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# FIELD CROPS

Crop Production



FLORIDA  
AGRICULTURE

October 13, 2000

## FLORIDA

**PEANUTS:** Production is estimated at 192.0 million pounds, up 4 percent from last month but down 26 percent from last year. The estimated yield for 2000 is 2,400 pounds, up 100 pounds from the previous month but down 370 pounds from 1999. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 80,000 acres, down 15 percent from last year. Harvest was active during September with 40 percent of the peanuts reported being harvested on October 1 as compared with 64 percent last year.

**SUGARCANE FOR SUGAR AND SEED:** Growers expect to harvest 15,975,000 tons for the 2000-01 crop, down one percent or 125,000 tons from the 16,100,000 tons harvested for the 1999-00 crop. Producers will harvest 454,000 acres for sugar and seed, down 6,000 acres from the 460,000 acres harvested last season. Yield is set at 35.2 tons per acre compared with 35.0 tons per acre for the 1999-00 crop. Harvesting is getting underway.

**TOBACCO:** Growers estimate tobacco production at 12.0 million pounds, the same as last month but down 22 percent from last year.

The yield is estimated at 2,450 pounds, the same as the previous month, but down 190 pounds from a year earlier. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 4,900 acres, down 900 acres from 1999. The tobacco markets were active during September. The Florida markets will all be closed by October 13.

**PECANS:** The 2000 pecan crop is estimated at 2.5 million pounds, down 1.2 million pounds from last year. Production of improved varieties is estimated at 800,000 pounds, down 300,000 pounds from 1999.

**WINTER POTATOES:** Growers dug 2,080,000 hundredweight for the crop harvested during the winter, up 220,000 hundredweight or 12 percent from 1999, and up 240,000 hundredweight or 13 percent from the previous estimate. Acreage harvested totaled 8,000 acres, down 1,300 acres from last year. Yield averaged 260 hundredweight per acre, up 60 hundredweight from the 1999 yield.

## UNITED STATES

**CORN FOR GRAIN:** Production is forecast at 10.2 billion bushels, down 2 percent from last month, but up 8 percent from 1999. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 139.6 bushels per acre, down 2.2 bushels from last month but up 5.8 bushels from a year ago. If realized, this would be the largest production and yield on record. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 73.0 million acres, down 50,000 acres from last month due to extremely dry weather in Colorado.

**COTTON:** All cotton production is forecast at 17.5 million 480-pound bales, down 5 percent from last month, but up 3 percent from 1999. Yield is expected to average 620 pounds per harvested acre, down 2 pounds from last month. Dry weather and above-normal temperatures continue to stress the crop and lead to increased abandonment. Harvested acreage, at 13.5 million acres, reflects a decrease from September 1 of 25,000 acres in Missouri, 50,000 acres in Oklahoma, and 504,000 acres in Texas.

**PEANUTS:** Production is forecast at 3.47 billion pounds, down 8 percent from September 1 and 9 percent below last year's crop. Area for harvest is expected to total 1.40 million acres, down 5 percent from the September report, and 3 percent below 1999. Hot, dry weather lead to increased acreage abandonment in Texas and Alabama by 68,000 and 2,000 acres, respectively. Yields are expected to average 2,486 pounds, 75 pounds below last month and down 181 pounds from 1999. Production in the Southeast States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina) is expected to total 1.82 billion pounds, up 3 percent from last month, but down 15 percent from last year's level. Yields in the four-State area are expected to average 2,291 pounds per acre, up 78 pounds from September 1, but down 206 pounds from 1999. Yield prospects in Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina were up from last month while Alabama were unchanged. Eighty-seven percent of Alabama's crop was rated in very poor to poor condition in early October. As of October 1, harvest was 15 points behind the 5-year average. Georgia's acreage was rated 70 percent fair to good. Harvest was 22 points behind the 5-year average in early October. The Florida crop was rated 100 percent fair to good. Harvest was 24 points behind last year.

**PECANS:** The October 1 forecast for 2000 pecan production is 216 million pounds (in-shell basis), down 47 percent from last year's record-high crop. The expected alternate bearing cycle has combined with dry conditions to yield the sharply lower crop size. Improved varieties are expected to make up 167 million pounds, or 77 percent of

the total, while the Native and seedling varieties make up the balance. The Georgia forecast, at 80.0 million pounds, is 33 percent lower than 1999's record-high crop. Most of the decrease is related to the alternate bearing cycle. Drought conditions existed for parts of the State, however, moisture received during September benefitted the crop. Harvest had not yet begun as of October 1.

**SOYBEANS:** Production is forecast at a record-high 2.82 billion bushels, down 3 percent from September 1, but 6 percent above 1999. The yield forecast, at 38.7 bushels per acre, decreased 0.8 bushel from last month, but is 2.1 bushels above the 1999 final yield. Acres expected for harvest are forecast at a record 73.0 million acres, down 1 percent from September, but up 1 percent from 1999. Acres expected for harvest were decreased by 450,000 acres in eight States due to abandonment or harvested for hay. Downward adjustments to harvested acres were made in Alabama, Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas.

