

California Field Crop Review



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The U.S. estimate for Durum wheat production for states other than Arizona and California will not be available until July 12, 1999.

WHEAT FORECAST

The California winter wheat forecast, at 878 thousand tons, is up 7 percent from last month and 28 percent above 1998. Acreage harvested for grain is 3 percent above last year. Harvest was just getting underway in the southern San Joaquin Valley by June 1. Yields are expected to be 2.25 tons per acre, up 25 percent from 1998.

U.S. winter wheat production forecast is 48.3 million tons, down fractionally from May 1, but 14 percent below last year. Based on conditions as of June 1, the U.S. yield is forecast at 1.34 tons per acre. This is up 1 percent from the last forecast, but down 5 percent from last year's average. Area harvested totaled 36.0 million acres, slightly less than last month and 10 percent below 1998.

California's Durum wheat production forecast is 299 thousand tons, unchanged from last month and 37 percent below 1998. Acreage expected for harvest, at 105 thousand, is 40 percent below last year. The expected yield of 2.85 tons per acre is up 6 percent from 1998. As of June 1, harvest was approximately 60 percent complete in the desert valleys.

TOP PRODUCING COUNTIES OF 1998 FOR ALL WHEAT TONNAGE PRODUCED

IMPERIAL	264,000
KINGS	198,450
FRESNO	122,700
KERN	117,000
TULARE	75,000
COLUSA	48,600
RIVERSIDE	48,300
SOLANO	45,000
YOLO	36,000
SAN JOAQUIN	33,300
GLENN	25,500
MADERA	25,050
SUTTER	24,900
MERCED	18,600

WHEAT ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, JUNE 1, 1999

Crop and Location	Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	1,000 Acres		Tons		1,000 Tons	
WINTER California	380	390	1.80	2.25	684	878
WINTER U.S.	40,126	36,043	1.41	1.34	56,418	48,348
DURUM California	175	105	2.70	2.85	473	299
DURUM Arizona	144	75	3.15	2.85	454	214
DURUM U.S.	3,728	a/	1.14	a/	4,232	a/

a/ Area Harvested will be published June 30, 1999. Yield and production will be published July 12, 1999.

JUNE 1 FALL POTATO STOCKS

California's potato stocks totaled 400 thousand cwt. on June 1, 1999. Stocks represented 11 percent of fall potato production.

June 1, 1999 potato stocks in the 15 storage states totaled 51.4 million cwt., amounting to 12 percent of 1998 fall production. This is the first June 1 stocks report on storage potatoes. Historical comparisons are not available. Disappearance from the start of harvest to June 1 totaled 374 million cwt. May disappearance totaled 36.3 million cwt. Cumulative shrink and loss are estimated at 30.1 million cwt.

Processing of 1998 crop potatoes so far this season totaled 187 million cwt. in the eight major states. May processing used 18.9 million cwt. of raw potatoes, compared to 19.2 million cwt. the month before.

Western states held 40.3 million cwt. of potatoes in storage on June 1, 1999. Idaho's stocks totaled 25.5 million cwt., covering 18 percent of their production and accounting for 63 percent of the western states' remaining stocks. Washington's stocks were 7.5 million cwt. or 8 percent of their fall production. Oregon, at 4.2 million cwt., held 16 percent of their production and Colorado's stocks were 2.7 million cwt. or 11 percent of production.

JUNE 1 FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS 1/

State	Crop of 1997			Crop of 1998		
	Production	Total Stocks June 1, 1998	Percent of Production	Production	Total Stocks June 1, 1999	Percent of Production
	1,000 Cwt.		Percent	1,000 Cwt.		Percent
CA	4,200	---	---	3,708	400	11
CO	24,993	---	---	25,360	2,700	11
ID	140,314	---	---	139,650	25,500	18
ME	19,080	---	---	18,060	1,900	11
MI 2/	14,250	---	---	14,725	---	---
MN	20,440	---	---	21,170	2,500	12
MT	3,328	---	---	3,180	---	---
NE 2/	7,761	---	---	8,175	---	---
NY	7,150	---	---	7,290	---	---
ND	22,000	---	---	28,670	4,000	14
OH	1,170	---	---	1,200	---	---
OR	27,319	---	---	26,229	4,200	16
PA 2/	3,173	---	---	3,360	---	---
WA	88,160	---	---	93,225	7,500	8
WI 2/	30,175	---	---	30,895	2,690	---
15-STATE TOTAL	413,513	---	---	424,897	51,390	12

1/ This is the first June potato stocks report. Historic comparisons are not available.

