



Seeing Chinese Citrus

The 11th International Citrus Congress (ICC) was held in Wuhan, China this past October. There were more than 1,100 participants from 35 countries. More than half of the attendees were from China, but significant numbers were from the U.S., Spain, Italy, Australia, and Brazil. A number of researchers from the University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences and USDA presented scientific papers at this meeting.

Citrus Stats

China has a long history of citriculture, with citrus being produced there commercially for at least 2,500 years.

The country is an important center of origin of mandarins, sweet orange, and some other citrus species.

Of the fruit crops, citrus is second only to apples in total production in China. According to a report from the Citrus Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, citrus is grown on 1.8 million hectares (~4,447,800 acres). Total combined production was almost 18 million



Young citrus trees are planted on terraced rows on a hillside in China in this photo.

metric tons in 2006 and increased to 21 million metric tons (~514 million 90-pound boxes) in 2008. In terms of citrus, this ranks China as first in land area and second in production in the

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