ARIZONA MONTHLY CROPS

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ARIZONA COTTON ACREAGE EXPECTED TO BE DOWN

Cotton acreage in Arizona is expected to decrease 1 percent from 1998 according to an intentions survey conducted by the Arizona Agricultural Statistics Service. Acreage of all cotton is anticipated to total 263,200 acres, compared to 265,900 acres last year. Growers of upland cotton intend to plant 250,000 acres, unchanged from last season, while producers of American-Pima have indicated that they will plant 13,200 acres, down 17 percent from last season.

UNITED STATES COTTON ACREAGE EXPECTED TO BE UP 4 PERCENT FROM 1998

Area planted to all cotton for 1999 is expected to total 13.9 million acres, 4 percent above 1998 plantings, and 46,200 acres more than 1997's planted area. Upland acreage is expected to total 13.6 million acres, up 4 percent from last year, but 9,000 acres below 2 years ago. Growers intend to decrease their plantings of American-Pima cotton to 305,200 acres, 7 percent below last year, but 22 percent above the 1997 level. Upland growers in the Delta States (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee) intend to plant 3.50 million acres. This is a 9 percent increase from 1998, but 5,000 acres less than 1997's acreage. Texas and Oklahoma producers' planting intentions total 5.93 million acres, a 2 percent increase from 1998 and 4 percent higher than the 1997 acreage. In mid-March, planting progressed in the Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley, and Upper Coast. Land preparations continued in many areas. The Southeast States (Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina) intend to plant 3.11 million acres in 1999, an increase of 7 percent and 5 percent from 1998 and 1997, respectively. Upland planted acreage in Arizona and California is expected to total 820,000 acres, 9 percent less than 1998's level and almost one-third below the 1997 acreage. Arizona producers intend to plant the same amount of acreage as last year, and had seeded 3 percent of their acreage in mid-March, compared to 5 percent last year. In California, producers intentions are to plant 570,000 acres, 80,000 acres less than one year ago. Planting began in the Desert areas in late February and should begin in the San Joaquin Valley by late March. Irrigation water supplies are expected to be normal this year. California is the only State intending to increase plantings of American-Pima cotton in 1999. Producers there intend to plant 250,000 acres, one-fourth more than 1998's total and 35 percent above the 1997 level. Arizona acreage is expected to decrease by 2,700 acres to 13,200 acres. The Texas acreage is estimated at 34,000 acres, and New Mexico producers show a reduction of 1,000 acres from last year, to 8,000 acres in 1999.

AREA PLANTED 1997-99

CROP AND STATE	1997	1998	Indicated 1999 1/	1999 as percent of 1998
		1,000 acres		Percent
UPLAND				
AL	535.0	495.0	550.0	111.0
AZ	325.0	250.0	250.0	100.0
AR	980.0	920.0	960.0	104.0
CA	880.0	650.0	570.0	88.0
FL	100.0	89.0	100.0	112.0
GA	1,440.0	1,400.0	1,500.0	107.0
KS	12.0	17.0	29.0	171.0
LA	655.0	535.0	570.0	107.0
MS	985.0	950.0	1,100.0	116.0
MO	395.0	370.0	370.0	100.0
NM	70.0	60.0	62.0	103.0
NC	690.0	710.0	770.0	108.0
OK	200.0	160.0	225.0	141.0
SC	290.0	290.0	285.0	98.0
TN	490.0	450.0	500.0	111.0
TX	5,500.0	5,650.0	5,700.0	101.0
VA	101.0	92.0	98.0	107.0
U.S.	13,648.0	13,088.0	13,639.0	104.0
AMERICAN-PIMA				
AZ	22.0	15.9	13.2	83.0
CA	185.0	200.0	250.0	125.0
NM	11.0	9.0	8.0	89.0
TX	32.0	105.0	34.0	32.0
U.S.	250.0	329.9	305.2	93.0

1/ Intended plantings in 1999 as indicated by reports from farmers.

U.S. BARLEY INTENTIONS DOWN 17 PERCENT; CORN INTENTIONS DOWN 2 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

Growers intend to seed 5.27 million acres of barley for 1999, down 17 percent from the 6.34 million acres seeded a year ago. Barley growers in North Dakota and Minnesota are decreasing seedings by 500,000 and 190,000 acres, respectively. Of the twenty seven States that estimate barley acreage, seventeen States are seeding fewer acres, six States are showing no change, and four States are increasing acres. Corn growers intend to plant 78.2 million acres of corn for all purposes in 1999, down 2 percent from both last year and 1997. If these intentions materialize, this would be the lowest planted acreage since 1995. Expected acreages are down in the upper Midwest, Southwest, Texas, and Southeast due to a shift to other crops. Intended acreage is up slightly in the central Corn Belt due in part to land coming back into production after flooding in 1998. After a relatively mild and dry winter in the major corn-producing States, early-March snows provided beneficial moisture. Mid-month warm, dry weather aided tillage and fertilizing activities in the western and central Corn Belt. Fieldwork was less active in the eastern Corn Belt as fields slowly dried from earlier precipitation, but activity picked up toward the end of the Month.

