

# California Field Crop Review



Frequency: Monthly  
Released: June 19, 2003

(USPS 598-270)  
VOL. 24 NO. 6



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE

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## WHEAT FORECAST

The California winter wheat forecast, at 788 thousand tons, is 17 percent above 2002. Acreage harvested for grain is 17 percent above last year. Yields are expected to be the same as the previous year with 2.25 tons per acre. Late spring rainfall led to the rapid growth and development of wheat seedlings.

U.S. winter wheat production is forecast to be 48.8 million tons, 42 percent above 2002. Based on June 1 conditions, the U.S. yield forecast is 1.34 tons per acre, up 16 percent from 2002. Harvested area, forecast at 36.4 million acres, is up 23 percent from 2002.

California's Durum wheat production is forecast to be 285 thousand tons, 6 percent above 2002. Acreage expected for harvest, at 95.0 thousand, is 6 percent above last year. The expected yield of 3.00 tons per acre remained the same as the previous year. Harvest is underway and crop condition was rated as mostly good.

The U.S. estimate for Durum wheat production for states other than Arizona and California will not be available until July 11, 2003.

## TOP PRODUCING COUNTIES OF 2002 FOR ALL WHEAT TONNAGE PRODUCED

IMPERIAL	126,000
KINGS	122,700
TULARE	122,100
FRESNO	102,300
KERN	85,500
YOLO	55,500
MERCED	50,250
SAN JOAQUIN	44,850
MADERA	37,050
SOLANO	36,600
COLUSA	36,000
RIVERSIDE	34,260
SUTTER	17,250
SACRAMENTO	15,750
GLENN	12,750

## WHEAT ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION, JUNE 1, 2003

Crop and Location	Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	1,000 Acres		Tons		1,000 Tons	
WINTER California	300	350	2.25	2.25	675	788
WINTER U.S.	29,651	36,447	1.16	1.34	34,284	48,791
DURUM California	90	95	3.00	3.00	270	285
DURUM Arizona	89	103	2.85	2.82	254	290
DURUM U.S.	2,703	a/	0.88	b/	2,384	b/

a/ Area harvested will be published June 30, 2003.

b/ Yield and production will be published July 11, 2003.

## SWEET POTATOES

California's 2002 sweet potato production is estimated at 2.76 million cwt., 20 percent above 2001. Harvested acreage is estimated at 10.4 thousand acres, 4 percent above 2001. The yield, at a record-high 265 cwt. per acre, is 15 percent above 2001. Although the spring was relatively dry, planting and harvesting conditions for sweet potatoes were good overall, and crop quality was reported to be very good, with excellent yields.

Nationally, the 2002 sweet potato production is 12.9 million cwt., 12 percent below a year earlier. Harvested acreage, at 83.5 thousand acres, is 12 percent below 2001. The average yield, at 154 cwt. per acre, is 1 percent below the 2001 average yield.

## SWEET POTATOES 1/

State	Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 Acres		Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
Alabama	2.9	2.7	170	180	493	486
California	10.0	10.4	230	265	2,300	2,756
Georgia 2/	0.4	---	100	---	40	---
Louisiana	22.0	15.0	140	125	3,080	1,875
Mississippi	16.0	12.3	150	160	2,400	1,968
New Jersey	1.2	1.2	105	125	126	150
No. Carolina	36.0	37.0	155	130	5,580	4,810
So. Carolina	1.6	1.1	80	110	128	121
Texas	3.8	3.3	100	180	380	594
Virginia	0.5	0.5	220	210	110	105
U.S.	94.4	83.5	155	154	14,637	12,865

1/ Revised 2002 data.

2/ Estimate discontinued in 2002.

**JUNE 1 FALL POTATO STOCKS**

California's potato stocks totaled 200 thousand cwt. on June 1. Stocks represented 4 percent of fall potato production.

The 15 major potato storage States held 45.7 million cwt. of potatoes on June 1, 2003, up 6 percent from last year but 25 percent below 2001. Potatoes in storage account for 11 percent of the 2002 fall storage State's production, the same percentage as last year.

Disappearance of 365 million cwt. from the start of harvest in 2002 to June 1, is up 6 percent from the same period last year but 8 percent below two years ago.

Processors used 180 million cwt. of 2002 crop potatoes so far this season, up 8 percent from a year ago but 6 percent below two years ago.

Western States held 37.8 million cwt. of potatoes in storage on June 1, up 14 percent from last year's short crop but 25 percent below two years ago. Colorado stocks are up 88 percent from last year but 9 percent below two years ago. Washington's potato stocks are 20 percent above last year and Idaho is up 8 percent. Oregon's storage is down 23 percent. California and Montana storages are nearly empty.

