

California Field Crop Review



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NATIONAL FIELD CROP RELEASE DATES

3 P.M. EST			
Jan. 9	Cotton Ginnings	Jan. 13	Potato Stocks
	Crop Production	26	Cotton Ginnings
13	Grain Stocks		
	Rice Stocks		

CALIFORNIA AND U.S. COTTON PRODUCTION FORECASTS

California's 1997 Upland cotton production is forecast at 2.20 million bales as of December 1, unchanged from the November forecast, but 8 percent below last year. This is based on 875 thousand acres for harvest, with an average yield of 1,207 pounds per acre, unchanged from last month. American Pima cotton production is forecast at 420 thousand bales, 12 percent above last year's crop. The 184 thousand acres for harvest are 12 percent above last year. Harvest was virtually complete by the end of November. Intermittent rains caused a few minor harvest delays, but lint quality suffered no significant damage.

As of December 1, the U.S. all cotton production is forecast at 18.8 million bales. This is down 29.0 thousand bales from last month and down 1 percent from 1996. Upland cotton is expected to account for 18.3 million bales, while American Pima production is forecast at 533 thousand bales. Total area for harvest is estimated at 13.4 million acres, up 4 percent from 1996. The yield for all cotton is expected to average 672 pounds per acre, 35 pounds below last year and down 1 pound from November 1.

FIELD CROP ACRES HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

Crop	Acres Harvested		Yield Per Acre			Production		
	1996	Forecast 1997	Unit	1996	Forecast 1997	Unit	1996	Forecast 1997
-- 1,000 Acres --						-- Thousands --		
CALIFORNIA								
Wheat, Winter <u>1/</u>	550.0	400.0	Tons	2.07	2.25	Tons	1,138.5	900.0
Wheat, Durum <u>1/</u>	138.0	144.0	Tons	3.00	2.85	Tons	414.0	410.4
Oats <u>1/</u>	30.0	35.0	Tons	1.20	1.12	Tons	36.0	39.2
Barley <u>1/</u>	200.0	180.0	Tons	1.44	1.32	Tons	288.0	237.6
Corn for Grain <u>1/</u>	220.0	260.0	Tons	4.48	4.76	Tons	985.6	1,237.6
Rice, All <u>1/</u>	500.0	513.0	Cwt.	74.90	85.00	Cwt.	37,459.0	43,605.0
Long	5.0	6.0	Cwt.	72.00	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	360.0	<u>2/</u>
Medium	482.0	489.0	Cwt.	75.00	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	36,150.0	<u>2/</u>
Short	13.0	18.0	Cwt.	73.00	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	949.0	<u>2/</u>
Cotton, Upland <u>3/</u>	995.0	875.0	Lbs.	1,153.00	1,207.00	Bales	2,390.0	2,200.0
Cotton, American-Pima <u>3/</u>	164.0	184.0	Lbs.	1,098.00	1,096.00	Bales	375.0	420.0
Sugar Beets <u>1/</u>	82.0	102.0	Tons	29.50	30.00	Tons	2,419.0	3,060.0
Beans, Dry, All <u>4/</u>	123.0	125.0	Cwt.	18.90	23.30	Cwt.	2,325.0	2,910.0
Hay, All <u>1/</u>	1,450.0	1,490.0	Tons	5.52	5.80	Tons	8,008.0	8,641.0
Alfalfa Hay <u>1/</u>	940.0	970.0	Tons	7.00	7.30	Tons	6,580.0	7,081.0
Other Hay <u>1/</u>	510.0	520.0	Tons	2.80	3.00	Tons	1,428.0	1,560.0
UNITED STATES								
Wheat, Winter <u>1/</u>	39,679.0	41,813.0	Tons	1.12	1.35	Tons	44,311.7	56,478.3
Wheat, Durum <u>1/</u>	3,556.0	3,107.0	Tons	0.98	0.83	Tons	3,482.7	2,585.8
Oats <u>1/</u>	2,685.0	2,911.0	Tons	0.92	0.97	Tons	2,484.4	2,817.7
Barley <u>1/</u>	6,767.0	6,425.0	Tons	1.40	1.40	Tons	9,498.0	8,987.5
Corn for Grain <u>1/</u>	73,147.0	74,049.0	Tons	3.56	3.54	Tons	260,216.2	262,065.6
Rice, All <u>1/</u>	2,799.0	3,037.0	Cwt.	61.21	59.26	Cwt.	171,321.0	179,971.0
Long <u>5/</u>	1,964.0	2,259.0	Cwt.	57.77	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	113,462.0	125,832.0
Medium <u>5/</u>	820.0	758.0	Cwt.	69.26	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	56,790.0	52,595.0
Short <u>5/</u>	15.0	20.0	Cwt.	71.27	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	1,069.0	1,544.0
Cotton, Upland <u>3/</u>	12,612.2	13,197.5	Lbs.	701.00	665.00	Bales	18,413.5	18,285.5
Cotton, American-Pima <u>3/</u>	255.9	249.0	Lbs.	991.00	1,027.00	Bales	528.5	533.0
Sugar Beets <u>1/</u>	1,323.3	1,430.4	Tons	20.20	21.00	Tons	26,680.0	29,998.0
Beans, Dry, All <u>4/</u>	1,752.7	1,723.2	Cwt.	15.95	16.99	Cwt.	27,960.0	29,275.0
Hay, All <u>1/</u>	61,029.0	60,807.0	Tons	2.45	2.50	Tons	149,457.0	152,141.0
Alfalfa Hay <u>1/</u>	24,291.0	23,556.0	Tons	3.27	3.32	Tons	79,377.0	78,168.0
Other Hay <u>1/</u>	36,738.0	37,251.0	Tons	1.91	1.99	Tons	70,080.0	73,973.0