Arizona acreage seeded to barley totals 55,000 acres, down 5 percent from last year. Field corn acreage for all purposes is expected to total 50,000 acres, unchanged from 1998.

AREA PLANTED SELECTED STATES, 1997-99 1/

CROP AND STATE	1997	1998	Indicated 1999 2/	1999 as % of 1998
		1,000 acres		Percent
BARLEY				
AZ	**70**	**58**	**55**	**95**
CA	230	170	170	100
CO	95	90	95	106
ID	770	780	700	90
MN	500	440	250	57
MT	1,250	1,350	1,200	89
ND	2,400	2,000	1,500	75
OR	126	150	105	70
SD	130	115	90	78
UT	100	95	90	95
WA	490	530	500	94
WY	115	105	90	86
Oth Sts	430	457	429	93.873085
U.S.	6,706	6,340	5,274	83
CORN				
AZ	**60**	**50**	**50**	**100**
CA	585	620	580	94
CO	1,090	1,180	1,170	99
IL	11,200	10,600	10,800	102
IN	5,900	5,800	5,900	102
IA	12,200	12,500	12,300	98
KS	2,750	3,000	3,100	103
MI	2,500	2,300	2,300	100
MN	7,000	7,300	7,000	96
MO	2,700	2,650	2,700	102
NE	8,900	8,800	8,600	98
NM	135	140	130	93
ND	780	970	950	98
OH	3,800	3,550	3,500	99
SD	3,800	3,900	3,900	100
TX	2,000	2,400	1,900	79
WA	150	160	180	113
WI	3,850	3,700	3,550	96
Oth Sts	10,137	10,567	9,609	90.93404
U.S.	79,537	80,187	78,219	98

1/ Includes area planted in preceding fall.
2/ Intended plantings for 1999 as indicated by reports from farmers.

ALL HAY INTENTIONS UP SLIGHTLY

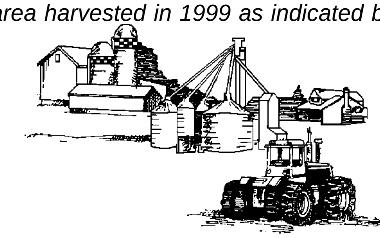
Producers expect to harvest 60.1 million acres of hay in 1999, compared to 60.0 million acres in 1998. Acreage declines in 24 States were more than offset by the increases in 14 States. With recent rains in many areas, Texas, up 14 percent, may return to a more normal crop year. In ten states no change in hay acreage is expected.

For Arizona, hay is expected to be harvested from 240,000 acres, unchanged from last year. This acreage includes both alfalfa and other types of hay.

AREA HARVESTED SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES 1997-99

CROP AND STATE	1997	1998	Indicated 1999 1/	1999 as % of 1998
		1,000 acres		Percent
ALL HAY				
AZ	**230**	**240**	**240**	**100**
AR	1,225	1,175	1,200	102
CA	1,510	1,570	1,500	96
CO	1,590	1,410	1,390	99
ID	1,300	1,430	1,430	100
IL	970	950	850	89
IN	725	750	775	103
IA	1,650	1,570	1,500	96
KS	2,700	2,900	2,800	97
MI	1,250	1,250	1,200	96
MN	2,325	2,400	2,350	98
MO	3,650	3,650	3,650	100
MT	2,600	2,500	2,500	100
NE	3,200	3,200	3,200	100
NV	490	485	480	99
NM	345	360	380	106
ND	3,150	2,600	2,500	96
OK	2,560	2,250	2,250	100
OR	1,035	970	900	93
SD	4,100	4,000	4,200	105
TX	4,435	4,040	4,600	114
UT	715	710	670	94
WA	780	750	720	96
WI	2,370	2,400	2,400	100
WY	1,260	1,190	1,250	105
U.S.	61,084	60,016	60,093	100

1/ Intended area harvested in 1999 as indicated by reports from farmers.



NATIONAL RELEASE DATES FOR UPCOMING REPORTS

April 30 . . . . Agricultural Prices
May 12 . . . . Crop Production
May 12 . . . . Cotton Ginnings Annual

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Subscription to "Arizona Crops" is free to reporters upon request and available for $10 per year to non-reporters. Send request for order forms or address changes to Arizona Agricultural Statistics Service, 3003 N Central Avenue, Suite 950, Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2994.

