

### Oranges

Oranges are one of the oldest known fruits. Chinese writings that date back to about 2200 BC mention oranges, and their cultivation in China was far advanced by the Middle Ages. They were not **30** \_\_\_\_\_ into Europe, it appears, until after the beginning of the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

Columbus on his second voyage stopped at the island of Gomera in the Canaries and took seeds of oranges and lemons with him to Isabela, his colony on the island of Hispaniola (now Haiti and the Dominican Republic) where 30 years later citrus trees were **31** \_\_\_\_\_ to be "beyond counting". In the early 1500s oranges journeyed to South America and Mexico. When St. Augustine, Florida, was settled in 1565 the sour orange was **32** \_\_\_\_\_ its fruits. By 1821, when Florida joined the Union, oranges were beginning to be developed commercially.

Southern California and Florida **33** \_\_\_\_\_ most of the oranges grown in the USA, with an increasing harvest coming from Texas and parts of Arizona. This is because the orange cannot thrive in areas where temperatures fall much **34** \_\_\_\_\_ freezing. When a freeze descends on orange groves, anxious growers spend days and nights to save their **35** \_\_\_\_\_ crops.

Orange juice did not become a truly national American breakfast **36** " \_\_\_\_\_ " until the concentrated juice was frozen, and that was in the late 1940s. Canned orange juice was not even marketed until the 1920s.

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1. Said.
2. Told.
3. Talked.
4. Spoken.