

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

American-Pima cotton production is forecast at 370 thousand bales, 39 percent below last year's crop. The 139 thousand acres for harvest are 33 percent below last year. As of the first week of December, most of the crop had been harvested, with only a few remaining fields being picked a second time.

CALIFORNIA AND U.S. COTTON PRODUCTION FORECASTS

California's 2003 **Upland** cotton production is forecast at 1.50 million bales as of December 1, 3 percent below the November forecast, but 3 percent above last year. This is based on 555 thousand acres for harvest, with an average yield of 1,297 pounds per acre. The harvest of the Upland cotton crop was nearing completion by the end of November despite the cool, wet conditions early in the month.

The U.S. all cotton production is forecast at 18.2 million 480-pound bales as of December 1, unchanged from November 1, but up 6 percent from last year's production. The yield is expected to average a record-high 722 pounds per harvested acre, surpassing the previous record of 708 pounds set in 1994. **Upland** cotton harvested acreage, at 11.9 million acres, is unchanged from November, but 2 percent below last year. **American-Pima** harvested acreage, at 168.4 acres, is 31 percent below the 2002 crop season.

FIELD CROP ACRES HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

Crop	Acres Harvested		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Unit	Production	
	2002	Forecast 2003		2002	Forecast 2003		2002	Forecast 2003
	1,000 Acres						Thousands	
CALIFORNIA								
Wheat, Winter <u>1/</u>	300.0	370.0	Tons	2.25	1.83	Tons	675.0	677.1
Wheat, Durum <u>1/</u>	90.0	115.0	Tons	3.00	3.00	Tons	270.0	345.0
Oats <u>1/</u>	27.0	35.0	Tons	1.28	1.28	Tons	34.6	44.8
Barley <u>1/</u>	75.0	58.0	Tons	1.63	1.54	Tons	122.4	89.1
Corn for Grain <u>1/</u>	150.0	130.0	Tons	4.76	4.76	Tons	714.0	618.8
Rice, All <u>1/</u>	528.0	495.0	Cwt.	81.40	79.00	Cwt.	42,989.0	39,105.0
Long	7.0	8.0	Cwt.	64.00	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	448.0	<u>2/</u>
Medium	495.0	447.0	Cwt.	83.00	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	41,085.0	<u>2/</u>
Short	26.0	40.0	Cwt.	56.00	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	1,456.0	<u>2/</u>
Cotton, Upland <u>3/</u>	477.0	555.0	Lbs.	1,469.00	1,297.00	Bales	1,460.0	1,500.0
Cotton, American-Pima <u>3/</u>	209.0	139.0	Lbs.	1,386.00	1,278.00	Bales	603.3	370.0
Sugar Beets <u>1/ 4/</u>	49.9	50.0	Tons	39.50	37.00	Tons	1,971.0	1,850.0
Beans, Dry, All <u>5/</u>	89.0	77.0	Cwt.	19.80	19.20	Cwt.	1,762.0	1,477.0
Hay, All <u>1/</u>	1,640.0	1,560.0	Tons	5.85	5.86	Tons	9,594.0	9,134.0
Alfalfa Hay <u>1/</u>	1,140.0	1,090.0	Tons	7.10	7.00	Tons	8,094.0	7,630.0
Other Hay <u>1/</u>	500.0	470.0	Tons	3.00	3.20	Tons	1,500.0	1,504.0
UNITED STATES								
Wheat, Winter <u>1/</u>	29,751.0	36,541.0	Tons	1.16	1.40	Tons	34,368.1	51,212.1
Wheat, Durum <u>1/</u>	2,703.0	2,869.0	Tons	0.88	1.01	Tons	2,383.5	2,899.1
Oats <u>1/</u>	2,093.0	2,224.0	Tons	0.91	1.04	Tons	1,898.0	2,314.4
Barley <u>1/</u>	4,129.0	4,688.0	Tons	1.32	1.41	Tons	5,437.8	6,626.1
Corn for Grain <u>1/</u>	69,313.0	71,765.0	Tons	3.64	4.01	Tons	252,214.5	287,782.1
Rice, All <u>1/</u>	3,207.0	2,978.0	Cwt.	65.78	66.56	Cwt.	210,960.0	198,211.0
Long <u>6/</u>	2,512.0	2,306.0	Cwt.	62.60	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	157,243.0	146,000.0
Medium <u>6/</u>	668.0	631.0	Cwt.	78.15	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	52,201.0	49,454.0
Short <u>6/</u>	27.0	41.0	Cwt.	56.15	<u>2/</u>	Cwt.	1,516.0	2,757.0
Cotton, Upland <u>3/</u>	12,184.0	11,939.0	Lbs.	651.00	715.00	Bales	16,530.3	17,783.0
Cotton, American-Pima <u>3/</u>	242.6	168.4	Lbs.	1,342.00	1,231.00	Bales	678.3	432.0
Sugar Beets <u>1/ 4/</u>	1,361.1	1,345.6	Tons	20.40	22.80	Tons	27,718.0	30,624.0
Beans, Dry, All <u>5/</u>	1,726.9	1,361.8	Cwt.	17.36	16.78	Cwt.	29,974.0	22,847.0
Hay, All <u>1/</u>	64,497.0	64,379.0	Tons	2.34	2.50	Tons	150,962.0	160,706.0
Alfalfa Hay <u>1/</u>	23,135.0	23,541.0	Tons	3.19	3.34	Tons	73,824.0	78,523.0
Other Hay <u>1/</u>	41,362.0	40,838.0	Tons	1.86	2.01	Tons	77,138.0	82,183.0