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ARIZONA WHEAT SEEDINGS MORE THAN INTENDED

Arizona's growers planted more acres than originally intended. Arizona's Durum wheat seedings totaled 80,000 acres, down 65,000 acres from 1998. Seedings of wheat other than Durum totaled 8,000 acres, down 2,000 acres from last year.

AREA PLANTED BY STATE AND UNITED STATES, 1997-99 1/

CROP AND STATE	1997	1998	Indicated 1999 2/	1999 as % of 1998
		1,000 acres		Percent
DURUM WHEAT				
AZ	**90**	**145**	**80**	**55**
CA	145	180	110	61
MN	5	5	20	400
MT	300	450	380	84
ND	2,750	3,000	3,600	120
SD	20	25	80	320
U.S.	3,310	3,805	4,270	112
WINTER WHEAT 2/				
AZ	**10**	**8**	**10**	**125**
AR	880	980	910	93
CA	510	500	500	100
CO	3,000	2,750	2,600	95
ID	910	820	760	93
IL	1,150	1,250	1,050	84
IN	700	700	550	79
KS	11,400	10,700	10,000	93
MI	530	600	620	103
MN	65	60	65	108
MO	1,150	1,350	1,020	76
MT	1,600	1,400	1,050	75
NE	2,000	1,900	2,000	105
NV	15	7	11	157
NM	430	415	445	107
ND	75	70	50	71
OH	1,180	1,200	1,050	88
OK	6,700	6,600	6,400	97
OR	830	810	710	88
SD	1,650	1,500	1,300	87
TX	6,300	6,100	6,200	102
UT	170	155	150	97
WA	2,250	2,200	1,900	86
WY	240	220	180	82
U.S.	47,985	46,449	43,399	93

1/ Plantings in 1999 as indicated by reports from farmers.
2/ For Arizona, wheat other than Durum.

ARIZONA CITRUS PRODUCTION INCREASES

The April 1 citrus forecast of the 1998-99 crop by the Arizona Agricultural Statistics Service once again shows increased crop expectations for most Arizona citrus crops. Utilization of lemons is expected to total 3.5 million 76-pound boxes, up 900,000 boxes from the 97-98 season. Valencia orange output is predicted at 650,000 75-pound boxes, unchanged from last year. Navel and miscellaneous orange production, at 550,000 boxes, is up 250,000 boxes from last year. Grapefruit, at 7,800,000 boxes, is down 100,000 boxes from a year ago, while tangerine production is estimated to total 900,000 boxes, an increase of 300,000 boxes from last year.

CITRUS FRUIT PRODUCTION 1996/97 AND 1997/98 AND FORECASTED APRIL 1, 1999 1/ 2/

CROP AND STATE	Utilized Production		
	1996/97	1997/98	Forecasted 1998/99
		1,000 boxes 3/	
ORANGES, EARLY MID & NAVEL 4/			
AZ	**400**	**350**	**550**
CA	40,000	44,000	17,000
FL	134,200	140,000	112,000
TX	1,300	1,350	1,300
U.S.	175,900	185,700	130,850
ORANGES,			
AZ	**600**	**650**	**650**
CA	24,000	25,000	17,000
FL	92,000	104,000	78,000
TX	120	175	140
U.S.	116,720	129,825	95,790
ALL ORANGES			
AZ	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1,200**
CA	64,000	69,000	34,000
FL	226,200	244,000	190,000
TX	1,420	1,525	1,440
U.S.	292,620	315,525	226,640
TEMPLES			
FL	2,400	2,250	2,000
ALL GRAPEFRUIT			
AZ	**900**	**800**	**700**
CA	8,200	9,000	8,500
FL 5/ 6/	55,800	49,550	49,000
TX	5,300	4,800	5,400
U.S.	70,200	64,150	63,600
TANGERINES			
AZ 7/	**550**	**600**	**900**
CA 7/	2,600	2,400	1,700
FL	6,300	5,200	4,850
U.S.	9,450	8,200	7,450
LEMONS			
AZ	**2,600**	**2,600**	**3,500**
CA	22,600	22,000	18,000
U.S.	25,200	24,600	21,500
TANGELOS			
FL	3,950	2,850	2,550
K-EARLY CITRUS			
FL	150	40	80

1/ The crop year begins with the bloom of the first year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year.
2/ 1997-98 revised
3/ Net lbs. per box: oranges-AZ & CA-75, FL-90, TX-85; grapefruit-AZ & TX-80; lemons-76; tangelos, K-Early Citrus & Temples-90; tangerines-AZ & CA-75, FL-95.
4/ Navel and miscellaneous varieties in AZ and CA. Early (including Navel) and midseason varieties in FL and TX. Small quantities of tangerines in TX.
5/ Excludes White Seedless economic abandonment of 3,000,000 boxes in 1996-97 and 5,000,000 boxes in 1997-98.
6/ Excludes Colored Seedless economic abandonment of 3,000,000 boxes in 1996-97 and 1,000,000 boxes in 1997-98.
7/ Includes tangelos and tangors.

