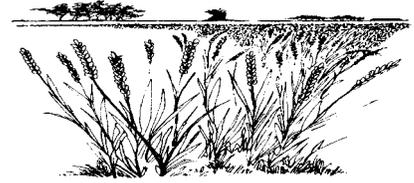


# California Field Crop Review



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## CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP VALUE

The estimated value of California's 1998 field crop production, at \$2.83 billion, was 24 percent below the \$3.72 billion value of 1997. Average value per acre harvested in 1998 was \$595, down 18 percent from the \$726 in 1997. Production of the major field crops in California during 1998 totaled 26.9 million tons, down 5 percent from the 28.3 million tons produced in 1997. The 4.76 million acres harvested in 1998 were down 7 percent from the 5.12 million acres harvested in 1997. Virtually all field crops decreased in total value for 1998.

## CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP VALUES BY YEAR

Year <sup>1/</sup>	Acres Harvested	Production (Short Tons)	Avg. Value Per Acre	Value of Production
	1,000		Dollars	\$1,000
1985	5,788	26,757	503	2,912,202
1986	5,435	27,433	437	2,373,934
1987	5,227	27,827	558	2,915,270
1988	5,379	25,759	560	3,014,456
1989	5,232	25,720	606	3,170,530
1990	5,234	26,279	632	3,305,923
1991	4,750	24,982	585	2,780,452
1992	4,926	25,852	573	2,823,667
1993	4,943	25,409	663	3,279,156
1994	5,242	27,598	693	3,630,341
1995	5,192	26,699	664	3,446,005
1996	5,209	25,494	704	3,676,398
1997	5,121	28,342	726	3,717,330
1998	4,759	26,859	595	2,830,101

<sup>1/</sup> Data for 1998 is preliminary and does not include minor commodities.

## CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP VALUES BY COMMODITY

Crop & Year <sup>a/</sup>	Acres Harvested	Yield Per Acre	Production	Unit	Average Price <sup>b/</sup>	Value of Production
	1,000		1,000		Dollars	\$1,000
Corn 96	220.0	4.48	985.6	Tons	120.36	118,624
For 97	265.0	4.76	1,261.4	Tons	108.93	137,403
Grain 98	260.0	4.48	1,164.8	Tons	91.07	106,080
Corn 96	275.0	25.00	6,875.0	Tons	---	---
For 97	315.0	26.00	8,190.0	Tons	---	---
Silage 98	355.0	25.00	8,875.0	Tons	---	---
Oats 96	30.0	1.20	36.0	Tons	138.75	4,995
For 97	30.0	1.28	38.4	Tons	123.75	4,752
Grain 98	30.0	1.20	36.0	Tons	87.50	3,150
Barley 96	190.0	1.44	273.6	Tons	153.75	42,066
For 97	150.0	1.37	205.2	Tons	114.58	23,513
Grain 98	125.0	1.44	180.0	Tons	93.75	16,875
Winter 96	550.0	2.07	1,138.5	Tons	163.33	185,955
Wheat 97	400.0	2.10	840.0	Tons	123.67	103,880
For Grain 98	380.0	1.80	684.0	Tons	100.00	68,400
Durum 96	138.0	3.00	414.0	Tons	171.33	70,932
Wheat 97	144.0	2.85	410.4	Tons	142.67	58,550
For Grain 98	175.0	2.70	472.5	Tons	173.33	81,900
Rice 96	500.0	74.90	37,459.0	Cwt.	7.91	296,301
97	516.0	82.50	42,546.0	Cwt.	7.95	338,241
98	478.0	68.40	32,698.0	Cwt.	8.15	266,489
Cotton, Upland 96	995.0	1,153.00	2,390.0	Bales	76.50	877,608
97	875.0	1,202.00	2,191.0	Bales	73.20	769,830
Lint <sup>c/</sup> 98	620.0	890.00	1,150.0	Bales	74.40	410,688
Cotton, American 96	164.0	1,098.00	375.0	Bales	107.00	192,600
97	184.0	1,141.00	437.2	Bales	102.00	214,053
Pima <sup>c/</sup> 98	180.0	920.00	345.0	Bales	100.00	165,600
Cottonseed 96	---	---	1,020.0	Tons	176.00	179,520
97	---	---	942.0	Tons	174.00	163,908
98	---	---	547.0	Tons	177.00	96,819
Hay, All <sup>d/</sup> 96	1,450.0	5.52	8,008.0	Tons	108.00	840,896
97	1,510.0	5.57	8,408.0	Tons	117.00	967,624
98	1,570.0	5.17	8,115.0	Tons	101.00	801,690
Alfalfa 96	940.0	7.00	6,580.0	Tons	110.00	723,800
Hay 97	950.0	7.20	6,840.0	Tons	119.00	813,960
98	1,020.0	6.50	6,630.0	Tons	103.00	682,890
All 96	510.0	2.80	1,428.0	Tons	82.00	117,096
Other 97	560.0	2.80	1,568.0	Tons	98.00	153,664
Hay 98	550.0	2.70	1,485.0	Tons	80.00	118,800
Dry Edible 96	123.0	18.90	2,325.0	Cwt.	38.50	89,513
Beans 97	132.0	22.70	3,000.0	Cwt.	29.40	88,200
e/ 98	105.0	19.50	2,048.0	Cwt.	33.10	67,789
Sugar 96	82.0	29.50	2,419.0	Tons	43.00	104,017
Beets 97	99.0	30.00	2,970.0	Tons	40.60	120,582
f/ 98	100.0	29.00	2,900.0	Tons	g/	g/

<sup>a/</sup> Data for 1998 is preliminary.

