

California Field Crop Review



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U.S. WHEAT AND SOYBEAN PRODUCTION

All wheat production is placed at 76.5 million tons, up 1 percent from the last forecast and 1 percent more than in 1997. The U.S. yield is now forecast at 1.29 tons per acre. This is up 1 percent from last month and a new record high yield. Soybean production is forecast at a record 2.82 billion bushels, up 4 percent from last year's record of 2.73 billion bushels. The yield is forecast at 39.5 bushels per acre, 0.5 bushels above last year, but 1.9 bushels below the record yield of 1994. Area for harvest is estimated at a record 71.6 million acres.

CALIFORNIA CROP PRODUCTION

Production of corn, cotton, dry beans, hay, oats, rice, and sugar beets is expected to decrease from the previous year's level. Yield decreases are anticipated for corn, cotton, all types of hay, rice, dry beans, sugar beets, and winter wheat. Upland cotton acreage is down 21 percent from last year and the expected yield is down 17 percent. American Pima cotton acreage is unchanged, but the projected yield is down 18 percent.

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES, 1997-98

Crop	Area Harvested		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Unit	Production	
	1997	Forecast 1998		1997	Forecast 1998		1997	Forecast 1998
	-- 1,000 Acres --						-- Thousands --	
CALIFORNIA								
Wheat, Winter <u>a/</u>	400.0	370.0	Tons	2.25	1.95	Tons	900.0	721.5
Wheat, Durum <u>a/</u>	144.0	175.0	Tons	2.85	3.15	Tons	410.4	551.3
Oats	35.0	30.0	Tons	1.12	1.20	Tons	39.2	36.0
Barley	180.0	140.0	Tons	1.32	1.44	Tons	237.6	201.6
Corn for Grain	260.0	255.0	Tons	4.76	4.48	Tons	1,237.6	1,142.4
Rice, All	510.0	478.0	Cwt.	83.00	77.00	Cwt.	42,341.0	36,806.0
Long	9.0	9.0	Cwt.	77.00	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	693.0	<u>b/</u>
Medium	485.0	450.0	Cwt.	83.20	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	40,352.0	<u>b/</u>
Short	16.0	19.0	Cwt.	81.00	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	1,296.0	<u>b/</u>
Cotton, Upland <u>c/</u>	875.0	695.0	Lbs.	1,202.00	1,001.00	Bales	2,191.0	1,450.0
Cotton, American Pima <u>c/</u>	184.0	184.0	Lbs.	1,141.00	939.00	Bales	437.2	360.0
Sugar Beets	99.0	100.0	Tons	30.00	29.50	Tons	2,970.0	2,950.0
Beans, All Dry <u>d/</u>	132.0	105.0	Cwt.	22.50	21.00	Cwt.	2,970.0	2,200.0
Hay, All	1,500.0	1,540.0	Tons	5.74	5.50	Tons	8,616.0	8,472.0
Alfalfa Hay	980.0	1,040.0	Tons	7.20	6.80	Tons	7,056.0	7,072.0
Other Hay	520.0	500.0	Tons	3.00	2.80	Tons	1,560.0	1,400.0
UNITED STATES								
Wheat, Winter <u>a/</u>	41,813.0	40,757.0	Tons	1.35	1.41	Tons	56,478.3	57,430.8
Wheat, Durum <u>a/</u>	3,107.0	3,583.0	Tons	0.83	1.06	Tons	2,585.8	3,781.4
Oats	2,911.0	2,936.0	Tons	0.97	0.97	Tons	2,817.7	2,835.4
Barley	6,425.0	6,078.0	Tons	1.40	1.48	Tons	8,987.5	8,986.7
Corn for Grain	73,720.0	73,789.0	Tons	3.56	3.64	Tons	262,236.1	268,578.5
Rice, All	3,034.0	3,187.0	Cwt.	58.96	55.76	Cwt.	178,896.0	177,697.0
Long <u>e/</u>	2,261.0	2,480.0	Cwt.	53.80	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	121,647.0	130,385.0
Medium <u>e/</u>	755.0	685.0	Cwt.	73.95	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	55,833.0	45,704.0
Short <u>e/</u>	18.0	22.0	Cwt.	78.67	<u>b/</u>	Cwt.	1,416.0	1,608.0
Cotton, Upland <u>c/</u>	13,021.0	10,453.0	Lbs.	673.00	634.00	Bales	18,245.0	13,798.6
Cotton, American Pima <u>c/</u>	249.0	244.5	Lbs.	1,056.00	911.00	Bales	548.0	464.0
Sugar Beets	1,428.3	1,460.8	Tons	20.90	21.40	Tons	29,886.0	31,303.0
Beans, All Dry <u>d/</u>	1,720.2	1,903.9	Cwt.	16.95	15.70	Cwt.	29,156.0	29,886.0
Hay, All	60,815.0	59,819.0	Tons	2.50	2.48	Tons	152,120.0	148,287.0
Alfalfa Hay	23,673.0	23,437.0	Tons	3.35	3.43	Tons	79,242.0	80,290.0
Other Hay	37,142.0	36,382.0	Tons	1.96	1.87	Tons	72,878.0	67,997.0

a/ California estimate for current year carried forward from earlier forecast. b/ To be released January 1999. c/ Cotton yield in pounds; production in 480-pound net weight bales. d/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed. e/ Rice class production forecasts for 1998 are based on five-year average of class percentages.