1/ Estimate for current year carried forward from previous month.

2/ To be released January 12, 2004.

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

4/ Relates to year of intended harvest in all states, except California. In California, related to year of intended harvest for fall planted beets in central California and to year of planting for over-wintered beets in central and southern California.

5/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

6/ Rice class production forecasts for 2002 are based on a five-year average of class percentages.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - NOVEMBER 2003

Prices received by California farmers at mid-November were above October for dry edible beans, all potatoes, fall potatoes, all hay and alfalfa hay. Cottonseed was below the previous month, while hay other than alfalfa remained unchanged. Mid-November prices for wheat and Upland cotton lint were not published to avoid possible disclosure of individual operations. There was insufficient data to establish a mid-November price for barley. Prices were above a year earlier for dry edible beans, fall potatoes and cottonseed. All potatoes, and all types of hay were below November 2002's level.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in November is 117, based on 1990-92=100, four points (3.5 percent) above the October Index. Both the Livestock and Products Index and the All Crops Index were higher in November. Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, corn, soybeans, and wheat. Lower prices were received for cotton, hogs and milk. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past three-year average, also affect the overall index. Increased average marketings of all milk, cotton, cattle and cottonseed offset decreased marketings of peanuts, soybeans, sunflowers and potatoes.

This preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 20 points (20.6 percent) from November 2002. The Food Commodities Index increased five points (4.3 percent) above last month to 121 and is 25 points (26.0 percent) above November 2002. This index value is the highest since records began in 1975.

The November All Crops Index is 116, up 4.5 percent from October and 12 percent above the November 2002 index. Index decreases from October for fruits and nuts and cotton were more than offset by index increases in oil-bearing crops, commercial vegetables, potatoes and dry beans, tobacco, food grains and feed grains and hay.

The Food Grains Index, at 117, is up 5.4 percent from the previous month, but down 4.1 percent from November 2002. The all wheat price, at \$123.00 per ton, is up \$8.00 from the October price, but \$18.67 below last November. The rice price, at \$6.49 per cwt., is up five cents from October and \$2.79 above a year ago.

The Feed Grains & Hay Index is 100, up 4.2 percent from last month, but 3.8 percent below November 2002. The corn price, at \$80.00 per ton, is up \$4.29 from October, but \$1.43 below last November's price. The all hay price, at \$80.70 per ton, is down \$3.70 from last month and \$12.50 below November 2002. From October, price increases for corn and sorghum more than offset decreases in hay and barley.

The Cotton Index, at 106, is down 5.4 percent from a month ago, but 49 percent above November 2002. The cotton price, at 64.1 cents per pound, is down 3.9 cents from October, but 21.1 cents above a year ago.

The Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 90, is up 8.4 percent from last month, but 13 percent below November 2002. The all potato price, at \$5.17 per cwt., is up 50 cents from the previous month, but \$1.21 below last November. The dry edible bean price, at \$18.40 per cwt., is up 60 cents from last month and \$2.50 above a year ago.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		November 2002	October 2003	Nov. 15, 2003	November 2002	October 2003	Nov. 15, 2003
Dollars							
Corn 2/	Ton	---	---	---	81.43	75.71	80.00
Wheat 2/	Ton	3/	3/	3/	141.67	115.00	123.00
Oats 2/	Ton	---	---	---	119.38	90.00	85.63
Barley 2/	Ton	3/	3/	4/	116.25	115.42	106.67
Sorghum Grain 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	4.40	3.99	4.09
Rice 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	3.70	6.44	6.49
Dry Edible Beans 2/	Cwt.	31.60	36.10	38.00	15.90	17.80	18.40
All Potatoes 5/	Cwt.	20.10	10.40	10.70	6.38	4.67	5.17
Winter	Cwt.	29.80	---	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	12.20	---	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	9.65	10.20	10.70	---	---	---
Hay, All Baled 2/	Ton	95.00	88.00	89.00	93.20	84.40	80.70
Alfalfa Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	101.00	94.00	95.00	101.00	88.80	88.00
Other Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	76.00	69.00	69.00	73.90	71.40	64.90
Upland Cotton Lint 2/	Lb.	0.55	0.78	3/	0.43	0.68	0.64
Cottonseed	Ton	142.00	180.00	165.00	100.00	104.00	121.00

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 due to possible disclosure.

