



# December Crop Production

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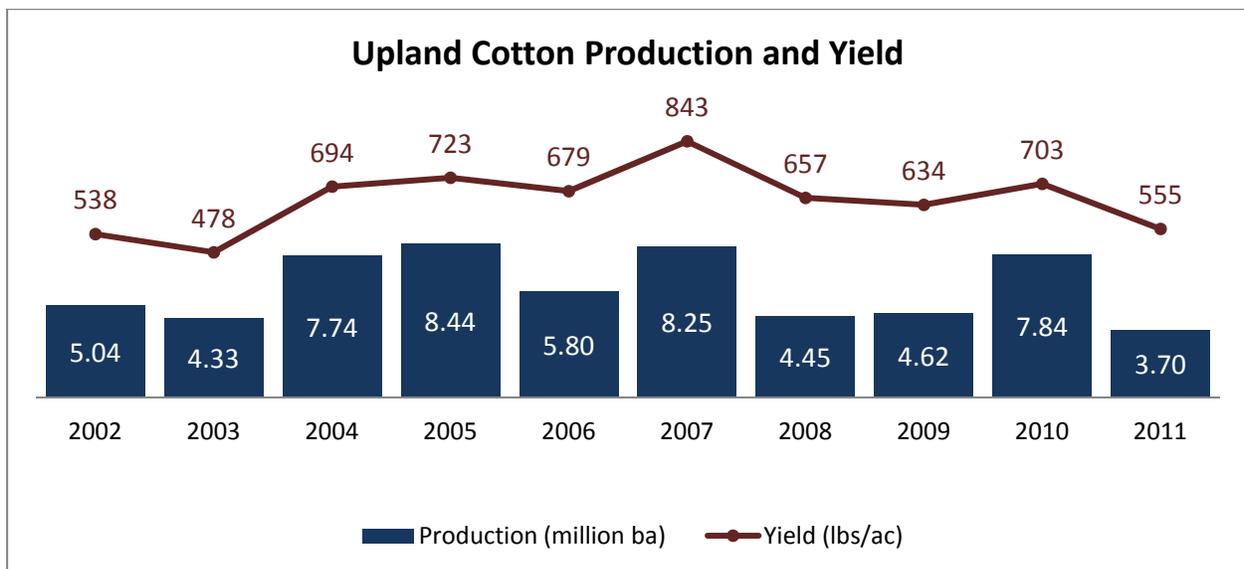
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This report contains the results from the December 2011 survey of Cotton Gins and Objective Yield Surveys. Our thanks to all who responded to the Ginnings survey and to those cotton producers who permitted objective measurements to be taken in their fields.

The 2011 Texas **Upland cotton** crop is expected to total 3.7 million bales, 4 percent less than last month and 53 percent less than in 2010. Yield is expected to average 555 pounds, a reduction of 23 pounds from last month, and 148 pounds less than last year. Objective yield data show boll weight to be the lowest since 2000. Acreage expected for harvest is estimated at 3.2 million acres, down 40 percent from 2010.

Production on the Southern High Plains is estimated to total 1.14 million bales, down 70 percent from last year's production. Average yield, at 460 pounds per acre, is 203 pounds less than a year ago. Acreage expected for harvest in the Southern High Plains is at 1.19 million acres, a decrease of 1.6 million acres from last year.

The Northern High Plains crop, estimated at 790,000 bales, is 47 percent less than last year. Average yield, at 583 pounds per acre, is 369 pounds less than a year ago. Acreage expected for harvest in the Northern High Plains is at 650,000 acres, a decrease of 95 acres from 2010. In the Low Plains, production is at 330,000 bales, 68 percent less than last year. Average yield at 566 pounds per acre, is 11 pounds more than a year ago. The Low Plains expects to harvest 280,000 acres, down 604,000 acres from 2010.



(Continued)

**U.S. Highlights:** United States **Upland cotton** production is forecast at 15.1 million pound bales, down 14 percent from 2010. Upland cotton harvested area, at 9.56 million acres, is unchanged from last month but down 9 percent from last year. If realized, the abandonment will be the highest on record.

**Cotton survey procedures:** *Objective yield surveys were conducted between November 24 and December 1 to gather information on expected yields as of December 1. The objective yield survey for cotton was conducted in producing States that usually account for approximately 75 percent of the United States production. At crop maturity, the fruit is harvested and weighed. After the farm operator has harvested the sample field, another plot is sampled to obtain current year harvesting loss.*

**Cotton estimating procedures:** *National and State level objective yield estimates for cotton were reviewed for errors, reasonableness, and consistency with historical estimates. For cotton, reports from cotton ginners in each State were also considered. Each cotton state field office submits its analysis of the current situation to the Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB). The ASB uses the survey data and the State analyses to prepare the published December 1 forecast.*

**Revision policy:** *The December 1 production forecasts will not be revised. For cotton, a new estimate will be made in January followed by end-of-season revisions in May. Administrative records are reviewed and revisions are made, if data relationships warrant changes. Harvested acres may be revised any time a production forecast is made; if there is strong evidence that the intended harvested area has changed since the last estimate.*

Link to the US report: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1046>

*(District estimates on next page)*

**Texas District Estimates 2010 and 2011<sup>1</sup>**

| Upland Cotton   | Planted Acres      |                    | Harvested Acres    |                    | Yield per Acre |               | Production         |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                 | 2010               | 2011               | 2010               | 2011               | 2010           | 2011          | 2010               | 2011               |
| <i>District</i> | <u>1,000 acres</u> | <u>1,000 acres</u> | <u>1,000 acres</u> | <u>1,000 acres</u> | <u>pounds</u>  | <u>pounds</u> | <u>1,000 bales</u> | <u>1,000 bales</u> |
| 1 - N           | 800.0              | 1,240.0            | 745.0              | 650.0              | 952.0          | 583.0         | 1,478.0            | 790.0              |
| 1 - S           | 2,901.0            | 3,370.0            | 2,788.0            | 1,190.0            | 663.0          | 460.0         | 3,853.0            | 1,140.0            |
| 2 - N           | 387.0              | 510.0              | 382.0              | 110.0              | 613.0          | 524.0         | 488.0              | 120.0              |
| 2 - S           | 509.0              | 805.0              | 502.0              | 170.0              | 512.0          | 593.0         | 535.0              | 210.0              |
| 4               | 111.5              | 210.0              | 110.5              | 160.0              | 694.0          | 240.0         | 159.7              | 80.0               |
| 7               | 201.0              | 320.0              | 198.9              | 75.0               | 589.0          | 832.0         | 244.0              | 130.0              |
| 8 - N           | 56.2               | 115.0              | 55.6               | 90.0               | 917.0          | 693.0         | 106.2              | 130.0              |
| 8 - S           | 279.0              | 370.0              | 277.0              | 300.0              | 851.0          | 688.0         | 491.0              | 430.0              |
| 9               | 137.5              | 250.0              | 130.3              | 190.0              | 754.0          | 581.0         | 204.7              | 230.0              |
| 10 - S          | 91.5               | 205.0              | 87.2               | 170.0              | 809.0          | 847.0         | 146.9              | 300.0              |
| Other Districts | 76.3               | 155.0              | 73.5               | 95.0               | 872.0          | 707.0         | 133.5              | 140.0              |
| <b>State</b>    | <b>5,550.0</b>     | <b>7,550.0</b>     | <b>5,350.0</b>     | <b>3,200.0</b>     | <b>703.0</b>   | <b>555.0</b>  | <b>7,840.0</b>     | <b>3,700.0</b>     |

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary, December 2011.