1/ Estimate for current year carried forward from earlier forecast. 2/ To be released January 13, 1998. 3/ Cotton yield in pounds; production in 480 pound net weight bales. 4/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed. 5/ Rice class production forecasts for 1997 are based on a five-year average of class percentages.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION

California fall potato production is forecast at 4.20 million cwt., 9 percent less than last season. Acreage is down 9 percent, while yields are unchanged.

Ten Western states produced 290 million cwt. in 1997, down 7 percent from last year, but 5 percent above two years ago. Acreage for harvest, at 704,100 acres, was down 7 percent, while the average yield of 412 cwt. per acre was off 2 cwt. from a year ago. Lower harvested acreage from last year dropped total production in most Western states below last year's level.

U.S. production of fall potatoes in 1997 is estimated at 417 million cwt., down 8 percent from last year, but 3 percent above two years ago. The December 1 forecast is down less than 1 percent from the November forecast. Area harvested, at 1.16 million acres, is off 7 percent from last year and 4 percent short of 1995. The average yield is estimated at 360 cwt. per acre, down 4 cwt. from last year, but 26 cwt. above two years ago.

FALL POTATO ACRES HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

State	Acres Harvested			Yield			Production		
	1995	1996	1997	1995	1996	1997	1995	1996	1997
	- 1,000 Acres -			- Cwt. -			- 1,000 Cwt. -		
California	13.0	11.5	10.5	410	400	400	5,330	4,600	4,200
Idaho - 10 SW Co.	27.0	28.0	27.0	420	425	470	11,340	11,900	12,690
- Other Co.	371.0	385.0	361.0	327	340	340	121,317	130,900	122,740
Oregon - Malheur Co.	12.8	13.3	10.9	390	400	450	4,992	5,320	4,905
- Other Co.	40.4	47.7	42.6	490	520	520	19,796	24,804	22,152
Washington	147.0	161.0	148.0	550	590	595	80,850	94,990	88,060
UNITED STATES TOTAL	1,205.2	1,246.7	1,158.0	334	364	360	403,009	453,436	416,888

FALL POTATO STOCKS

Stocks of fall potatoes in California storage as of December 1, 1997 were estimated at 3.40 million cwt., 3 percent fewer potatoes than last year. The amount in storage on December 1 represents 81 percent of production, compared with 76 percent a year ago.

Disappearance in the 15 states was 133 million cwt. of potatoes from the start of harvest to December 1, down 10 percent from the same period in 1996 and 3 percent less than 1995. Shrink and loss so far was estimated at 15.9 million cwt., down 14 percent from the 18.5 million cwt. lost in 1996 and 9 percent below the 17.4 million cwt. lost from the 1995 crop.

The 15 major potato states held 274 million cwt. of potatoes on December 1, 1997, down 7 percent from last year, but 7 percent above 1995. Storage accounted for 67 percent of 1997 fall production, the same as last year. Stocks by type were 3 percent red, 16 percent white, and 81 percent Russets; more Russets and fewer reds and whites are in storage than a year ago.

