

# California Field Crop Review



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**CORN:** As of June 1, California's total planted acreage of corn for all purposes is estimated at 540 thousand, 7 percent below last year. Farmers expect to harvest 255 thousand acres of corn for grain in 1998. This would amount to a 2 percent decrease from 1997. In the U.S., corn planted acreage is estimated at 80.8 million, up 1 percent from last year. Growers expect to harvest 74.3 million acres for grain, up 1 percent from 1997.

## FIELD CROP ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION

**BARLEY:** California's 1998 barley production is forecast at 201.6 tons, down 15 percent from last year. The average yield of 1.44 tons per acre is up 9 percent from last year, while the harvested acreage is down 22 percent. Nationally, barley production is forecast at 9.02 million tons, up only fractionally from a year ago. Yields are expected to average 1.49 tons per acre, 6 percent above last year. Harvested acreage, at 6.08 million, is 5 percent below the 6.43 million acres harvested the previous year.

## FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES, 1997-98

CROP	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Unit	Production	
	1997	Forecast 1998	1997	Forecast 1998		1997	Forecast 1998		1997	Forecast 1998
-- Thousands --										
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>										
Wheat, Winter <u>a/</u>	510.0	500.0	400.0	370.0	Tons	2.25	1.95	Tons	900.0	721.5
Wheat, Durum <u>a/</u>	145.0	180.0	144.0	175.0	Tons	2.85	3.15	Tons	410.4	551.3
Oats <u>a/</u>	350.0	330.0	35.0	30.0	Tons	1.12	1.20	Tons	39.2	36.0
Barley <u>a/</u>	230.0	170.0	180.0	140.0	Tons	1.32	1.44	Tons	237.6	201.6
Corn for Grain <u>b/</u>	580.0	540.0	260.0	255.0	Tons	4.76	<u>c/</u>	Tons	1,237.6	<u>c/</u>
Rice, All	512.0	480.0	510.0	478.0	Cwt.	83.00	<u>d/</u>	Cwt.	42,341.0	<u>d/</u>
Long	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	Cwt.	77.00	<u>d/</u>	Cwt.	693.0	<u>d/</u>
Medium	487.0	452.0	485.0	450.0	Cwt.	83.20	<u>d/</u>	Cwt.	40,352.0	<u>d/</u>
Short	16.0	19.0	16.0	19.0	Cwt.	81.00	<u>d/</u>	Cwt.	1,296.0	<u>d/</u>
Cotton, Upland	880.0	700.0	875.0	<u>c/</u>	Lbs.	1,202.00	<u>c/</u>	Bales	2,191.0	<u>c/</u>
Cotton, Amer.-Pima	185.0	185.0	184.0	<u>c/</u>	Lbs.	1,141.00	<u>c/</u>	Bales	437.2	<u>c/</u>
Sugar Beets <u>e/</u>	101.0	102.0	99.0	100.0	Tons	30.00	<u>c/</u>	Tons	2,970.0	<u>c/</u>
Beans, Dry, All <u>f/</u>	135.0	120.0	132.0	115.0	Cwt.	22.50	<u>c/</u>	Cwt.	2,970.0	<u>c/</u>
Hay, All	---	---	1,500.0	1,540.0	Tons	5.74	<u>c/</u>	Tons	8,616.0	<u>c/</u>
Alfalfa	---	---	980.0	1,040.0	Tons	7.20	<u>c/</u>	Tons	7,056.0	<u>c/</u>
Other	---	---	520.0	500.0	Tons	3.00	<u>c/</u>	Tons	1,560.0	<u>c/</u>
Safflower	<u>g/</u>	<u>g/</u>	<u>g/</u>	<u>g/</u>	Lbs.	<u>g/</u>	<u>g/</u>	Lbs.	<u>g/</u>	<u>g/</u>