COTTON: Upland cotton production in California is forecast at 1.45 million bales, down 34 percent from last year. Harvested acreage is expected to total 695 thousand acres, 21 percent below last year. The yield is forecast at 1,001 pounds per acre, down 17 percent from 1997. American Pima cotton production is forecast at 360 thousand bales, down 18 percent from 1997. The 184 thousand acres for harvest are unchanged from last year. As of August 1, the Upland and Pima crops were two to four weeks behind normal due to the slow start caused by the cool, wet spring.

U.S. production of all cotton is forecast at 14.3 million bales, down 24 percent from 1997. Acreage intended for harvest is 10.7 million, down 19 percent from last year. The yield is expected to average 640 pounds per acre, down 40 pounds from last year. American Pima production is forecast at 464 thousand bales, down 15 percent from 1997. Yields are expected to average 911 pounds per acre, down 145 pounds from last year.

RICE: California's 1998 rice crop forecast, at 36.8 million cwt., is 13 percent below last year. The 478 thousand acres for harvest are 6 percent below last year. The yield is forecast at 7,700 pounds per acre, down 7 percent from last year.

U.S. rice production is forecast at 178 million cwt., slightly below 1997, but 4 percent above 1996. The yield per acre is forecast at 5,576 pounds, down 320 pounds from last year.

HAY: Production of alfalfa hay in California is forecast at 7.07 million tons, up fractionally from last year's crop. Other hay production is forecast at 1.40 million tons, down 10% from the 1997 crop.

The U.S. alfalfa hay production is forecast at 80.3 million tons, up 1 percent from 1997 and 1996. Total area to be cut, at 23.4 million acres, is down 1 percent from 1997. The yield per acre is expected to average 3.43 tons per acre. U.S. production of all other hay is expected to total 68.0 million tons, 7 percent below a year earlier.

SUGAR BEETS: California sugar beet production is forecast at 2.95 million tons, down 1 percent from 1997. Acreage for harvest, at 100 thousand, is up 1 percent, while yields are expected to be down 2 percent from last year.

Production for the U.S. is expected to total 31.3 million tons, 5 percent above 1997. Area for harvest is 1.46 million acres, up 2 percent from a year ago, while the average yield, at 21.4 tons per acre, is 0.5 tons above 1997.

CORN: California's 1998 corn for grain production is forecast at 1.14 million tons, down 8 percent from 1997. The yield is forecast at 4.48 tons per acre, down 6 percent from last year.

U.S. corn production is forecast at 269 million tons, up 2 percent from last year and 3 percent above 1996. Yields are expected to average 3.64 tons per acre. Acreage for harvest, at 73.8 million, is virtually unchanged from 1997.

DRY BEANS: California's 1998 all dry bean production is forecast at 2.20 million cwt., 26 percent below the 1997 crop. The 105 thousand acres for harvest are 20 percent below last year. The forecast yield of 2,100 pounds per acre is down 7 percent from 1997. Large lima planted acreage is estimated at 26.0 thousand, down 13 percent from last year. Baby lima acreage is expected to total 13.0 thousand, 65 percent below last year.

U.S. dry bean production for 1998 is forecast at 29.9 million cwt., up 3 percent from last year. Area for harvest, at 1.90 million acres, is 11 percent above a year ago. Yields are expected to average 1,570 pounds per acre, down 125 pounds from last year.

**DRY BEANS BY VARIETY:
PLANTED ACRES, CALIFORNIA & U.S., 1997-98 ^{1/}**

Bean Variety	CALIFORNIA		UNITED STATES	
	1997	1998	1997	1998
	----- 1,000 Acres -----			
Large Lima	30.0	26.0	30.0	26.0
Baby Lima	37.0	13.0	37.0	13.0
Black eye	30.0	33.0	42.0	38.5
Light Red Kidney	10.0	9.5	86.8	76.9
Dark Red Kidney	5.0	5.5	65.1	65.2
Pink	4.0	5.5	38.7	52.1
Garbanzo	9.0	5.0	24.7	23.7
Small White ^{2/}	---	---	8.2	3.2
Navy ^{2/}	---	---	381.5	274.5
Great Northern ^{2/}	---	---	111.5	111.3
Cranberry	4.0	2.5	41.7	35.7
Small Red ^{2/}	---	---	43.4	29.6
Black Turtle Soup	---	2.5	132.9	244.5
Pinto ^{2/}	---	---	762.2	976.7
Other (Misc.)	6.0	7.5	46.1	53.1
All DRY BEANS	135.0	110.0	1,851.8	2,024.0

^{1/} Production by variety will be released December 11, 1998.

