Technical note on the development of the 2026/2027 season

The 2026/27 season is developing against a backdrop of an intensifying El Niño. According to the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the current event ranked as the second strongest on record through August, behind only 1997, and the agency's latest outlook points to an 83% probability of the phenomenon reaching historic intensity in the final quarter of 2026. In the São Paulo and Triângulo Mineiro/Southwest Minas Gerais citrus belt, unusually heavy rainfall occurred during parts of the Southern Hemisphere fall and winter, typically the dry season. According to Climatempo data published by Fundecitrus, average accumulated rainfall from May through August reached 210 millimeters, 51% above the 1991–2020 historical average. In the Votuporanga and Triângulo Mineiro regions, accumulated rainfall was 172% and 114% above the historical average for the period, respectively.

Data from Brazil's National Institute of Meteorology (INMET) confirm that above-average rainfall continued across parts of southeastern Brazil in September, particularly in central São Paulo State. In Avaré, in the southwestern portion of the citrus belt, monthly rainfall reached 276.8 millimeters, 310.7% above the historical September average of 67.4 millimeters.

As a result of the excessive rainfall, this season's juice already has low Brix levels, close to the regulatory minimums, making the production of not-from-concentrate (NFC) orange juice more challenging. CitrusBR member companies remain committed to maintaining product quality, complying with applicable minimum regulatory standards, and meeting the needs of their customers worldwide.

São Paulo, November 10, 2026.
Ibiapaba Netto
Executive Director