

California Field Crop Review



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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Acreage and Production, California and U.S. | 1 |
| Field Crop Prices | 2 |
| Dry Bean Acreage and Production By Variety | 3 |
| Fall Potato Production and Stocks | 3-4 |

NATIONAL FIELD CROP RELEASE DATES

3 P.M. EST

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
| Jan. 11 | Cotton Ginnings | Jan. 14 | Potato Stocks |
| | Crop Production | Jan. 25 | Cotton Ginnings |
| 12 | Grain Stocks | | |
| | Rice Stocks | | |

CALIFORNIA AND U.S. COTTON PRODUCTION FORECASTS

California's 1999 **Upland cotton** production is forecast at 1.55 million bales as of December 1, up slightly from the November forecast and 35 percent above last year. This is based on 585 thousand acres for harvest, with an average yield of 1,272 pounds per acre. **American Pima** cotton production is forecast at 600 thousand bales, 70 percent above last year's crop. The 259 thousand acres for harvest are 44 percent above last year. Harvest progressed rapidly through most of November and was virtually complete by month's end. Very little rain fell in the cotton growing regions and there were few, if any, harvest delays.

The U.S. all cotton production is forecast at 16.9 million 480-pound bales as of December 1, up 2 percent from last month and up 21 percent from 1998. The yield is expected to average 604 pounds per harvested acre, down 21 pounds from last year. **Upland cotton** harvested acreage, at 13.1 million acres, is up 25 percent from last year, but unchanged from the November estimate. **American-Pima** harvested acreage, at 309,200 acres, is up 32 percent from 1998.