2/ Combined Michigan, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin to prevent possible disclosure of individual operations.

1998 U.S. COTTON GINNINGS

A total of 13.5 million running bales were ginned during the 1998 season, 26 percent less than 1997's 18.3 million bales. The 1998 U.S. cotton crop experienced delays in planting because of excessive rainfall in the Mississippi River Delta states, the southeastern states, and in California. Hot, dry conditions persisted during early summer in all states, except California. These conditions pushed maturity well ahead of the normal development pace. As a result of this early maturity, harvest progress also exceeded the five-year average. The Delta and southeastern states' crop potential was decreased from the effects of the weather, but brief and timely rains later in the growing season salvaged the yields in most

of these states. California experienced unseasonably wet and cool weather during the entire season, resulting in below average yields. Yields in Texas' irrigated fields improved as the season progressed. However, large amounts of non-irrigated acreage had to be abandoned.

During the 1998 season, 1,113 cotton gins were active, down from 1,153 operated in 1997. Two hundred fifty-one ginning firms processed more than 20,000 bales in 1998, compared to 370 firms the previous season. Forty-nine of the 251 firms processed at least 40,000 bales in 1998.

COTTON GINNINGS: RUNNING BALES GINNED (EXCLUDING LINTERS) BY TYPE, STATE AND UNITED STATES, CROP YEARS 1995-98

Type and State	1995	1996	1997	1998
	Bales			
ALL COTTON				
Alabama	460,650	755,850	529,100	538,500
Arizona	831,750	812,850	844,350	600,750
Arkansas	1,452,900	1,593,150	1,627,600	1,172,600
California	2,462,350	2,687,550	2,558,400	1,466,400
Florida ^{1/}	---	---	---	---
Georgia	1,908,900	2,041,500	1,884,400	1,516,450
Kansas ^{1/}	---	---	---	---
Louisiana	1,378,550	1,299,450	1,001,950	652,750
Mississippi	1,806,850	1,819,250	1,766,450	1,400,900
Missouri	477,400	557,250	547,250	337,750
New Mexico	69,700	89,600	79,900	69,600
North Carolina	787,950	985,100	911,350	1,006,700
Oklahoma	117,250	126,100	178,100	138,450
South Carolina	351,900	434,000	389,900	334,200
Tennessee	713,150	664,100	646,850	530,600
Texas	4,413,500	4,294,450	5,080,350	3,558,550
Virginia	128,250	153,000	131,400	133,850
UNITED STATES	17,468,500	18,438,550	18,301,050	13,533,950
AMERICAN-PIMA				
Arizona	70,750	72,450	41,200	25,400
California	215,050	360,200	422,450	340,550
New Mexico	13,900	14,450	10,400	6,750
Texas	54,950	62,900	57,150	54,050
UNITED STATES	354,650	510,000	531,200	426,750

^{1/} Not published to avoid disclosing individual gins, but included in U.S. totals.

CALIFORNIA COTTON GINNINGS: ALL COTTON RUNNING BALES GINNED (EXCLUDING LINTERS), EQUIVALENT 480-POUND BALES GINNED, RUNNING BALES PRODUCED BY COUNTY, AND U.S. COUNTY RANK, 1998 CROP

County	Running Bales Ginned	Equivalent 480-Pound Bales Ginned	Running Bales Produced	U.S. Rank by Running Bales Produced
Butte ^{1/}	---	---	---	586
Colusa ^{1/}	---	---	11,550	225
Fresno	566,700	586,400	550,250	1
Glenn ^{1/}	---	---	---	500
Imperial ^{1/}	---	---	18,650	178
Kern	262,650	271,550	296,500	3
Kings	276,150	284,850	265,950	4
Madera ^{1/}	---	---	50,350	73
Merced	99,050	101,750	132,000	18
Riverside ^{1/}	---	---	19,550	168
San Bernardino	---	---	1,300	428
Sutter ^{1/}	---	---	1,300	427
Tulare	127,150	131,000	97,550	29
Yolo	---	---	4,850	313
STATE TOTAL	1,466,400	1,515,200	1,450,400	---

