

# California Field Crop Review



Frequency: Monthly  
Released: October 19, 2004

(USPS 598-270)  
VOL. 25 NO. 10



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE

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American Pima cotton production in California is forecast at 645 thousand bales, an increase of 74 percent from the previous year. Harvesting was underway in the San Joaquin Valley, with good yields reported.

Upland cotton production in the U.S. is forecast at 20.8 million bales, up 17 percent from 2003. The yields are expected to be 771 pounds per acre, 48 pounds above last year. Harvested acreage was up 10 percent from the previous year.

U.S. American Pima cotton production is forecast at 715 thousand bales, up 65 percent from 2003. The yield is forecast at 1,357 pounds per acre. If realized, this would be 15 pounds above the record high yield established in 2002.

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## FIELD CROP ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

**COTTON:** Upland cotton production in California is forecast at 1.75 million bales, 17 percent above last year. The yield is forecast at 1,508 pounds per acre, 15 percent above 2003. Upland cotton producers experienced extremely cooperative weather, promoting rapid growth and steady development. The crop continues to mature ahead of the 5-year average. Harvest was underway in the San Joaquin Valley.

## FIELD CROP ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES, 2003-04

Crop	Area Harvested		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Unit	Production	
	2003	2004 Forecast		2003	2004 Forecast		2003	2004 Forecast
	Thousand Acres						Thousands	
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>								
Wheat, Winter	410.0	320.0	Tons	1.83	2.55	Tons	750.3	816.0
Wheat, Durum	115.0	100.0	Tons	3.00	2.70	Tons	345.0	270.0
Oats	35.0	25.0	Tons	1.28	1.36	Tons	44.8	34.0
Barley	58.0	75.0	Tons	1.54	1.30	Tons	89.1	97.2
Corn for Grain	170.0	190.0	Tons	4.48	4.62	Tons	761.6	877.8
Rice, All <sup>1/</sup>	507.0	600.0	Cwt.	76.20	81.00	Cwt.	38,624.0	48,600.0
Long	7.0	7.0	Cwt.	69.00	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	483.0	<u>2/</u>
Medium	458.0	545.0	Cwt.	77.50	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	35,495.0	<u>2/</u>
Short	42.0	48.0	Cwt.	63.00	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	2,646.0	<u>2/</u>
Cotton, Upland <sup>3/</sup>	545.0	557.0	Lbs.	1,317.00	1,508.00	Bales	1,495.0	1,750.0
Cotton, American Pima <sup>3/</sup>	149.0	219.0	Lbs.	1,194.00	1,414.00	Bales	370.5	645.0
Sugar Beets <sup>4/</sup>	50.2	49.0	Tons	36.50	38.00	Tons	1,832.0	1,862.0
Beans, Dry Edible <sup>5/</sup>	75.0	65.0	Cwt.	18.70	20.00	Cwt.	1,403.0	1,300.0
Hay, All	1,570.0	1,540.0	Tons	5.93	5.99	Tons	9,310.0	9,226.0
Alfalfa Hay	1,090.0	1,050.0	Tons	7.00	7.20	Tons	7,630.0	7,560.0
Other Hay	480.0	490.0	Tons	3.50	3.40	Tons	1,680.0	1,666.0
<b>UNITED STATES</b>								
Wheat, Winter	36,753.0	34,462.0	Tons	1.40	1.31	Tons	51,501.6	44,983.0
Wheat, Durum	2,869.0	2,448.0	Tons	1.01	1.11	Tons	2,899.1	2,714.0
Oats	2,220.0	1,807.0	Tons	1.04	1.03	Tons	2,310.1	1,864.1
Barley	4,727.0	4,031.0	Tons	1.41	1.67	Tons	6,678.8	6,722.5
Corn for Grain	71,139.0	73,311.0	Tons	3.98	4.44	Tons	283,188.8	325,170.3
Rice, All <sup>1/</sup>	2,997.0	3,334.0	Cwt.	66.45	67.63	Cwt.	199,157.0	225,488.0
Long <sup>6/</sup>	2,310.0	2,563.0	Cwt.	64.51	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	149,011.0	165,287.0
Medium <sup>6/</sup>	644.0	722.0	Cwt.	73.66	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	47,440.0	56,843.0
Short <sup>6/</sup>	43.0	49.0	Cwt.	62.93	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	2,706.0	3,358.0
Cotton, Upland <sup>3/</sup>	11,826.0	12,970.0	Lbs.	723.00	771.00	Bales	17,822.9	20,830.0
Cotton, American Pima <sup>3/</sup>	177.4	253.0	Lbs.	1,170.00	1,357.00	Bales	432.3	715.0
Sugar Beets <sup>4/</sup>	1,347.9	1,326.0	Tons	22.70	21.70	Tons	30,583.0	28,840.0
Beans, Dry Edible <sup>5/</sup>	1,346.9	1,250.1	Cwt.	16.72	14.95	Cwt.	22,515.0	18,693.0
Hay, All	63,342.0	61,589.0	Tons	2.48	2.69	Tons	157,123.0	165,920.0
Alfalfa Hay	23,578.0	22,226.0	Tons	3.24	3.48	Tons	76,307.0	77,371.0
Other Hay	39,764.0	39,363.0	Tons	2.03	2.25	Tons	80,816.0	88,549.0

