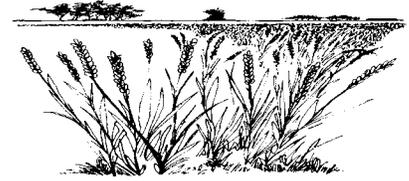


California Field Crop Review



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CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP VALUE

The estimated value of California's 1997 field crop production, at \$3.55 billion, was 2 percent below the \$3.63 billion dollar value of 1996. Average value per acre harvested in 1997 was \$760, up 10 percent from the \$693 in 1996. Production of the major field crops in California during 1997 totaled 27.4 million tons, up 8 percent from the 25.5 million tons produced in 1996. The 4.68 million acres harvested in 1997 were down 11 percent from the 5.23 million acres harvested in 1996. American Pima cotton, corn for grain, rice, and all varieties of hay increased in total value for 1997.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP VALUES BY YEAR

Year ^{1/}	Acreage Harvested	Production (Short Tons)	Avg. Value Per Acre	Value of Production
	1,000	1,000	Dollars	\$1,000
1985	5,788	26,757	503	2,912,202
1986	5,290	26,719	442	2,336,839
1987	5,123	27,272	565	2,892,857
1988	5,289	25,326	566	2,994,986
1989	5,124	25,187	616	3,154,081
1990	4,992	25,064	638	3,184,627
1991	4,600	24,254	589	2,708,760
1992	4,694	24,633	579	2,717,666
1993	4,699	24,127	665	3,122,911
1994	5,114	26,747	700	3,579,940
1995	5,241	26,792	659	3,451,274
1996	5,234	25,528	693	3,628,880
1997	4,678	27,389	760	3,554,467

^{1/} Data for 1997 is preliminary and does not include minor commodities.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP VALUES BY COMMODITY

Crop & Year a/	Acres Harvested	Yield Per Acre	Production	Unit	Average Price b/	Value of Production
	1,000	1,000	1,000		Dollars	\$1,000
Corn 95	150.0	4.48	672.0	Tons	141.07	94,800
For 96	220.0	4.48	985.6	Tons	120.36	118,624
Grain 97	260.0	4.76	1,237.6	Tons	114.29	141,440
Corn 95	280.0	25.00	7,000.0	Tons	---	---
For 96	275.0	25.00	6,875.0	Tons	---	---
Silage 97	315.0	26.00	8,190.0	Tons	---	---
Oats 95	30.0	1.36	40.8	Tons	130.63	5,330
For 96	30.0	1.20	36.0	Tons	138.75	4,995
Grain 97	35.0	1.12	39.2	Tons	112.50	4,410
Barley 95	200.0	1.68	336.0	Tons	136.67	45,920
For 96	200.0	1.44	288.0	Tons	153.75	44,280
Grain 97	180.0	1.32	237.6	Tons	120.83	28,710
Winter 95	425.0	1.83	777.8	Tons	138.33	107,589
Wheat 96	550.0	2.07	1,138.5	Tons	163.33	185,955
For Grain 97	400.0	2.25	900.0	Tons	126.67	114,000
Durum 95	68.0	3.00	204.0	Tons	165.00	33,660
Wheat 96	138.0	3.00	414.0	Tons	171.33	70,932
For Grain 97	144.0	2.85	410.4	Tons	141.67	58,140
Rice 95	465.0	76.00	35,352.0	Cwt.	8.79	310,744
96	500.0	74.90	37,459.0	Cwt.	7.91	296,301
97	510.0	83.00	42,341.0	Cwt.	8.20	347,196
Cotton, Upland 95	1,165.0	953.00	2,312.0	Bales	82.10	911,113
Lint c/ 96	995.0	1,153.00	2,390.0	Bales	76.50	877,608
97	875.0	1,207.00	2,200.0	Bales	73.70	778,272
Cotton, American 95	115.0	937.00	224.5	Bales	126.00	135,778
Pima c/ 96	164.0	1,098.00	375.0	Bales	107.00	192,600
97	184.0	1,096.00	420.0	Bales	102.00	205,632
Cottonseed 95	---	---	940.0	Tons	132.00	124,080
96	---	---	1,020.0	Tons	176.00	179,520
97	---	---	967.0	Tons	174.00	168,258
Hay, All d/ 95	1,470.0	5.67	8,341.0	Tons	98.50	780,299
96	1,450.0	5.52	8,008.0	Tons	108.00	840,896
97	1,500.0	5.74	8,616.0	Tons	123.00	1,037,220
Alfalfa 95	940.0	6.90	6,486.0	Tons	101.00	655,086
Hay 96	940.0	7.00	6,580.0	Tons	110.00	723,800
97	980.0	7.20	7,056.0	Tons	125.00	882,000
All Other 95	530.0	3.50	1,855.0	Tons	67.50	125,213
Hay 96	510.0	2.80	1,428.0	Tons	82.00	117,096
97	520.0	3.00	1,560.0	Tons	99.50	155,220
Dry Edible 95	137.0	20.00	2,740.0	Cwt.	34.80	95,352
Beans 96	123.0	18.90	2,325.0	Cwt.	38.50	89,513
e/ 97	132.0	22.50	2,970.0	Cwt.	29.60	87,912
Sugar 95	114.0	28.00	3,192.0	Tons	39.40	125,765
Beets 96	82.0	29.50	2,419.0	Tons	43.00	104,017
f/ 97	99.0	30.00	2,970.0	Tons	g/	g/

a/ Data for 1997 is preliminary.