**SUGARCANE:** Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed is forecast at 35.6 million tons, 1 percent above the previous record of 35.3 million tons set last year. Sugarcane growers intend to harvest a record-high 1.03 million acres for sugar and seed during the 2000 crop year, 3 percent more than last year's final harvested acres. Louisiana growers expect to harvest a record high 490,000 acres.

**TOBACCO:** U.S. all tobacco production for 2000 is forecast at 1.12 billion pounds, 3 percent above the September 1 forecast but down 13 percent from 1999. If realized, this will be the smallest crop since 1934. Revised area for harvest in 2000 is forecast at 492,260 acres, virtually unchanged from the September 1 forecast but down 24 percent from 1999. Yield for 2000 is expected to average 2,284 pounds per acre, 64 pounds higher than the September 1 forecast and 287 pounds above a year ago. Yield in Kentucky, the leading burley State, is averaging 50 pounds higher than last month's forecast and 290 pounds above a year ago. Flue-cured (types 11-14) production is expected to total 624 million pounds, up 4 percent from last month but down 5 percent from 1999. Growers plan to harvest 253,900 acres in 2000, unchanged from the September 1 forecast but 16 percent below last year. Yield is expected to average 2,457 pounds per acre, 105 pounds higher than last month and 295 pounds higher than the previous year. Growing conditions in North Carolina, the largest flue-cured producing State, were excellent all season and rainfall levels were timely throughout the growing season.

Crop production: Acreage for harvest and forecasts of yield and production for Florida and United States as of October 1, 2000 with comparisons

Crop	Harvested acreage		Yield per acre		Unit	Production	
	1999	For harvest 2000	1999	Indicated 2000		1999	Indicated 2000
	Thousands		Units			Thousands	
<b>FLORIDA</b>							
Cotton <sup>2/</sup>	106	92	516	420	<sup>1/</sup>	114.0	80.5
Peanuts	94	80	2,770	2,400	Lbs.	260,380	192,000
Pecans, all					Lbs.	3,700	2,500
Potatoes:							
Winter	9.3	8.0	200	260	Cwt	1,860	2,080
Spring <sup>2/</sup>	28	24	315	291	Cwt	8,820	6,990
Sugarcane	460	454	35.0	35.2	Ton	16,100	15,975
Tobacco, Type 14 <sup>2/</sup>	5.8	4.9	2,640	2,450	Lbs.	15,312	12,005
<b>UNITED STATES</b>							
Corn for grain	70,537	73,009	133.8	139.6	Bu.	9,437,337	10,191,817
Cotton, all <sup>4/</sup>	13,424.9	13,544.0	607	620	<sup>1/</sup>	16,968.0	17,485.1
Hay, all	63,160	61,591	2.51	2.48	Ton	159,077	152,651
Peanuts for nuts	1,436.0	1,395.5	2,667	2,486	Lbs.	3,829,490	3,469,650
Pecans, all					Lbs	406,100	216,100
Potatoes:							
Winter	17.8	17.0	229	292	Cwt	4,070	4,960
Spring <sup>2/</sup>	84.5	80.1	300	281	Cwt	25,327	22,486
Summer <sup>2/</sup>	64.0	62.3	296	297	Cwt	18,972	18,504
Fall	1,166.1	1,199.9	369	<sup>5/</sup>	Cwt	429,847	<sup>5/</sup>
Rice	3,512	3,085	5,866	6,230	<sup>3/</sup>	206,027	192,186
Sorghum for grain	8,544	7,665	69.7	60.7	Bu.	595,166	465,348
Soybeans for beans	72,446	73,024	36.6	38.7	Bu.	2,653,758	2,822,821
Sugarbeets	1,527.3	1,402.4	21.9	23.0	Ton	33,420	32,269
Sugarcane for sugar and seed	993.3	1,026.0	35.5	34.7	Ton	35,299	35,640
Tobacco, all	647.2	492.3	1,997	2,284	Lbs.	1,292,692	1,124,463
Tobacco, Type 14	38.8	34.9	2,045	2,321	Lbs.	79,332	81,005
Wheat, all	53,823	53,228	42.7	42.1	Bu.	2,299,010	2,239,240
Winter	35,486	35,022	47.8	44.6	Bu.	1,696,580	1,562,733
Durum	3,569	3,672	27.8	31.5	Bu.	99,322	115,505
Other spring	14,768	14,534	34.1	38.6	Bu.	503,108	561,002

<sup>1/</sup> Yield in pounds, production in 480 pound net weight bales. <sup>2/</sup> Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.

<sup>3/</sup> Yield in pounds, production in hundredweight. <sup>4/</sup> Includes both upland and Amer-Pima cotton. <sup>5/</sup> First forecast in November.