^{1/} Not published to avoid disclosing individual gins, but included in State total.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - MAY 1999

Mid-May prices received by California farmers increased from April for all potatoes, fall potatoes, and all types of hay. Prices for dry edible beans were below the previous month's level. Wheat, barley, and Upland cotton lint prices were not published in order to avoid disclosure of individual buyers. Prices at mid-May were above a year earlier for dry edible beans, all potatoes, and spring potatoes. Fall potatoes and all types of hay were below May 1998's level.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASES THREE POINTS

The All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in May was 99 based on 1990-92=100, up three points (3.1 percent) from April. The index increase was due to the seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell. The normal increase in marketings of cantaloupes, grapes, peaches, and sweet corn in May more than offset the relatively lower marketings of cattle, milk, cotton, and oranges. The change in marketings was accompanied by a slight increase in overall prices. Price increases from April for hogs, broilers, oranges, and hay more than offset price decreases for lettuce, strawberries, cattle, and eggs.

Compared with May 1998, the All Farm Products Index was four points (3.9 percent) lower. Price decreases from May 1998 for soybeans, corn, hogs, and wheat more than offset price increases for peaches, carrots, cucumbers, and turkeys.

The May All Crops Index was 106, up 2.9 percent from April, but 5.4 percent below May 1998. From April, price increases for potatoes, dry beans, feed grains, and hay more than offset price decreases for vegetables, fruit, nuts, and oil-bearing crops.

The May Food Grains Index, at 93, was down 3.1 percent from the previous month and 15 percent below May 1998. The May all wheat price, at \$4.30 per cwt., was down seven cents from April and 80 cents below May 1998.

The May Feed Grains and Hay Index was 93, up 1.1 percent from last month, but 14 percent below May 1998. The corn price, at \$3.59 per cwt., was down seven cents from April and 59 cents below the May 1998 price. The all hay price, at \$91.60 per ton, was up \$9.70 from last month, but \$10.40 below May 1998.

FARM PRICES: AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS a/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		May 1998	Apr. 1999	May 15, 1999	May 1998	Apr. 1999	May 15, 1999
Dollars							
Corn <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	4.18	3.66	3.59
Wheat <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	6.22	<u>c/</u>	<u>c/</u>	5.10	4.37	4.30
Oats <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	4.78	3.69	3.78
Barley <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	<u>c/</u>	<u>c/</u>	<u>c/</u>	4.44	3.69	3.71
Sorghum Grain <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.69	3.09	3.02
Rice <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	9.38	8.54	8.44
Dry Edible Beans <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	27.80	38.90	36.30	20.80	16.80	19.50
All Potatoes <u>d/</u>	Cwt.	10.90	10.50	11.30	6.39	6.14	6.42
Winter	Cwt.	---	26.80	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	12.00	---	13.40	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	---	0.00	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	7.10	6.45	6.90	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled <u>b/</u>	Ton	105.00	98.00	103.00	102.00	81.90	91.60
Alfalfa Hay, Baled <u>b/</u>	Ton	107.00	101.00	106.00	107.00	85.60	95.70
Other Hay, Baled <u>b/</u>	Ton	72.00	45.00	55.00	78.60	65.80	69.40
Upland Cotton Lint <u>b/</u>	Lb.	0.715	0.599	<u>c/</u>	0.635	0.567	0.575
Cottonseed	Ton	---	---	---	---	---	---

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/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual buyers.
d/ Monthly average

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

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	May 1998	Apr. 1999	May 1999	May 1998	Apr. 1999	May 1999
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	656	610 <u>a/</u>	630	103	96 <u>a/</u>	99
All Crops	554	509 <u>a/</u>	523	112	103 <u>a/</u>	106
Food Grains	345	306 <u>a/</u>	295	109	96 <u>a/</u>	93
Feed Grains and Hay	385	328 <u>a/</u>	333	108	92 <u>a/</u>	93
Cotton	537	479 <u>a/</u>	486	105	94 <u>a/</u>	95
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	555	520 <u>a/</u>	552	110	103 <u>a/</u>	109
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates <u>b/</u>	1,563	1,551 <u>a/</u>	1,551	117	116	117
Parity Ratio <u>c/</u>	42	39 <u>a/</u>	41	88	83 <u>a/</u>	85

a/ Revised.
b/ All production indexes as of 15th of month.
c/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.