

# SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: Agriculture Committee

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BILL: SB 574

SPONSOR: Senator Haridopolos

SUBJECT: Official Fruit of Florida

DATE: January 13, 2005

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Mayfield	Poole	AG	<b>Favorable</b>
2.	_____	_____	GO	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

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## I. Summary:

This bill designates the orange (*Citrus sinensis* and hybrids thereof) as the official state fruit.

This bill creates section 15.0315, Florida Statutes.

## II. Present Situation:

To date, no fruit is designated as the official state fruit.

However, chapter 15, F.S. designates official state emblems. Currently there are designations for a state tree, beverage, citrus archive, shell, stone, gem, wildflower, play, animal, freshwater fish, saltwater fish, marine mammal, saltwater mammal, butterfly, reptile, air fair, rodeo, festival, moving image center and archive, litter control symbol, pageant, opera program, renaissance festival, railroad museums, transportation museum, soil, fiddle contest, band, and sports hall of fame.

The orange is one of the most familiar and easily recognized emblems of the State of Florida. As of 2002 there were over 600,000 acres of orange groves in the State of Florida and over 85,000,000 orange trees. Total orange production in 2002 was over 200,000,000 boxes. The Florida citrus industry generates more than \$8 billion in economic activity in the state and employs over 100,000 people in the industry or related businesses. Florida also produces more oranges than any state in the nation.

The nutritional value of the orange continues to make it an attractive choice among consumers who recognize its potential for fighting diseases such as cancer and heart disease. Florida oranges are fat-free, sodium-free, and are an excellent source of vitamin C, which is known to

protect against disease promoting agents. Florida citrus is also a good source of potassium, calcium, foliates, thiamin, niacin, vitamin B6, phosphorous, magnesium and copper, all important in maintaining good health.

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

**Section 1.** Creates s. 15.0315, F.S., to designate the orange (*Citrus sinensis* and hybrids thereof) as the official fruit of Florida.

**Section 2.** Provides that this act shall take effect upon becoming law.

### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

### **V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

### **VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

### **VII. Related Issues:**

None.

## **VIII. Summary of Amendments:**

None.

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This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.

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