

# California Field Crop Review



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The average yield, at 808 pounds per acre, is 85 pounds above last year. Harvested acreage, at 13.0 million acres, is 10 percent more than last year. The American Pima cotton production in California is forecast at 650 thousand bales, 75 percent above last year's crop. The 219 thousand acres for harvest are 47 percent above the previous year.

## CALIFORNIA AND U.S. PRODUCTION FORECASTS

**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, is 12 percent above last year. The yield is forecast at 4.62 tons per acre, 3 percent above the previous year. The U.S. corn for grain production is forecast at 329 million tons, 1 percent above the October 1 forecast and 16 percent above 2003. The average yield is forecast at 4.49 tons, 13 percent above last year. If realized, both production and yield would be the largest on record.

**COTTON:** California's 2004 Upland cotton production is forecast at 1.75 million bales as of November 1, the same as the October forecast, but 17 percent above last year. This is based on 557 thousand acres for harvest, with an average yield of 1,508 pounds per acre. U.S. Upland cotton production is forecast at 21.8 million bales, 22 percent above the 2003 crop.

**RICE:** All rice production in California for 2004 is forecast at 50.4 million cwt., up 30 percent from 2003. The 600 thousand acres for harvest are 18 percent above last year. The yield is forecast at 8,400 pounds per acre, 10 percent above the previous year. U.S. rice production is forecast at 228 million cwt., 14 percent above 2003. The average yield is forecast at a record high 6,828 pounds per acre, up 65 pounds from last month and 183 pounds above the previous year. Area for harvest is expected to total 3.33 million acres, 11 percent above 2003.

**SUGAR BEETS:** California's sugar beet production is forecast at 1.91 million tons, up 4 percent from the 2003 crop. Acreage for harvest, at 49.0 thousand acres, is down 2 percent from 2003. The yield is forecast at 39.0 tons per acre, 7 percent above 2003. U.S. sugar beet production is forecast at 29.8 tons per acre, 3 percent above the October forecast, but 3 percent below last year's production. The yield is forecast at 22.4 tons per acre, 1 percent below last year.

