



ARIZONA CROPS

September 2002

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UNITED STATES COTTON PRODUCTION DOWN 11 PERCENT FROM 2001

All cotton production is forecast at 18.1 million 480-pound bales, down 2 percent from last month and 11 percent below last year's record high production. Yield is expected to average 675 pounds per acre, the same as last month. The reduced production is due primarily to reduced harvested acreage in Arkansas, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Texas and lower yields along the Atlantic Coast. Harvested acreage, at 12.9 million acres, was reduced based on administrative data. The September harvested area reflects decreases of 40,000 acres in Arkansas, 70,000 acres in Louisiana, 9,000 acres in South Carolina, and 102,000 acres in Texas. Conditions improved in Arkansas, Missouri, and Texas, leading to higher yield expectations than last month.

Cotton development trailed last year's pace most of the month, but progress virtually matched the 5-year average. Mostly seasonal temperatures supported biological development in the Southwest and along the Atlantic Coastal Plain, where fields progressed to the boll-setting stage and approached maturity earlier than normal. In contrast, fields reached the boll-setting and boll-opening stages later than normal in most areas of the lower Mississippi Valley. In Arkansas and Louisiana, bolls opened much later than normal. In the southern Great Plains, fields ripened slightly earlier than normal, and harvest steadily advanced northward from the Gulf Coast into central Texas.

Upland cotton harvested acreage, at 12.7 million acres, is down 2 percent from August and 7 percent less than 2001. Based on administrative information, Arkansas, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Texas all decreased harvested area from August, while California increased their harvested acreage from the previous month. American-Pima harvested acreage, at 241,400 acres, is down 22,000 acres from last month.

In the Southeastern States, unfavorably dry weather and above normal temperatures promoted development ahead of average, resulting in bolls opening well ahead of the 5-year average. Due to the continued hot, dry conditions, crop ratings deteriorated significantly. Only 26 percent of North Carolina's acreage was considered in good to excellent condition compared to 57 percent a month ago. For Georgia and Virginia, approximately a third of the acreage was rated

good to excellent compared to half of the acreage in early August. These hot, dry conditions led to a 7 percent decrease in production.

Producers in the Delta States experienced better conditions than a month ago due to timely rains. However, the percent of acreage with bolls opening was behind the 5-year average. The crop is rated in mostly good condition. Objective yield data show boll counts in Arkansas and Mississippi are the second highest in the past five years. Louisiana's boll counts are the second lowest in the past five years.

Cotton in New Mexico and Oklahoma continues to progress well ahead of average, but in Texas, the percent of acreage with open bolls is about normal. Hot, dry weather led to reduced yield prospects in New Mexico and Oklahoma as the crop deteriorated, especially dryland acreage in Oklahoma. Defoliation and harvest remain active in central and southern areas of Texas. Irrigated cotton acreage in the Plains area of Texas is doing well, but dryland acreage is stressed due to the lack of moisture. Data from the Objective Yield survey show Texas boll counts are the highest of the previous five years.

Upland cotton in California and Arizona continues to progress ahead of the 5-year average and the crop is rated in good to excellent condition. Weather has been very favorable throughout the growing season. Good plant growth and boll retention are evident. Insect pressure has been light. Data from the objective yield plots indicate California's count of bolls is the highest in the last five years.

American-Pima production is forecast at 629,000 bales, down 9 percent from August and down 10 percent from 2001. The decrease from last month is due to reduced harvested acres in California and Texas. The U.S. yield is forecast at 1,251 pounds per harvested acre, down 5 pounds from the August forecast. If realized, this would be 3 pounds below the record high yield established in 2001.

Ginnings totaled 537,150 running bales prior to September 1, compared with 608,650 running bales ginned prior to the same date last year and 842,150 running bales in 2000.

