



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE
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Cooperating with the Arizona Department of Agriculture



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CROP PRODUCTION – OCTOBER 2016

ARIZONA HIGHLIGHTS

Based on October 1 conditions, **all cotton** production in Arizona is expected to total 387,000 480-lb bales, according to the October 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is down 3 percent from the September 1 forecast but up 26 percent from last year's crop.

Upland cotton harvested acreage is forecast at 114,000 acres, up 26,000 acres from last year. As of October 1, producers expect to harvest 360,000 480-lb bales of upland cotton, up 30 percent from last year. Upland yield is forecast at 1,516 pounds per acre, down 42 pounds from the September 1 forecast but up 5 pounds from last year. As of October 2, 34 percent of the upland cotton crop had been defoliated, compared with 34 percent last year and 30 percent for the 5-year average, and 20 percent had been harvested, compared with 19 percent last year and 16 percent for the 5-year average. The cotton crop was rated 4 percent very poor, 15 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 29 percent excellent as of October 2. **Pima cotton** harvested acreage is estimated at 14,700 acres, down 2,300 acres from last year. As of October 1, producers expect to harvest 27,000 480-lb bales of Pima cotton, compared with 31,000 bales last year. Pima yield is forecast at 882 pounds per acre, up 7 pounds from last year.

Arizona farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 280,000 acres of **alfalfa hay** this year, down 20,000 acres from 2015. Alfalfa production is forecast at 2.38 million tons, down 6 percent from 2015 and unchanged from the August forecast. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 8.50 tons per acre, compared with last year's yield of 8.40 tons per acre and the August 1 forecast of 8.40 tons per acre.

Arizona's 2016-2017 **lemon** production is forecast at 1.80 million boxes, up 3 percent from last season. **Pecan** production in Arizona is forecast at 23.50 million pounds, up 4 percent from the 2015 season.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

All cotton production is forecast at 16.0 million 480-pound bales, down less than 1 percent from September but up 24 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 797 pounds per harvested acre, up 31 pounds from last year. **Upland cotton** production is forecast at 15.5 million 480-pound bales, up 24 percent from 2015. **Pima** cotton production, forecast at 562,000 bales, was carried forward from last month.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay** for 2016 is forecast at 62.8 million tons, up 7 percent from 2015. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.48 tons per acre, up 0.16 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 18.1 million acres, unchanged from the August forecast but up 2 percent from 2015.

The forecast for the 2016-2017 United States **lemon** crop is 912,000 tons, up 2 percent from last season's final utilization. Production is up from 2015-2016 in both Arizona and California.

Pecan production is forecast at 263 million pounds (utilized, in-shell basis), up 3 percent from 2015. Improved varieties are expected to produce 239 million pounds or 91 percent of the total. The native and seedling varieties are expected to produce 23.8 million pounds, making up the remaining 9 percent of production.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.