Sunflower	<u>g/</u>	<u>g/</u>	<u>g/</u>	<u>g/</u>	Lbs.	<u>g/</u>	<u>g/</u>	Lbs.	<u>g/</u>	<u>g/</u>
<b>UNITED STATES</b>										
Wheat, Winter <u>a/</u>	48,342.0	46,850.0	41,813.0	40,757.0	Tons	1.35	1.40	Tons	56,478.3	56,961.6
Wheat, Durum <u>a/</u>	3,250.0	3,700.0	3,107.0	3,583.0	Tons	0.83	1.05	Tons	2,585.8	3,769.3
Oats <u>a/</u>	5,169.0	4,992.0	2,911.0	2,936.0	Tons	0.97	1.00	Tons	2,817.7	2,931.2
Barley <u>a/</u>	6,910.0	6,446.0	6,425.0	6,078.0	Tons	1.40	1.49	Tons	8,987.5	9,023.1
Corn for Grain <u>b/</u>	80,227.0	80,798.0	73,720.0	74,284.0	Tons	3.56	<u>c/</u>	Tons	262,236.1	<u>c/</u>
Rice, All	3,056.0	3,215.0	3,034.0	3,187.0	Cwt.	58.96	<u>c/</u>	Cwt.	178,896.0	<u>c/</u>
Long	2,279.0	2,504.0	2,261.0	2,480.0	Cwt.	53.80	<u>d/</u>	Cwt.	121,647.0	<u>d/</u>
Medium	759.0	689.0	755.0	685.0	Cwt.	73.95	<u>d/</u>	Cwt.	55,833.0	<u>d/</u>
Short	18.0	22.0	18.0	22.0	Cwt.	78.67	<u>d/</u>	Cwt.	1,416.0	<u>d/</u>
Cotton, Upland	13,558.0	12,620.0	13,021.0	<u>c/</u>	Lbs.	673.00	<u>c/</u>	Bales	18,245.0	<u>c/</u>
Cotton, Amer.-Pima	250.0	313.5	249.0	<u>c/</u>	Lbs.	1,056.00	<u>c/</u>	Bales	548.0	<u>c/</u>
Sugar Beets <u>e/</u>	1,459.3	1,493.7	1,428.3	1,473.2	Tons	20.90	<u>c/</u>	Tons	29,886.0	<u>c/</u>
Beans, Dry, All <u>f/</u>	1,851.8	2,047.2	1,720.2	1,943.7	Cwt.	16.95	<u>c/</u>	Cwt.	29,156.0	<u>c/</u>
Hay, All	---	---	60,815.0	59,819.0	Tons	2.50	<u>c/</u>	Tons	152,120.0	<u>c/</u>
Alfalfa	---	---	23,673.0	23,437.0	Tons	3.35	<u>c/</u>	Tons	79,242.0	<u>c/</u>
Other	---	---	37,142.0	36,382.0	Tons	1.96	<u>c/</u>	Tons	72,878.0	<u>c/</u>
Safflower	249.0	296.0	235.0	282.0	Lbs.	1,830.00	<u>c/</u>	Lbs.	430,050.0	<u>c/</u>
Sunflower	2,949.0	3,420.0	2,852.0	3,307.0	Lbs.	1,320.00	<u>c/</u>	Lbs.	3,763,428.0	<u>c/</u>

a/ Includes area planted in preceding fall. b/ Planted acres for all purposes. c/ Estimate to be released August 12, 1998. d/ To be released January 1999. e/ Relates to year of intended harvest except for over-wintered spring planted beets. f/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed. g/ Not available.

## JUNE 1 GRAIN STOCKS

**COTTON:** California's cotton growers planted 700 thousand acres of Upland cotton and 185 thousand acres of American Pima cotton in 1998. Upland acreage is down 20 percent from 1997 and is the lowest since 1970, while American Pima acreage remained the same as the previous year. Nationally, Upland cotton is expected to total 12.6 million acres, down 7 percent from last year. Growers intend to increase plantings of American-Pima cotton to 313.5 thousand acres.

**DRY BEANS:** An estimated 120 thousand acres in California were seeded to dry edible beans for the 1998 season, an 11 percent decrease from last year's total. The U.S. dry edible bean seeded acreage totals 2.05 million, up 11 percent from last year. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 1.94 million, up 13 percent from a year ago.

