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A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF THE CITRUS NURSERY INDUSTRY

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Abstract. **The citrus nursery industry expanded and changed from the late 1800's to the present. When the commercial industry was developing in Florida, seedling trees were common. By 1925, nurseries were producing budded trees and using primarily 5 rootstocks. Nurseries were located in warm sites and a new site was used for each crop. Large caliper, low budded trees were produced in 3-year cycles usually without irrigation. Current nurseries are largely mechanized, in permanent sites, and trees are raised in 18 to 24 months with irrigation, fertilization, and chemicals for disease and pest control. Four of the 5 rootstocks used earlier have been replaced. Industry production in recent years has been 10 million or more trees annually with nurseries ranging in size from less than 25,000 to over one million trees. Factors which affected the number, size, and practices of citrus nurseries have been citrus industry expansion periods, diseases, and most recently, infectations of *Xanthomonas campestris.* Viruses, particularly psorosis, led to a budwood registration program established in cooperation with citrus nurserymen. Most trees are field-grown and transplanted bare-root. Since 1978, some trees have been grown in containers in enclosed structures. This method appears to be a permanent part of the nursery industry but is unlikely to become dominant. New scions, rootstocks and citrus tristeza virus will influence nurserymen in the future as will continued performance comparisons between field- and container-grown nursery trees.**

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CURRENT & FUTURE TRENDS IN ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW GROVES

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Reviewing the past, looking at the present and projecting to the future shows the development of a systems approach to growing citrus in Florida. No longer do growers have the luxury of considering each production practice as a separate entity. Instead, all the practices are integrated into a lattice of managerial practices to effect economies and efficiencies of operations. Labor is replaced by machinery and capitalization intensifies in the future. All the while, the delicate ecological balances must be considered in each production operation. Care must be taken to not upset natural balances either through abuses, excess uses or not considering adverse effects of one operation on another. Increased managerial sophistication will be a necessity and computers will become commonplace in most grove operations. Management decisions and interrelationships of the major grove operations listed will be discussed in detail.

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PROCESSING POTENTIAL OF FLORIDA-GROWN FRUITS

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Abstract. **Florida's diverse environment provides niches for a broad range of fruits. However, the environment also dictates comparatively high production costs and reduced quantities relative to competing states and nations. Counteracting these limitations are Florida's large consumer base, the favorable health and quality image of fruit, advanced agriculture, and sophisticated research establishment. By careful selection of fruits; cultivars; and production, processing, and marketing techniques with an emphasis on quality, efficiency, and economics, a viable fruit processing industry could complement the fresh market. While no combination of fruits will match the volume of citrus, several subtropical and temperate fruits have unique possibilities. Processing alternatives and strategies based on Florida's competitive advantages will be discussed.**

Florida's semi-temperate to sub-tropical climate ranging from the Keys to the Panhandle and moderated by the seasons, oceans, inland waters, and human activity, provides many ecological niches for a number of fruits from temperate to tropical. However, along with this broad fruit diversity comes an equally large array of horticultural problems. Table 1 lists the major obstacles facing Florida agriculture as it strives to maintain and expand the fruit industry.

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