FIELD CROP ACRES HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

| Crop | Acres Harvested | | Yield Per Acre | | | Production | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|---------------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| | 1998 | Forecast 1999 | Unit | 1998 | Forecast 1999 | Unit | 1998 | Forecast 1999 |
| | 1,000 Acres | | | Thousands | | | | |
| CALIFORNIA | | | | | | | | |
| Wheat, Winter <u>1/</u> | 380.0 | 370.0 | Tons | 1.80 | 2.34 | Tons | 684.0 | 865.8 |
| Wheat, Durum <u>1/</u> | 175.0 | 85.0 | Tons | 2.70 | 3.15 | Tons | 472.5 | 267.8 |
| Oats <u>1/</u> | 30.0 | 30.0 | Tons | 1.20 | 1.36 | Tons | 36.0 | 40.8 |
| Barley <u>1/</u> | 125.0 | 125.0 | Tons | 1.44 | 1.54 | Tons | 180.0 | 192.0 |
| Corn for Grain <u>1/</u> | 260.0 | 235.0 | Tons | 4.76 | 4.34 | Tons | 1,237.6 | 1,019.9 |
| Rice, All <u>1/</u> | 478.0 | 548.0 | Cwt. | 68.40 | 70.00 | Cwt. | 32,698.0 | 38,360.0 |
| Long | 9.0 | <u>2/</u> | Cwt. | 59.70 | <u>2/</u> | Cwt. | 537.0 | <u>2/</u> |
| Medium | 433.0 | <u>2/</u> | Cwt. | 69.90 | <u>2/</u> | Cwt. | 30,267.0 | <u>2/</u> |
| Short | 36.0 | <u>2/</u> | Cwt. | 52.60 | <u>2/</u> | Cwt. | 1,894.0 | <u>2/</u> |
| Cotton, Upland <u>3/</u> | 620.0 | 585.0 | Lbs. | 887.00 | 1,272.00 | Bales | 1,146.0 | 1,550.0 |
| Cotton, American-Pima <u>3/</u> | 180.0 | 259.0 | Lbs. | 941.00 | 1,112.00 | Bales | 352.8 | 600.0 |
| Sugar Beets <u>1/</u> | 100.0 | 110.0 | Tons | 28.30 | 31.00 | Tons | 2,830.0 | 3,410.0 |
| Beans, Dry, All <u>4/</u> | 105.0 | 132.0 | Cwt. | 14.80 | 19.70 | Cwt. | 1,554.0 | 2,600.0 |
| Hay, All <u>1/</u> | 1,570.0 | 1,570.0 | Tons | 5.17 | 5.32 | Tons | 8,115.0 | 8,359.0 |
| Alfalfa Hay <u>1/</u> | 1,020.0 | 1,030.0 | Tons | 6.50 | 6.70 | Tons | 6,630.0 | 6,901.0 |
| Other Hay <u>1/</u> | 550.0 | 540.0 | Tons | 2.70 | 2.70 | Tons | 1,485.0 | 1,458.0 |
| UNITED STATES | | | | | | | | |
| Wheat, Winter <u>1/</u> | 40,126.0 | 35,542.0 | Tons | 1.41 | 1.43 | Tons | 56,422.0 | 50,951.0 |
| Wheat, Durum <u>1/</u> | 3,728.0 | 3,609.0 | Tons | 1.11 | 0.86 | Tons | 4,143.6 | 3,301.3 |
| Oats <u>1/</u> | 2,755.0 | 2,455.0 | Tons | 0.96 | 0.96 | Tons | 2,655.7 | 2,366.5 |
| Barley <u>1/</u> | 5,864.0 | 4,758.0 | Tons | 1.44 | 1.43 | Tons | 8,451.0 | 6,817.8 |
| Corn for Grain <u>1/</u> | 72,604.0 | 70,925.0 | Tons | 3.56 | 3.73 | Tons | 262,236.1 | 275,409.9 |
| Rice, All <u>1/</u> | 3,317.0 | 3,571.0 | Cwt. | 56.69 | 59.29 | Cwt. | 188,051.0 | 211,714.0 |
| Long <u>5/</u> | 2,608.0 | <u>2/</u> | Cwt. | 54.30 | <u>2/</u> | Cwt. | 141,624.0 | 152,008.0 |
| Medium <u>5/</u> | 671.0 | <u>2/</u> | Cwt. | 66.25 | <u>2/</u> | Cwt. | 44,453.0 | 55,945.0 |
| Short <u>5/</u> | 38.0 | <u>2/</u> | Cwt. | 51.95 | <u>2/</u> | Cwt. | 1,974.0 | 3,761.0 |
| Cotton, Upland <u>3/</u> | 10,448.8 | 13,096.0 | Lbs. | 619.00 | 594.00 | Bales | 13,475.9 | 16,196.0 |
| Cotton, American-Pima <u>3/</u> | 234.8 | 309.2 | Lbs. | 904.00 | 1,054.00 | Bales | 442.3 | 679.0 |
| Sugar Beets <u>1/</u> | 1,451.7 | 1,525.2 | Tons | 22.50 | 21.90 | Tons | 32,606.0 | 33,393.0 |
| Beans, Dry, All <u>4/</u> | 1,917.7 | 1,857.2 | Cwt. | 15.86 | 17.81 | Cwt. | 30,418.0 | 33,083.0 |
| Hay, All <u>1/</u> | 60,016.0 | 62,051.0 | Tons | 2.52 | 2.60 | Tons | 151,338.0 | 161,385.0 |
| Alfalfa Hay <u>1/</u> | 23,642.0 | 23,968.0 | Tons | 3.47 | 3.57 | Tons | 82,010.0 | 85,487.0 |
| Other Hay <u>1/</u> | 36,374.0 | 38,083.0 | Tons | 1.91 | 1.99 | Tons | 69,328.0 | 75,898.0 |

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

2/ To be released January 12, 2000.

3/ Cotton yield in pounds; production in 480 pound net weight bales.

4/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

5/ Rice class production forecasts for 1999 are based on a five-year average of class percentages.

PRICES RECEIVED BY CALIFORNIA FARMERS - NOVEMBER 1999

Prices received by California farmers at mid-November were above October for all potatoes, fall potatoes, all hay, and alfalfa hay. Other types of hay remained the same as the previous month. Mid-month wheat, barley, and upland cotton prices and full-month October prices for barley and wheat were not published due to possible disclosure of individual operations. Mid-month dry edible beans and cottonseed were below the previous month's level. Prices were above a year earlier for all potatoes, fall potatoes, and hay other than alfalfa. Dry edible beans, winter potatoes, all hay, and alfalfa hay were below November 1998's level.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASES TWO POINTS

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in November was 93 based on 1990-92=100, up two points (2.2 percent) from the October index. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell affect the overall index. Higher seasonal marketings of cotton, milk, cattle, and cottonseed more than offset the relatively lower marketings of soybeans, peanuts, potatoes, and lettuce. These marketing changes account for most of the November index increases. Higher prices for broilers, eggs, potatoes, and corn slightly offset price decreases for milk, soybeans, oranges, hogs, and lettuce.

Compared with November 1998, the All Farm Products Index was six points (6.1 percent) lower. Price decreases from November 1998 for milk, cotton, soybeans, and corn more than offset price increases for cattle, hogs, apples, and calves.

