

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

Louisiana 2002 Crop Acreage and Production
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Louisiana 2002 Crop Acreage and Production

Although several Louisiana crops had the potential for record yields or production in 2002, only corn production set a new state record. The crop year was marred by several factors, including a very dry spring, a late farm bill, and an extremely wet harvesting season. All of these combined to lower production levels and increase abandonment, according to Dave Frank, State Statistician for the Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service.

Production of **corn for grain** is estimated at 68.3 million bushels, up 50 percent from 2001. This is the highest level of production ever recorded in the state. Total acres planted are estimated at 580,000, up 84 percent from 2001. An estimated 560,000 acres were harvested for grain, up 82 percent from 2001. Yield per acre, at 122 bushels, was 26 bushels below 2001.

Cotton production is estimated at 750,000 bales, down 27 percent from the previous year. An estimated 520,000 acres were planted in 2002, down 40 percent from last year. Louisiana farmers harvested an estimated 495,000 acres, down 42 percent from last year. Yield per acre was 727 pounds, an increase of 147 pounds from 2001.

All rice production is estimated at 29.4 million cwt, down 2 percent from the previous year. Production of long grain varieties is estimated at 28.9 million cwt, and production of medium grain varieties is estimated at 525,000 cwt. All rice planted acres totaled 540,000, down 1 percent from 2001. The total consisted of 530,000 acres of long grain and 10,000 acres of medium grain. All rice harvested, at 535,000 acres, down 2 percent from 2001, with 525,000 acres in long grain, and 10,000 acres in medium grain. The statewide yield averaged 5,500 pounds per acre, tying the record set last year. Record keeping for rice yield began in 1895.

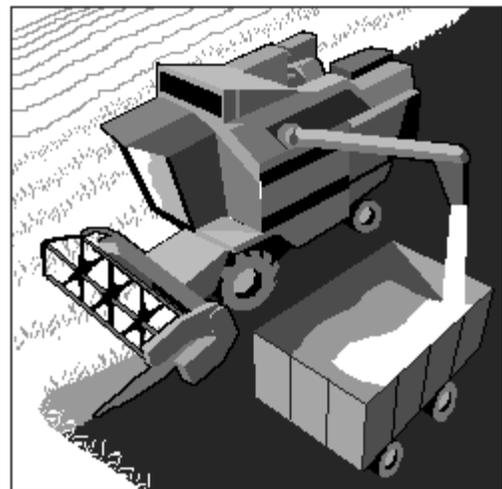
Production of **sorghum for grain** is estimated at 13.4 million bushels compared to 17.9 million in 2001. Total planted acreage is estimated at 180,000 acres, of which 165,000 acres were harvested for grain. Yield per acre, at 81 bushels, was down 4 bushels from 2001.

Soybean production is estimated at 20.8 million bushels, up 3 percent from 2001. Total planted acreage was up 23 percent from a year earlier to an estimated 790,000 acres. Louisiana farmers harvested an estimated 650,000 acres. Yield per acre, at 32 bushels, was down 1 bushel from 2001.

Sugarcane production for sugar and seed is estimated at 14.4 million net tons, unchanged from 2001. Louisiana continued to remain ahead of Florida as the number one state in the United States for sugarcane acreage in 2002. Yield per acre, at 29 net tons, was also unchanged from a year ago.

Sweet potato production is estimated at 1.88 million cwt, down 39 percent from 2001. An estimated 21,000 acres were planted in 2002, down 12 percent from 2001. Harvested acreage is estimated at 15,000 acres, down 32 percent from 2001. Harvested acres have not been this low since 1871, when the state harvested 15,000 acres. Yield per acre at 125 cwt, was down 15 cwt per acre from a year earlier.

All hay production in 2002 is estimated at 1.13 million tons compared to 1.26 million the previous year. An estimated 450,000 acres were harvested in 2002, unchanged from the previous year. Yield was 2.5 tons per acre, 0.3 tons below last year.



Louisiana: Acreage, Yield and Production, 2002, with Comparisons

Commodity	Acreage Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Unit		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	Yield	Prod.	2001	2002
	-----Thousand Acres-----		-----Units-----				-----Thousand Units-----	
Corn, Grain	307	560	148	122	bushels	bushels	45,436	68,320
Corn, Silage	7	10	14	14	ton	ton	98	140
Cotton, Lint, All	855	495	580	727	pounds	bales 1/	1,034	750
Cottonseed	---	---	---	---	ton	ton	380	275
Hay, All (baled)	450	450	2.8	2.5	ton	ton	1,260	1,125
Rice, Long Grain	538	525	5,500	5,500	pounds	cwt	29,590	28,875
Rice, Medium	8	10	5,300	5,250	pounds	cwt	424	525
Rice, All	546	535	5,500	5,500	pounds	cwt	30,014	29,400
Sorghum, Grain	210	165	85	81	bushels	bushels	17,850	13,365
Sorghum, Silage	1	1	12	10	ton	ton	12	10
Soybeans	610	650	33	32	bushels	bushels	20,130	20,800
Sugarcane, All ²	495	495	29.0	29.0	ton 3/	ton 3/	14,355	14,355
Sweet Potatoes	22	15	140	125	cwt	cwt	3,080	1,875
Wheat, Winter ⁴	160	220	50	40	bushels	bushels	8,000	8,800

¹480-pound net weight bale; ²Harvested for sugar and seed; ³Net tons; ⁴Estimate carried forward from earlier forecast.