**HAY:** On June 1, California growers expected to harvest alfalfa from 1.04 thousand acres in 1998. This is up 6 percent from 1997's harvested acreage. The estimate for all other hay to be harvested is 500 thousand acres, down 4 percent from last year's total. U.S. acreage harvested for alfalfa hay is estimated at 23.4 million, 1 percent below 1997. All other hay acreage is estimated at 36.4 million acres, 2 percent below last year.

**OATS:** Production of oats in California is forecast at 36.0 thousand tons, down 8 percent from last year. Acreage harvested for grain totaled 30.0 thousand acres, down 14 percent from last year's total. Nationally, oat production for 1998 is forecast at 2.93 million tons, up 4 percent from last year. The forecast yield, at 1.00 ton per acre, is up 3 percent from last year. Area harvested for grain, at 2.94 million acres, is up 1 percent from last year.

**RICE:** California's rice seeded acreage is estimated at 480 thousand acres, 6 percent below last year's 512 thousand. The acreage planted to long grain rice remained the same as the previous year at 9.00 thousand; medium grain at 452 thousand, down 7 percent; and short grain at 19.0 thousand, up 19 percent from 1997. U.S. growers are expecting to harvest 3.19 million acres of rice in 1998, up 5 percent from last year. Long grain rice will be harvested from 2.48 million acres, medium grain rice from 685 thousand acres, and short grain from 22.0 thousand acres.

**SUGAR BEETS:** California has 102 thousand acres planted to sugar beets, 1 percent above the total planted in 1997. U.S. growers planted an estimated 1.49 million acres of sugar beets for 1998, up 2 percent from last year.

**WHEAT:** California's winter wheat production is forecast at 721.5 thousand tons, down 20 percent from last year. The yield is expected to be 1.95 tons per acre, down 13 percent from 1997. The 370 thousand acres for grain harvest are 7 percent below last year's total. Durum wheat production is forecast at 551.3 thousand tons, up 34 percent from last year. The yield is expected to be 3.15 tons per acre, up 11 percent from 1997. California's Durum wheat planted acreage is estimated at 180 thousand acres, up 24 percent from the 145 thousand acres seeded last year. The 175 thousand acres for grain harvest are 22 percent above the 144 thousand acres harvested last year. U.S. winter wheat production is forecast at 57.0 million tons. Yield is forecast at 1.40 tons per acre, up 4 percent from last year. Durum wheat production is forecast at 3.77 million tons, up 46 percent from 1997.

Stocks of old crop wheat in all positions in California on June 1, 1998 totaled 230 thousand tons, 60 percent above the 143 thousand tons on hand June 1, 1997. U.S. wheat stocks totaled 21.7 million tons, 63 percent above the 13.3 million tons of stocks a year earlier.

Off-farm stocks of oats in California totaled 1.60 thousand tons, 19 percent below the 1.97 thousand tons on hand a year earlier. U.S. total oat stocks, at 1.18 million tons, were 11 percent above the 1.07 million tons stored last year. California off-farm stocks of corn on June 1 were 132 thousand tons, 22 percent above the 108 thousand tons of a year earlier. U.S. total stocks of corn were 85.1 million tons, up 22 percent from the 69.9 million tons on hand June 1, 1997. California off-farm sorghum grain stocks were 6.44 thousand tons, 43 percent below the 11.2 thousand tons of a year earlier. U.S. grain sorghum total stocks, at 2.69 million tons, were 19 percent below the 3.34 million tons on hand June 1, 1997. California off-farm stocks of barley at 69.4 thousand tons, were 150 percent above the 27.8 thousand tons on hand June 1, 1997. U.S. total barley stocks, at 2.89 million tons, were 10 percent above the 2.63 million tons on hand a year earlier.



**GRAIN STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS**  
(Includes stocks under support and government owned grain.)

