

MAY CROP REPORT

U.S. HIGHLIGHTS

* **Winter wheat** production is forecast at 1.61 billion bushels, down 14 percent from 1998. Area for grain harvest is forecast at 36.3 million acres, down 9 percent from 1998. If realized this will be the smallest winter wheat area since 1971. For the most part, the Nation's winter wheat crop seems to have wintered well. Several states indicate moisture is needed for crop development. Low wheat prices have resulted in additional and later cattle grazing in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. The south Texas harvest began in late April and Oklahoma's harvest should start by June 1. Forecast production for Soft Red Winter is down 7 percent while Hard Red Winter and White Winter are both down 16 percent.

* **Winter wheat yield** is forecast at 44.4 bushels per acre based on May 1 conditions. This is down 2.5 bushels from the 1998 record high.

* **Kansas**, the number one winter wheat state, is expecting 408.5 million bushels, down 17 percent from 1998.

percent from last year's crop of 24.8 million bushels. Based on current conditions as of May 1 and assuming a normal growing season, farmers expect a yield of 54 bushels per acre, an increase of 9 bushels from last year. Farmers seeded 650,000 acres of winter wheat in the fall of 1998 and intend to harvest 470,000 acres for grain this year, down 80,000 acres from a year ago. This will leave 180,000 acres for other use such as cover crop for tobacco acreage as well as hay and silage harvest. Acreage for other uses was down primarily due to a reduction in tobacco acreage.

The winter wheat crop was showing excellent growth and development during the winter thanks to relatively mild temperatures. Damage to the wheat crop had been insignificant in the State prior to some lodging experienced the week of May 2. As of May 10, 82 percent of the crop was headed. This was ahead of last year's 80 percent and well ahead of the 5 year average of 61 percent. Condition of the crop was good to excellent with very little disease or insect problems having been reported as of yet.

KENTUCKY HIGHLIGHTS

Winter wheat production by farmers in 1999 was forecast at 25.4 million bushels. The expected crop for 1999 was up 3

WINTER WHEAT, SELECTED STATES & U.S., MAY 1, 1999

STATE	AREA HARVESTED		YIELD		PRODUCTION		
	1998	Ind. 1999	1998	Ind. 1999	1997	1998	Ind. 1999
	(1,000 Acres)		(Bushels)		(1,000 Bushels)		
Colorado	2,550	2,400	39.0	38.0	86,400	99,450	91,200
Illinois	1,200	1,020	48.0	52.0	66,490	57,600	53,040
Indiana	650	510	55.0	57.0	36,540	35,750	29,070
Kansas	10,100	9,500	49.0	43.0	501,400	494,900	408,500
KENTUCKY	550	470	45.0	54.0	22,680	24,750	25,380
Missouri	1,250	950	46.0	48.0	58,320	57,500	45,600
Montana	1,250	1,000	39.0	40.0	55,100	48,750	40,000
Nebraska	1,800	1,900	46.0	40.0	70,300	82,800	76,000
Ohio	1,160	1,030	64.0	61.0	68,670	74,240	62,830
Oklahoma	5,100	4,500	39.0	34.0	169,600	198,900	153,000
Oregon	790	640	67.0	59.0	53,790	52,930	37,760
Tennessee	370	300	41.0	47.0	16,200	15,170	14,100
Texas	3,900	3,400	35.0	31.0	118,900	136,500	105,400
Washington	2,100	1,800	65.0	64.0	141,900	136,500	115,200
U.S.	40,126	36,343	46.9	44.4	1,845,528	1,880,605	1,614,799

FINAL 1998 TOBACCO

BURLEY: The final **Kentucky** burley tobacco production for 1998 was estimated at 416.0 million pounds, down 12 percent from the large 1997 crop. The smaller crop for 1998 resulted from both reduced harvested acreage and yield per acre. Harvested acreage was down due to reductions in the basic quota. The quota that individual farmers have regulates the pounds of tobacco that they can sell. The final production estimate reflects marketings by farmers adjusted for carryover and doesn't include unharvested or destroyed poundage. Carryover for 1998 at over 4 million pounds was down from 16 million pounds for 1997. Harvested acreage at 215,000 acres was down 25,000 acres from the 1997 acreage. Yield at 1,935 pounds per acre was down 25 pounds from 1997. Black shank and blue mold caused much of the yield reduction. Total value of the Kentucky burley crop was \$791.7 million, down 11 percent from the large 1997 crop. The average price received per pound was 190.3 cents, up 1.7 cents from the 1997 crop. Price per pound was the second highest on record with the record 192.2 cents received for the 1996 crop.

