

California Field Crop Review



Frequency: Monthly
Released: September 14, 1999

(USPS 598-270)
VOL. 20 NO. 9



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Crop Production	1-2
Rice Stocks and Summer Potato Production	2
Farm Prices	3

Pima cotton production is forecast at 600 thousand bales, 70 percent above last year's crop. The 259 thousand acres for harvest are up 44 percent from last year.

CROP PRODUCTION

COTTON: Upland cotton production in California is forecast at 1.45 million bales, 27 percent above last year. Harvested acreage is expected to total 585 thousand acres, 6 percent below last year. The yield is forecast at 1,190 pounds per acre, up 34 percent from 1998. American

Upland cotton production in the **U.S.** is forecast at 16.8 million bales, down 4 percent from the August forecast, but 25 percent above 1998. Yields are expected to be 610 pounds per acre, 9 pounds below last year. Harvested acreage is up 27 percent. American Pima cotton production is forecast at 689 thousand bales, up 56 percent from 1998. The yield per acre is expected to be 1,045 pounds, up 32 pounds from the August forecast, and 141 pounds above last year.

FIELD CROP ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

Crop	Area Harvested		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Unit	Production	
	1998	Forecast 1999		1998	Forecast 1999		1998	Forecast 1999
	1,000 Acres						1,000	
CALIFORNIA								
Wheat, Winter ^{1/}	380.0	370.0	Tons	1.80	2.25	Tons	684.0	832.5
Wheat, Durum ^{1/}	175.0	85.0	Tons	2.70	3.00	Tons	472.5	255.0
Oats ^{1/}	30.0	25.0	Tons	1.20	1.36	Tons	36.0	34.0
Barley ^{1/}	125.0	130.0	Tons	1.44	1.44	Tons	180.0	187.2
Corn for Grain	260.0	235.0	Tons	4.48	5.18	Tons	1,164.8	1,217.3
Rice, All	478.0	568.0	Cwt.	68.40	77.00	Cwt.	32,698.0	43,736.0
Long ^{1/}	9.0	5.0	Cwt.	59.70	^{2/}	Cwt.	537.0	^{2/}
Medium ^{1/}	433.0	513.0	Cwt.	69.90	^{2/}	Cwt.	30,267.0	^{2/}
Short ^{1/}	36.0	50.0	Cwt.	52.60	^{2/}	Cwt.	1,894.0	^{2/}
Cotton, Upland ^{3/}	620.0	585.0	Lbs.	887.00	1,190.00	Bales	1,146.0	1,450.0
Cotton, American-Pima ^{3/}	180.0	259.0	Lbs.	941.00	1,112.00	Bales	352.8	600.0
Sugar Beets	100.0	105.0	Tons	28.30	31.00	Tons	2,830.0	3,255.0
Beans, Dry Edible ^{1/}	105.0	132.0	Cwt.	19.50	22.00	Cwt.	2,048.0	2,900.0
Hay, All ^{1/}	1,570.0	1,570.0	Tons	5.17	5.32	Tons	8,115.0	8,359.0
Alfalfa Hay ^{1/}	1,020.0	1,030.0	Tons	6.50	6.70	Tons	6,630.0	6,901.0
Other Hay ^{1/}	550.0	540.0	Tons	2.70	2.70	Tons	1,485.0	1,458.0
UNITED STATES								
Wheat, Winter ^{1/}	40,126.0	35,609.0	Tons	1.41	1.42	Tons	56,418.2	50,657.5
Wheat, Durum	3,728.0	3,898.0	Tons	1.14	0.85	Tons	4,232.1	3,310.9
Oats ^{1/}	2,765.0	2,631.0	Tons	0.97	0.99	Tons	2,674.0	2,593.5
Barley	5,867.0	4,834.0	Tons	1.44	1.40	Tons	8,458.7	6,782.0
Corn for Grain	72,604.0	70,955.0	Tons	3.76	3.70	Tons	273,310.4	262,666.5
Rice, All	3,317.0	3,555.0	Cwt.	56.69	59.67	Cwt.	188,051.0	212,125.0
Long ^{4/}	2,608.0	2,704.0	Cwt.	54.30	^{2/}	Cwt.	141,624.0	150,723.0
Medium ^{4/}	671.0	819.0	Cwt.	66.25	^{2/}	Cwt.	44,453.0	57,623.0
Short ^{4/}	38.0	52.0	Cwt.	51.95	^{2/}	Cwt.	1,974.0	3,779.0
Cotton, Upland ^{3/}	10,448.8	13,246.0	Lbs.	619.00	610.00	Bales	13,475.9	16,846.0
Cotton, American-Pima ^{3/}	234.8	316.2	Lbs.	904.00	1,045.00	Bales	442.3	688.5
Sugar Beets	1,451.7	1,525.5	Tons	22.50	22.00	Tons	32,606.0	33,629.0
Beans, Dry Edible ^{1/}	1,913.9	1,903.0	Cwt.	16.11	16.56	Cwt.	30,828.0	31,506.0
Hay, All ^{1/}	60,016.0	62,051.0	Tons	2.52	2.59	Tons	151,338.0	160,769.0
Alfalfa Hay ^{1/}	23,642.0	23,968.0	Tons	3.47	3.47	Tons	82,010.0	83,160.0
Other Hay ^{1/}	36,374.0	38,083.0	Tons	1.91	2.04	Tons	69,328.0	77,609.0

^{1/} Estimate for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.