4/ Insufficient data to establish a price.

5/ Monthly average.

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

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92=100		
	Nov. 2002	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Nov. 2002	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003
Prices Received - Unadjusted						
All Farm Products	617	718 1/	741	97	113	117
All Crops	511	547	571	104	111	116
Food Grains	389	353 1/	372	122	111 1/	117
Feed Grains and Hay	370	343 1/	356	104	96 1/	100
Cotton	363	575 1/	542	71	112 1/	106
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	525	419 1/	458	104	83 1/	90
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/	1,661	1,725	1,726	125	130	130
Parity Ratio 3/	37	42	43	78	87	90

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 2003 dry bean production is estimated at 1.48 million cwt., 16 percent below last year. Harvested acreage totaled 77.0 thousand, 13 percent below last year. The overall yield was 1,920 pounds per acre, down 3 percent from last year. **Large lima** production, at 374 thousand cwt., was 12 percent above the 2002 crop. **Baby lima** production, estimated at 400 thousand cwt., was 20 percent below last year's crop. **Light red kidney** production, at 65.0 thousand cwt., was 14 percent below last year. The **dark red kidney** output of 16.0 thousand cwt. was 61 percent below the 2002 crop. The **blackeye** crop of 356 thousand cwt. was up 14 percent from last year. Production of **garbanzos** totaled 102 thousand cwt., 65 percent below last year.

U.S. production of dry edible beans is estimated at 22.8 million cwt. for 2003, 24 percent below last year. Harvested acreage is forecast at 1.36 million acres, 4 percent below the last forecast and down 21 percent from 2002. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,678 pounds per acre, 58 pounds below a year ago. Production is below a year ago in 12 of the 18 producing states. Most notable is a 50 percent production decrease in Michigan where planted acres are the lowest on record. Also, Oregon's production is down 49 percent due to drought conditions. Production is down from a year ago for black, small white, navy, garbanzo, cranberry, small lima, dark red kidney, pinto and light red kidney. Production increased from last year for great northern, blackeye, large lima, pink, and small red.

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

Crop	Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	1,000 Acres		Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
CALIFORNIA						
Large Lima	18.2	19.0	18.40	19.70	334.0	374.0
Baby Lima	21.0	17.1	23.90	23.40	501.0	400.0
Blackeye	12.4	16.1	25.20	22.10	313.0	356.0
Light Red Kidney	6.0	4.9	12.70	13.30	76.0	65.0
Dark Red Kidney	2.5	0.9	16.40	17.80	41.0	16.0
Pink	2/	0.9	2/	10.00	2/	9.0
Garbanzo	18.0	9.4	16.00	10.85	288.0	102.0
Black Turtle Soup	2/	0.4	2/	17.50	2/	7.0
Pinto	2/	0.5	2/	12.00	2/	6.0
Cranberry	1.7	1.5	13.50	16.70	23.0	25.0
Other (Misc.)	9.2	6.3	20.20	18.60	186.0	117.0
BEANS, ALL DRY	89.0	77.0	19.80	19.20	1,762.0	1,477.0
UNITED STATES						
Large Lima	18.2	19.0	18.40	19.70	334.0	374.0
Baby Lima	21.0	17.1	23.90	23.40	501.0	400.0
Blackeye	32.4	46.1	16.76	16.18	543.0	746.0
Light Red Kidney	66.8	65.1	17.95	17.00	1,199.0	1,107.0
Dark Red Kidney	64.0	49.1	16.80	17.31	1,075.0	850.0
Pink	32.8	33.5	18.51	19.52	607.0	654.0
Garbanzo	70.9	40.3	11.82	10.62	838.0	428.0
Small White	3.2	1.5	20.31	20.00	65.0	30.0
Navy	305.7	151.5	17.35	16.71	5,304.0	2,531.0
Great Northern	82.1	102.7	18.82	21.29	1,545.0	2,186.0
Cranberry	23.2	15.4	15.47	12.21	359.0	188.0
Small Red	30.3	35.2	19.97	17.44	605.0	614.0
Black	183.4	80.7	16.98	15.64	3,114.0	1,262.0
Pinto	725.3	647.8	17.76	16.44	12,880.0	10,650.0
Other (Misc.)	67.6	56.8	14.87	14.56	1,005.0	827.0
BEANS, ALL DRY	1,726.9	1,361.8	17.36	16.78	29,974.0	22,847.0

1/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.
 2/ Included in "Other (Misc.)" for California.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION

California's fall potato production is forecast at 3.44 million cwt. Harvested acreage increased 2 percent over the 2002 estimate. The average yield is forecast at 410 cwt. per acre. California's yield is down due to hot weather and problems with seed quality.