Burley production for the **8-State Burley Belt** totaled 582.3 million pounds, down 10 percent from 1997. Kentucky produced 71 percent of the total Belt production for 1998. Acreage harvested at 307,100 acres was down 28,200 acres from a year ago and yield at 1,896 pounds was down 38 pounds. Average price per pound at 190.3 cents per pound was up 1.8 cents from a year earlier.

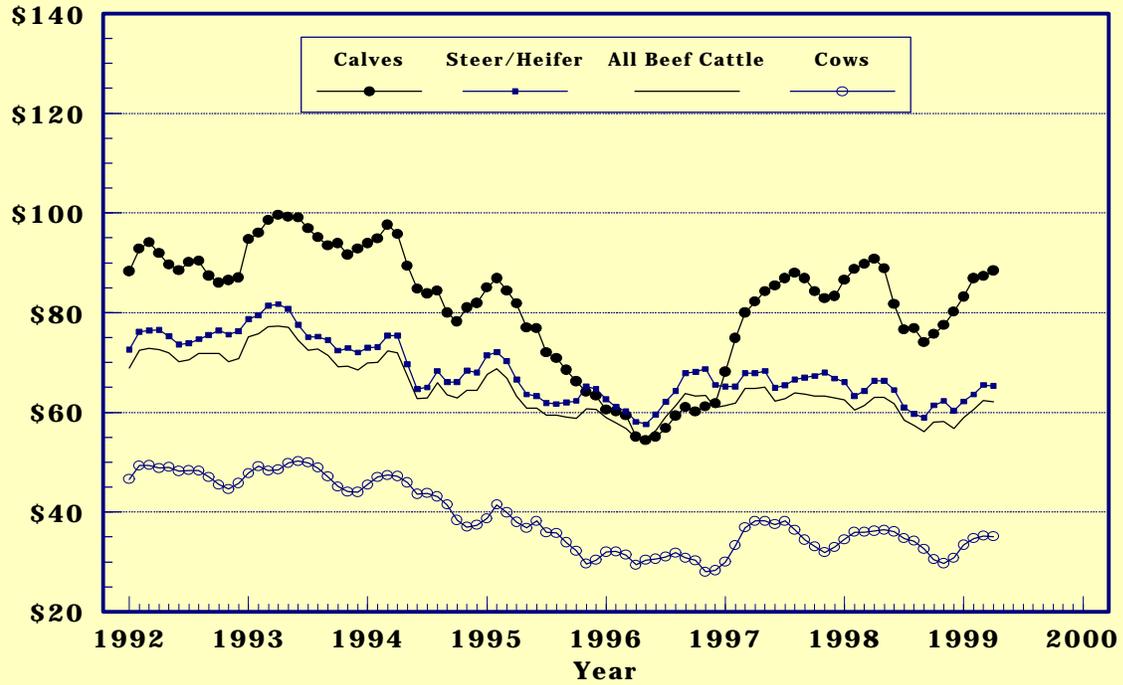
DARK TOBACCO: Production of the two dark fire-cured tobacco types grown in **Kentucky** were down from 1997 while production of the two dark air-cured Kentucky types were up. Type 22 fire-cured production with 8.91 million pounds was down 7 percent from 1997 and the smallest crop in 5 years. Type 23 fire-cured production with 10.1 million pounds was down 6 percent from 1997 and the smallest crop in 3 years. Type 35 air-cured, One-Sucker production with 5.59 million pounds was up 19 percent from 1997 and the largest crop in 4 years. Type 36 air-cured, Green River production was up 18 percent from 1997 with 3.01 million pounds. This was the largest crop in 4 years. Tobacco companies purchased dark tobacco directly from farmers for all four types of dark tobacco in addition to the Auction sales. Prices received by farmers were down for all four dark types.