^{2/} To be released January 2000.

^{3/} Cotton yield in pounds; production in 480-pound net weight bales.

^{4/} Rice class production forecasts for 1999 are based on five-year average of class percentages.

CORN: California's 1999 corn for grain production forecast is 1.22 million tons, 5 percent above last year. The yield forecast, at a record 5.18 tons per acre, is 16 percent above last year. Harvested acreage is down 10 percent.

Nationally, corn for grain production is forecast at 263 million tons, down 4 percent from the 1998 crop. The average yield forecast is 3.70 tons per acre.

RICE: California's 1999 rice crop forecast, at 43.7 million cwt., is 34 percent above 1998. The 568 thousand acres for harvest are 19 percent above last year. The yield is forecast at 7,700 pounds per acre, up 13 percent from last year.

The 1999 **U.S.** rice production forecast is 212 million cwt., 13 percent above 1998. The larger 1998 crop is the result of a 7 percent increase in harvested acreage. The yield is forecast at 5,967 pounds per acre, 5 percent above last year.

SUGAR BEETS: California sugar beet production is forecast at 3.26 million tons, up 15 percent from the 1998 crop. Acreage for harvest is up 5 percent to 105 thousand, with yields expected to be up 10 percent from last year.

U.S. sugar beet production is forecast at 33.6 million tons, up 3 percent from the 1998 crop. Harvested acreage is up 5 percent, but yields are expected to be down 2 percent from last year.

OFF-FARM RICE STOCKS

Stocks of milled rice stored in California mills and warehouses on August 1, 1999 totaled 782 thousand cwt., up 3 percent from the 756 thousand cwt. stored a year earlier. Whole kernels accounted for 84 percent of the total milled rice in storage. Nationally, milled rice stocks in all positions on August 1 totaled 3.88 million cwt., 19 percent below the comparable figure for a year ago.

Rough rice stocks in California mills and off-farm warehouses on August 1, 1999 totaled 4.1 million cwt. This was 56 percent below the 9.40 million cwt. of stocks on hand a year earlier. Warehouses accounted for 3.70 million cwt., with the remainder in mill storage. Nationally, rough rice stocks in all positions on August 1, 1999 totaled 16.6 million cwt., down 21 percent from the total on August 1, 1998.

CALIFORNIA OFF-FARM ROUGH RICE STOCKS

Month	Season		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
	1,000 Cwt.		
October 1 ^{1/}	4,647	4,515	4,747
December 1 ^{2/}	35,031	34,664	27,337
March 1	20,377	25,785	15,596
August 1	7,776	9,402	4,112

^{1/} Small amount of on-farm stocks included in off-farm total. May include some carryover from previous season.

^{2/} Revised 1998-99 data.

ROUGH AND MILLED RICE STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS

Type of Rice	CALIFORNIA		UNITED STATES	
	Aug. 1, 1998	Aug. 1, 1999	Aug. 1, 1998	Aug. 1, 1999
	1,000 Cwt.			
ROUGH RICE TOTAL	9,402	4,112	20,991	16,580
Long Grain	1/	1/	9,863	10,915
Medium Grain	8,755	3,203	10,640	5,021
Short Grain	1/	1/	488	644
MILLED RICE TOTAL	756	782	4,795	3,879
Whole Kernels Total	540	653	4,056	3,048
Long Grain	34	48	3,228	2,159
Medium Grain	461	576	728	758
Short Grain	45	29	100	131
Broken Kernels Total	216	129	739	831
Second Heads ^{2/}	201	110	524	586
Screenings	---	---	33	102
Brewers	15	19	182	143

^{1/} Not published to avoid disclosure of individual reports.

^{2/} California figure includes screenings.

SUMMER POTATO PRODUCTION

California's 1999 summer potato production is expected to be 2.41 million cwt., up 11 percent from last year's production. Acreage for harvest is up by 10 percent and yields are expected to average 360 cwt. per acre, 1 percent above 1998. The majority of California's 1999 summer potatoes were harvested by mid-August, slightly later than normal due to cool spring temperatures. Quality is described as good, especially for those fields harvested in July or early August. No disease or pest problems were reported.

The U.S. September forecast of 1999 summer potato production is 18.6 million cwt., 2 percent below a year ago and 2 percent below the July 1 forecast. Harvested area is estimated at 64,400 acres, down 5 percent from

last year and slightly below two years ago. The average yield is forecast at 289 cwt. per acre, 11 cwt. above last year and 9 cwt. above two years ago. Yields are above last year in Alabama, California, Delaware, Illinois, Missouri, and New Mexico. Alabama and Missouri had record highs and Delaware tied a record high. Irrigation helped Delaware growers. Most areas got off to a late start in the spring and were hit by hot, dry weather during the last of the growing season. Yields are down in Virginia, New Jersey, and Texas. Harvest is virtually finished, although late in many areas. Late spring rains slowed early development in Colorado and Nebraska, but most fields caught up to normal as warmer weather prevailed. Harvest was also late in California and Delaware.