^{2/} Included in "Other (Misc.)" for California.

PRICES RECEIVED BY CALIFORNIA FARMERS - JULY 1998

Prices received by California farmers at mid-July were above June for wheat, dry edible beans, and all potatoes. All types of hay and spring and fall potatoes were below the previous month's level. Prices were above a year earlier for all types of potatoes. Wheat, dry edible beans, and all types of hay were below July 1997's level. Mid-July prices for barley and Upland cotton lint were not published to avoid disclosure of individual buyers.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UNCHANGED

The All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in July was 102 based on 1990-92=100, unchanged from June. Price increases from June for broilers, tomatoes, lettuce, and milk offset price decreases for cattle, hogs, wheat, and corn. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall index level; however, these changes were essentially offsetting in July.

Compared with July 1997, the All Farm Products Index was five points (4.7 percent) lower. Price decreases from July 1997 for hogs, wheat, cattle, and soybeans more than offset price increases for milk, tomatoes, broilers, and peaches.

The July All Crops Index was 107, unchanged from June, but 6.1 percent below July 1997. From June, price increases for vegetables, potatoes, and dry beans offset price decreases for feed grains, hay, food grains, fruit and nuts, and oilseeds.

The July Food Grains Index, at 89, was down 7.3 percent from the previous month and 20 percent below July 1997. This is the lowest the index has been since July 1991. The July all wheat price, at \$4.28 per cwt., was down 34 cents from June and \$1.10 below the July 1997 price.

The July Feed Grains & Hay Index was 99, down 5.7 percent from last month and 12 percent below July 1997. The corn price, at \$3.77 per cwt., was down 30 cents from June and 55 cents below the July 1997 price. The all hay price, at \$88.60 per ton, was down \$3.20 from June.

The July Potatoes and Dry Beans Index, at 108, was up 2.9 percent from the previous month and up 8 percent from July 1997. Higher prices for 1998 spring and summer potatoes more than offset lower prices for last season's fall potatoes in Idaho.

FARM PRICES: AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS a/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		July 1997	June 1998	July 15, 1998	July 1997	June 1998	July 15, 1998
----- Dollars -----							
Corn <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	4.32	4.07	3.77
Wheat <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	7.98	4.98	5.00	5.38	4.62	4.28
Oats <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	5.25	4.34	4.19
Barley <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	8.02	<u>d/</u>	<u>d/</u>	4.73	4.06	4.17
Sorghum Grain <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.95	3.96	3.62
Rice <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	10.10	9.51	9.50
Dry Edible Beans <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	39.10	28.60	30.40	21.90	21.30	22.10
All Potatoes <u>c/</u>	Cwt.	10.10	9.85	10.20	5.60	6.04	6.15
Winter	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	9.80	10.40	10.30	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	12.50	---	17.60	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	4.55	6.45	6.10	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled <u>b/</u>	Ton	120.00	100.00	97.00	98.40	91.80	88.60
Alfalfa Hay, Baled <u>b/</u>	Ton	121.00	102.00	99.00	106.00	96.50	93.40
Other Hay, Baled <u>b/</u>	Ton	97.00	78.00	77.00	72.40	74.10	72.70
Upland Cotton Lint <u>b/</u>	Lb.	0.743	0.754	<u>d/</u>	0.675	0.685	0.682
Cottonseed	Ton	---	---	---	---	---	---

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

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	July 1997	June 1998	July 1998	July 1997	June 1998	July 1998
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	678	650 <u>e/</u>	646	107	102 <u>e/</u>	102
All Crops	564	528 <u>e/</u>	530	114	107 <u>e/</u>	107
Food Grains	352	305 <u>e/</u>	284	111	96 <u>e/</u>	89
Feed Grains and Hay	401	374 <u>e/</u>	353	112	105 <u>e/</u>	99
Cotton	571	579 <u>e/</u>	576	111	113 <u>e/</u>	113
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	505	532 <u>e/</u>	545	100	105	108
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities,						
Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates <u>f/</u>	1,555	1,536 <u>e/</u>	1,526	117	115	115
Parity Ratio <u>g/</u>	44	43	42	91	89 <u>e/</u>	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/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual buyers. 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.