



California Field Crop Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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Upland cotton production in the U.S. is forecast at 13.3 million bales, 28 percent below 2007. The yields are expected to be 839 pounds per acre, 25 pounds less than last year. Harvested acreage was down 26 percent from the previous year. American Pima cotton production is forecast at 451 thousand bales, down 47 percent from last year. The U.S. yield is forecast at 1,273 pounds per acre.

FIELD CROP ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

COTTON: Upland cotton production in California is forecast at 380 thousand bales, 42 percent below last year. The yield is forecast at 1,559 pounds per acre, 3 percent below 2007. Cooler temperatures allowed defoliation to begin by the end of the month. The Upland cotton is rated in mostly good to excellent condition. American Pima cotton production is forecast at 420 thousand bales, 47 percent below the previous year. Harvest was beginning by late September.

RICE: California's 2008 rice crop forecast, at 41.9 million cwt., is 4 percent below 2007. The 517 thousand acres for harvest is down 3 percent from the previous year. The yield is forecast at 8,100 pounds per acre, 1 percent below last year.

The 2008 U.S. rice production is forecast at 204 million cwt., up 3 percent from last year. The area for harvest is expected to total 2.92 million acres, up 6 percent from a year ago. The yields are expected to average 6,982 pounds per acre, 203 pounds below the 2007 record high yield of 7,185 pounds per acre.

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FIELD CROP ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

Crop	Area Harvested		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Unit	Production	
	2007	2008 1/		2007	2008 1/		2007	2008 1/
	1,000 Acres			Number			1,000	
CALIFORNIA								
Wheat, Winter	240.0	400.0	Tons	2.40	2.55	Tons	576.0	1,020.0
Wheat, Durum	75.0	155.0	Tons	2.85	3.15	Tons	213.8	488.3
Oats	20.0	20.0	Tons	1.49	1.20	Tons	29.8	24.0
Barley	40.0	55.0	Tons	1.44	1.32	Tons	57.6	72.6
Corn for Grain	200.0	215.0	Tons	5.04	5.04	Tons	1,008.0	1,083.6
Rice, All 2/	533.0	517.0	Cwt.	82.20	81.00	Cwt.	43,822.0	41,877.0
Long	9.0	9.0	Cwt.	71.00	3/	Cwt.	639.0	3/
Medium	459.0	458.0	Cwt.	85.30	3/	Cwt.	39,153.0	3/
Short	65.0	50.0	Cwt.	62.00	3/	Cwt.	4,030.0	3/
Cotton, Upland 4/	194.0	117.0	Lbs.	1,608.00	1,559.00	Bales	650.0	380.0
Cotton, American-Pima 4/	257.0	151.0	Lbs.	1,481.00	1,335.00	Bales	793.0	420.0
Sugar Beets 5/	39.1	25.3	Tons	37.50	39.00	Tons	1,466.0	987.0
Beans, Dry Edible 6/	58.0	51.0	Cwt.	20.90	21.00	Cwt.	1,212.0	1,071.0
Hay, All	1,610.0	1,540.0	Tons	5.85	5.84	Tons	9,422.0	8,987.0
Alfalfa Hay	990.0	950.0	Tons	7.20	7.10	Tons	7,128.0	6,745.0
Other Hay	620.0	590.0	Tons	3.70	3.80	Tons	2,294.0	2,242.0
UNITED STATES								
Wheat, Winter	35,952.0	39,614.0	Tons	1.27	1.42	Tons	45,479.7	56,037.1
Wheat, Durum	2,112.0	2,584.0	Tons	1.02	0.98	Tons	2,150.6	2,546.3
Oats	1,505.0	1,395.0	Tons	0.97	1.02	Tons	1,465.6	1,418.2
Barley	3,508.0	3,767.0	Tons	1.45	1.53	Tons	5,083.8	5,748.0
Corn for Grain	86,542.0	79,197.0	Tons	4.23	4.31	Tons	366,069.0	341,597.4
Rice, All 2/	2,748.0	2,924.0	Cwt.	71.85	69.82	Cwt.	197,456.0	204,141.0
Long 7/	2,052.0	2,297.0	Cwt.	69.29	3/	Cwt.	142,182.0	155,239.0
Medium 7/	630.0	576.0	Cwt.	81.24	3/	Cwt.	51,184.0	45,665.0
Short 7/	66.0	51.0	Cwt.	61.97	3/	Cwt.	4,090.0	3,237.0
Cotton, Upland 4/	10,201.0	7,585.0	Lbs.	864.00	839.00	Bales	18,355.1	13,260.0
Cotton, American-Pima 4/	288.1	170.0	Lbs.	1,419.00	1,273.00	Bales	851.8	451.0
Sugar Beets 5/	1,246.8	1,053.1	Tons	25.60	26.50	Tons	31,912.0	27,958.0
Beans, Dry Edible 6/	1,478.7	1,434.6	Cwt.	17.16	17.72	Cwt.	25,371.0	25,423.0
Hay, All	61,625.0	60,439.0	Tons	2.44	2.49	Tons	150,304.0	150,500.0
Alfalfa Hay	21,670.0	20,778.0	Tons	3.35	3.44	Tons	72,575.0	71,424.0
Other Hay	39,955.0	39,661.0	Tons	1.95	1.99	Tons	77,729.0	79,076.0