Grain and Position	June 1, 1997	March 1, 1998	June 1, 1998
<b>ALL WHEAT</b>	---- Tons ----		
California			
On-Farm	4,500	21,000	6,000
Off-Farm <sup>1/</sup>	138,600	307,860	223,650
Total	143,100	328,860	229,650
U.S. Total	13,308,210	34,996,920	21,699,960
<b>CORN</b>			
California <sup>2/</sup>			
Off-Farm <sup>1/</sup>	107,688	239,400	131,768
U.S. Total	69,903,400	138,317,144	85,095,416
<b>BARLEY</b>			
California <sup>2/</sup>			
Off-Farm <sup>1/</sup>	27,792	56,472	69,360
U.S. Total	2,626,800	4,310,376	2,885,640
<b>OATS</b>			
California <sup>2/</sup>			
Off Farm <sup>1/</sup>	1,968	1,616	1,600
U.S. Total	1,066,816	1,783,248	1,184,048
<b>SORGHUM GRAIN</b>			
California <sup>2/</sup>			
Off-Farm <sup>1/</sup>	11,284	12,096	6,440
U.S. Total	3,336,032	6,570,928	2,690,996

<sup>1/</sup> Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors.  
<sup>2/</sup> California On-Farm stocks and total stocks for barley, corn, oats and sorghum are not published separately, but are included in U.S. totals.

**CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - JUNE 1998**

Mid-June prices received by California farmers were above May for dry edible beans, all potatoes, spring potatoes, fall potatoes, hay other than alfalfa, and Upland cotton lint. Prices for all hay and alfalfa hay were below the previous month's level. Crop prices at mid-June were above the previous year's level for all potatoes, and spring and fall potatoes. Dry edible beans, Upland cotton lint, and all types of hay were below June 1997's level.

**U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DROPS TWO POINTS**

The All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in June was 101 based on 1990-92=100, down two points (1.9 percent) from May. Price decreases from May for cantaloupes, lettuce, corn, and tomatoes more than offset price increases for broilers, milk, oranges, and eggs. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall index level; however, these changes were essentially offsetting in June.

Compared with June 1997, the All Farm Products Index was six points (6 percent) lower. Price decreases from June 1997 for wheat, hogs, soybeans, and corn more than offset price increases for milk, broilers, peaches, and potatoes.

The June All Crops Index was 106, down 6.2 percent from May and 11 percent below June 1997. From May, price decreases for vegetables, feed grains and hay, food grains, and oilseeds more than offset price increases for fruit and nuts and cotton.

The June Food Grains Index, at 95, was down 13 percent from the previous month and 21 percent below June 1997. The June all wheat price, at \$4.53 per cwt., was down 57 cents from May and \$1.34 below the June 1997 price.

The June Feed Grains & Hay Index was 102, down 5.6 percent from last month and 14 percent below June 1997. The corn price, at \$3.93 per cwt., was down 25 cents from May and 64 cents below the June 1997 price. The all hay price, at \$91.80 per ton, was down \$11.20 from May.

The June Potatoes and Dry Beans Index, at 105, was down 6.2 percent from the previous month, but up 24 percent from June 1997. The June potato price, at \$6.06 per cwt., was down 46 cents from May, but \$1.44 higher than June 1997. During June, continued movement of fall potatoes and delayed harvest of spring potatoes has resulted in overall lower prices.

**AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS <sup>a/</sup>**

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		June 1997	May 1998	June 15, 1998	June 1997	May 1998	June 15, 1998
----- Dollars -----							
Corn <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	4.57	4.18	3.93
Wheat <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	6.68	6.22	<u>d/</u>	5.87	5.10	4.53
Oats <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	5.66	4.78	4.69
Barley <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	6.04	<u>d/</u>	<u>d/</u>	4.71	4.46	4.25
Sorghum Grain <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	4.10	3.71	3.60
Rice <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	---	---	---	9.90	9.41	9.74
Dry Edible Beans <u>b/</u>	Cwt.	38.70	27.80	28.60	21.20	21.10	21.00
All Potatoes <u>c/</u>	Cwt.	9.95	9.70	10.10	4.62	6.52	6.06
Winter	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	10.70	10.60	12.20	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	4.40	6.80	7.30	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled	Ton	123.00	105.00	103.00	108.00	103.00	91.80
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Ton	125.00	107.00	105.00	115.00	108.00	96.50
Other Hay, Baled	Ton	100.00	72.00	76.00	79.40	78.00	74.10
Upland Cotton Lint <u>b/</u>	Lb.	0.745	0.691	0.735	0.671	0.635	0.665
Cottonseed	Ton	---	---	---	---	---	---

