gap in China's domestic production.

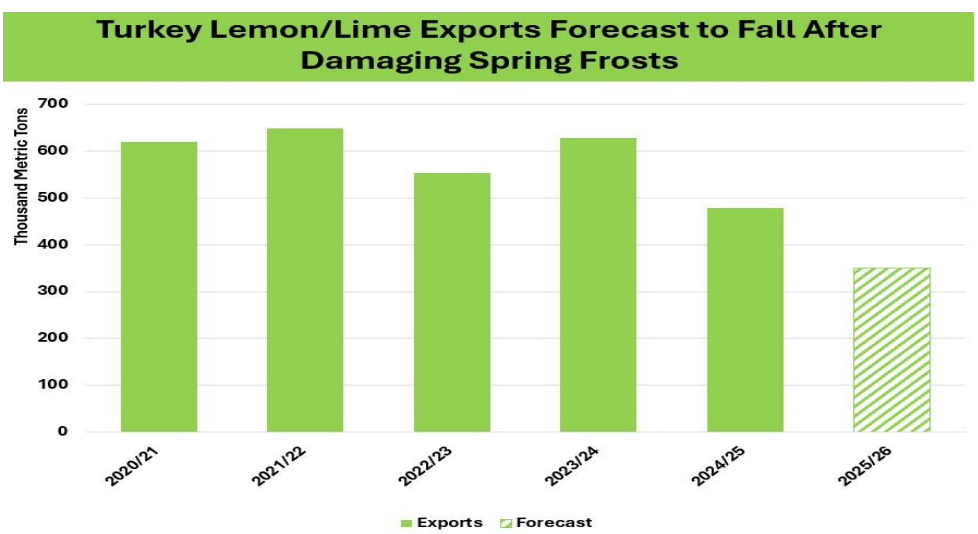


Fresh Lemon/Lime Highlights –

Global fresh lemon/lime production is projected down more than 700,000 tons to 10.1 million on smaller crops in the European Union and Turkey. EU production is forecast down 12 percent to 1.3 million tons on lower yields in Spain due to adverse weather conditions and pest pressure. Turkey's crop is forecast down 36 percent to 1.1 million tons on damage from spring frosts.

Global fresh lemon/lime consumption and processing volumes are both forecast down to 7.6 million tons and 2.6 million, respectively. The decline in production has a greater impact on fresh consumption as the European Union and Turkey send most of their product to the fresh market, not to processors.

Global fresh lemon/lime exports are projected down 2 percent to 2.4 million tons as decreased exports from Turkey and Argentina more than offset increased Mexico and South Africa exports. Turkey exports are forecast down 128,000 tons to 350,000, the smallest volume in more than 15 years. EU imports are forecast down 24,000 tons to 600,000 on lower shipments from Turkey. U.S. imports are projected up slightly to 970,000 tons, the fourth consecutive year of growth, as imports continue to grow from emerging suppliers Colombia and Peru.



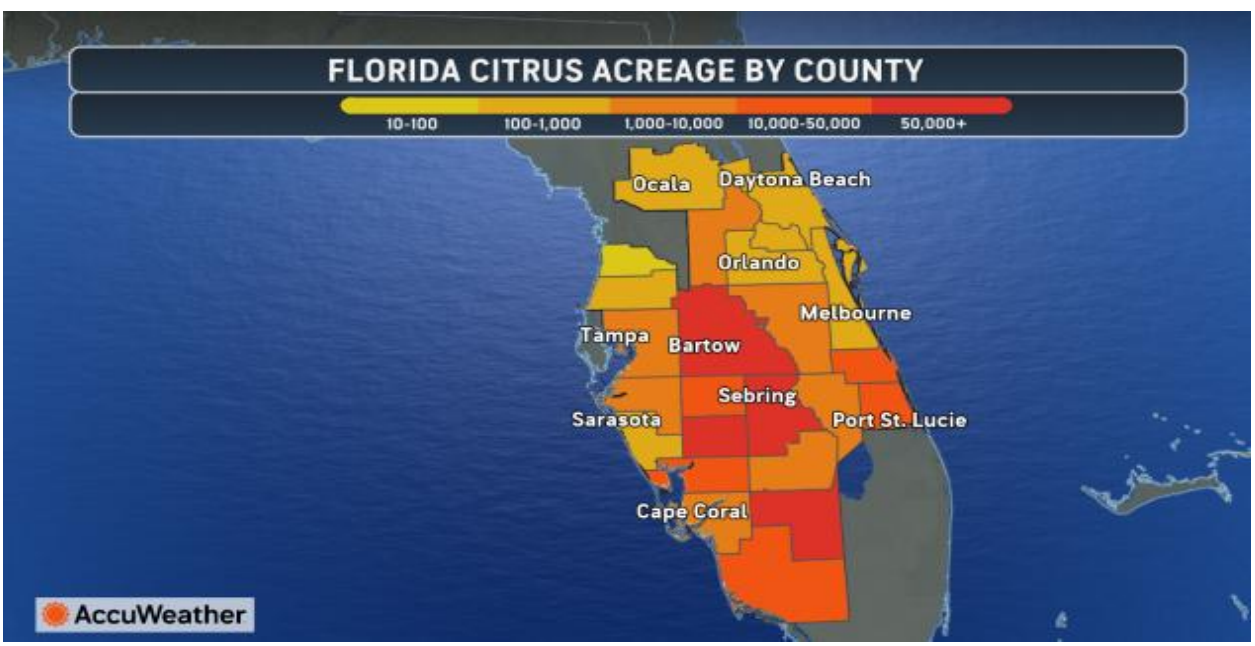
<u>The Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (FDACS) & AccuWeather Reports the January Freeze Caused Significant Citrus Damage Contributing to Costly Impacts & Losses from Extreme Cold:</u> (AccuWeather/February 3, 2026 & Fresh Portal/February 27)