<sup>1/</sup> Sweet rice production included with short grain.

<sup>2/</sup> To be released January 2005.

<sup>3/</sup> Cotton yield in pounds; production in 480-pound net weight bales.

<sup>4/</sup> Relates to year of intended harvest in all states, except California. In California, related to year of intended harvest for fall planted beets in central California and to year of planting for over-wintered beets in central and southern California.

<sup>5/</sup> Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

<sup>6/</sup> The 2004 rice production by class estimates are based on class harvested acreage estimates and the 5-year average class yield compared to the all rice yield.

**FIELD CROP ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION**  
(Continued from Page 1.)

**RICE:** California's 2004 rice crop forecast is 48.6 million cwt., 26 percent above 2003. The 600 thousand acres for harvest are 18 percent above the previous year. The yield is forecast at 8,100 pounds per acre, 6 percent above last year.

The 2004 U.S. rice production is forecast at 225 million cwt., 13 percent above 2003. The area for harvest is expected to total 3.33 million acres, 11 percent above a year ago. The yields are expected to average a record high 6,763 pounds per acre, up 118 pounds from the record high yield established in 2003.

**HAY:** Production of alfalfa hay in California is forecast 1 percent below last year's crop with 7.56 million tons. Other hay production is forecast at 1.67 million tons, down 1 percent from the previous year.

Nationally, alfalfa hay production is forecast at 77.4 million tons, up 1 percent from 2003. Other hay production is forecast at 88.5 million tons, 10 percent above last year's production.

**SUGAR BEETS:** California sugar beet production is forecast at 1.86 million tons, up 2 percent from the 2003 crop. Acreage for harvest is forecast at 49.0 thousand acres and yields are expected to be 4 percent more than last year.

The U.S. sugar beet production is forecast at 28.8 million tons, 6 percent below last year's production. Harvested acreage is 2 percent below last year and expected yields are 4 percent below the previous year.

**CORN:** California's 2004 corn for grain production is expected to total 878 thousand tons, 15 percent above last year. Acreage for harvest, at 190 thousand acres, is 12 percent above last year. The yield forecast, at 4.62 tons per acre, is up 3 percent from a year earlier.

The U.S. corn for grain production is forecast at 325 million tons, 15 percent above 2003. The average yield is forecast at 4.44 tons, 12 percent above last year.

**BEANS, DRY:** California's 2004 all dry bean production forecast is 1.30 million cwt., 7 percent below the 2003 crop. The 65.0 thousand acres for harvest were 13 percent below last year. The forecast yield of 2,000 pounds per acre is 7 percent above the 2003 yield.

The U.S. dry edible bean production is forecast at 18.7 million cwt., down 17 percent from a year earlier. Harvested acreage is down 7 percent and average yields were down 11 percent from last year.

**WHEAT, WINTER:** California's final 2004 winter wheat production is estimated at 816 thousand tons. Average yields came in at 2.55 tons per acre, 39 percent above the previous year. Harvested acreage was estimated at 320 thousand acres, 22 percent below last year.

The U.S. winter wheat production is estimated at 45.0 million tons, 13 percent below the 2003 crop. The yield, at 1.31 tons per acre, is 6 percent below last year's final yield.

**BARLEY:** California's final 2004 barley production, estimated at 97.2 thousand tons, was 9 percent above last year. The average yield of 1.30 tons per acre was 16 percent below 2003. Acreage harvested for grain was estimated at 75.0 thousand acres, 29 percent above 2003.