TOBACCO ACREAGE, YIELD, PRODUCTION & PRICE PER POUND, BY TYPE, STATE & U.S.

Type & State	Acreage Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		Market Yr. Avg. Price Per Lb.	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	Rec'd by Farmers	
	(Acres)		(Pounds)		(1,000 Pounds)		1997	1998
BURLEY, TYPE 31								
KENTUCKY	240,000	215,000	1,960	1,935	470,400	416,025	188.6	190.3
Indiana	8,900	8,500	2,100	2,000	18,690	17,000	187.0	189.7
Missouri	3,000	2,700	2,345	2,130	7,035	5,751	189.5	190.5
N. Carolina	8,400	8,100	1,585	1,450	13,314	11,745	186.0	189.9
Ohio	11,400	9,800	1,950	1,830	22,230	17,934	186.9	190.4
Tennessee	51,000	51,000	1,830	1,795	93,330	91,545	188.6	190.7
Virginia	10,800	10,400	1,905	1,940	20,574	20,176	190.3	189.2
W. Virginia	1,800	1,600	1,700	1,350	3,060	2,160	187.8	191.5
U.S.	335,300	307,100	1,934	1,896	648,633	582,336	188.5	190.3
FIRE CURED, TYPE 22								
KENTUCKY	3,750	3,850	2,560	2,315	9,600	8,913	226.8	225.9
Tennessee	7,400	7,300	2,480	2,330	18,352	17,009	226.0	225.1
U.S.	11,150	11,150	2,507	2,325	27,952	25,922	226.3	225.4
FIRE CURED, TYPE 23								
KENTUCKY	3,600	3,600	2,970	2,805	10,692	10,098	224.2	215.9
Tennessee	600	590	2,750	2,500	1,650	1,475	222.6	215.9
U.S.	4,200	4,190	2,939	2,762	12,342	11,573	224.0	215.9
ONE SUCKER, TYPE 35								
KENTUCKY	2,050	2,450	2,290	2,280	4,695	5,586	201.1	195.2
Tennessee	480	525	2,000	2,040	960	1,071	200.3	191.3
U.S.	2,530	2,975	2,235	2,238	5,655	6,657	201.0	194.6
GREEN RIVER, TYPE 36								
KENTUCKY	1,100	1,360	2,310	2,210	2,541	3,006	203.4	197.4
ALL TOBACCO								
KENTUCKY	250,500	226,260	1,988	1,961	497,928	443,628	190.3	191.7
U.S.	836,230	717,655	2,137	2,061	1,787,399	1,479,179	180.2	182.8