U.S. production of fall potatoes for 2003 is forecast at 412 million cwt., down less than 1 percent from the November forecast and 1 percent below last year. Area harvested, at 1.09 million acres, is down 2 percent from last year, but 2 percent above two years ago. The average yield is forecast at 377 cwt. per acre, 1 cwt. below last month, but 4 cwt. above last year. Production estimates are generally higher this year in the central and eastern states, but lower in the West.

Western states' production is forecast at 273 million cwt., down 6 percent from last year, but 3 percent above 2001. Acreage harvested, at 660,300 acres, decreased 4 percent from last year. The average yield of 414 cwt. per acre is down 7 cwt. Production decreased in four of the nine western states. Colorado's production fell 15 percent as farmers reduced planted acreage to conserve underground water supplies following drought conditions during the past two years. Idaho's production decreased 8 percent from last year due to above normal summer temperatures, which adversely affected tuber development. In Oregon, dry conditions during June and July reduced yield and tuber sizes. Utah has the largest percentage production increase, up 37 percent from last year. Production in Nevada and Montana increased 25 percent and 5 percent, respectively. Washington's production is 1 percent above last year, while New Mexico's production remains unchanged.

FALL POTATO ACRES HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

State	Acres Harvested			Yield			Production		
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
	1,000 Acres			Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.		
California	3.2	8.2	8.4	445	520	410	1,424	4,264	3,444
Idaho	348.0	373.0	358.0	345	358	344	120,200	133,385	123,180
- 10 SW Co.	23.0	27.0	25.0	450	455	465	10,350	12,285	11,625
- Other Co.	325.0	346.0	333.0	338	350	335	109,850	121,100	111,555
Oregon	44.5	49.8	42.6	466	501	493	20,730	24,936	20,991
- Malheur Co.	9.0	8.0	5.8	410	400	415	3,690	3,200	2,407
- Other Co.	35.5	41.8	36.8	480	520	505	17,040	21,736	18,584
Washington	160.0	165.0	162.0	590	560	575	94,400	92,400	93,150
UNITED STATES TOTAL	1,073.2	1,109.4	1,091.8	367	373	377	393,750	414,317	411,649

FALL POTATO STOCKS

California's fall potato stocks were estimated at 2.70 million cwt. as of December 1, 2003, down 18 percent from last year. The amount in storage on December 1 represents 78 percent of production, compared with 77 percent a year ago.

The 15 major potato storage states held 267 million cwt. of potatoes on December 1, 2003, up 1 percent from last year and 3 percent above 2001. Storage accounted for 66 percent of the 2003 fall storage states' production, up 1 percent from last year. Stocks by type were 4 percent red, 12 percent round whites, 3 percent long whites (Shepody), and 81 percent russets, with more reds and round whites and fewer russets than a year ago.

Disappearance of 137 million cwt. from the start of harvest to December 1, is down 4 percent from the same period last year, but 7 percent above two years ago. Shrink and loss, at 14.7 million cwt., is down 5 percent from last year, but unchanged from two years ago.

Processors used 70.7 million cwt. of 2003 crop potatoes so far this season, down 8 percent from a year ago, but 8 percent above two years ago. Idaho and Malheur processing decreased 14 percent, while Washington and the rest of Oregon processed 4 percent less 2003 crop potatoes than a year ago. Dehydrators have used 14.3 million cwt. to date, down 9 percent from last year.

Western states held 179 million cwt. of potatoes in storage on December 1, down 4 percent from last year, but up 1 percent from two years ago. Idaho's potato stocks are down 7 percent from last year and Colorado's stocks are down 13 percent. Oregon's stocks increased by 3 percent. Washington's sheds stored 2 percent more than last year and Montana's stocks are up 3 percent.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS ON DECEMBER 1 ^{a/}

State	Crop of 2002			Crop of 2003		
	Production	Stocks Dec. 1, 2002	Percent of Prod.	Production	Stocks Dec. 1, 2003	Percent of Prod.
	1,000 Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.		
California	4,264	3,300	77	3,444	2,700	78
Idaho	133,385	92,000	69	123,180	86,000	70
Oregon	24,936	17,500	70	20,991	18,000	86
Washington	92,400	50,000	54	93,150	51,000	55
TOTAL 15 STATES	407,821	264,585	65	404,459	267,160	66

^{a/} Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant the following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2003 totaled 28.3 million cwt.

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