**JUNE 1 FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS**

State	Crop of 2001			Crop of 2002		
	Production	Total Stocks June 1, 2002	Percent of Production	Production	Total Stocks June 1, 2003	Percent of Production
	1,000 Cwt.		Percent	1,000 Cwt.		Percent
CA 1/	1424	---	---	4450	200	4
CO	21357	1,700	8	27885	3,200	11
ID	120200	18,500	15	133385	20,000	15
ME	16430	1,800	11	16960	1,900	11
MI 1/	13950	---	---	13878	---	---
MN	18425	2,600	14	18700	2,300	12
MT 1/	3296	---	---	3224	---	---
NE 1/	8400	---	---	8611	---	---
NY 1/	5942	---	---	5500	---	---
ND	26400	4,000	15	23460	1,900	8
OH 1/	1097	---	---	1008	---	---
OR	20730	3,000	14	24936	2,300	9
PA 1/	3173	---	---	2590	---	---
WA	94400	10,000	11	95200	12,000	13
WI	31955	1,100	3	31125	1,400	4
Other States	---	290	---	---	520	---
15-STATE TOTAL	387,179	42,990	11	410,912	45,720	11

1/ California was combined into "Other States" for 2001, while all other states were combined for both 2001 and 2002.

**U.S. COTTON GINNINGS**

A total of 16.7 million running bales were ginned during the 2002 season, 15 percent below 2001's ginnings of 19.8 million bales. A 10 percent decrease in acres harvested and a 40-pound yield per acre decrease from last season's record-high production contributed to the lower level of ginnings.

During the 2002 season, 921 gins were active, down from the 970 that operated in 2001. Thirty-seven percent of the gins processed more than 20.0 thousand bales in 2002, compared with 43 percent the previous season.

**COTTON GINNING:  
RUNNING BALES GINNED (excluding linters)  
BY TYPE, STATE AND UNITED STATES, CROP YEARS 1999-02**

Type and State	1999	2000	2001	2002
	Bales			
<b>ALL COTTON</b>				
Alabama	620,650	532,950	907,300	566,200
Arizona	695,900	753,400	656,850	596,200
Arkansas	1,390,300	1,406,300	1,788,400	1,615,150
California	2,127,350	2,492,250	2,358,250	2,008,300
Florida 1/	---	---	---	67,300
Georgia	1,524,050	1,621,700	2,159,050	1,549,550
Kansas 1/	---	---	---	68,300
Louisiana	918,950	923,250	1,044,600	749,050
Mississippi	1,680,400	1,676,600	2,339,250	1,880,500
Missouri	450,150	502,600	673,800	579,200
New Mexico	59,250	64,150	70,800	58,700
North Carolina	802,550	1,407,550	1,640,550	782,300
Oklahoma	139,500	146,050	194,850	203,500
South Carolina	265,000	357,900	404,200	127,000
Tennessee	574,300	691,350	950,150	788,950
Texas	5,020,450	3,900,850	4,232,800	4,981,500
Virginia	133,950	146,800	177,900	88,750
UNITED STATES	16,528,050	16,741,850	19,771,200	16,710,450
<b>AMERICAN-PIMA</b>				
Arizona	16,000	7,300	14,100	16,800
California	580,100	332,950	617,900	581,500
New Mexico	6,500	4,450	12,900	18,000
Texas	47,550	30,200	32,800	38,700
UNITED STATES	650,150	374,900	677,700	655,000

1/ Not published to avoid disclosing individual gins, but included in U.S. totals.

**CALIFORNIA COTTON GINNINGS:  
ALL COTTON RUNNING BALES GINNED (excluding linters),  
EQUIVALENT 480-POUND BALES GINNED, RUNNING BALES  
PRODUCED BY COUNTY, AND U.S. COUNTY RANK, 2002 CROP**

County	Running Bales Ginned	Equivalent 480-Pound Bales Ginned	Running Bales Produced	U.S. Rank by Running Bales Produced
Colusa 1/	---	---	26,000	169
Fresno	790,500	821,800	675,050	1
Glenn	0	0	4,750	340
Imperial 1/	---	---	32,000	138
Kern	344,850	356,650	356,650	4
Kings	375,850	390,500	486,300	2
Madera 1/	---	---	57,650	73
Merced 1/	---	---	151,800	25
Riverside 1/	---	---	36,650	114
San Bernardino	0	0	2,950	397
Sutter 1/	---	---	4,800	339
Tulare	217,800	222,550	153,300	22
Yolo	0	0	7,100	303
STATE TOTAL	2,008,300	2,080,400	1,995,000	---

1/ Not published to avoid disclosing individual gins, but included in "State Total."

**CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - MAY 2003**

Mid-May prices received by California farmers increased from April for dry edible beans, all hay, and alfalfa hay. Prices for all potatoes and fall potatoes were below the previous month's level. Hay other than alfalfa remains unchanged from April 2003. Wheat, barley, and Upland cotton lint prices were not published in order to avoid disclosure of individual buyers. Prices at mid-May were above a year earlier for dry edible beans. All potatoes, spring potatoes, and all types of hay were below May 2002's level.