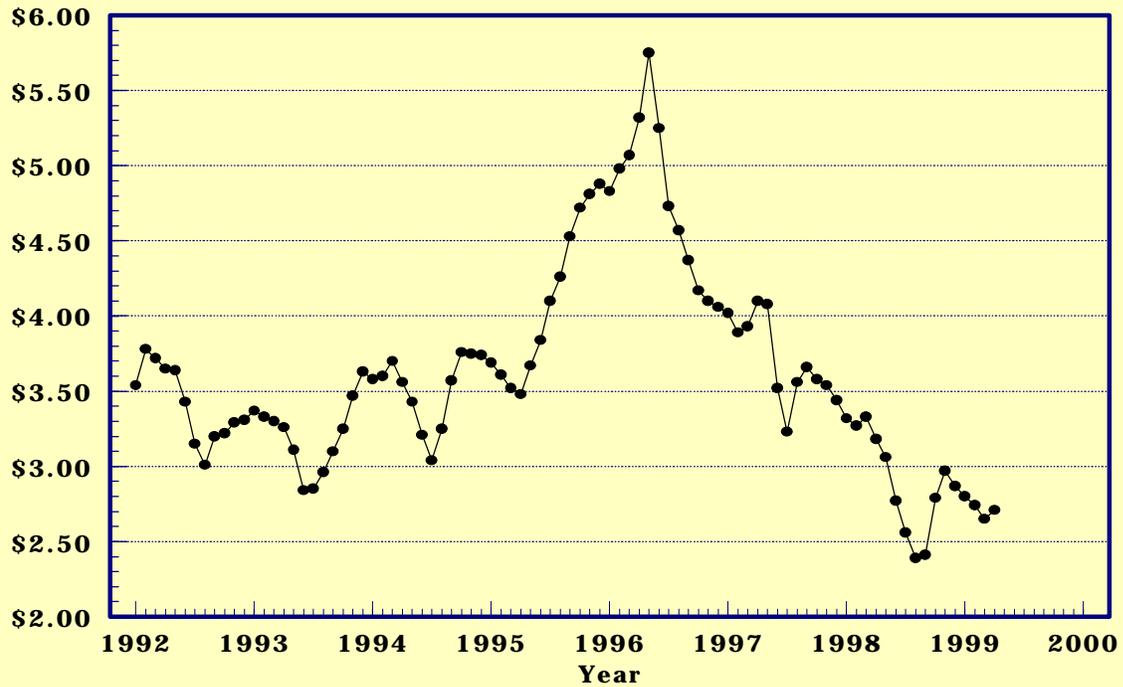
Prices Received, Cattle, US

Dollars per Cwt



Prices Received, Wheat, US

Dollars per Bu



ANNUAL DAIRY PRODUCTS

Production of butter in the United States during 1998 totaled 1.08 billion pounds, 6 percent less than 1997. Wisconsin accounted for 28 percent of the production, followed by California with 21 percent and Pennsylvania with 8 percent.

Total cheese production, excluding cottage cheeses, was 7.50 billion pounds, 2 percent above the 1997 production. Wisconsin was the leading State with 28 percent of the production. American type cheese production, was 3.33 billion pounds, 1 percent above 1997 and accounted for 44 percent of total cheese in 1998. Italian varieties, with 3.00 billion pounds were 4 percent above the 1997 production. Mozzarella accounted for 79 percent of the Italian production followed by Ricotta with 8 percent and Provolone with 7 percent. Wisconsin was the leading State in Italian cheese production with 29 percent of the production.

Ice cream production increased in 1998. Regular ice cream production totaled 937 million gallons, up 3 percent from 1997. Lowfat ice cream, at 409 million gallons, was up 6 percent. Nonfat dry milk for human food production, at 1.14 billion pounds, was down 7 percent from 1997. Dry whole milk, at 143 million pounds, was up 17 percent.

Kentucky plants produced 19.3 million pounds of cottage cheese curd in 1998, up 6 percent from 1997. Lowfat cottage cheese production totaled 9.1 million pounds, up 1 percent from 1997. Creamed cottage cheese production totaled 17.8 million pounds, up 17 percent from last year. Twenty Kentucky plants produced one or more dairy products in 1998. Totals for most dairy products manufactured in Kentucky are not published to avoid disclosing individual plant production.

U. S. DAIRY PRODUCTS, MARCH 1999

PRODUCT	Mar. 1998	Feb. 1999 ^{1/}	Mar. 1999	Percent of Mar. Feb. 1998 1999	
(000) Pounds					
BUTTER	106,688	111,520	109,351	103	98
CHEESE					
American Types ^{2/}	284,288	277,289	313,577	110	113
Mozzarella	205,325	192,356	220,219	107	115
All Other Types ^{3/}	156,952	130,597	154,002	98	118
Total	646,565	600,242	687,798	106	115
(000) Gallons					
FROZEN PRODUCTS					
Ice Cream (Hard)	78,283	63,118	75,352	96	119
Frozen Yogurt (Total)	8,259	7,167	8,783	106	123
MIX FOR FROZEN PRODUCTS					
Ice Cream Mix	43,254	34,282	41,050	95	120
Yogurt Mix	5,227	4,536	5,559	106	123

^{1/} Revised. ^{2/} Includes Cheddar, Colby, Monterey, and Jack. ^{3/} Includes Swiss, cream and all other types. Excludes cottage cheese.

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