Processing of 1997 potatoes totaled 68.0 million cwt. used so far this season. This is down 13 percent from a year ago and 5 percent below two years ago.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS ON DECEMBER 1

State	Crop of 1996			Crop of 1997		
	Production	Stocks Dec. 1, 1996	Percent of Production	Production	Stocks Dec. 1, 1997	Percent of Production
	-- 1,000 Cwt. --			-- 1,000 Cwt. --		
	Percent			Percent		
California	4,600	3,500	76	4,200	3,400	81
Idaho	142,800	102,000	71	135,430	97,000	72
Oregon	30,124	23,600	78	27,057	21,500	79
Washington	94,990	48,000	51	88,060	47,000	53
TOTAL 15 STATES	442,752	295,100	67	406,964	274,250	67



A G C E N S U S U S A

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

PRICES RECEIVED BY CALIFORNIA FARMERS - NOVEMBER 1997

Prices received by California farmers at mid-November were above October for all types of hay, Upland cotton lint, and cottonseed. Mid-month wheat and barley prices and full-month October prices for barley were not published due to possible disclosure of individual operations. Mid-month dry edible beans, all potatoes, and fall potatoes were below previous month levels. Prices were above a year earlier for fall potatoes and all types of hay. Dry edible beans, Upland cotton lint, and all potatoes were below November 1996 levels.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UNCHANGED

The All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in November was 107 based on 1990-92 = 100, unchanged from October. Since October, price increases for soybeans, eggs, tomatoes, and grapes more than offset price decreases for lettuce, corn, peanuts, and hogs. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall index level. Lower seasonal marketings of soybeans, peanuts, potatoes, and lettuce more than offset the relatively higher marketings of cotton lint, milk, cattle, and cottonseed. These marketing changes offset the slight increase in prices.

Compared with November 1996, the All Farm Products Index was three points (2.7 percent) lower. Since November 1996, price decreases for hogs, broilers, corn, and milk more than offset price increases for calves, tomatoes, lettuce, and potatoes.

The November all crops index was 115, unchanged from October, but 1.7 percent below November 1996. Price increases from October for oilseeds, potatoes, and dry beans offset price decreases for vegetables, feed grains and hay, and fruits.

The November food grains index, at 123, was down 0.8 percent from the previous month and 11 percent below November 1996. The November all wheat price, at \$5.90 per cwt., was down 2 cents from October and 93 cents below the November 1996 price.

The November feed grains & hay index was 111, down 1.8 percent from last month and 5.1 percent below November 1996. The corn price, at \$4.46 per cwt., was down 8 cents from October and 29 cents below the November 1996 price. The all hay price, at \$101.00 per ton, was down \$2.00 from October.

The November cotton index, at 115, was unchanged from last month and November 1996. The November cotton price, at 69.5 cents per pound, was down 0.1 cents from October and 0.2 cents per pound below November 1996. Contract deliveries held the price change to a minimum despite increased World and U.S. cotton production and lower consumption.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS ^{a/}

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		November 1996	October 1997	Nov. 15, 1997	November 1996	October 1997	Nov. 15, 1997
----- Dollars -----							
Corn ^{b/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	4.75	4.54	4.46
Wheat ^{b/}	Cwt.	<u>d/</u>	6.53	<u>d/</u>	6.83	5.92	5.90
Oats ^{b/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	5.78	4.91	4.91
Barley ^{b/}	Cwt.	6.33	<u>d/</u>	<u>d/</u>	5.52	5.10	5.08
Sorghum Grain ^{b/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	4.10	4.06	4.00
Rice ^{b/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	9.36	10.10	9.69
Dry Edible Beans ^{b/}	Cwt.	37.70	30.00	29.70	25.10	16.90	18.00
All Potatoes ^{c/}	Cwt.	10.50	13.70	8.20	4.43	4.96	5.40
Winter	Cwt.	22.40	---	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	20.00	---	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	5.05	9.30	8.20	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled	Ton	110.00	123.00	126.00	92.00	103.00	101.00
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Ton	112.00	127.00	129.00	97.00	109.00	108.00
Other Hay, Baled	Ton	68.00	82.00	88.00	73.30	78.40	77.50
Upland Cotton Lint ^{b/}	Lb.	0.772	0.767	0.768	0.697	0.696	0.695
Cottonseed	Ton	<u>d/</u>	171.00	175.00	116.00	119.00	124.00

INDEX NUMBER OF PRICES RECEIVED AND PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, UNITED STATES

Index	1910-14 = 100			1977 = 100		
	Nov. 1995	Oct. 1996	Nov. 1996	Nov. 1995	Oct. 1996	Nov. 1996
Prices Received - Unadjusted						
All Farm Products	701	682 <u>e/</u>	680	110	107 <u>e/</u>	107
All Crops	578	567 <u>e/</u>	567	117	115 <u>e/</u>	115
Food Grains	438	393 <u>e/</u>	391	138	124 <u>e/</u>	123
Feed Grains and Hay	417	404 <u>e/</u>	398	117	113 <u>e/</u>	111
Cotton	589	588 <u>e/</u>	587	115	115 <u>e/</u>	115
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	453	435 <u>e/</u>	471	89	86 <u>e/</u>	93
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates ^{f/}	1,507	1,525 <u>e/</u>	1,517	115	116 <u>e/</u>	116
Parity Ratio ^{g/}	47	45	45	96	92	92