<sup>b/</sup> 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.

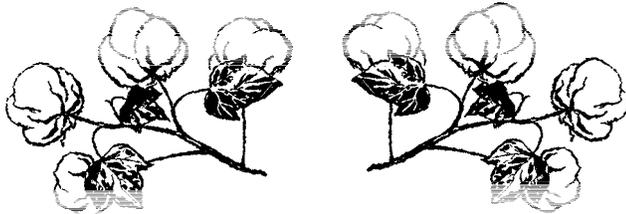
<sup>c/</sup> Cotton yield in pounds; production in 480-pound net weight bales; lint price on hundredweight basis. The 1998 price is the average to January 1, 1999.

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

<sup>e/</sup> Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

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

<sup>g/</sup> Not available.



**CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - JANUARY 1999**

Prices received by California farmers at mid-January were above December for dry edible beans, winter potatoes, alfalfa hay, and cottonseed. All potatoes, fall potatoes, hay other than alfalfa, and upland cotton lint were below the previous month. All hay remained the same as December. Mid-January prices for wheat and barley were not published to avoid possible disclosure. Prices were above a year earlier for dry edible beans, all potatoes, and winter potatoes. Fall potatoes, all hay, alfalfa hay, hay other than alfalfa, and upland cotton lint were below January 1998's level.

**U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DROPS ONE POINT**

The All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in January was 98 based on 1990-92=100, down one point (1.0 percent) from December. Price increases from December for hogs, tomatoes, cattle, and oranges more than offset price decreases for turkeys, milk, lettuce, and broilers. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall index level. Lower seasonal marketings of cotton, milk, tobacco, and cottonseed more than offset the relatively higher marketings of corn, soybeans, cattle, and rice. These seasonal marketing changes more than offset an increase in prices and accounted for the one point decline in the overall index.

Compared with January 1998, the All Farm Products Index was five points (4.9 percent) lower. Price decreases from January 1998 for corn, soybeans, hogs, and cattle more than offset price increases for milk, broilers, oranges, and tomatoes.

The January All Crops Index was 98, down 2 percent from December and 11 percent below January 1998. From December, price decreases for cotton and oilseeds offset price increases for vegetables and fruit and nuts.

The January food grains at 102, was up 1.0 percent from the previous month, but was 12 percent below January 1998. The January all wheat price, at \$4.77 per cwt., was down one cent from December and 76 cents below January 1998.

The January Feed Grains & Hay Index was 89, unchanged from last month, but 21 percent below January 1998. The corn price, at \$3.59 per cwt., was unchanged from December, but 98 cents below the January 1998 price. The all hay price, at \$78.80 per ton, was up 40 cents from last month, but was \$15.90 below January 1998.

**FARM PRICES: AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS <sup>a/</sup>**

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		January 1998	December 1998	Jan. 15, 1999	January 1998	December 1998	Jan. 15, 1999
							Dollars
Corn <sup>b/</sup>	Cwt.	---	---	---	4.57	3.59	3.59
Wheat <sup>b/</sup>	Cwt.	<sup>d/</sup>	<sup>d/</sup>	<sup>d/</sup>	5.53	4.78	4.77
Oats <sup>b/</sup>	Cwt.	---	---	---	5.00	3.66	3.56
Barley <sup>b/</sup>	Cwt.	5.90	<sup>d/</sup>	<sup>d/</sup>	5.04	4.17	4.15
Sorghum Grain <sup>b/</sup>	Cwt.	---	---	---	4.02	2.98	3.01
Rice <sup>b/</sup>	Cwt.	---	---	---	9.57	9.06	9.12
Dry Edible Beans <sup>b/</sup>	Cwt.	29.10	37.80	39.40	21.10	20.50	19.50
All Potatoes <sup>c/</sup>	Cwt.	9.25	10.90	10.60	5.55	5.20	5.24
Winter	Cwt.	16.60	20.30	21.20	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	7.85	7.30	7.05	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled	Ton	121.00	79.00	79.00	94.70	78.40	78.80
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Ton	122.00	79.00	82.00	102.00	81.40	81.40
Other Hay, Baled	Ton	94.00	77.00	54.00	76.40	69.40	71.00
Upland Cotton Lint <sup>b/</sup>	Lb.	0.718	0.739	0.713	0.611	0.607	0.591
Cottonseed	Ton	---	179.00	180.00	121.00	138.00	139.00

<sup>a/</sup> 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.