United States: Acreage, Yield and Production, 2002, with Comparisons

Commodity	Acreage Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Unit		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	Yield	Prod.	2001	2002
	-----Thousand Acres-----		-----Units-----				-----Thousand Units-----	
Corn, Grain	68,808	69,313	138.2	130.0	bushels	bushels	9,506,840	9,007,659
Corn, Silage	6,148	7,490	16.6	14.0	ton	ton	102,077	104,979
Cotton, Lint, All	13,827.7	12,413.3	705	663	pounds	bales 1/	20,302.8	17,145.0
Cottonseed	---	---	---	---	ton	ton	7,452.2	6,419.3
Hay, All (baled)	63,521	64,497	2.47	2.34	ton	ton	156,764	150,962
Rice, All	3,314	3,207	6,496	6,578	pounds	cwt	215,270	210,960
Sorghum, Grain	8,584	7,299	59.9	50.7	bushels	bushels	514,524	369,758
Sorghum, Silage	336	352	11.1	9.5	ton	ton	3,728	3,360
Soybeans	72,975	72,160	39.6	37.8	bushels	bushels	2,890,682	2,729,709
Sugarcane, All ²	1,027.8	1,026.1	33.7	35.0	ton 3/	ton 3/	34,587	35,932
Sweet Potatoes	94.4	83.3	155	150	cwt	cwt	14,637	12,498
Wheat, All	48,633	45,817	40.2	35.3	bushels	bushels	1,957,043	1,616,441
Wheat, Winter ⁴	31,295	29,651	43.5	38.5	bushels	bushels	1,361,479	1,142,802

¹480-pound net weight bale; ²Harvested for sugar and seed; ³Net tons; ⁴Estimate carried forward from earlier forecast.

Louisiana Grain Stocks

Corn stocks stored off-farm on December 1, 2002, at 22.0 million bushels, were 5 percent less than last year's 23.2 million bushels. On-farm stocks for Louisiana were not published separately, but were included in the U.S. total.

Soybean stocks stored off-farm on December 1, 2002, at 8.37 million bushels, were 14 percent below last year's 9.79 million bushels. On-farm stocks for Louisiana were not published separately, but were included in the U.S. total.

All wheat stocks stored off-farm on December 1, 2002 at 8.68 million bushels, were up 30 percent from the 6.65 million bushels stored a year ago. On-farm stocks were not published separately, but were included in the U.S. total.

Louisiana Rice Stocks

Rough rice stocks reported in all positions on December 1, 2002, totaled 16.7 million cwt, up 3 percent from last year. On-farm stocks of rice were estimated at 8.50 million cwt, compared to 8.75 million the previous year. Off-farm stocks totaled 8.23 million cwt, up 11 percent from last year.

Louisiana and U.S. Grain Stocks, December 1, 2002

Item	Louisiana		United States	
	December 1		December 1	
	2001	2002	2001	2002
	-----Thousand Bushels-----		-----Thousand Bushels-----	
Corn				
On-Farm	1/	1/	5,275,000	4,800,000
Off-Farm ²	<u>23,194</u>	<u>21,986</u>	<u>2,989,715</u>	<u>2,833,427</u>
TOTAL	1/	1/	8,264,715	7,633,427
Soybeans				
On-Farm	1/	1/	1,240,000	1,170,000
Off-Farm ²	<u>9,794</u>	<u>8,374</u>	<u>1,035,618</u>	<u>944,482</u>
TOTAL	1/	1/	2,275,618	2,114,482
All-Wheat				
On-Farm	1/	1/	517,890	384,800
Off-Farm ²	<u>6,650</u>	<u>8,678</u>	<u>1,105,565</u>	<u>936,199</u>
TOTAL	1/	1/	1,623,455	1,320,999

¹Not published. ²Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

Louisiana Rice Stocks

Date	On Farms or Farm Warehouses	In Mills and Attached Warehouses	In Warehouses not Attached To Mills	In Ports or in Transit	Total all Positions
	(Domestic Units - 1,000 Cwt)				
	Rough Rice				
December 1, 2001	8,750	1/	5,714	1/	16,172
March 1, 2002	3,400	1/	1/	1/	9,931
August 1, 2002	1/	1/	1/	0	1/
December 1, 2002	8,500	1,523	5,826	882	16,731

¹Not published for Louisiana. ²Included in unallocated to avoid disclosing individual operations.

United States Rice Stocks

Date	On Farms or Farm Warehouses	In Mills and Attached Warehouses	In Warehouses not Attached To Mills	In Ports or in Transit	Total all Positions
	(Domestic Units - 1,000 Cwt)				
	Rough Rice				
December 1, 2001	52,680	13,033	88,127	721	154,561
March 1, 2002	31,725	15,325	66,279	179	113,508
August 1, 2002	5,180	6,599	19,728	302	31,809
December 1, 2002	53,220	14,251	88,421	1,178	157,070
	Milled Rice				
December 1, 2001	----	4,640	187	1,080	5,907
March 1, 2002	----	3,689	155	969	4,813
August 1, 2002	----	3,581	88	1261	4,930
December 1, 2002	----	4,814	117	2,550	7,481

Winter Wheat Seedlings

United States winter wheat planted area for harvest in 2003 is estimated at 44.2 million acres. This is up 6 percent from 2002 and is the largest acreage since 1998. Seeding began last August and advanced ahead of the 5-year average pace throughout the fall. Nearly all of the U.S. acreage was seeded by December 1. Most remaining intended area is in the Southeast and California. Seeding should finish sometime next month in California. Louisiana's expected winter wheat acres of 200,000 for 2003 is down 13 percent from 2002.

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Winter Wheat Seedlings

Selected States	Area Planted			
	2001	2002	2003	2003/2002
	-----1,000 Acres-----			Percent
Arkansas	1,100	960	760	79
Kansas	9,800	9,600	10,300	107
Louisiana	175	230	200	87
Mississippi	250	250	150	60
Texas	5,600	6,400	6,600	103
United States	41,078	41,735	44,246	106

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