The November All Crops Index was 89, up 1.1 percent from October, but 12 percent below November 1998. Price increases from October for feed grains, hay, potatoes, dry beans, vegetables, and cotton partially offset price decreases for oilseeds, fruits, nuts, tobacco, and food grains.

The November Food Grains Index, at 87, was unchanged from the previous month, but 17 percent below November 1998. The November all wheat price, at \$4.23 per cwt., was down seven cents from the October price and 69 cents below November 1998. A major factor in the decline was the lower prices received for poor quality Durum wheat sold for livestock feed.

The November Feed Grains and Hay Index was 77, up 1.3 percent from last month, but 10 percent below November 1998. The corn price, at \$3.07 per cwt., was up five cents from October, but 38 cents below the November 1998 price. Expectations for 1999/2000 marketing year ending stocks of more than 1.12 billion cwt. are keeping prices low. The all hay price, at \$74.00 per ton, was up 30 cents from last month, but \$7.40 below November 1998. The increase was mostly due to a \$1.30 per ton increase in the alfalfa hay price.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

| Commodity | Unit | CALIFORNIA | | | UNITED STATES | | |
|-----------------------|------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | | November 1998 | October 1999 | Nov. 15, 1999 | November 1998 | October 1999 | Nov. 15, 1999 |
| Dollars | | | | | | | |
| Corn 2/ | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | 3.45 | 3.02 | 3.07 |
| Wheat 2/ | Cwt. | 4/ | 4/ | 4/ | 4.92 | 4.30 | 4.23 |
| Oats 2/ | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | 3.44 | 3.34 | 3.38 |
| Barley 2/ | Cwt. | 4/ | 4/ | 4/ | 4.27 | 4.08 | 4.44 |
| Sorghum Grain 2/ | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | 3.05 | 2.51 | 2.59 |
| Rice 2/ | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | 8.98 | 6.23 | 6.45 |
| Dry Edible Beans 2/ | Cwt. | 31.90 | 27.60 | 27.20 | 20.30 | 17.20 | 16.90 |
| All Potatoes 3/ | Cwt. | 9.40 | 6.90 | 11.10 | 4.86 | 4.84 | 5.37 |
| Winter | Cwt. | 18.10 | --- | 18.00 | --- | --- | --- |
| Spring | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Summer | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Fall | Cwt. | 6.70 | 6.90 | 7.25 | --- | --- | --- |
| All Hay, Baled | Ton | 87.00 | 77.00 | 80.00 | 81.40 | 73.70 | 74.00 |
| Alfalfa Hay, Baled | Ton | 89.00 | 80.00 | 83.00 | 84.40 | 76.00 | 77.30 |
| Other Hay, Baled | Ton | 51.00 | 57.00 | 57.00 | 72.00 | 64.70 | 64.80 |
| Upland Cotton Lint 2/ | Lb. | 0.737 | 0.585 | 4/ | 0.646 | 0.459 | 0.468 |
| Cottonseed | Ton | 4/ | 149.00 | 141.00 | 133.00 | 89.00 | 94.00 |

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/ Monthly average.

4/ Not published due to possible disclosure.

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

| Index | 1910-14 = 100 | | | 1977 = 100 | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| | Nov. 1998 | Oct. 1999 | Nov. 1999 | Nov. 1998 | Oct. 1999 | Nov. 1999 |
| Prices Received - Unadjusted | | | | | | |
| All Farm Products | 630 | 578 1/ | 590 | 99 | 91 1/ | 93 |
| All Crops | 499 | 433 1/ | 439 | 101 | 88 | 89 |
| Food Grains | 333 | 277 1/ | 276 | 105 | 87 | 87 |
| Feed Grains and Hay | 309 | 270 1/ | 276 | 86 | 76 1/ | 77 |
| Cotton | 546 | 388 1/ | 396 | 107 | 76 1/ | 77 |
| Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans | 453 | 428 1/ | 463 | 89 | 85 1/ | 91 |
| Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, | | | | | | |
| Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/ | 1,510 | 1,544 1/ | 1,554 | 112 | 115 1/ | 116 |
| Parity Ratio 3/ | 42 | 37 1/ | 38 | 87 | 78 1/ | 79 |

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.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

California's dry bean production is estimated at 2.60 million cwt., 67 percent above last year. Harvested acreage totaled 132 thousand, 26 percent above last year. The overall yield was 1,970 pounds per acre, up 33 percent from last year. **Large lima** production, at 410 thousand cwt., was 31 percent above the 1998 crop. **Baby lima** production, estimated at 675 thousand cwt., was 231 percent above last year's crop. **Light red kidney** production, at 120 thousand cwt., was 3 percent above last year. The **dark red kidney** output of 45 thousand cwt. was 4 percent below the 1998 crop. The **blackeye** crop of 800 thousand cwt. was up 40 percent from last year. Production of **garbanzos** totaled 285 thousand cwt., 256 percent above last year. **Pink bean** production, at 25 thousand cwt., was down 58 percent from 1998.