COTTON: AREA HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

Type and State	Area Harvested		Yield per acre			Production 1/	
	2001	2002	2001	2002		2001	2002
				August 1	Forecasted September 1		
	1,000 Acres			Pounds		1,000 Bales 2/	
Upland							
AL	605.0	585.0	730	665	665	920.0	810.0
AZ	290.0	232.0	1,142	1,200	1,241	690.0	600.0
AR	1,065.0	930.0	826	742	841	1,833.0	1,630.0
CA	625.0	477.0	1,359	1,365	1,358	1,770.0	1,350.0
GA	1,480.0	1,430.0	720	738	688	2,220.0	2,050.0
LA	855.0	500.0	580	632	672	1,034.0	700.0
MS	1,600.0	1,170.0	719	759	759	2,396.0	1,850.0
MO	400.0	385.0	834	773	798	695.0	640.0
NM	65.0	56.0	916	900	857	124.0	100.0
NC	965.0	975.0	832	738	665	1,673.0	1,350.0
OK	185.0	190.0	511	531	480	197.0	190.0
SC	296.0	286.0	686	504	503	423.0	300.0
TN	615.0	560.0	763	651	660	978.0	770.0
TX	4,250.0	4,600.0	481	495	501	4,260.0	4,800.0
VA	104.0	100.0	929	768	576	201.3	120.0
Other States 3/	159.5	174.0	566	676	676	188.1	245.0
US	13,559.5	12,650.0	694	663	664	19,602.4	17,505.0
Amer-Pima							
AZ	7.5	7.4	928	908	908	14.5	14.0
CA	239.0	209.0	1,283	1,300	1,286	639.0	560.0
NM	5.2	7.0	969	960	960	10.5	14.0
TX	16.5	18.0	1,059	984	1,093	36.4	41.0
US	268.2	241.4	1,254	1,256	1,251	700.4	629.0

1/ Production ginned and to be ginned.

2/ 480-Lb. Net weight bales.

3/ Other States include FL and KS. Individual State level estimates will be published in the "Crop Production 2002 Summary."

AREA HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, ARIZONA AND UNITED STATES

CROP	UNIT	ARIZONA 1/			UNITED STATES		
		2001	Forecasted September 1, 2002	2002 as % of 2001	2001	Forecasted September 1, 2002	2002 as % of 2001
CORN 2/							
Harvested	Thou acres				68,808	70,541	103
Yield per acre	Pounds				7,739	7,022	
Production	Thou tons				266,192	247,759	93
SORGHUM 3/							
Harvested	Thou acres				8,584	7,528	88
Yield per acre	Pounds				3,354	2,856	
Production	Thou tons				14,407	10,759	75

1/ Arizona forecast not available, combined with other states.

2/ Other States include AZ, FL, ID, MT, OR, UT, WV, and WY. Individual State level estimates will be published in the "Crop Production 2002 Summary."

3/ Other States include AL, AZ, CA, DE, GA, KY, MD, MS, NC, PA, SC, TN, and VA. Individual State level estimates will be published in the "Crop Production 2002 Summary."

ALL POTATOES 2001

Final production of potatoes from all four seasons in 2001 totaled 438 million cwt, down 15 percent from a year earlier and 8 percent below 1999. Area harvested is estimated at 1.22 million acres, down 9 percent from 2000 and 8 percent below 1999. The yield, averaging 358 cwt per acre, dropped 23 cwt from a year earlier and is 1 cwt lower than 1999. In 2001, winter production dropped 17 percent, spring slipped less than 1 percent, summer fell 5 percent, and fall potatoes dropped 16 percent from the previous year.

SPRING POTATOES: AREA HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION 1/

STATE	Area harvested		Yield		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 acres		Cwt		1,000 cwt	
AZ	8.2	7.8	270	270	2,214	2,106
CA	15.5	19.0	390	405	6,045	7,695
FL -	25.0	25.4	319	283	7,970	7,179
Hastings	18.0	18.7	330	280	5,940	5,236
Other	7.0	6.7	290	290	2,030	1,943
NC	18.5	17.5	190	195	3,515	3,413
TX	9.0	8.0	230	170	2,070	1,360
TOTAL	76.2	77.7	286	280	21,814	21,753

1/ Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.

SPRING ONIONS

The end-of-season spring onion production estimate, at 9.42 million cwt, is down 15 percent from last year. Acres harvested, at 33,300, are down 8 percent from a year ago, and yield, at 283 cwt per acre, is down 23 cwt per acre. The value of the spring crop is estimated at 190 million dollars, 6 percent less than last year. The Arizona growing season was long and dry but overall quality and yield were good due to the use of irrigation. Harvest in the Imperial Valley of California was initially slowed by cooler than normal temperatures, nevertheless, quality is good to excellent with average yields reported. In Georgia, temperature extremes and a fast spreading fungal disease reduced onion production. Seed stems and other defects became evident following a cold snap in February and a week of unusually warm weather in early April. Heavy rains in mid-April helped to spread stemphyllium fungus. Late planted onions escaped some of the damage. The Texas spring onion season started and progressed on schedule. Dry conditions along the Rio Grande Valley and in South Texas adversely affected yields, but good quality was reported.