1/ Final data for wheat, oats, and barley. Forecast data for all other crops.

2/ Sweet rice production included with short grain.

3/ To be released January 2009.

4/ Cotton yield in pounds; production in 480-pound net weight bales. Production ginned and to be ginned.

5/ 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.

6/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed. Yield and production are cleaned basis.

7/ The 2008 rice production by class estimates are based on class harvested acreage estimates and the 5-year average class yield compared to the all rice yield.

FIELD CROP ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION
(Continued from Page 1)

HAY: Production of alfalfa hay in California is forecast 5 percent below last year's crop at 6.75 million tons. Other hay production is forecast at 2.24 million tons, 2 percent below the previous year.

Nationally, alfalfa hay production is forecast at 71.4 million tons, down 2 percent from 2007. Other hay production is forecast at 79.1 million tons, up 2 percent from last year.

SUGAR BEETS: California sugar beet production is forecast at 987 thousand tons, down 33 percent from the 2007 crop. Acreage for harvest is forecast at 25.3 thousand acres, and yields are expected to be 4 percent more than last year.

The U.S. sugar beet production is forecast at 28.0 million tons, 12 percent below last year's production. Harvested acreage is down 16 percent from last year, but yields are expected to be up 0.9 tons from the previous year.

CORN: California's 2008 corn for grain production is expected to total 1.08 million tons, 8 percent above last year. Acreage for harvest, at 215 thousand acres, is 8 percent above last year. The forecast yield, at 5.04 tons per acre remained the same as a year earlier.

The U.S. corn for grain production is forecast at 342 million tons, 7 percent below 2007. Area harvested and to be harvested for grain is forecast at 79.2 million acres, down 8 percent from the previous year. If realized, area harvested for grain will be the second largest on record since 1944. The average yield is forecast at 4.31 tons. If realized, this would be the second highest yield on record, behind 2004.

DRY BEANS: California's 2008 all dry bean production is forecast at 1.07 million cwt., 12 percent below the 2007 crop. The 51.0 thousand acres for harvest is 12 percent below last year. The forecast yield of 2,100 pounds per acre, up slightly from the 2007 yield.

The U.S. dry edible bean production is forecast at 25.4 million cwt., up slightly from 2007. Harvested acreage is 3 percent below last year, but average yields are 3 percent above last year.

WINTER WHEAT: California's final 2008 winter wheat production is estimated at 1.02 million tons, 77 percent above 2007. Average yields came in at 2.55 tons per acre, 6 percent above the previous year. Harvested acreage was estimated at 400 thousand acres, 67 percent above last year.

The U.S. winter wheat production is estimated at 56.0 million tons, 23 percent above the 2007 crop. The yield, at 1.42 tons per acre, is 12 percent above last year's final yield.