SUMMER POTATO ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION ^{1/}

State	Harvested Acres		Yield		Production	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	1,000 Acres		Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
Alabama	4.3	2.8	130	220	559	616
California	6.1	6.7	355	360	2,166	2,412
Colorado	7.5	7.7	350	345	2,625	2,657
Delaware	4.6	4.3	220	250	1,012	1,075
Illinois	4.9	4.7	290	300	1,421	1,410
Iowa	1.3	0.9	235	185	306	167
Maryland	4.6	4.8	235	220	1,081	1,056
Missouri	8.8	6.3	215	305	1,892	1,922
Nebraska	4.4	4.5	365	320	1,606	1,440
New Jersey	2.6	2.4	270	235	702	564
New Mexico	3.7	4.3	260	290	962	1,247
North Carolina	1.1	1.0	95	90	105	90
Texas	8.2	8.0	380	370	3,116	2,960
Virginia	6.0	6.0	230	165	1,380	990
U.S.	68.1	64.4	278	289	18,933	18,606

^{1/} Revised 1998 figures.

PRICES RECEIVED BY CALIFORNIA FARMERS -AUGUST 1999

Prices received by California farmers at mid-August were above July for all potatoes. Barley, dry edible beans, summer potatoes, and hay other than alfalfa were below the previous month's level. All hay and alfalfa hay remained unchanged from the previous month. The mid-August prices for wheat and Upland cotton lint were not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. Prices were above a year earlier for dry edible beans and all potatoes, but were below August 1998 prices for all types of hay.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASES THREE POINTS

The All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in August was 98 based on 1990-92=100 and mid-month August prices, up three points (3.2 percent) from the preliminary July index. Price increases from July for milk, hogs, wheat, and corn more than offset price decreases for broilers, potatoes, oranges, and tomatoes. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall index. Higher seasonal marketings of tobacco, cattle, grapes, and sweet corn more than offset the relatively lower marketings of wheat, hay, milk, and broilers. These marketing changes contributed less than one point to the overall increase in the index.

Compared with August 1998, the All Farm Products Index was three points (3 percent) lower. Price decreases from August 1998 for broilers, soybeans, milk, and lettuce more than offset price increases for cattle, peaches, calves, and turkeys.

The August All Crops Index was 99, up 4.2 percent from July, but 3.9 percent below August 1998. Prices increased from July for all groups except potatoes, dry beans, and cotton.

The August Food Grains Index, at 85, was up 10 percent from the previous month, but unchanged from August 1998. The August all wheat price, at \$4.05 per cwt., was up 33 cents from the July price and 8 cents above August 1998.

The August Feed Grains and Hay Index was 85, up 1.2 percent from last month's revised index, but 6.6 percent below August 1998. The corn price, at \$3.18 per cwt., was up 7 cents from July, but 20 cents below the August 1998 price. The all hay price, at \$77.40 per ton, was down \$1.00 from last month and \$10.60 below August 1998.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		August 1998	July 1999	Aug. 15, 1999	August 1998	July 1999	Aug. 15, 1999
Dollars							
Corn 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.38	3.11	3.18
Wheat 2/	Cwt.	3/	3/	3/	3.97	3.72	4.05
Oats 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.19	3.38	3.34
Barley 2/	Cwt.	3/	4.73	4.52	4.31	4.25	4.44
Sorghum Grain 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.32	2.83	2.94
Rice 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	8.95	8.15	8.06
Dry Edible Beans 2/	Cwt.	31.20	36.20	34.50	19.60	19.30	19.10
All Potatoes 4/	Cwt.	10.90	11.30	13.40	5.55	7.34	5.80
Winter	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	11.00	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	10.90	14.30	13.40	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	---	9.75	---	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	97.00	74.00	74.00	88.00	78.40	77.40
Alfalfa Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	99.00	76.00	76.00	90.20	82.00	81.50
Other Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	79.00	60.00	57.00	76.40	65.30	62.80
Upland Cotton Lint 2/	Lb.	0.749	0.525	3/	0.662	0.543	0.539
Cottonseed	Ton	---	---	---	113.00	---	70.00

1/ 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.

2/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

3/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

4/ Monthly average.

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

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	Aug. 1998	July 1999	Aug. 1999	Aug. 1998	July 1999	Aug. 1999
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	640	602 1/	623	101	95 1/	98
All Crops	508	469 1/	490	103	95 1/	99
Food Grains	270	246 1/	270	85	77 1/	85
Feed Grains and Hay	326	299 1/	303	91	84 1/	85
Cotton	560	459 1/	456	109	90 1/	89
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	488	613 1/	505	96	121 1/	100
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/	1,541	1,546 1/	1,544	116	116	116
Parity Ratio 3/	42	39 1/	40	87	82 1/	84

1/ Revised.

2/ All production indexes as of 15th of month.

3/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.