- FDACS reports that citrus suffered the loss of 15 percent of its trees due to freeze damage, along with a huge financial blow estimated at $675 million
- FDACS estimates citrus damage with 80 percent of the total citrus in Florida significantly affected by the freeze damage
- FDACS states the grand total encompasses tree and infrastructure damage, estimated at $327 million and $41.5 million, respectively, as well as total losses for damaged fruit totaling $85.2 million
- FDACS explains the industry will face an average annual loss in productivity of 27 percent that will persist for several years before returning to pre-storm production
- Record-shattering cold led to pipes freezing and bursting across Florida, contributing to an AccuWeather preliminary estimate of total state-wide damage and economic loss of $13-$15 billion

Temperatures dropped into the mid-20s, with lows of 23 to 24 degrees reported in some orange groves. Damage can set in when temperatures fall to 28 degrees or lower for four consecutive hours.

Most orange groves in Florida are located east of Tampa and south of Orlando. Freeze damage has also been reported to some winter vegetables, strawberries, blueberries, peppers, leafy greens, and other crops grown in the same region.

The frigid air surged all the way into South Florida where the low temperature fell to 35 degrees, setting a new daily record. The all-time record low temperature in Miami is 29 set on Feb.14, 1899.



This bitter cold stretch is the latest economic and production setback for many citrus growers across Florida. Some groves were damaged by destructive winds from Hurricane Ian in 2022. Other groves have been hit hard by citrus greening disease and other economic pressures in recent decades.

The amount of oranges grown and produced in Florida is already significantly reduced, down to 10 to 12 million boxes as compared to past decades. That is a major drop from what used to be 20 times that amount back in the 1970s and early 1980s, before several devastating freezes, disease outbreaks, bouts of drought, and growing competition from Brazil diminished the prominence of Florida's citrus industry. Despite the recent cold weather impacts in Florida, orange and orange juice prices are not expected to rise significantly. Industry representatives believe that the freeze is unlikely to trigger a major increase in grocery store prices, as long as sufficient supply remains available from other global producers including Brazil and Mexico, as well as other states such as California.

Citrus Map is Changing Rapidly: (Salix Fruits Overview - Fresh Plaza/February 24)

In the same familiar location as always, Salix Fruits was once again present at Fruit Logistica Berlin two weeks ago. CEO Alejandro Moralejo provided a brief update on the dynamics in the citrus market, the largest fruit category for the company. In general, it is a changing environment with new growing countries entering, climates in some regions being challenging, and markets showing volatility.

Northern Hemisphere –
The northern hemisphere is currently in season. In the U.S., California manages the market. The state has been dealing with lots of rain and as a result, the fruit has grown in size. Rainfall is also impacting the fruit's ability to travel long distances. This time of year, most citrus available in the U.S. originates California, but oranges are also imported from Mexico and Morocco is a source for mandarins.

Wet conditions in Europe --
In the European Union, Spain is the main growing country but is faced with an unusually wet start to the year. Turkey, another significant player, has been having problems with frost and Morocco received more rain during their citrus season this year compared to the past 30 years. Egypt is an up-and-coming grower and exporter of citrus. "They grow a lot of fruit, their production increases fast and export volumes also grow at a high pace," shared Moralejo. "However, their processes are untidy and require improvement before they can play a key role in citrus exports."

China is key grower and consumer --
In Asia, China has a rapidly growing citrus industry, and the country is the largest grower of citrus worldwide. While a significant share of production stays in the domestic market, the country dominates exports on the Asian continent. In addition, they are exporting more and more to Russia. "The entrance of new players in the category allows us to diversify our sourcing strategy," mentioned Moralejo.

Southern Hemisphere perspective –
In the southern hemisphere, South Africa's season will start up in a few months. "The country could really dominate exports to Europe, Asia, and the Middle East." The U.S. is also a favorable market for South Africa, but only fruit from the Western Cape is allowed to enter. During the northern hemisphere summer, the U.S. mainly imports from Peru, Chile, Argentina, and Uruguay. However, tariffs had a big impact on trade flows last year. During the last part of the most recent southern hemisphere season,

imported oranges benefited from the suspension of tariffs. However, other citrus categories such as mandarins are still faced with a tariff, which varies by exporting country.