b/ Marketing year average prices. Does not include allowances or adjustments for commodities under government loan at the end of the marketing year, commodities forfeited to the Commodity Credit Corporation, crop deficiency payments or disaster payments.

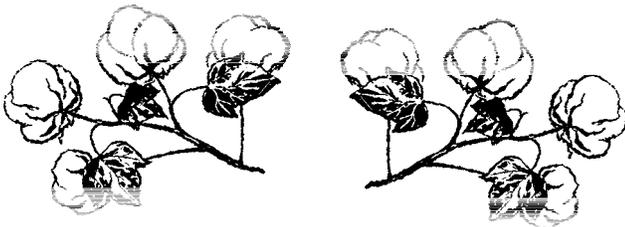
c/ Cotton yield in pounds; production in 480-pound net weight bales; lint price on hundredweight basis. The 1997 price is the average to January 1, 1998.

d/ Estimated marketings of alfalfa and other hay are used as weights to calculate all hay price.

e/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

f/ Relates to year of intended harvest except for overwintered spring planted beets.

g/ Not available.



CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - JANUARY 1998

Prices received by California farmers at mid-January were above December for Upland cotton lint. All other available field crop prices were below the previous month. Mid-January prices for wheat, barley, and cottonseed were not published to avoid possible disclosure. Prices were above a year earlier for all potatoes, fall potatoes, and hay other than alfalfa. Dry edible beans, winter potatoes, all hay, alfalfa hay, and Upland cotton lint were below January 1997 levels.

The January All Crops Index was 111, unchanged from December, but 4.3 percent below January 1997. From December, price increases for vegetables, feed grains and hay, and potatoes and dry beans offset price decreases for fruits, food grains, oilseeds, and cotton.

The January food grains was 117, down 1.7 percent from the previous month and 15 percent below January 1997. The January all wheat price, at \$5.55 per cwt., was down 20 cents from December and \$1.15 below the January 1997 price.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DROPS TWO POINTS

The All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in January was 103 based on 1990-92=100, down two points from December. Price decreases from December for hogs, tomatoes, cattle, and eggs more than offset price increases for lettuce, corn, broilers, and snap beans. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall index level; however, these changes were essentially offsetting in January.

The January Feed Grains Index, at 113, was up 0.9 percent from last month, but 4.2 percent below January 1997. The corn price, at \$4.59 per cwt., was up 9 cents from December, but 21 cents below the January 1997 price. The all hay price, at \$98.10 per ton, was up 40 cents from December.

Compared with January 1997, the All Farm Products Index was five points (4.6 percent) lower. Price decreases from January 1997 for hogs, broilers, wheat, and soybeans more than offset price increases for lettuce, milk, calves, and potatoes.

The January Cotton Index, at 103, was down 1.9 percent from last month and 8 percent below January 1997. The January cotton price, at 62.6 cents per pound, was down 1.2 cents from December and 5.3 cents per pound below January 1997. The falling prices were a result of Asian buyers defaulting on existing contracts.

FARM PRICES: AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS a/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		January 1997	December 1997	Jan. 15, 1998	January 1997	December 1997	Jan. 15, 1998
----- Dollars -----							
Corn b/	Cwt.	---	---	---	4.80	4.50	4.59
Wheat b/	Cwt.	d/	6.10	d/	6.70	5.75	5.55
Oats b/	Cwt.	---	---	---	5.72	4.88	4.84
Barley b/	Cwt.	6.38	d/	d/	5.25	5.06	4.98
Sorghum Grain b/	Cwt.	---	---	---	4.03	3.94	4.15
Rice b/	Cwt.	---	---	---	9.87	9.67	9.79
Dry Edible Beans b/	Cwt.	38.90	29.60	29.10	23.20	20.20	21.60
All Potatoes c/	Cwt.	7.50	9.55	9.40	4.23	5.40	5.49
Winter	Cwt.	20.10	19.20	16.80	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	4.75	7.85	7.80	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled	Ton	124.00	122.00	121.00	97.90	97.70	98.10
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Ton	126.00	123.00	122.00	104.00	106.00	105.00
Other Hay, Baled	Ton	89.00	107.00	100.00	79.40	76.30	79.20
Upland Cotton Lint b/	Lb.	0.766	0.694	0.709	0.679	0.638	0.626
Cottonseed	Ton	189.00	177.00	d/	138.00	122.00	122.00