## FIELD CROPS: 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
	1,000 Acres						1,000	
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>								
Wheat, Winter <sup>1/</sup>	410.0	320.0	Tons	1.83	2.55	Tons	750.3	816.0
Wheat, Durum <sup>1/</sup>	115.0	100.0	Tons	3.00	2.70	Tons	345.0	270.0
Oats <sup>1/</sup>	35.0	25.0	Tons	1.28	1.36	Tons	44.8	34.0
Barley <sup>1/</sup>	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	507.0	600.0	Cwt.	76.20	84.00	Cwt.	38,624.0	50,400.0
Long	7.0	7.0	Cwt.	69.00	<sup>3/</sup>	Cwt.	483.0	<sup>3/</sup>
Medium	458.0	545.0	Cwt.	77.50	<sup>3/</sup>	Cwt.	35,495.0	<sup>3/</sup>
Short <sup>2/</sup>	42.0	48.0	Cwt.	63.00	<sup>3/</sup>	Cwt.	2,646.0	<sup>3/</sup>
Cotton, Upland <sup>4/</sup>	545.0	557.0	Lbs.	1,317.00	1,508.00	Bales	1,495.0	1,750.0
Cotton, American-Pima <sup>4/</sup>	149.0	219.0	Lbs.	1,194.00	1,425.00	Bales	370.5	650.0
Sugar Beets <sup>5/</sup>	50.2	49.0	Tons	36.50	39.00	Tons	1,832.0	1,911.0
Beans, All Dry <sup>1/ 6/</sup>	75.0	65.0	Cwt.	18.70	20.00	Cwt.	1,403.0	1,300.0
Hay, All <sup>1/</sup>	1,570.0	1,540.0	Tons	5.93	5.99	Tons	9,310.0	9,226.0
Alfalfa Hay <sup>1/</sup>	1,090.0	1,050.0	Tons	7.00	7.20	Tons	7,630.0	7,560.0
Other Hay <sup>1/</sup>	480.0	490.0	Tons	3.50	3.40	Tons	1,680.0	1,666.0
<b>UNITED STATES</b>								
Wheat, Winter <sup>1/</sup>	36,753.0	34,462.0	Tons	1.40	1.31	Tons	51,501.6	44,983.0
Wheat, Durum	2,869.0	2,363.0	Tons	1.01	1.14	Tons	2,899.1	2,696.8
Oats	2,220.0	1,792.0	Tons	1.04	1.04	Tons	2,310.1	1,855.0
Barley	4,727.0	4,021.0	Tons	1.41	1.67	Tons	6,678.8	6,702.1
Corn for Grain	71,139.0	73,311.0	Tons	3.98	4.49	Tons	283,188.8	328,745.8
Rice, All	2,997.0	3,334.0	Cwt.	66.45	68.28	Cwt.	199,157.0	227,650.0
Long <sup>7/</sup>	2,310.0	2,563.0	Cwt.	64.51	<sup>3/</sup>	Cwt.	149,011.0	166,872.0
Medium <sup>7/</sup>	644.0	722.0	Cwt.	73.66	<sup>3/</sup>	Cwt.	47,440.0	57,388.0
Short <sup>2/ 6/ 7/</sup>	43.0	49.0	Cwt.	62.93	<sup>3/</sup>	Cwt.	2,706.0	3,390.0
Cotton, Upland <sup>4/</sup>	11,826.0	12,970.0	Lbs.	723.00	808.00	Bales	17,822.9	21,825.0
Cotton, American-Pima <sup>4/</sup>	177.4	253.0	Lbs.	1,170.00	1,366.00	Bales	432.3	720.0
Sugar Beets <sup>5/</sup>	1,347.9	1,326.0	Tons	22.70	22.40	Tons	30,583.0	29,765.0
Beans, All Dry <sup>1/ 6/</sup>	1,346.9	1,250.1	Cwt.	16.72	14.95	Cwt.	22,515.0	18,693.0
Hay, All <sup>1/</sup>	63,342.0	61,589.0	Tons	2.48	2.69	Tons	157,123.0	165,920.0
Alfalfa Hay <sup>1/</sup>	23,578.0	22,226.0	Tons	3.24	3.48	Tons	76,307.0	77,371.0
Other Hay <sup>1/</sup>	39,764.0	39,363.0	Tons	2.03	2.25	Tons	80,816.0	88,549.0

<sup>1/</sup> Estimates for current year carried forward from previous month.

<sup>2/</sup> Sweet rice production included with short grain in 2003 and 2004, but not in previous years.

<sup>3/</sup> To be released January 12, 2005.

<sup>4/</sup> Cotton yield in pounds; production in 480-pound net weight bales.

<sup>5/</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>6/</sup> Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

<sup>7/</sup> Rice class production forecasts for 2004 are based on a five-year average of class percentages.

**CALIFORNIA MILLED RICE STOCKS - OCTOBER 2004**

Milled rice stocks in all positions totaled 541 thousand cwt., 41 percent below a year ago. Milled rice stocks included 361 thousand cwt. of whole kernel rice and 180 thousand cwt. of second heads, screenings, and brewers rice.

**CALIFORNIA ROUGH RICE STOCKS - OCTOBER 1, 2004**

California rough rice stocks in all positions on October 1 totaled 4.80 million cwt., up 52 percent from the total on October 1, 2003. California rough rice stocks were down 49 percent from the August 1, 2004 level. Long grain varieties accounted for 4 percent of the total rough rice, medium grain accounted for 88 percent, and short grain varieties accounted for 8 percent.

**ROUGH AND MILLED RICE STOCKS, OCTOBER 1, 2004**

Type of Rice	2003	2004
	1,000 Cwt.	
<b>ROUGH RICE</b>		
Long Grain	59	169
Medium Grain	2,688	4,261
Short Grain	407	370
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,154</b>	<b>4,800</b>
<b>MILLED RICE</b>		
<u>Whole Kernels (Head Rice)</u>		
Long Grain	9	8
Medium Grain	277	322
Short Grain	30	31
Total	316	361
<u>Broken Kernels</u>		
Second Heads <sup>1/</sup>	587	167
Screenings	---	---
Brewers	12	13
Total	599	180
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>541</b>

**CALIFORNIA OFF-FARM ROUGH RICE STOCKS**

Month	Season		
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
	1,000 Cwt.		
December 1	36,051	36,759	33,380
March 1	24,091	22,241	22,014
August 1	8,213	7,043	9,422
October 1 <sup>a/</sup>	3,488	3,154	4,800

<sup>a/</sup> Includes small amount of on-farm stocks. May include some carryover from previous season.