SPRING POTATOES: AREA PLANTED, HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION 1997-99

STATE	Area				Yield		Production		
	Planted		Harvested						
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
	1,000 acres				Cwt		1,000 cwt		
AL	1.8	2	2	2	130	175	272	221	280
AZ	**8.1**	**9**	**8**	**9**	**282**	**280**	**1,820**	**2,284**	**2,632**
CA	18.5	20	18	20	335	375	8,073	6,198	7,313
FL-	25.5	22	24	22	235	230	5,258	5,758	5,060
Other	10.3	7	10	7	160	200	1,892	1,600	1,400
NC	18.0	17	18	16	190	195	3,287	3,325	3,218
TX	10.8	10	10	10	170	210	1,697	1,751	2,058
TOTAL	93.0	88	91	86	233	256	22,299	21,137	21,961

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PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASES 1 POINT

The All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in March was 97 based on 1990-92=100, up 1 point (1.0 percent) from February. This is a usual February to March increase due to the seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell. Higher seasonal marketings of strawberries, milk, broilers, and tomatoes more than offset the relatively lower marketings of cattle, cotton, oranges, and corn. Price decreases from February for milk, soybeans, broilers, and hogs more than offset price increases for cattle, lettuce, oranges, and eggs. Compared with March 1998, the All Farm Products Index was 5 points (4.9 percent) lower. Price decreases from March 1998 for soybeans, corn, hogs, and wheat more than offset price increases for milk, lettuce, strawberries, and carrots.

PRICES PAID INDEX UNCHANGED

The March Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 115 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was unchanged from February but 1 point (0.9 percent) below March 1998. Since February, lower prices for feeder cattle, complete feeds, feed concentrates, herbicides, and feed supplements were offset by higher prices for diesel fuel, gasoline, feeder pigs, insecticides, and potash and phosphate fertilizers.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS: ARIZONA AND U.S., MARCH 1998 AND 1999 AND FEBRUARY 1999

COMMODITY	UNIT	ARIZONA			UNITED STATES		
		Mar. 1998 Entire Mo.	Feb. 1999 Entire Mo.	Mar. 1999 Mid-Mo.	Mar. 1998 Entire Mo.	Feb. 1999 Entire Mo.	Mar. 1999 Mid-Mo.
Upland Cotton 1/	¢ Lb	.630	.548	2/	.634	.560	.544
All Wheat 3/	$ Cwt	-----	-----	-----	5.53	4.57	4.57
Durum Wheat 3/	$ Cwt	-----	-----	-----	7.80	4.74	4.77
Winter Wheat 3/	$ Cwt	-----	-----	-----	5.25	4.27	4.27
All Hay Baled 4/	$ Ton	105.00	89.00	105.00	97.50	79.00	78.50
Alfalfa Hay Baled 4/	$ Ton	105.00	90.00	105.00	104.00	82.00	82.40
Other Hay Baled 4/	$ Ton	86.00	80.00	95.00	77.40	72.40	67.40
Grapefruit 5/	$ Box	10.90	12.30	13.10	13.10	13.10	13.80
Oranges 5/	$ Box	8.42	30.80	27.20	15.00	22.70	21.50
Lemons 5/	$ Box	16.60	21.30	18.90	17.60	40.00	20.50
Tangerines 5/	$ Box	19.60	31.50	34.30	22.20	29.90	28.60
Cows 6/	$ Cwt	42.10	34.80	34.40	36.00	34.70	34.70
Steers and Heifers	$ Cwt	62.00	62.50	64.20	64.30	63.60	65.50
Beef Cattle 7/	$ Cwt	60.40	62.20	63.90	61.30	60.60	62.10
Calves	$ Cwt	95.30	81.30	81.00	89.80	86.90	86.50
All Milk 8/ 9/	$ Cwt	14.10	14.10	13.70	14.40	15.50	15.00

1/ Includes both spot and contract sales.
2/ Sales volume insufficient to establish a price.
3/ Not published for Arizona.
4/ Mid-month.
5/ F.O.B. packed fresh Arizona box weights: Grapefruit 67 lbs., Lemons 76 lbs., Oranges 75 lbs., Tangerines 75 lbs.
6/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.
7/ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.
8/ Including milk diverted to manufacturing.
9/ Preliminary: Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

U.S. PRICE INDEX SUMMARY TABLE

INDEX 1990-92 = 100	1998		1999	
	February	March	February	March
Prices Received	101	102	96	97
Prices Paid	117	116	115	115
Ratio 1/	86	88	83	84

1/ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.