

PRESS RELEASE

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Potential Record Cotton Crop Hit Hard by Hurricane Lili

Cotton and hay yields are expected to increase from previous estimates, according to Dave Frank, State Statistician with the Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn and sorghum remain the only major crops expected to have lower yields than in 2001.

Cotton production is expected to total 780,000 bales, up 11 percent from last month, but 25 percent below 2001. An estimated 500,000 acres are expected for harvest, 355,000 fewer than last year. Yield per acre, at 749 pounds, is 169 pounds more than in 2001. Upland cotton production for the U.S. is forecast at 17.4 million bales, 11 percent below 2001. U.S. growers expect to harvest 12.6 million acres, down 7 percent from 2001.

Louisiana **rice** production is forecast at 29.4 million cwt, unchanged from last month, but down 2 percent from 2001. The state yield is expected to reach 5,500 cwt per acre, tying the state record set last year. Rice acreage for harvest is forecast at 535,000 acres. This is a decrease of 11,000 harvested acres from the 2001 crop. U.S. production is forecast at 212 million cwt, down 1 percent from 2001. U.S. harvested acres are expected to total 3.21 million acres, down 3 percent from last year.

Sugarcane production is estimated at 14.9 million net tons, unchanged from last month, but up 3 percent from last year. Yield is estimated at 30 net tons per acre, up 1 ton from last year. Acreage expected for harvest (sugar and seed) is 495,000 acres. U.S. production is forecast at 35.3 million tons from an estimated 1.02 million harvested acres. U.S. production is expected to be up 2 percent from last year.

Sorghum production is estimated at 15.2 million bushels, down 5 percent from the previous month and down 15 percent from last year. Acreage to be harvested for grain is forecast at 195,000 acres, down 7 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 78 bushels per acre, 7 bushels fewer than last year. U.S. acreage forecast to be harvested for grain, at 7.53 million acres, is down 12 percent from 2001.

Soybean production is expected to total 25.1 million bushels, unchanged from last month, but up 25 percent from a year ago. Acreage for harvest is forecast at 760,000 acres, up 25 percent from 2001. Yield is forecast at 33 bushels per acre, tying last year's record. U.S. production is forecast at 2.65 billion bushels, down 8 percent from 2001. U.S. farmers expect to harvest 71.8 million acres, down 2 percent from last year.

Corn production is forecast at 62.4 million bushels, unchanged from last month and up 37 percent from a year ago. Acreage to be harvested for grain is estimated at 480,000 acres, up 56 percent from 2001. Yield per acre, at 130 bushels, is down 18 bushels from 2001. U.S. production is expected to be down 6 percent from last year.

Louisiana production of **all hay** is estimated at 1.4 tons, up 7 percent from a year ago. Acreage for harvest is forecast at 450,000 acres, unchanged from 2001. Yield, at 3.0 tons per acre, is up 0.2 ton from 2001.

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CROP REPORT - LOUISIANA
October 1, 2002

CROP	ACRES EXPECTED FOR HARVEST (000)		FORECAST YIELD PER ACRE		UNIT	FORECAST PRODUCTION (000)		PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2001
	2001	2002	2001	2002		2001	2002	
Corn for grain	307	480	148	130	bushels	45,436	62,400	+37
Upland Cotton	855	500	580	749	bales	1,034	780	-25
Rice	546	535	5,500	5,500	cwt	30,014	29,425	-2
Sorghum for grain	210	195	85	78	bushels	17,850	15,210	-15
Soybeans	610	760	33	33	bushels	20,130	25,080	+25
Sugarcane (sugar & seed)	495	495	29	30	net tons	14,355	14,850	+3
Hay, all	450	450	2.8	3.0	tons	1,260	1,350	+7

CROP REPORT - UNITED STATES
October 1, 2002

CROP	ACRES EXPECTED FOR HARVEST (000)		FORECAST YIELD PER ACRE		UNIT	FORECAST PRODUCTION (000)		PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2001
	2001	2002	2001	2002		2001	2002	
Corn for grain	68,808	70,541	138.2	127.2	bushels	9,506,840	8,969,836	-6
Upland Cotton	13,559.5	12,620.0	694	663	bales	19,602.4	17,435.0	-11
Rice	3,314	3,207	6,429	6,608	cwt	213,045	211,921	-1
Sorghum for grain	8,584	7,528	59.9	51.4	bushels	514,524	387,249	-25
Soybeans	72,975	71,799	39.6	37.0	bushels	2,890,682	2,653,798	-8
Sugarcane (sugar & seed)	1,028.0	1,022.6	33.6	34.6	net tons	34,587	35,346	+2
Hay, all	63,511	64,709	1.93	1.87	tons	156,703	150,447	-4

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