



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE
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Cooperating with the Arizona Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PRODUCTION – OCTOBER 1, 2023

ARIZONA HIGHLIGHTS

Based on October 1 conditions, **all cotton** production in Arizona is expected to total 239,000 480-lb bales, according to the October 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is down 4 percent from the September 1 forecast and down 22 percent from last year.

Harvested area of **upland cotton** is estimated at 75,000 acres, unchanged from the September *Crop Production* report but down 11,000 acres from 2022. As of October 1, producers expect to harvest 200,000 480-lb bales of upland cotton, down 29 percent from last year. Upland yield is forecast at 1,280 pounds per acre, down 64 pounds from the September 1 forecast and down 283 pounds from last year. As of October 1, producers had harvested 17 percent of the upland cotton crop, compared with 20 percent last year and a 5-year average of 19 percent. Overall, the cotton crop was rated 1 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 36 percent good, and 44 percent excellent. **Pima cotton** harvested area, forecast at 16,000 acres, is unchanged from last month but up 1,600 acres from last year. As of October 1, producers expect to harvest 39,000 480-lb bales of Pima cotton, compared with 28,000 bales last year. Pima yield is forecast at 1,170 pounds per acre, unchanged from the September 1 forecast but 237 pounds above last year.

Arizona farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 275,000 acres of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture hay** this year, an increase of 15,000 acres from 2022. Alfalfa hay production is forecast at 2.28 million tons, unchanged from the August 1 forecast but up 7 percent from the 2.13 million tons produced last year. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 8.30 tons per acre, unchanged from the August 1 forecast but up 0.1 ton from the final 2022 yield.

Arizona's 2023-2024 **lemon** production is forecast at 1.50 million boxes, up 7 percent from last season. **Pecan** production in Arizona for 2023 is forecast at 39.00 million pounds, down less than one half of 1 percent from the 2022 season.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

All cotton production is forecast at 12.8 million 480-pound bales, down 2 percent from the previous forecast and down 11 percent from 2022. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 767 pounds per harvested acre, down 19 pounds from the previous forecast and down 183 pounds from 2022. **Upland cotton** production is forecast at 12.5 million 480-pound bales, down 2 percent from the previous forecast and down 11 percent from 2022. **Pima cotton** production is forecast at 356,000 bales, unchanged from the previous forecast but down 24 percent from 2022. All cotton area harvested is forecast at 8.02 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast but up 10 percent from 2022.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture** dry hay for 2023 is forecast at 52.7 million tons, up 8 percent from the August forecast and up 10 percent from 2022. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.37 tons per acre, up 0.24 ton from the August forecast and up 0.15 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 15.7 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report but up 5 percent from 2022. Production of **other hay** is forecast at 70.1 million tons, up less than 1 percent from the August forecast and up 8 percent from 2022. Based on October 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 1.93 tons per acre, up 0.01 ton from the August forecast and up 0.06 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 36.3 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report but up 5 percent from 2022.

The 2023-2024 United States **lemon** crop is forecast at 980,000 tons, down 12 percent from last season's final utilization.

Pecan production is forecast at 248 million pounds, down 11 percent from 2022. Improved varieties are expected to produce 234 million pounds or 94 percent of the total. The native and seedling varieties are expected to produce 13.8 million pounds, making up the remaining 6 percent of production.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production* report, please visit www.nass.usda.gov.