

PRESS RELEASE



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For Information Contact:

Terry Mathews

1-800-256-4485

Louisiana Sugarcane Yield Projected to be the Lowest in 11 Years

“All major crop yields except corn are expected to be down in 2004,” according to Dave Frank, Director of the Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Frank stated that the sugarcane projected yield will be the lowest since 1993, when the state averaged 22.8 net tons per acre.

The Louisiana **sugarcane** crop is estimated at 11.4 million net tons, down 8 percent from last month and down 11 percent from last year. Acreage expected for harvest (sugar and seed) is 475,000 acres. Net yield is forecast at 24 tons per acre. U.S. production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2004 is forecast at 30.3 million tons, 10 percent below last year.

Louisiana’s **cotton** production is expected to total 780,000 bales, up 20 percent from last month, but down 24 percent from 2003. Acreage expected for harvest is forecast at 490,000 acres. Yield per acre, at 764 pounds, is up 127 pounds from the previous month, but down 203 pounds from last year’s record yield. Upland cotton production for the U.S. is forecast at 20.8 million bales, up 17 percent from 2003.

Soybean production is expected to total 33.2 million bushels in Louisiana, up 13 percent from the previous month and up 32 percent from a year ago. Acreage of soybeans expected for harvest was revised to 1,070,000, up 120,000 acres from the June 1 estimate. Yield is forecast at 31 bushels per acre, unchanged from last month but down 3 bushels from last year. U.S. soybean production is forecast at 3.11 billion bushels, up 10 percent from the September forecast and 27 percent above 2003.

Louisiana **rice** production is forecast at 28.1 million cwt, unchanged from last month, but up 6 percent from 2003. Rice acreage for harvest is forecast at 530,000 acres. Yield is expected to average 5,300 pounds per acre, down 570 pounds from last year’s record yield. U.S. production is forecast at 225 million cwt, up 2 percent from September and up 13 percent from 2003.

Louisiana’s **corn** production is forecast at 54.7 million bushels, down 9 percent from last month and down 18 percent from a year ago. Production is down from last month due to an adjustment of harvested acres, from 445,000 to 405,000. Yield per acre, at 135 bushels, is up 1 bushel from 2003. U.S. corn production is forecast at 11.6 billion bushels, up 6 percent from last month and 15 percent above 2003.

Sorghum production is estimated at 5.60 million bushels in the state, compared to 14.0 million bushels last year. Sorghum harvested acreage was revised to 80,000 acres, down 15,000 from the June 1 estimate. Yield is forecast at 70 bushels per acre, up 5 bushels from the previous month. U.S. production for the 2004 crop is forecast at 462 million bushels, down 2 percent from last month but up 12 percent from 2003.

Louisiana production of **all hay** is estimated at 936,000 tons, down 15 percent from a year ago. Acreage for harvest is forecast at 360,000 acres, down 20,000 acres from 2003. Yield is forecast at 2.6 tons per acre, down 0.3 ton from a year ago.

Pecan production is forecast at 8.0 million pounds compared to 20.0 million pounds last year.

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U.S.D.A. - Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service
In cooperation with

CROP REPORT - LOUISIANA
October 1, 2004

CROP	ACRES EXPECTED FOR HARVEST (000)		FORECAST YIELD PER ACRE		UNIT	FORECAST PRODUCTION (000)	
	2003	2004	2003	2004		2003	2004
Corn for grain	500	405	134	135	bushels	67,000	54,675
Upland Cotton	510	490	967	764	lbs: bales	1,027	780
Rice	450	530	5,870	5,300	lbs: cwt	26,397	28,090
Sorghum for grain	165	80	85	70	bushels	14,025	5,600
Soybeans	740	1,070	34	31	bushels	25,160	33,170
Sugarcane (sugar & seed)	490	475	26.2	24.0	net tons	12,838	11,400
Hay, all	380	360	2.9	2.6	tons	1,102	936
Pecans, all	---	---	---	---	pounds	20,000	8,000

CROP REPORT - UNITED STATES
October 1, 2004

CROP	ACRES EXPECTED FOR HARVEST (000)		FORECAST YIELD PER ACRE		UNIT	FORECAST PRODUCTION (000)	
	2003	2004	2003	2004		2003	2004
Corn for grain	71,139	73,311	142.2	158.4	bushels	10,113,887	11,613,226
Upland Cotton	11,826	12,970	723	771	lbs: bales	17,822.9	20,830.0
Rice	2,997	3,334	6,645	6,763	lbs: cwt	199,157	225,488
Sorghum for grain	7,798	6,559	52.7	70.4	bushels	411,237	461,857
Soybeans	72,476	73,990	33.9	42.0	bushels	2,453,665	3,106,861
Sugarcane (sugar & seed)	994.4	961.6	34.0	31.5	net tons	33,857	30,315
Hay, all	63,342	61,589	2.48	2.69	tons	157,123	165,920
Pecans, all	---	---	---	---	pounds	282,100	189,300

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