

Field Crops

Hay: Arizona's alfalfa yield again led the nation at 8.20 tons per acre, down 0.3 tons from the 2003 crop. California was the next closest state, at 7.0 tons per acre. Nationally, alfalfa yields averaged 3.47 tons per acre. Arizona's harvested acres, at 240,000, were up 5,000 from a year earlier and the total production of 1.97 million tons was down 2 percent. Acreage of other hay cut was down 5,000 acres, for a total of 35,000 acres.

Preliminary marketing year average prices for alfalfa increased to \$98.50 per ton, from \$89.50 the previous year. Prices for other hay during the marketing year averaged \$95.50, an increase of \$10.00 from the previous year.

Cotton: Upland, at 240,000 planted acres, was up 25,000 from 2003, while American-Pima, at 3,000 acres planted, was up 500 acres. Yields were: short staple - 1,458 pounds (record high), up 219 pounds, and long staple - 896 pounds, down 24 pounds. National averages were: short staple - 855 pounds (record high) and long staple - 1,443 pounds (record high).

The average price for Upland through December, 2004 was \$0.500 per pound, and American-Pima was \$0.992 per pound. U.S. prices through December, 2004 were \$0.460 for Upland and \$0.993 for American-Pima.

Corn: Acreage increased to 53,000 acres planted during 2004. Of the 53,000 acres, 27,000 were harvested for grain and 25,000 for silage. The average yield for grain, at 10,080 pounds per acre, was up 560 pounds from a year ago. Prices received for grain corn decreased to \$114.30 per ton, down \$2.80 from the previous year.

Wheat: Acreage planted to Durum wheat decreased 15,000 acres to 100,000. Average yield, at 5,820 pounds per acre, was down 180 pounds from the 2003 crop. The average price received, at \$141.70 per ton, was down \$13.30 from last year. Nationally, the price was down \$0.60, to \$131.70 per ton.

Other wheat planted acreage, at 4,000 acres, was the same as the previous year. Yield averaged 5,400 pounds per acre, 780 lower than a year earlier. Other wheat is included in winter wheat nationally. The national average yield was 2,610 pounds. Prices averaged \$123.30 per ton in Arizona and \$110.00 nationally.

Barley: Planted acreage increased to 40,000 acres, up 8,000 acres from the previous year. Of those 40,000 acres, 38,000 acres were harvested for grain, yielding 5,280 pounds per acre, netting a production of 200,640 tons. North Dakota was the top producer with 4.40 million tons.

The marketing year average price, at \$127.10 per ton, was up \$8.80 from a year earlier. Nationally, barley prices averaged \$104.20 a ton.

Sorghum: Planted acreage in the State was 20,000, with 6,000 acres harvested for grain and 12,000 acres for silage. Average yield for grain, at 5,320 pounds per acre, increased 280 pounds from a year ago. Annual average price received for grain decreased to \$84.00, down from last year's \$96.00 per ton.

Field Crop Value of Production
2004 Season
(Million Dollars)