**INDEX NUMBER OF PRICES RECEIVED AND PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, UNITED STATES**

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	June 1997	May 1998	June 1998	June 1997	May 1998	June 1998
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	683	656	644	107	103	101
All Crops	587	556 <u>e/</u>	523	119	113	106
Food Grains	382	345	301	120	109	95
Feed Grains and Hay	426	385 <u>e/</u>	365	119	108	102
Cotton	567	537 <u>e/</u>	562	111	105 <u>e/</u>	110
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	429	566 <u>e/</u>	532	85	112 <u>e/</u>	105
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates <u>f/</u>	1,540	1,522 <u>e/</u>	1,512	117	116	115
Parity Ratio <u>g/</u>	44	43	43	91	89	88

a/ The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers. They are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole. b/ Previous month revised to monthly average. c/ Monthly average. d/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual buyers. e/ Revised. f/ All production indexes as of 15th of month. g/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.

**POTATO ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION**

In California, fall potato acreage is estimated at 10.3 thousand acres, 2 percent below last year. Cold, wet weather kept farmers out of the California potato fields most of the spring, and some fear lower yields from the shortened season. Nationally, area planted to fall potatoes in 1998 is estimated at 1.22 million acres, up 2 percent from last year, but 4 percent below the 1996 record high. Harvest is expected from 1.20 million acres, up 3 percent from a year ago, but 4 percent below 1996.

California's summer potatoes had to contend with excessive moisture from spring rains, but a good crop appears likely. Production is forecast at 2.26 million cwt., up 6 percent from last year. Yields and harvested acreage are expected to be higher than 1997. Nationally, production of summer potatoes is forecast at 19.3 million cwt., up 8 percent from last year, but 1 percent below 1996. Farmers expect to harvest 71.8 thousand acres during the summer season, up 9 percent from a year ago, but 4 percent below two years ago. The average yield, forecast at 269 cwt. per acre, is down 3 cwt. from last year, but 8 cwt. above 1996.

**POTATO ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION**

Seasonal Group & State	Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1996	1997	1998
	--- 1,000 Acres ---		--- Cwt. ---		--- 1,000 Cwt. ---		
WINTER <u>1/</u>	6.6	7.0	240	220	1,425	1,584	1,540
SPRING <u>1/</u>	20.7	18.9	400	335	7,538	8,280	6,332
SUMMER - California	5.9	6.1	360	370	2,088	2,124	2,257
TOTAL SUMMER	65.9	71.8	272	269	19,507	17,951	19,338
FALL <u>2/-</u> California	10.5	10.3	400	---	4,600	4,200	---
Colorado	76.9	75.6	330	---	29,175	25,377	---
Idaho	388.0	403.0	349	---	142,800	135,430	---
10 SW Co.	27.0	27.0	470	---	11,900	12,690	---
Other Co.	361.0	376.0	340	---	130,900	122,740	---
North Dakota	105.0	125.0	205	---	28,820	21,525	---
Ohio	53.5	55.4	508	---	30,124	27,161	---
Oregon - Malheur	10.9	11.9	440	---	5,320	4,796	---
Other Co.	42.6	43.5	525	---	24,804	22,365	---
Washington	148.0	152.0	595	---	94,990	88,060	---
TOTAL FALL	1,158.0	1,198.4	360	---	453,436	417,088	---
U.S. - ALL POTATOES <u>2/</u>	1,325.5	1,375.0	347	---	498,633	459,912	---

1/ Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast. 2/Yield and production for 1998 to be released November 10, 1998.