BARLEY: California's final 2008 barley production, estimated at 72.6 thousand tons, was 26 percent above last year. The average yield of 1.32 tons per acre was 8 percent below 2007. Acreage harvested for grain was estimated at 55.0 thousand acres, 38 percent above 2007.

The U.S. barley production is estimated at 5.75 million tons, up 13 percent from last year's output. The average yield is forecast at 1.53 tons per acre, 6 percent above last year.

SEPTEMBER 1 GRAIN STOCKS

U.S. wheat stocks totaled 55.7 million tons, 8 percent above the 51.5 million tons on hand September 1, 2007. U.S. total oat stocks, at 1.91 million tons, was 35 percent above the 1.41 million tons stored last year. U.S. barley stocks totaled 4.98 million tons, 10 percent above the 4.53 million tons of stock a year earlier. U.S. total stocks of corn were 45.5 million tons, 25 percent above the 36.5 million tons on hand September 1, 2007. U.S. grain sorghum stocks totaled 1.48 million tons, 65 percent above the 897 thousand tons on hand a year earlier.

GRAIN STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS, UNITED STATES
(Includes stocks under support & government owned grain.)

Grain and Position 1/	Sept. 1, 2007	June 1, 2008	Sept. 1, 2008
	Tons		
Wheat, All 2/	51,507,810	9,174,540	55,697,280
Corn	36,502,116	112,784,476	45,476,200
Barley 2/	4,528,680	1,637,352	4,978,536
Oats 2/	1,413,760	1,068,384	1,905,200
Sorghum Grain 2/	897,484	2,828,532	1,477,000

1/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

2/ June 1, 2008 revised.



WINTER POTATO
ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, 2007-08

State and U.S.	Acreage				Yield		Production	
	Planted		Harvested		2007	2008	2007	2008
	2007	2008	2007	2008				
	1,000 Acres				Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
CA	11.5	11.0	11.5	11.0	215	230	2,473	2,530
U.S.	11.5	11.0	11.5	11.0	215	230	2,473	2,530

PRICES RECEIVED BY CALIFORNIA FARMERS - September 2008

Prices received by California farmers at mid-September were below August for all potatoes, summer potatoes, and all types of hay. Mid-September prices for wheat were not published to avoid disclosure of individual buyers. There were insufficient sales to establish a mid-month price for oats, barley, dry edible beans, Upland cotton lint, and cottonseed. Prices were above a year earlier for all potatoes, summer potatoes and all types of hay.

The September All Crops Index is 174, down 1.7 percent from August, but 23 percent above September 2007. Index decreases for oil-bearing crops, potatoes & dry beans, food grains, and feed grains & hay more than offset the index increases for cotton, commercial vegetables, and fruits & nuts.

The September Food Grains: index, at 237, is 8.1 percent below the previous month, but 9.7 percent above a year ago. The September all wheat price, at \$230.33 per ton, is down \$24.33 from August, but \$5.00 above September 2007.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in September, at 154 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased two points (1.3 percent) from August. The Crop Index is down three points (1.7 percent) and the Livestock Index decreased three points (2.2 percent). Producers received lower prices for wheat, hogs, soybeans, and broilers and higher prices for lettuce, turkeys, eggs, and cottonseed. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of soybeans, corn, apples, and potatoes offset decreased marketings of cattle, wheat, broilers, and grapes.

The September Feed Grains & Hay Index is 222, down 1.8 percent from last month, but 48 percent above a year ago. The corn price, at \$184.64 per ton, is down \$3.22 from last month, but \$67.50 above September 2007. The all hay price, at \$161.00 per ton, is down \$4.00 from August, but up \$34.00 from last September. Sorghum grain, at \$8.39 per cwt., is 1 cent below August, but \$2.22 above September last year.

The September Cotton Index, at 107, is up 10 percent from August and 24 percent above last year. The September price, at 64.6 cents per pound, is up 6.1 cents from the previous month and 12.6 cents above last September.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 14 points (10 percent) from September 2007. The Food Commodities Index, at 152, decreased one point (0.7 percent) from last month but increased nine points (6.3 percent) from September 2007.