<sup>b/</sup> Previous month revised to monthly average.

<sup>c/</sup> Monthly average.

<sup>d/</sup> Not published to avoid possible disclosure.

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

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	Jan. 1998	Dec. 1998	Jan. 1999	Jan. 1998	Dec. 1998	Jan. 1999
Prices Received - Unadjusted						
All Farm Products	653	626 <sup>a/</sup>	620	103	99 <sup>a/</sup>	98
All Crops	541	494 <sup>a/</sup>	486	110	100	98
Food Grains	369	322 <sup>a/</sup>	325	116	101 <sup>a/</sup>	102
Feed Grains and Hay	402	319 <sup>a/</sup>	318	113	89 <sup>a/</sup>	89
Cotton	516	513 <sup>a/</sup>	500	101	100 <sup>a/</sup>	98
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	501	472 <sup>a/</sup>	470	99	93	93
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes, and Wage Rates <sup>b/</sup>	1,561	1,511 <sup>a/</sup>	1,522	117	113 <sup>a/</sup>	114
Parity Ratio <sup>c/</sup>	42	41	41	88	88 <sup>a/</sup>	86

<sup>a/</sup> Revised.

<sup>b/</sup> All production indexes as of 15th of month.

<sup>c/</sup> 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, 1999 totaled 2.00 million cwt., down 5 percent from last year. February 1 stocks accounted for 54 percent of production, compared with 50 percent a year ago. Disappearance from month to month includes shrinkage, waste, and other losses.

Nationally, the 15 major potato states held 211 million cwt. of potatoes on February 1, 1999, down 1 percent from last year and 7 percent below 1997. Storage accounted for 50 percent of 1998 fall production, down 1 percent from a year ago. This year's storage held more russets and round whites, but fewer long whites than a year earlier. Disappearance, at 214 million cwt., is up 6 percent from last year including a 9 percent gain in processing.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to February 1 totaled 214 million cwt. this season, up 6 percent from last year, but 2 percent below the record high two years ago. January disappearance of 35.1 million cwt. was 3 percent above last year, but down slightly from two years ago. Shrink and loss of 22.5 million cwt. was up 16 percent from last year, but 3 percent below two years ago.

Processing of 1998 crop potatoes so far this season totaled 108.1 million cwt., up 9 percent from the 1997 crop, but 2 percent below the 1996 crop. In January, processors claimed a record 19.0 million cwt. of potatoes, up 23 percent from last year and 14 percent above two years ago. The two-month total (December and January) was up 14 percent from a year earlier.

Eastern states stored 12.9 million cwt. of potatoes on February 1, 1999, down 13 percent from a year ago and 18 percent below two years ago. Maine's holdings were down 13 percent and Pennsylvania's stocks were off one-third. New York's storage was up 7 percent from last year.

Central states accounted for 48.0 million cwt. of potato stocks this February, 8 percent above 1998, but 5 percent below 1997. North Dakota's stocks were up 18 percent and Nebraska was up 28 percent. Stocks in Wisconsin were up 5 percent from last year. Minnesota's stocks were equal to last year, while Michigan's stocks fell 2 percent. Ohio's stocks were 15 percent below last year.

On February 1, 1999, Western states held 150.2 million cwt. of potatoes in storage, down 2 percent from last year and 7 percent below 1997. Idaho's stocks were down 2 percent from a year ago, and Oregon's were off 1 percent. Colorado and California were down 5 percent each and Montana's storage was down 3 percent. Washington's stocks were the same as last year.

**FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND FEBRUARY 1 STOCKS BY STATE**

State	Crop of 1997			Crop of 1998		
	Production	Total Stocks Feb. 1, 1998	Percent of Production	Production	Total Stocks Feb. 1, 1999	Percent of Production
	1,000 Cwt.		Percent	1,000 Cwt.		Percent
California	4,200	2,100	50	3,708	2,000	54
Colorado	24,993	14,700	59	25,360	14,000	55
Idaho	140,314	81,000	58	139,650	79,000	57
Maine	19,080	12,100	63	18,060	10,500	58
Michigan	14,250	5,500	39	14,725	5,400	37
Minnesota	20,440	10,500	51	21,170	10,500	50
Montana	3,328	2,980	90	3,180	2,890	91
Nebraska	7,761	3,300	43	8,175	4,240	52
New York	7,150	1,500	21	7,290	1,600	22
North Dakota	22,000	11,900	54	28,670	14,000	49
Ohio	1,170	82	7	1,200	70	6
Oregon	27,319	16,000	59	26,229	15,800	60
Pennsylvania	3,173	1,200	38	3,360	800	24
Washington	88,160	36,500	41	93,225	36,500	39
Wisconsin	30,175	13,200	44	30,895	13,800	45
15-STATE TOTAL	413,513	212,562	51	424,897	211,100	50