U.S. production of dry edible beans is estimated at 33.1 million cwt. for 1999, 9 percent above 1998 and 13 percent above two years ago. Area for harvest is estimated at 1.86 million acres, down 3 percent from 1998, but 6 percent above 1997. The average yield increased 195 pounds from 1998 to 1,781 pounds per acre. Production of many minor varieties is above 1998's level, except for black, pink, and pinto varieties.

DRY BEAN ACRES HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, BY VARIETY, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES 1/

| Crop | Area Harvested | | Yield Per Acre | | Production | |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | 1998 | 1999 | 1998 | 1999 | 1998 | 1999 |
| | 1,000 Acres | | Cwt. | | 1,000 Cwt. | |
| CALIFORNIA | | | | | | |
| Large Lima | 25.0 | 24.0 | 12.50 | 17.10 | 312.0 | 410.0 |
| Baby Lima | 12.0 | 26.0 | 17.00 | 26.00 | 204.0 | 675.0 |
| Blackeye | 31.0 | 38.5 | 18.40 | 20.80 | 570.0 | 800.0 |
| Light Red Kidney | 8.5 | 8.0 | 13.80 | 15.00 | 117.0 | 120.0 |
| Dark Red Kidney | 5.5 | 3.5 | 0.85 | 12.90 | 47.0 | 45.0 |
| Pink | 5.5 | 2.0 | 10.70 | 12.50 | 59.0 | 25.0 |
| Garbanzo | 5.0 | 16.5 | 16.00 | 17.30 | 80.0 | 285.0 |
| Black | 2.5 | 1.0 | 14.00 | 11.00 | 35.0 | 11.0 |
| Cranberry | 2.5 | 2.5 | 14.00 | 10.00 | 35.0 | 25.0 |
| Other (Misc.) | 7.5 | 10.0 | 12.70 | 20.40 | 95.0 | 204.0 |
| BEANS, ALL DRY | 105.0 | 132.0 | 14.80 | 19.70 | 1,554.0 | 2,600.0 |
| UNITED STATES | | | | | | |
| Large Lima | 25.0 | 24.0 | 12.50 | 17.10 | 312.0 | 410.0 |
| Baby Lima | 12.0 | 26.0 | 17.00 | 26.00 | 204.0 | 675.0 |
| Blackeye | 35.9 | 50.3 | 18.19 | 19.90 | 653.0 | 1,001.0 |
| Light Red Kidney | 72.0 | 83.1 | 15.75 | 16.45 | 1,134.0 | 1,367.0 |
| Dark Red Kidney | 61.8 | 64.2 | 13.62 | 16.14 | 842.0 | 1,036.0 |
| Pink | 53.5 | 45.4 | 17.18 | 18.15 | 919.0 | 824.0 |
| Garbanzo | 28.0 | 55.7 | 14.93 | 13.30 | 418.0 | 741.0 |
| Small White | 2.7 | 4.9 | 22.22 | 20.82 | 60.0 | 102.0 |
| Navy | 243.3 | 403.5 | 15.98 | 18.09 | 3,887.0 | 7,298.0 |
| Great Northern | 108.5 | 121.6 | 20.03 | 20.42 | 2,173.0 | 2,483.0 |
| Cranberry | 32.1 | 37.1 | 11.90 | 15.55 | 382.0 | 577.0 |
| Small Red | 31.8 | 42.3 | 20.75 | 21.28 | 660.0 | 900.0 |
| Black | 232.3 | 179.7 | 15.34 | 18.72 | 3,564.0 | 3,364.0 |
| Pinto | 923.0 | 653.9 | 15.72 | 16.99 | 14,511.0 | 11,111.0 |
| Other (Misc.) | 55.8 | 65.0 | 12.53 | 18.37 | 699.0 | 1,194.0 |
| BEANS, ALL DRY | 1,917.7 | 1,857.2 | 15.86 | 17.81 | 30,418.0 | 33,083.0 |

1/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

2/ Included in "Other (Misc.)" for California.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION

California fall potato production is forecast at 4.01 million cwt., 8 percent above last season. Harvested acreage is 13 percent below last season and yields are 24 percent above a year ago.