SPRING ONIONS: AREA PLANTED AND HARVESTED, YIELD, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE

STATE	Area				Yield per acre		Production		Value			
	Planted		Harvested		2001	2002	2001	2002	Per cwt		Total	
	2001	2002	2001	2002					2001	2002	2001	2002
	Acres				Cwt		1,000 cwt		Dollars		1,000 dollars	
AZ 1/	3,100	1,600	3,000	1,500	430	460	1,290	690	8.00	8.37	10,320	5,775
CA	5,700	5,500	5,500	5,300	475	485	2,613	2,571	13.50	14.20	35,276	36,508
GA	14,500	14,700	13,500	11,500	190	125	2,565	1,438	27.50	32.20	70,538	46,304
TX	15,200	16,200	14,200	15,000	325	315	4,615	4,725	18.50	21.40	85,378	101,115
TOTAL	38,500	38,000	36,200	33,300	306	283	11,083	9,424	18.20	20.10	201,512	189,702

1/ Includes a small amount of processing.

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RELEASE DATES FOR UPCOMING NATIONAL REPORTS

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AUGUST FARM PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP 1 POINT FROM LAST MONTH

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August was 101, based on 1990-92=100, up 1 point (1.0 percent) from the July index. Higher prices for corn, wheat, strawberries, and lettuce more than offset decreased prices for hogs, broilers, grapes, and potatoes. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index. Higher marketings for tobacco, cattle, grapes, and sweet corn more than offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, milk, and strawberries. The current All Farm Products Index is 9 points (8.2 percent) below August, 2001. Lower prices for broilers, hogs, cattle, and lettuce more than offset higher prices for corn, wheat, soybeans, and grapes. The Food Commodities Index increased by 1 point (1.0 percent) over last month to 99, but was 14 points (12 percent) below August last year.

PRICES PAID INDEX UNCHANGED

The August Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 124 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was unchanged from July 2002 and August 2001. Lower prices in August for feeder pigs, hay and forages, LP gas, and potash and phosphate materials were offset by higher prices for complete feeds, feed grains, feed concentrates, and feeder cattle.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS: ARIZONA AND U.S., AUGUST 2001 AND 2002 AND JULY 2002

COMMODITY	UNIT	ARIZONA			UNITED STATES		
		August 2001 Entire Mo.	July 2002 Entire Mo.	August 2002 Mid-Mo.	August 2001 Entire Mo.	July 2002 Entire Mo.	August 2002 Mid-Mo.
Upland Cotton 1/	¢ Lb	34.6	2/	2/	36.0	37.6	31.5
All Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	2.73	3.21	3.60
Durum Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	2.38	3.44	3.51
Winter Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	2.71	3.19	3.59
All Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	99.00	100.00	95.00	97.70	93.60	93.70
Alfalfa Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	99.00	101.00	95.00	105.00	102.00	101.00
Other Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	90.00	95.00	89.00	74.00	72.20	71.30
Cows 5/	\$ Cwt	44.20	34.50	33.80	43.10	37.40	36.10
Steers and Heifers	\$ Cwt	71.30	67.00	68.70	73.60	66.60	66.30
Beef Cattle 6/	\$ Cwt	71.00	66.70	68.40	70.70	63.80	63.60
Calves	\$ Cwt	96.10	97.40	100.00	106.00	94.90	94.70
All Milk 7/	\$ Cwt	16.50	11.00	11.00	16.40	11.20	11.20

1/ Includes both spot and contract sales.

2/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

3/ Not available for Arizona.

4/ Mid-month.

5/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

6/ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

7/ Preliminary; before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

U.S. PRICE INDEX SUMMARY TABLE

INDEX 1990-92 = 100	2001		2002	
	July	August	July	August
Prices Received	108	110	100	101
Prices Paid	124	124	124	124
Ratio 1/	87	89	81	81

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