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California's Durum wheat production is forecast at 217 thousand tons, down 19 percent from 1999. Acreage expected for harvest, at 76 thousand, is 11 percent below last year's acreage. The expected yield of 2.85 tons per acre is 10 percent below the previous year.

United States winter wheat production is forecast at 49.5 million tons, down 3 percent from 1999. Based on conditions as of May 1, the U.S. yield remains the same as the previous year at 1.43 tons per acre. Harvested acreage was estimated at 34.7 million acres, down 2 percent from 1999.

The U.S. estimate for Durum Wheat production will not be available until July 12, 2000 for states other than Arizona and California.

WHEAT FORECAST

California farmers are expected to produce 861 thousand tons of winter wheat in 2000, down 1 percent from last year. The 350 thousand acres expected to be harvested for grain is 5 percent below last year. Yield is expected to average 2.46 tons per acre, up 5 percent from last year.

WHEAT FORECAST

Crop and Location	Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000 Acres		Tons		1,000 Tons	
WINTER California	370	350	2.34	2.46	866	861
UNITED STATES	35,572	34,709	1.43	1.43	51,000	49,464
DURUM California	85	76	3.15	2.85	268	217
Arizona	75	80	2.91	2.85	218	228
UNITED STATES	3,569	a/	0.83	b/	2,980	b/

a/ Published June 30, 2000.

b/ Published July 12, 2000.

1999 COTTON PRODUCTION

California farmers produced 1.58 million bales (480-lbs. net weight) of Upland cotton in 1999, 38 percent more than the 1.15 million bales produced in 1998. Harvested acreage, at 605 thousand, was 2 percent below the 620 thousand harvested the previous year. The average yield was 1,254 pounds per acre, 367 pounds above 1998.

U.S. all cotton production in the United States totaled 17.0 million bales in 1999, 22 percent above the 1998 production level. The 1999 output is the ninth largest crop on record. Upland cotton production, at 16.3 million bales, was 21 percent above the previous year. American-Pima production totaled 674.3 thousand bales, up 52 percent from 1998.

American-Pima production in California totaled 603 thousand bales, up 71 percent from the 353 thousand bales produced the previous year. Harvested acreage, at 239 thousand, was 33 percent above the 180 thousand harvested in 1998. The average yield was 1,210 pounds per acre, 269 pounds above the previous year.

The area planted to all cotton totaled 14.9 million acres, up 11 percent from 1998. Harvested area was 13.4 million acres, up 26 percent from last year. The increases in planted acreage were attributable to the favorableness of cotton as an alternative crop during times of low prices. Harvested acreage increased due to more traditional abandonment levels than in 1998, when high abandonment occurred due to extremely dry conditions. Yields for the U.S. averaged 607 pounds per harvested acre.

COTTON AND COTTONSEED

Item	Unit	CALIFORNIA		UNITED STATES	
		1998	1999	1998	1999
UPLAND COTTON					
Acres Planted	1,000 Acres	650.0	610.0	13,064.3	14,584.0
Acres Harvested	1,000 Acres	620.0	605.0	10,448.8	13,138.0
Yield	Lbs./Acre	887.0	1,254.0	619.0	595.0
Production ^{1/}	1,000 Bales	1,146.0	1,580.0	13,475.9	16,293.7
Price ^{2/ 3/}	Cents/Lb.	67.8	57.5	60.2	44.9
Value	1,000 Dollars	372,954.0	436,080.0	3,893,996.0	3,511,618.0
AMERICAN-PIMA					
Acres Planted	1,000 Acres	200.0	240.0	328.2	289.5
Acres Harvested	1,000 Acres	180.0	239.0	234.8	286.9
Yield	Lbs./Acre	941.0	1,210.0	904.0	1,128.0
Production ^{1/}	1,000 Bales	352.8	602.7	442.3	674.3
Price ^{2/ 3/}	Cents/Lb.	92.3	81.7	92.4	81.8
Value	1,000 Dollars	156,305.0	236,355.0	196,169.0	264,757.0
COTTONSEED ^{4/}					
Production	1,000 Tons	544.0	799.0	5,365.4	6,353.5
Sales to Oil Mills	1,000 Tons	84.0	86.0	3,261.1	3,340.2
Other Farm Disposition ^{5/}	1,000 Tons	460.0	713.0	2,104.3	3,013.3
Used for Planting ^{6/}	1,000 Tons	7.3	8.3	147.7	154.0
Price ^{2/ 3/}	Dollars/Ton	177.0	137.0	129.0	88.5
Value	1,000 Dollars	96,288.0	109,463.0	692,136.6	562,284.8
Value of Sales to Oil Mills	1,000 Dollars	14,868.0	11,782.0	420,681.9	295,607.7

^{1/} Revised 1999 data. Net weight bales are 480 lbs.

^{2/} Marketing year average price.

^{3/} The 1999 data is an average to January 1, 2000.

^{4/} Revised 1998 crop, preliminary 1999 crop.

^{5/} Includes planting seed, exports, inter-farm sales, shrinkage, losses, and other uses.