The September Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 165, is down 15 percent from last month, but 57 percent above September 2007. The September all potato price, at \$9.08 per cwt., is down \$2.25 from August, but up \$3.27 from last September. The all dry bean price, at \$39.10 per cwt., is up \$1.10 from the previous month and \$14.60 above September 2007.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		September 2007	August 2008	Sept. 15, 2008	September 2007	August 2008	Sept. 15, 2008
		Dollars					
Corn 2/	Tons	---	---	---	117.14	187.86	184.64
Wheat 2/	Tons	202.67	3/	3/	225.33	254.67	230.33
Oats 2/	Tons	4/	3/	4/	154.38	196.88	182.50
Barley 2/	Tons	3/	4/	4/	168.75	212.92	201.25
Sorghum Grain 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	6.17	8.40	8.39
Rice 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	10.30	18.00	17.90
Dry Edible Beans 2/	Cwt.	39.00	3/	4/	24.50	38.00	39.10
All Potatoes 5/	Cwt.	8.30	22.90	21.50	5.81	11.33	9.08
Winter	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	11.30	22.90	21.50	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	6.90	---	---	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	154.00	192.00	190.00	127.00	165.00	161.00
Alfalfa Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	164.00	210.00	208.00	135.00	180.00	176.00
Other Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	120.00	139.00	137.00	111.00	126.00	122.00
Upland Cotton Lint 2/	Lbs	3/	4/	4/	0.520	0.585	0.646
Cottonseed	Tons	4/	---	4/	137.00	---	253.00

- 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/ 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		
	Sept. 2007	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008	Sept. 2007	Aug. 2008	Sept. 2008
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	890	1/ 992	981	140	1/ 156	154
All Crops	702	1/ 874	856	142	1/ 177	174
Food Grains	685	1/ 819	752	216	1/ 258	237
Feed Grains and Hay	536	1/ 809	794	150	1/ 226	222
Cotton	440	1/ 494	546	86	1/ 97	107
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	532	1/ 988	836	105	1/ 195	165
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/	2,159	2,564	2,583	162	192	194
Parity Ratio 3/	41	1/ 39	38	86	1/ 81	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.

CASH INCOME BY COMMODITY GROUPS, CALIFORNIA, 2005-07 1/

Source of Income	2005	2006	2007
	\$1,000		
FIELD CROPS			
Alfalfa Seed	21,910	30,495	26,290
Barley	11,128	8,908	8,007
Beans, Dry	50,336	57,708	53,260
Corn for Grain	41,568	37,829	74,927
Cotton Lint	696,907	522,036	615,306
Cottonseed	73,109	77,471	84,908
Grain, Sorghum	2,413	3,022	3,746
Hay, All	703,783	635,658	836,653
Oats	520	430	1,615
Oil Crops	18,673	20,708	23,869
Potatoes (Excl. Sweet)	191,869	176,838	144,065
Potatoes, Sweet	84,376	74,792	80,864
Rice	367,060	371,270	461,457
Sugar Beets	68,385	68,775	64,797
Wheat	82,610	114,110	132,374
Other Seed Crops	117,790	149,782	141,710
Other Field Crops	358,768	377,040	500,235
TOTAL	2,891,205	2,726,872	3,254,083

Source of Income	2005	2006	2007
	\$1,000		
VEGETABLE CROPS	6,436,085	7,410,194	7,973,315
FRUIT AND NUT CROPS	10,884,057	10,233,284	10,535,273
LIVESTOCK, POULTRY AND PRODUCTS	8,425,628	7,547,271	10,734,914
NURSERY, GREENHOUSE AND FLORICULTURE	3,706,441	3,889,917	4,068,566
CHRISTMAS TREES	9,026	8,785	8,700
TOTAL CASH INCOME FROM MARKETINGS	32,352,441	31,816,324	36,574,850
FARM RELATED INCOME 2/	2,382,123	2,799,247	2,519,230
GROSS CASH INCOME FROM FARMING	34,734,564	34,615,571	39,094,080

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Includes value of home consumption, value of inventory adjustments, machine hire and custom work, forest products sold, rental value of farm dwelling, government payments, and other miscellaneous farm income.

Source: USDA Economic Research Service

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