

ARIZONA NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Steven Manheimer, Director
602-280-8850 or nass-az@nass.usda.gov

Issued by
USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Arizona Field Office
230 N. 1st Avenue, Suite 303
Phoenix, Arizona 85003
Visit us online at www.nass.usda.gov/az

Press Release Announcement – (August 11, 2006)
- For Immediate Release -

ARIZONA UPLAND COTTON PRODUCTION DOWN 2 PERCENT

Phoenix – Arizona's upland cotton harvested acreage is estimated at 218,000 acres, down 11,000 acres or 5 percent from a year ago. Yield is forecast at 1,321 pounds per acre, 32 pounds higher than the yield in 2005. Production is forecast at 600,000 bales, down 2 percent from last year. The cotton crop is in mostly fair to good condition. Harvest is just underway in the Yuma area. American-Pima cotton harvested acreage, at 7,000 acres, is 2,900 acres more than last year's 4,000 acres. Due to the increased acres, production is expected to total 13,000 bales. Pima yield, at 891 pounds per acre, is up 71 pounds from a year ago.

Other Arizona crop forecasts of production include alfalfa, at 2.18 million tons, down slightly; grapes, at 900 tons, down 10 percent; and apples, at 30.0 million pounds, up 35 percent from last year's frost damaged crop.

At the U.S. level, all cotton production is forecast at 20.4 million 480-pound bales, down 14 percent from last year's record high 23.9 million bales. Yield is expected to average 765 pounds per harvested acre, down 66 pounds from 2005. Upland cotton production is forecast at 19.5 million 480-pound bales, 16 percent below 2005. American-Pima production is forecast at a

-More-

record high 893,000 bales, up 42 percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 12.8 million acres of all cotton and 12.5 million acres of upland cotton, a decrease of 7 and 8 percent from last year, respectively. American-Pima harvested area is expected to total 333,000 acres, 64,400 more than in 2005.

####