**U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASES SIX POINTS**

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in May is 107, based on 1990-92=100, up six points (5.9 percent) from the April Index. All commodity group indexes increased since last month, except potatoes and dry beans, tobacco, and the "other crops" category. Higher prices for lettuce, hogs, broilers, and soybeans more than offset lower prices for eggs, asparagus, onions, and tomatoes. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affect the overall index. Increased average marketings of cantaloupes, grapes, sweet corn, and peaches offset decreased marketings of cattle, dairy, apples, and asparagus.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 11 points (12 percent) from May 2002. Higher prices for cattle, lettuce, corn, and soybeans more than offset lower prices for dairy, potatoes, sweet corn, and tomatoes.

The May All Crops Index, at 121, is up 9 percent from April and 15 percent above May 2002. From April, index increases for fruits and nuts, commercial vegetables, oil-bearing crops, food grains, feed grains and hay, and cotton more than offset an index decrease for potatoes and dry beans.

The May Food Grains Index, at 104, is up 6.1 percent from the previous month and 21 percent above May 2002. The May all wheat price, at \$114.33 per ton, is up \$2.00 from April and \$20.66 above May 2002.

The May Feed Grains & Hay Index, at 112, is up 4.7 percent from last month and 18 percent above May 2002. The corn price, at \$87.14 per ton, is up \$3.57 from last month and \$18.21 above May 2002. The all hay price, at \$99.20 per ton, is \$4.70 above April, but \$3.80 below last May.

The May Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 118, is 4.8 percent below last month and 20 percent below May 2002. The all potato price, at \$7.06 per cwt., is down 43 cents from the previous month and \$1.56 below last May. The dry edible bean price, at \$18.00 per cwt., is 80 cents below last month and \$9.80 below May 2002.

The May Cotton Index, at 77, is up 4.1 percent from April and 75 percent above May 2002. The May price, at 46.6 cents per pound, is up 1.6 cents from the previous month and 19.9 cents above last May.

**FARM PRICES: AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/**

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		May 2002	April 2003	May 15, 2003	May 2002	April 2003	May 15, 2003
Dollars							
Corn 2/	Ton	---	---	---	68.93	83.57	87.14
Wheat 2/	Ton	3/	3/	3/	93.67	112.33	114.33
Oats 2/	Ton	---	---	---	124.38	124.38	122.50
Barley 2/	Ton	3/	3/	3/	93.33	119.58	120.83
Sorghum Grain 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.17	3.96	4.01
Rice 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.98	4.33	4.51
Dry Edible Beans 2/	Cwt.	32.30	32.20	33.00	27.80	18.80	18.00
All Potatoes 4/	Cwt.	24.10	22.20	17.60	8.62	7.49	7.06
Winter	Cwt.	---	29.30	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	24.10	---	19.00	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	---	7.75	7.30	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	115.00	97.00	98.00	103.00	94.50	99.20
Alfalfa Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	116.00	99.00	100.00	108.00	96.20	102.00
Other Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	88.00	85.00	85.00	79.20	86.40	87.30
Upland Cotton Lint 2/	Lb.	3/	3/	3/	0.267	0.450	0.466
Cottonseed	Ton	---	---	---	---	---	---

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/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual buyers.

4/ Monthly average

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

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	May 2002	April 2003	May 2003	May 2002	April 2003	May 2003
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	611	643 1/	681	96	101	107
All Crops	516	546 1/	596	105	111	121
Food Grains	274	312 1/	330	86	98 1/	104
Feed Grains and Hay	339	382 1/	400	95	107	112
Cotton	226	380	394	44	74	77
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	748	630 1/	595	148	124 1/	118
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/	1,635	1,699 1/	1,697	123	128	127
Parity Ratio 3/	37	38	40	78	79	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.

**SUGAR BEETS**

California's 2002 sugar beet production is estimated to be 1.97 million tons, 23 percent above 2001. Planted acreage is estimated at 50.2 thousand acres, up 8 percent from last year. Harvested acreage, estimated at 49.9 thousand acres, is 12 percent above 2001. The yield, at 39.5 tons per acre, is 11 percent above 2001. Crop condition and yields were reported to be excellent this season. Few disease or insect problems were encountered.

Nationally, the 2002 sugar beet production is revised to 27.7 million tons, 8 percent above 2001. Area harvested totaled a revised 1.36 million acres, 9 percent above the previous year. The revised yield, at 20.4 tons per acre, is 1 percent below the 2001 yield.

**SUGAR BEETS 1/ 2/**

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 Acres				Tons		1,000 Tons	
California	46.6	50.2	44.7	49.9	35.7	39.5	1,596	1,971
Idaho	199.0	212.0	179.0	210.0	25.9	24.3	4,636	5,103
Oregon	11.9	11.3	9.7	11.0	29.9	27.4	290	301
Washington	7.2	4.0	7.1	4.0	35.6	35.0	253	140
UNITED STATES	1,370.5	1,427.3	1,243.4	1,361.1	20.7	20.4	25,764	27,718

1/ Relates to year of intended harvest in all states, except California. In California, relates to year of intended harvest for fall planted beets in central California, but to year of planting for overwintered beets in central and southern California.

2/ Revised 2002 data.

**For information on part-time jobs collecting agricultural data in your local area,  
please call 1-800-851-1127.**