

FIELD CROPS

HAY

Dry weather throughout the spring provided excellent conditions for an early harvest and good quality hay. Alfalfa harvested acreage dropped to 270,000 acres in 2001. The average yield was 5.0 tons per acre, producing 1.35 million tons. The value of production for all hay fell below the previous year level to \$195 million, a 4.2 percent drop as the average price increased to \$124 per ton.

SORGHUM

New Mexico's sorghum acreage harvested for grain increased to 140,000 acres compared to 65,000 harvested in 2000. Yields averaged 45 bushels per acre for a total production of 6.3 million bushels compared to the 1.6 million bushels produced a year earlier. The average price decreased to \$2.10 per bushel. Total value of production was \$13.2 million, a significant increase from the \$3.6 million in 2000. An estimated 8,000 acres were harvested for silage with an average yield of 22 tons per acre producing 176,000 tons overall.

CORN

The state's corn production for grain, at 8.3 million bushels, was a 22 percent drop from 2000 primarily due to the drop in acreage. Harvested acreage dropped to 46,000 acres, 20,000 acres less than the previous year. Average yields, however, matched record highs set in 1999 at 180 bushels per acre. The average price dropped slightly to \$2.40 per bushel bringing the value of production to \$19.9 million, 25 percent below 2000. Corn harvested for silage matched last year's record high due to the increasing demand from the growing dairy industry. A total of 82,000 acres was harvested with an average yield of 23 tons per acre. Total production of silage in the state came to 1.9 million tons.

WHEAT

The combination of increased acreage and higher yields created a winter wheat production of 8.2 million bushels in 2001, compared to 4.2 million bushels in 2000. Harvested acreage increased 37 percent in 2001, from 175,000 acres to 240,000 acres. The average yield was 34 bushels per acre, an increase of 10 bushels per acre over 2000. The value of the wheat crop was \$21.2 million with the average annual price increasing to \$2.60 per bushel.

PEANUTS

New Mexico's peanut planted and harvested acreage in 2001 decreased 15 percent with the total reaching 22,200 acres. Yields hit a record high of 3,020 pounds per acre surpassing the previous record of 2,820 pounds per acre set back in 1998. Production was 67 million pounds, 22 percent above the 55 million pounds harvested in 2000. Crop value increased 4.8 percent to \$18.4 million with the average price at \$.275 per pound.

COTTON

Upland cotton producers harvested 65,000 acres in 2001, 3 percent less than 2000. Yields averaged a record high 916 pounds per acre, 59 pounds higher than the previous record of 857 pounds per acre set back in 1958. Total production was estimated at 124,000 bales, 23 percent more than a year earlier. The average prices dropped to the lowest level seen since the early 1970's averaging \$.337 per pound. Total value produced also decreased to \$19.4 million. American-Pima harvested acreage at 5,200 acres increased 1,100 acres from 2000. Yields at a record-high 969 pounds per acre raised total production to 10,500 bales. The value of the crop was placed at \$3.9 million with prices averaging \$.808 per pound.