



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
October 11, 2018

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## CROP PRODUCTION – OCTOBER 2018

### ARIZONA HIGHLIGHTS

Based on October 1 conditions, **all cotton** production in Arizona is expected to total 505,000 480-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 up 3 percent from the September 1 forecast, but down 2 percent from last year's crop.

**Upland cotton** harvested acreage is forecast at 149,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from last year. As of October 1, producers expect to harvest 480,000 480-lb bales of upland cotton, down 1 percent from last year. Upland yield is forecast at 1,546 pounds per acre, up 48 pounds from the September 1 forecast and up 82 pounds from last year. As of September 30, forty-two percent of the upland cotton crop had been defoliated, compared with 32 percent last year and 30 percent for the 5-year average, and 22 percent had been harvested, compared with 18 percent last year and 15 percent for the 5-year average. The cotton crop was rated 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 41 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 13 percent excellent as of September 30. **Pima cotton** harvested acreage is estimated at 13,500 acres, down 1,500 acres from last year. As of October 1, producers expect to harvest 25,000 480-lb bales of Pima cotton, compared with 30,200 bales last year. Pima yield is forecast at 889 pounds per acre, down 77 pounds from last year.

Arizona farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 270,000 acres of **alfalfa hay** this year, down 5,000 acres from 2017. Alfalfa production is forecast at 2.16 million tons, down 6 percent from 2017. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 8.00 tons per acre, compared with last year's yield of 8.40 tons per acre and the August 1 forecast of 8.00 tons per acre.

Arizona's 2018-2019 **lemon** production is forecast at 1.40 million boxes, up 40 percent from last season. **Pecan** production in Arizona is forecast at 26.50 million pounds, down 5 percent from the 2017 season.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**All cotton** production is forecast at 19.8 million 480-pound bales, up less than 1 percent from September but down 6 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 901 pounds per harvested acre, up 6 pounds from last month but down 4 pounds from last year. Harvested area for all cotton is expected to total 10.5 million acres, down less than 1 percent from September and down 5 percent from 2017. **Upland cotton** production is forecast at 19.0 million 480-pound bales, down 6 percent from 2017. Upland harvested area is expected to total 10.3 million acres, down 5 percent from last year. If realized, the United States average yield for all cotton and Upland cotton will be the second highest on record. **Pima cotton** production, forecast at 771,000 bales, was carried forward from last month.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture** dry hay for 2018 is forecast at 59.5 million tons, up 3 percent from the August forecast and up 8 percent from 2017. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.43 tons per acre, up 0.10 ton from the August forecast and up 0.11 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 17.4 million acres up 5 percent from 2017.

The forecast for the 2018-2019 United States **lemon** crop is 856,000 tons, down 4 percent from last season's final utilization. The California production forecast, at 20.0 million boxes (800,000 tons), is down 6 percent from the 2017-2018 season.

**Pecan** production is forecast at 279 million pounds (utilized, in-shell basis), down 5 percent from 2017. Improved varieties are expected to produce 258 million pounds or 93 percent of the total. The native and seedling varieties are expected to produce 20.7 million pounds, making up the remaining 7 percent of production.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production* report please visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).