The U.S. barley production is estimated at 6.72 million tons, up 1 percent from last year's output. The average yield is forecast at 1.67 tons per acre, 18 percent above last year.

**SEPTEMBER 1 GRAIN STOCKS**

U.S. wheat stocks totaled 58.3 million tons, 5 percent below the 61.2 million tons on hand September 1, 2003. U.S. total oat stocks, at 1.86 million tons, were 12 percent below the 2.11 million tons stored last year. U.S. barley stocks totaled 7.00 million tons, 21 percent above the 5.80 million tons of stock a year earlier. U.S. total stocks of corn were 26.8 million tons, 12 percent below the 30.4 million tons on hand September 1, 2003. U.S. grain sorghum stocks totaled 940 thousand tons, 22 percent below the 1.20 million tons on hand a year earlier.

**GRAIN STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS, UNITED STATES**  
(Includes stocks under support & government owned grain.)

Grain and Position <sup>1/</sup>	Sept. 1, 2003	June 1, 2004	Sept. 1, 2004
	Tons		
Wheat, All	61,169,160	16,404,570	58,251,450
Corn	30,426,844	83,163,920	26,814,816
Barley	5,799,120	2,887,416	7,003,320
Oats	2,107,792	1,037,568	1,860,064
Sorghum Grain	1,204,840	2,256,632	939,540

<sup>1/</sup> Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.



**WINTER POTATO**  
**ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, 2003-04 <sup>1/</sup>**

State and U.S.	Acreage				Yield		Production	
	Planted		Harvested		2003	2004	2003	2004
	2003	2004	2003	2004				
	1,000 Acres				Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
CA	8.5	13.0	8.5	13.0	310	250	2,635	3,250
FL	6.1	5.7	5.8	5.5	240	285	1,392	1,568
U.S.	14.6	18.7	14.3	18.5	282	260	4,027	4,818

<sup>1/</sup> Revised data for 2004.

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**PRICES RECEIVED BY CALIFORNIA FARMERS - SEPTEMBER 2004**

Prices received by California farmers at mid-September were above August for dry edible beans, all potatoes, summer potatoes, all hay, and alfalfa hay. Prices remained the same as the previous month for hay other than alfalfa. The mid-September prices for Upland cotton lint were not published to avoid possible disclosure of individual buyers. Sales were too insufficient to establish a mid-month price for wheat, barley, and cottonseed. Prices were above a year earlier for dry edible beans and all types of hay. All potatoes and summer potatoes were below the previous year.

**U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DOWN SIX POINTS**

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in September is 114, based on 1990-92=100, six points (5.0 percent) below the August Index. Declines occurred in both the Crop Price Index and the Livestock Price Index. The Crop Index, declined seven points (5.9 percent) from August, while the Livestock Index decreased five points (4.1 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for broccoli, wheat, grapes, oranges, and peaches. Lower prices were received for broilers, soybeans, cattle, corn, and lettuce. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affect the overall index. Increased average marketings of soybeans, peanuts, corn, and apples offset decreased marketings of cattle, broilers, wheat, and grapes. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up three points (2.7 percent) from September 2003.

The September All Crops Index is 111, down 5.9 percent from August, but unchanged from September 2003. From August, price increases for fruits and nuts, food grains, and tobacco were more than offset by price decreases in oil-bearing crops, cotton, and feed grains and hay.

The September Food Grains Index, at 120, is up 7.1 percent from the previous month and 9.1 percent above September 2003. The September all wheat price, at \$116.67 per ton, is up \$7.67 from August and \$3.67 above September 2003.

The September Feed Grains & Hay Index is 98, down 9.3 percent from last month and 2.0 percent below September 2003. The corn price, at \$76.07 per ton, is down \$7.50 from August and \$2.50 below the September 2003 price.

The September Cotton Index, at 78, is down 12 percent from a month ago and 15 percent below September 2003. The cotton price, at 47.2 cents per pound, is down 6.5 cents from August and 8.5 cents below a year ago.

The September Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 96, is 6.8 percent below last month, but up 5.5 percent from September 2003. The all potato price, at \$5.21 per cwt., is down 73 cents from the previous month and three cents below last September. The dry edible bean price, at \$23.40 per cwt., increased \$2.50 from the August average price and is \$5.70 above a year ago.

**AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES 1/**

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		Sept. 2003	August 2004	Sept. 15, 2004	Sept. 2003	August 2004	Sept. 15, 2004
Dollars							
Corn 2/	Tons	---	---	---	78.57	83.57	76.07
Wheat 2/	Tons	113.00	3/	4/	113.00	109.00	116.67
Oats 2/	Tons	---	---	---	86.88	83.13	83.13
Barley 2/	Tons	3/	3/	4/	120.00	116.25	106.67
Sorghum Grain 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.97	4.01	3.38
Rice 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	6.18	8.85	9.00
Dry Edible Beans 2/	Cwt.	32.00	35.80	37.10	17.70	20.90	23.40
All Potatoes 5/	Cwt.	14.70	13.70	14.40	5.24	5.94	5.21
Winter	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	14.70	13.70	14.40	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	85.00	107.00	108.00	82.10	89.80	87.70
Alfalfa Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	88.00	109.00	110.00	86.70	97.40	95.50
Other Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	72.00	96.00	96.00	68.20	70.00	65.70
Upland Cotton Lint 2/	Lbs.	0.690	3/	3/	0.557	0.537	0.472
Cottonseed	Tons	---	4/	4/	100.00	99.00	89.00

1/ 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.

2/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

3/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

4/ Insufficient data to establish a price.

5/ Monthly average.

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

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	Sept. 2003	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2003	Aug. 2004	Sept. 2004
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	704 1/	764	725	111	120	114
All Crops	548 1/	581 1/	547	111	118	111
Food Grains	350	356 1/	380	110	112 1/	120
Feed Grains and Hay	357 1/	386 1/	351	100 1/	108 1/	98
Cotton	471	454 1/	399	92	89 1/	78
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	459 1/	521 1/	487	91 1/	103 1/	96
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities,						
Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/	1,707	1,780 1/	1,769	128	134 1/	133
Parity Ratio 3/	41	43	41	87	90 1/	86

1/ Revised.

2/ All production indexes as of 15th of month.

3/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.

**CASH INCOME BY COMMODITY GROUPS, CALIFORNIA, 2001-03**

Source of Income	2001	2002	2003	Source of Income	2001	2002	2003
	\$1,000				\$1,000		
<b>FIELD CROPS</b>				<b>VEGETABLE CROPS</b>	6,026,022	6,580,509	6,966,478
Alfalfa Seed	33,024	17,986	18,000	<b>FRUIT AND NUT CROPS</b>	7,110,665	7,786,768	7,841,777
Barley	16,579	10,135	10,085	<b>LIVESTOCK, POULTRY AND PRODUCTS</b>	7,356,831	6,261,266	6,992,960
Beans, Dry	53,086	50,864	55,876	<b>NURSERY, GREENHOUSE AND FLORICULTURE</b>	3,169,213	3,310,099	3,302,577
Corn for Grain	56,508	57,779	58,723	<b>CHRISTMAS TREES</b>	10,345	9,662	10,400
Cotton Lint	582,371	516,203	557,670	<b>TOTAL CASH INCOME FROM MARKETINGS</b>	26,261,883	26,605,770	27,804,797
Cottonseed	94,411	81,972	87,122	<b>FARM RELATED INCOME</b>	1,781,132	1,700,862	1,572,689
Grain, Sorghum	1,459	2,103	2,730	<b>GROSS CASH INCOME FROM FARMING <u>1/</u></b>	28,043,015	28,306,632	29,377,486
Hay, All	592,918	551,881	513,852				
Oats	1,383	3,380	3,805				
Oil Crops	28,315	20,041	29,264				
Potatoes (Excl. Sweet)	177,316	266,964	247,253				
Potatoes, Sweet	61,870	63,664	107,640				
Rice	265,041	227,027	315,584				
Sugar Beets	53,306	69,182	69,182				
Wheat	87,528	128,858	104,435				
Other Seed Crops	132,073	157,073	132,354				
Other Field Crops	351,619	432,354	377,029				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,588,807</b>	<b>2,657,466</b>	<b>2,690,604</b>				

1/ Includes value of home consumption, value of inventory adjustments, machine hire and custom work, forest products sold, rental value of farm dwelling, government payments, and other miscellaneous farm income.

Source: USDA Economic Research Service