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

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	Jan. 1997	Dec. 1997	Jan. 1998	Jan. 1997	Dec. 1997	Jan. 1998
Prices Received - Unadjusted						
All Farm Products	684	665 e/	657	108	105 e/	103
All Crops	571	548 e/	549	116	111 e/	111
Food Grains	434	379 e/	372	137	119	117
Feed Grains and Hay	421	401 e/	406	118	112 e/	113
Cotton	574	539 e/	529	112	105 e/	103
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	427	484 e/	500	84	96 e/	99
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes, and Wage Rates f/	1,519	1,520 e/	1,525	116	116	116
Parity Ratio g/	45	44 e/	43	93	91 e/	89

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 to avoid 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.

FEBRUARY 1 FALL POTATO STOCKS

Fall potato stocks in California as of February 1, 1998 totaled 2.40 million cwt., down 4 percent from last year. February 1 stocks accounted for 57 percent of production, compared with 54 percent a year ago. Disappearance from month to month includes shrinkage, waste, and other losses.

Nationally, the 15 major potato states held 206 million cwt. of potatoes on February 1, 1998, down 9 percent from a year earlier, but 9 percent above two years ago. Disappearance was 201 million cwt., 7 percent below a year ago and off 1 percent from two years ago. Processing accounted for 98.6 million cwt. through January, 10 percent less than last year and 5 percent short of two years ago. Shrink and loss of 20.5 million cwt. was down 14 percent from last year. Stocks by type were 2 percent reds, 13 percent whites, and 85 percent russets, with more russets, but fewer reds and whites than a year ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to February 1 was 201 million cwt. this season, down 7 percent from the same period a year earlier and 1 percent below two years ago. Disappearance during January was 35.0 million cwt., down fractionally from last year, but 2 percent above two years ago. Seasonal shrink and loss were estimated at 20.5 million cwt., down 14 percent from last year and 10 percent below two years ago.

Processing of 1997 crop potatoes totaled 98.6 million cwt. so far this season, down 10 percent from last year and 5 percent below two years ago. January processing claimed 15.5 million cwt. of potatoes, down 6 percent from last year and 5 percent short of two years ago.

Eastern states stored 14.5 million cwt. of potatoes on February 1, 1998, down 8 percent from a year ago, but 11 percent above 1996. Stocks in Maine were down 8 percent from last year. Pennsylvania's stocks were down 23 percent, while New York's holdings were the same as last year.

Central states' storage accounted for 42.3 million cwt. of potatoes this month, down 16 percent from 1997, but 4 percent above 1996. Wisconsin's stocks dropped 27 percent, North Dakota's stocks fell 23 percent, and Minnesota's stocks slipped 20 percent from a year ago. Michigan's holdings were up 20 percent, while Nebraska's stocks increased 56 percent.

Western states held 149 million cwt. of potatoes in storage on February 1, 1998, down 7 percent from last year, but 10 percent above 1996. Idaho's stocks fell 7 percent from a year ago, but were 3 percent above two years ago. Idaho's storage held more than half the western stocks. Colorado and Oregon stocks were each off 16 percent from last year, while California's stocks dropped 4 percent. Washington's stocks were the same as last year, and Montana's seed growers gained 5 percent. Each of the Western states, except California, had more potatoes in storage than two years ago.



FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND FEBRUARY 1 STOCKS BY STATE

State	Crop of 1996			Crop of 1997		
	Production	Total Stocks Feb. 1, 1997	Percent of Production	Production	Total Stocks Feb. 1, 1998	Percent of Production
	---- 1,000 Cwt. ----		Percent	---- 1,000 Cwt. ----		Percent
California	4,600	2,500	54	4,200	2,400	57
Colorado	29,175	18,100	62	25,377	15,200	60
Idaho	142,800	82,000	57	135,430	76,000	56
Maine	21,175	13,100	62	19,170	12,100	63
Michigan	13,800	4,600	33	14,250	5,500	39
Minnesota	24,600	13,200	54	20,440	10,500	51
Montana	3,213	2,850	89	3,328	2,980	90
Nebraska	4,402	2,440	55	7,527	3,800	50
New York	7,980	1,400	18	8,408	1,400	17
North Dakota	28,820	15,000	52	21,525	11,500	53
Ohio	1,275	90	7	1,175	70	6
Oregon	30,124	19,000	63	27,161	16,000	59
Pennsylvania	4,208	1,300	31	3,190	1,000	31
Washington	94,990	36,500	38	88,060	36,500	41
Wisconsin	31,590	15,000	47	27,923	10,900	39
15 STATE TOTAL	442,752	227,080	51	407,164	205,850	51