^{6/} Included in "other" farm disposition. Planting seed from previous year's crop.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - APRIL 2000

Mid-April prices received by California farmers increased from March for wheat, dry edible beans, all hay, and alfalfa hay. Barley, winter potatoes, fall potatoes, and hay other than alfalfa were below the previous month's level. All potatoes remained unchanged from the previous month. Upland cotton lint was not published to avoid possible disclosure of individual operations. Prices were above a year earlier for hay other than alfalfa, while all hay remained unchanged. Dry edible beans, all potatoes, winter potatoes, fall potatoes, and alfalfa hay were below April 1999's level.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASES FOUR POINTS

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in April was 99 based on 1990-92=100, up four points (4.2 percent) from the March index. Higher prices for hogs, broilers, eggs, and strawberries more than offset price decreases for cotton, corn, grapefruit, and broccoli. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities that farmers sell affects the overall index. Higher seasonal marketings of cattle, strawberries, milk, and oranges more than offset the relatively lower marketings of soybeans, corn, cotton, and hogs. These marketing changes accounted for one point of the April index increase.

Compared with April 1999, the All Farm Products Index was three points (3.1 percent) higher. Since April 1999, price increases for hogs, cattle, tomatoes, and calves more than offset price decreases for lettuce, milk, oranges, and carrots.

The April All Crops Index was 99, up 5.3 percent from March, but 3.9 percent below April 1999. Since March, price increases for vegetables, fruits, nuts, oilseeds, potatoes, dry beans, feed grains, and hay more than offset price decreases for cotton, food grains, and tobacco.

The April Food Grains Index, at 85, was down 1.2 percent from the previous month and 11 percent below April 1999. The April all wheat price, at \$4.25 per cwt., was down 7 cents from the March price and 12 cents below April 1999. The rice price, at \$5.82 per cwt., was unchanged from last month, but \$2.67 below a year earlier.

The April Feed Grains & Hay Index was 91, up 1.1 percent from last month, but 1.1 percent below April 1999. The corn price, at \$3.59 per cwt., was down 4 cents from March and 5 cents below the April 1999 price. The all hay price, at \$80.70 per ton, was up \$5.90 from last month, but \$1.80 below April 1999.

The April Cotton Index, at 74, was down 6.3 percent from March and 20 percent below April 1999. The cotton price, at 45 cents per pound, was down 2.9 cents from March and 10.6 cents from last April.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS ^{a/}

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		April 1999	March 2000	Apr. 15, 2000	April 1999	March 2000	Apr. 15, 2000
Dollars							
Corn ^{b/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.64	3.63	3.59
Wheat ^{b/}	Cwt.	<u>c/</u>	4.33	4.50	4.37	4.32	4.25
Oats ^{b/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.69	4.00	3.88
Barley ^{b/}	Cwt.	<u>c/</u>	5.17	4.77	3.71	4.65	4.44
Sorghum Grain ^{b/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.09	3.21	3.15
Rice ^{b/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	8.49	5.82	5.82
Dry Edible Beans ^{b/}	Cwt.	38.90	26.70	27.00	16.60	15.20	14.90
All Potatoes ^{d/}	Cwt.	20.40	15.20	15.20	6.50	6.33	6.62
Winter	Cwt.	26.30	21.10	19.30	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	8.50	6.40	6.20	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled	Ton	98.00	94.00	98.00	82.50	74.80	80.70
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Ton	101.00	95.00	99.00	86.40	78.00	84.50
Other Hay, Baled	Ton	45.00	78.00	76.00	65.70	66.70	67.40
Upland Cotton Lint ^{b/}	Lb.	0.564	<u>c/</u>	<u>c/</u>	0.556	0.479	0.450
Cottonseed	Lb.	---	---	---	---	---	---

^{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/} Not published to avoid possible disclosure.

^{d/} Monthly average.

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

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	April 1999	March 2000	April 2000	April 1999	March 2000	April 2000
Prices Received - Unadjusted						
All Farm Products	611	604 ^{a/}	628	96	95 ^{a/}	99
All Crops	509	464 ^{a/}	487	103	94 ^{a/}	99
Food Grains	306	273 ^{a/}	270	96	86	85
Feed Grains and Hay	328	323	325	92	90	91
Cotton	470	405 ^{a/}	380	92	79	74
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	546	527 ^{a/}	547	108	104	108
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates ^{b/}	1,534 ^{a/}	1,584 ^{a/}	1,587	115	119 ^{a/}	119
Parity Ratio ^{c/}	40	38	40	83	80	83

^{a/} Revised.

^{b/} All production indexes as of 15th of month.

^{c/} Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.

SPRING POTATOES

California's spring potato production is forecast at 6.67 million cwt., down 12 percent from last year, but 8 percent above 1998. Area for harvest is estimated at 18.8 thousand acres, down 1 percent from a year ago. The estimated average yield, at 355 cwt. per acre, is 11 percent less than last year. California's harvest season is anticipated to start early May and end around the latter part of June.

