



Well-maintained horticultural properties near Tauranga.

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standard lemon block as the "bread and butter" of a holding. A modern citrus packing house operates in Tauranga to handle the packing of standard lemons produced in the Bay of Plenty, and distribution and marketing of the fruit are under the direction of a national lemon-marketing committee. Under the present system of marketing a grower is not required to pack and market standard lemons, and he is thus able to concentrate on production.

Next to standard lemons in importance is New Zealand grapefruit. This fruit, and standard lemons form the bulk of an average citrus holding. Meyer lemons, sweet oranges, and other citrus varieties are grown to a less extent, but in most instances a few trees are found on nearly all citrus orchards, some holdings containing large numbers of Meyer lemons.

Packing and marketing of citrus fruits other than standard lemons are the responsibility of the grower, who either sells his fruit at the auction marts or by private treaty. In Tauranga a fruit growers' society has a co-operative packing shed and will pack and distribute both citrus and sub-tropical fruits, for which service members pay. The society meets the needs of the grower who cannot afford the time to pack or is unable to secure suitable labour.

Sub-tropical Fruits

Closely allied in the Bay of Plenty with the growing of citrus fruits, the production of sub-tropical fruits is a

newer industry, but it has made rapid progress. Only a few acres were under production some 10 to 12 years ago, but the area was estimated to total 210 acres at the beginning of 1952. Production, like that of citrus, varies according to the season.

For 1951 the estimated areas and the production of the different sub-tropical fruits are shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2—ESTIMATED AREAS AND PRODUCTION OF SUB-TROPICAL FRUITS IN 1951

Kind of fruit	Area (acres)	Production (tons)
Tree tomatoes	112	350
Passion fruit	42	60
Chinese gooseberries	44	60
Feijoas	12	18
Totals	210	488



Portion of a 12-year-old block of standard lemon trees. Standard lemons are the principal citrus fruit grown in the Bay of Plenty.

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