

reported none had been planted to citrus when purchased. Six did not report on this question.

Of the acreage reported in 1929 as to kinds of fruit, 52 percent was in orange trees, 40 percent in grapefruit trees and 8 percent in tangerine trees. Several groves had orange trees only and several grapefruit only; but more often there were both orange and grapefruit trees in the same grove, and less frequently tangerine trees were included.

METHODS OF CARING FOR GROVES

Absentee owners seldom own equipment or tools to care for their groves, but employ a caretaker who has equipment for this purpose. The caretaker may be the owner of a grove in the community who has found it advantageous to care for one or more groves in addition to his own; or he may represent an individual, partnership, or corporation, whose business it is to care for other peoples' groves. There are several caretakers in the state each caring for 2,000 acres or more of grove, as well as a large number caring for less acreages. In a number of instances the caretaking business has been an outgrowth of the development of groves for sale where it was necessary to provide for the care of groves which had been sold, as well as for unsold groves.

Caretakers in addition to caring for groves owned by people who reside outside the State of Florida, also care for a large number of those owned by people who reside within the state, but who have practically no grove equipment, work stock, or other form of power. Some of these owners who live within the state and who employ caretakers reside at the grove, but a larger number of them live in nearby towns.

The methods of charging for the care of groves are far from standardized and vary greatly from a flat rate per acre, including all materials, power, supervision and labor, to charges by the day, acre, or tree for each operation, the owner furnishing or paying for all fertilizer and other materials. In some instances the grove owner purchases the fertilizer and other materials or a part of them, but perhaps more often the caretaker makes the purchases for the absentee owner.

METHODS OF HARVESTING, PACKING AND MARKETING FRUIT

The operations of harvesting, packing and marketing citrus in Florida usually are performed by a packing and marketing