Nationally, the 2000 spring potato production forecast was 22.5 million cwt., down 11 percent from last year, but 6 percent above 1998. The May 1 forecast is 5 percent higher than April. Area for harvest is estimated at 80.1 thousand acres, down 5 percent from a year ago. The average yield is forecast at 281 cwt. per acre, down 19 cwt. from last year.

SPRING POTATOES

State	Area Harvested		Yield		Production		
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000
	1,000 Acres		Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.		
Alabama <u>1/</u>	1.6	---	175	---	221	280	---
Arizona	9.6	11.0	315	290	2,268	3,024	3,190
California	19.0	18.8	400	355	6,198	7,600	6,674
Florida	28.0	24.0	315	291	7,358	8,820	6,990
Hastings	21.0	17.0	330	300	5,758	6,930	5,100
Other	7.0	7.0	270	270	1,600	1,890	1,890
North Carolina <u>2/</u>	16.5	17.0	200	200	3,325	3,300	3,400
Texas	9.8	9.3	235	240	1,751	2,303	2,232
UNITED STATES	84.5	80.1	300	281	21,121	25,327	22,486

1/ Alabama spring potatoes combined with summer in 2000.

2/ North Carolina summer potatoes included with spring in 2000.

MAY 1 FALL POTATO STOCKS

California's potato stocks totaled 1.10 million cwt. on May 1, 2000, up 22 percent from last year. Stocks represented 27 percent of fall potato production compared to 24 percent of the previous year.

The 15 major potato states held 85.7 million cwt. of potatoes in storage on May 1, 2000, down 3 percent from last year and 8 percent below two years ago. Stocks accounted for 20 percent of 1999's fall production, down 1 percent from a year ago. Disappearance of 335 million cwt. for the season is slightly below last year, but 4 percent above two years ago. Processing, at 163 million cwt., is down 3 percent from last year, but 5 percent above two years ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to May 1 totaled 335 million cwt. this season, down slightly from last year, but 4 percent above two years ago. April disappearance of 41.9 million cwt. was down 3 percent from last year, but 1 percent above two years ago. Seasonal shrink and loss of 29.9 million cwt. was up 2 percent from last year and 17 percent above two years ago.

Processing of 1999 crop potatoes this season totaled 163 million cwt., down 3 percent from the 1998 crop, but 5 percent above the 1997 crop. In April, processors in the eight major states used 17.3 million cwt. of potatoes, down 6 percent from last year and 2 percent below two years ago.

Western states held 68.8 million cwt. of potatoes in storage on May 1, 2000, up 4 percent from last year, but 6 percent below 1998. Oregon's stocks were up 36 percent from a year ago, Washington's were equal to last years, but Idaho's stocks were down 3 percent. Stocks in these three northwestern states were up 3 percent from last year and accounted for 70 percent of U. S. stocks. Colorado's stocks were up 12 percent and California's storage was up 22 percent from last year. Montana's stocks, mostly seed, were up 3 percent.

MAY 1 FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS a/

State	Crop of 1998			Crop of 1999		
	Production	Total Stocks May 1, 1999 <u>b/</u>	Percent of Production	Production	Total Stocks May 1, 2000 <u>b/</u>	Percent of Production
	1,000 Cwt.		Percent	1,000 Cwt.		Percent
California	3,708	900	24	4,005	1,100	27
Colorado	25,360	6,600	26	25,762	7,400	29
Idaho	138,000	37,000	27	133,330	36,000	27
Maine	18,060	3,800	21	17,813	4,400	25
Michigan	14,648	800	5	14,963	1,300	9
Minnesota	21,170	4,300	20	18,020	2,800	16
Montana	3,180	290	9	3,325	300	9
Nebraska	8,175	---	---	8,904	---	---
New York	7,290	75	1	6,758	40	1
North Dakota	28,670	7,500	26	26,400	3,600	14
Ohio	1,200	---	---	987	---	---
Oregon	26,229	7,000	27	28,020	9,500	34
Pennsylvania	3,360	130	4	3,080	450	15
Washington	93,225	14,500	16	95,200	14,500	15
Wisconsin	30,895	4,800	16	34,000	3,700	11
Other States	---	200	---	---	580	---
15-STATE TOTAL	423,170	87,895	21	420,567	85,670	20

a/ Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant 2000 potatoes. Crop seed usage for 1999 totaled 29.5 million cwt.

b/ Nebraska and Ohio combined into "Other States."

HAY STOCKS ON FARMS

Stocks of hay on California farms as of May 1, 2000 totaled 381 thousand tons. This was 17 percent of the December 1 stocks and 11 percent below May 1, 1999.

United States May 1 hay stocks on farms totaled 28.8 million tons. This was 26 percent of the December 1 stocks, but 16 percent above May 1, 1999.

HAY STOCKS ON FARMS

State	December 1			May 1		
	1997	1998	1999	1998	1999	2000
	1,000 Tons					
California	1,598	3,246	2,285	420	428	381
Arizona	171	177	184	34	28	27
Nevada	708	857	867	151	233	290
Oregon	1,600	2,159	2,245	621	135	128
Utah	1,658	1,695	1,540	435	485	320
UNITED STATES	103,044	112,066	108,882	21,827	24,817	28,817