U.S. production of fall potatoes for 1999 is forecast at 429 million cwt., down 1 percent from last year but up 1 percent from 1997. Area harvested, at 1.17 million acres, is down 4 percent from last year and 2 percent below two years ago. The average yield is 368 cwt. per acre, a jump of 12 cwt. from last year and 11 cwt. above two years ago. Since the November forecast, additional acres have been lost in the Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota from heavy rains before and during harvest. The Idaho acreage was trimmed 1 percent. Summer drought hurt potatoes in New York and Pennsylvania and caused

scattered damage in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. On the other hand, record large potato crops were recorded in Nebraska, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Ten Western states produced 295 million cwt. in 1999, down slightly from last year but fractionally above two years ago. Acreage harvested, at 730,900 acres, decreased 2 percent from last year, and the average yield of 404 cwt. per acre was up 6 cwt. Production in Idaho decreased 3 percent from last year and 5 percent from two years ago. Washington gained 2 percent and Oregon 7 percent. Colorado was up 2 percent and California increased 8 percent. Montana was up 5 percent and Nevada gained 2 percent from a year ago. Production in Utah dropped 20 percent and New Mexico slid 6 percent.

FALL POTATO ACRES HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

| State | Acres Harvested | | | Yield | | | Production | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 |
| | 1,000 Acres | | | Cwt. | | | 1,000 Cwt. | | |
| California | 10.5 | 10.3 | 9.0 | 400 | 360 | 445 | 4,200 | 3,708 | 4,005 |
| Idaho | 27.0 | 28.0 | 26.0 | 470 | 450 | 470 | 12,690 | 12,600 | 12,220 |
| - Other Co. | 371.0 | 380.0 | 367.0 | 344 | 330 | 330 | 127,624 | 125,400 | 121,110 |
| Oregon | 10.9 | 11.4 | 10.5 | 440 | 400 | 440 | 4,796 | 4,560 | 4,620 |
| - Other Co. | 44.6 | 46.6 | 45.0 | 505 | 465 | 520 | 22,523 | 21,669 | 23,400 |
| Washington | 152.0 | 165.0 | 170.0 | 580 | 565 | 560 | 88,160 | 93,225 | 95,200 |
| UNITED STATES TOTAL | 1,185.1 | 1,214.0 | 1,166.1 | 357 | 356 | 368 | 423,190 | 432,737 | 429,451 |

FALL POTATO STOCKS

California's fall potato stocks were estimated at 3.20 million cwt. as of December 1, 1999, a 12 percent increase from last year. The amount in storage on December 1 represents 80 percent of the production, compared with 76 percent a year ago.

The 15 major potato states held 275 million cwt. of potatoes on December 1, 1999, down 2 percent from last year and 1 percent below 1997. Storage accounted for 65 percent of 1999's fall production, 1 percent below last year. Stocks by type were 2 percent red, 12 percent round white, 5 percent long white (Shepody), and 81 percent russet; fewer russets, but more round whites are in storage than a year ago.

Disappearance was 146 million cwt. in the 15 states from the start of harvest to December 1, up 2 percent from the same period last year and 8 percent more than two years ago. Shrink and loss was 17.2 million cwt. so far this year, down 13 percent from 1998's losses, but up 12 percent from 1997.

Processors used 74.6 million cwt. of 1999 crop potatoes so far this season. This is up 1 percent from a year ago and 9 percent above two years ago.

Western states held 193 million cwt. of potatoes in storage on December 1, fractionally below 1998 and 1 percent below 1997. California and Oregon stored 14 percent more potatoes this year than last. Colorado gained 3 percent and Montana increased 6 percent. Idaho's stocks fell 4 percent and Washington's were off 2 percent.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS ON DECEMBER 1

| State | Crop of 1998 | | | Crop of 1999 | | |
|------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| | Production | Stocks Dec. 1, 1998 | Percent of Prod. | Production | Stocks Dec. 1, 1999 | Percent of Prod. |
| | 1,000 Cwt. | | | 1,000 Cwt. | | |
| California | 3,708 | 2,800 | 76 | 4,005 | 3,200 | 80 |
| Idaho | 138,000 | 99,500 | 72 | 133,330 | 96,000 | 72 |
| Oregon | 26,229 | 20,000 | 76 | 28,020 | 22,800 | 81 |
| Washington | 93,225 | 49,000 | 53 | 95,200 | 48,000 | 50 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | |
| 15 STATES | 423,170 | 280,910 | 66 | 420,567 | 274,870 | 65 |