<sup>1/</sup> Includes screenings.

**FALL POTATO PRODUCTION**

California's production of fall potatoes is expected to total 3.88 million cwt., up 10 percent from last year. The yield is expected to be 20 percent above the previous year. The harvested acreage at 7.60 thousand acres, is down 8 percent from 2003. The freezing late-summer temperatures killed some potato vines, but the potatoes escaped significant damage. Otherwise, ideal weather conditions in the Klamath Basin led to the harvest proceeding slightly ahead of schedule, and the excellent soil conditions were conducive to high yields. More recently, heavy rains interrupted harvesting activity, which remains ongoing in some fields.

The western States production is forecast at 281 million cwt., up 3 percent from last year for comparable States. Acreage harvested, at 642.2 thousand, decreased 3 percent from last year, but the average yield of 437 cwt. per acre was up 23 cwt. from 2003. Record high yields in Idaho increased production 7 percent from the previous year.

The U.S. production of fall potatoes for 2004 is forecast at 408 million cwt., down 1 percent from last year for comparable States. Area harvested, at 1.02 million acres, is 6 percent below last year. The average yield is forecast at 398 cwt. per acre, 22 cwt. above last year. If realized, this would be a record high yield, 6 cwt. above the previous record set in 2000.

The total U. S. potato production in 2004 from all four seasons is estimated at 450 million cwt., down 2 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 1.17 million acres, decreased 6 percent from a year ago. Yields, averaging 385 cwt. per acre, are up 18 cwt. from last year. If realized, this would be a record high, 4 cwt. above the previous record set in 2000.

**FALL POTATO PRODUCTION BY STATE**

State	Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	1,000 Acres		Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
California	8.3	7.6	425	510	3,528	3,876
Colorado	65.7	64.3	360	360	23,652	23,148
Idaho	358.0	353.0	344	374	123,180	131,970
- 10 SW Co.	25.0	25.0	465	490	11,625	12,250
- Other Co.	333.0	328.0	335	365	111,555	119,720
Indiana	3.7	3.2	250	350	925	1,120
Maine	65.5	61.5	260	310	17,030	19,065
Massachusetts	2.7	2.5	265	310	716	775
Michigan	45.5	42.0	330	310	15,015	13,020
Minnesota	58.0	43.0	385	430	22,330	18,490
Montana	10.6	10.6	315	330	3,339	3,498
Nebraska	23.2	21.8	420	410	9,744	8,938
Nevada	8.0	6.7	415	430	3,320	2,881
New Mexico	4.0	4.0	400	400	1,600	1,600
New York	21.7	19.2	300	250	6,510	4,800
North Dakota	112.0	100.0	245	265	27,440	26,500
Ohio	4.3	3.6	255	300	1,097	1,080
Oregon	42.6	37.0	493	534	20,991	19,775
- Malheur Co.	5.8	5.2	415	470	2,407	2,444
- Other Co.	36.8	31.8	505	545	18,584	17,331
Pennsylvania	12.5	11.0	270	235	3,375	2,585
Rhode Island	0.6	0.5	285	290	171	145
South Dakota <sup>1/</sup>	1.0	---	340	---	340	---
Utah <sup>1/</sup>	1.0	---	335	---	335	---
Washington	162.0	159.0	575	590	93,150	93,810
Wisconsin	80.0	74.0	410	415	32,800	30,710
<b>U.S. TOTAL - FALL</b>	<b>1,090.9</b>	<b>1,024.5</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>410,588</b>	<b>407,786</b>
<b>U.S. TOTAL - ALL SEASONS</b>	<b>1,248.6</b>	<b>1,169.8</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>457,814</b>	<b>450,168</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Estimates discontinued in 2004.

**CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - OCTOBER 2004**

Prices received by California farmers at mid-October were above September for dry edible beans, all potatoes, summer potatoes, and all types of hay. Mid-October prices for wheat and Upland cotton lint were not published to avoid possible disclosure of individual buyers. Sales were insufficient to establish a mid-month price for barley. Prices were above a year earlier for dry edible beans, all potatoes, summer potatoes, and all types of hay. Cottonseed prices were below October 2003.

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

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in October, at 111 based on 1990-92=100, is four points (3.5 percent) below the September Index. Declines occurred in both the Crop Price Index and the Livestock Price Index. The Crop Index declined six points (5.4 percent) from September, while the Livestock Index decreased one point (0.8 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for lettuce, tomatoes, oranges, grapes, and cucumbers. Lower prices were received for corn, soybeans, hogs, broilers, and potatoes. 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, corn, and cotton offset decreased marketings of dairy, grapes, and sweet corn.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is down two points (1.8 percent) from October 2003.

The October All Crops index is 106, down 5.4 percent from September and 4.5 percent from October 2003. From September, index decreases for feed grains and hay, oil-bearing crops, and potatoes and dry beans more than offset index increases for commercial vegetables, fruits and nuts, and tobacco.

The October Food Grains Index, at 115, is up 0.9 percent from the previous month and 3.6 percent above October 2003. The October all wheat price, at \$112.67 per ton, is up 67 cents from September, but down \$2.00 cents from October 2003.

The October Feed Grains & Hay Index is 87, down 13 percent from last month and 9.4 percent below October 2003. The corn price, at \$67.50 per ton, is down \$11.07 from September and \$8.21 below the October 2003 price.

The October Cotton Index, at 79, is down 2.5 percent from a month ago and 29 percent below October 2003. The cotton price, at 47.7 cents per pound, is down 1.6 cents from September and 20.1 cents below a year ago.

The October Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 90, is 6.3 percent below last month, but up 2.3 percent from October 2003. The all potato price, at \$4.74 per cwt., is down 53 cents from the previous month and 29 cents below last October. The dry edible bean price, at \$25.30 per cwt., rose \$2.40 from the September average price and is \$7.50 above a year ago.

**AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/**

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		Oct. 2003	Sept. 2004	Oct. 15, 2004	Oct. 2003	Sept. 2004	Oct. 15, 2004
Dollars							
Corn 2/	Tons	---	---	---	75.71	78.57	67.50
Wheat 2/	Tons	111.00	3/	3/	114.67	112.00	112.67
Oats 2/	Tons	---	---	---	90.00	90.00	85.63
Barley 2/	Tons	126.30	3/	4/	114.17	101.25	98.33
Sorghum Grain 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.98	3.59	3.06
Rice 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	6.44	8.38	8.24
Beans, Dry Edible 2/	Cwt.	36.10	35.80	37.20	17.80	22.90	25.30
Potatoes, All 5/	Cwt.	9.85	15.10	15.20	5.03	5.27	4.74
Winter	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	12.50	15.10	15.20	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	9.35	---	---	---	---	---
Hay, All Baled 2/	Tons	88.00	110.00	111.00	83.70	87.70	89.80
Alfalfa Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	94.00	113.00	114.00	89.10	95.50	97.80
Other Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	69.00	93.00	94.00	69.20	65.70	68.60
Cotton Lint, Upland 2/	Lbs.	0.780	3/	3/	0.678	0.493	0.477
Cottonseed	Tons	180.00	---	162.00	104.00	89.00	107.00

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		
	Oct. 2003	Sept. 2004	Oct. 2004	Oct. 2003	Sept. 2004	Oct. 2004
Prices Received - Unadjusted						
All Farm Products	718	731 a/	705	113	115 a/	111
All Crops	548	553 a/	523	111	112 a/	106
Food Grains	352	363 a/	364	111	114 a/	115
Feed Grains and Hay	342	359 a/	310	96	100 a/	87
Cotton	573	417 a/	403	112	81 a/	79
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	444	488 a/	457	88	96	90
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes, and Wage Rates b/	1,719	1,780 a/	1,782	129	134 a/	134
Parity Ratio c/	42	41	40	88	86	83

a/ Revised.

b/ All production indexes as of the 15th of the month.

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