^{a/} The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers. They are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole. ^{b/} Previous month revised to monthly average. ^{c/} Monthly average. ^{d/} Not published due to possible disclosure. ^{e/} Revised. ^{f/} All production indexes as of 15th of month. ^{g/} Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

California dry bean production is estimated at 2.91 million cwt., 25 percent above last year. Harvested acreage totaled 125 thousand, 2 percent above last year. The overall yield was 2,330 pounds per acre, up 23 percent from last year. **Large lima** production, at 690 thousand cwt., was up 75 percent from the 1996 crop. **Baby lima** production, estimated at 890 thousand cwt., was 72 percent above last year's crop. **Light red kidney** production, at 195 thousand cwt., was up 4 percent from last year. The **dark red kidney** output of 90.0 thousand cwt. was 10 percent above the 1996 crop. The **blackeye** crop of 630 thousand cwt. was up 23 percent from last year. Production of **garbanzos** totaled 140 thousand cwt., 60 percent below last year. **Pink bean** production, at 90.0 thousand cwt. was down 28 percent from 1996.

U.S. production of dry edible beans is estimated at 29.3 million cwt., up 5 percent from 1996, but 5 percent below two years ago. The average yield, at 1,699 pounds per acre, was 104 pounds above last year and 77 pounds above 1995. Most of the production increase can be attributed to small red, black turtle soup, lima, and light red kidney beans. Blackeye, pink, small white, cranberry, and Great Northern varieties also showed higher outputs in 1997. Decreases in the production of dark red kidney, garbanzo, navy, and pinto varieties were partially offsetting.

DRY BEAN ACRES HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, BY VARIETY, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES, 1996-97

Crop	Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	-- 1,000 Acres --		-- Cwt. --		-- 1,000 Cwt. --	
CALIFORNIA						
Large Lima	20.0	26.0	19.70	26.50	394.0	690.0
Baby Lima	23.0	31.0	22.50	28.70	517.0	890.0
Blackeye	23.0	27.0	22.20	23.30	511.0	630.0
Light Red Kidney	10.0	10.0	18.70	19.50	187.0	195.0
Dark Red Kidney	5.0	5.0	16.40	18.00	82.0	90.0
Pink	8.0	5.0	15.60	18.00	125.0	90.0
Garbanzo	23.0	10.0	15.30	14.00	352.0	140.0
Black Turtle Soup	1.0	1/	17.00	1/	17.0	1/
Cranberry	3.0	4.0	15.00	17.50	45.0	70.0
Other (Misc.)	7.0	7.0	13.60	16.40	95.0	115.0
BEANS, ALL DRY 2/	123.0	125.0	18.90	23.30	2,325.0	2,910.0
UNITED STATES						
Large Lima	20.0	26.0	19.70	26.50	394.0	690.0
Baby Lima	23.0	31.0	22.50	28.70	517.0	890.0
Blackeye	29.2	38.2	19.42	19.42	567.0	742.0
Light Red Kidney	64.1	84.4	16.21	18.64	1,039.0	1,573.0
Dark Red Kidney	64.5	62.0	16.37	15.40	1,056.0	955.0
Pink	30.5	38.0	17.31	19.26	528.0	732.0
Garbanzo	39.4	25.0	12.79	14.92	504.0	373.0
Small White	5.5	8.2	20.55	23.17	113.0	190.0
Navy	405.2	356.4	14.81	15.36	6,001.0	5,473.0
Great Northern	115.3	108.5	19.53	20.94	2,252.0	2,272.0
Cranberry	31.2	40.3	16.12	16.45	503.0	663.0
Small Red	20.2	42.0	20.05	21.57	405.0	906.0
Black Turtle Soup	84.6	128.0	15.96	16.38	1,350.0	2,097.0
Pinto	779.9	690.6	15.59	15.96	12,162.0	11,021.0
Other (Misc.)	40.1	44.6	14.19	15.65	569.0	698.0
BEANS, ALL DRY 2/	1,752.7	1,723.2	15.95	16.99	27,960.0	29,275.0

1/ Included in "Other (Misc.)" For California.

2/ Revised 1996 data. Excludes beans grown for garden seed.