



California Field Crop Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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Harvested acreage, at 7.59 million acres, is down 26 percent from last year. The American Pima cotton production in California is forecast 420 thousand bales, unchanged from last month's forecast, but down 47 percent from the 2007 crop. Harvested acreage is estimated at 151 thousand acres, resulting in a yield of 1,335 pounds per acre.

CALIFORNIA AND U.S. PRODUCTION FORECASTS

CORN: California's 2008 corn for grain production is expected to total 1.08 million tons, up 8 percent from last year. Harvested acreage of 215 thousand is up 8 percent, and the yield forecast of 5.04 tons per acre is unchanged from the previous year. The U.S. corn for grain production is forecast at 337 million tons, slightly below the October 1 forecast, and 8 percent below 2007. The average yield is forecast at 4.31 tons, 2 percent above last year. If realized, area harvested for grain will be the second largest on record since 1946, behind last year.

RICE: All rice production in California for 2008 is forecast at 41.9 million cwt. for 2008, down 4 percent from the previous year. The yield forecast is 8,100 pounds per acre, and the harvested acreage is estimated at 517 thousand. U.S. rice production is forecast at 203 million cwt., 3 percent above 2007. The average yield is forecast at 6,959 pounds per acre, slightly below last month, but down 226 pounds from last year. Area for harvest is expected to total 2.92 million acres, up 6 percent from last year.

COTTON: California's 2008 Upland cotton production is forecast at 380 thousand bales, unchanged from last month's forecast, but down 42 percent from last year. With harvested acreage of 117 thousand, the resulting yield is 1,559 pounds per acre. U.S. Upland cotton production is forecast at 13.1 million bales, 29 percent below the 2007 crop. The average yield, at 827 pounds per acre, is 37 pounds below last year.

SUGAR BEETS: California's sugar beet production is forecast at 1.01 million tons, down 31 percent from the 2007 crop. Harvested acreage is estimated at 25.8 thousand, and the yield forecast is 39.1 tons per acre. U.S. sugar beet production is forecast at 28.2 million tons, 1 percent above the October forecast, but 12 percent below last year's production. The yield is forecast at 26.8 tons per acre, 5 percent above last year. If realized, this will be the highest yield on record.

FIELD CROP ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

Crop	Area Harvested		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Unit	Production	
	2007	2008 Forecast		2007	2008 Forecast		2007	2008 Forecast
	1,000 Acres			Number			1,000	
CALIFORNIA								
Wheat, Winter 1/	240.0	400.0	Tons	2.40	2.55	Tons	576.0	1,020.0
Wheat, Durum 1/	75.0	155.0	Tons	2.85	3.15	Tons	213.8	488.3
Oats 1/	20.0	20.0	Tons	1.49	1.20	Tons	29.8	24.0
Barley 1/	40.0	55.0	Tons	1.44	1.32	Tons	57.6	72.6
Corn for Grain 1/	200.0	215.0	Tons	5.04	5.04	Tons	1,008.0	1,083.6
Rice, All 1/	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 2/	65.0	50.0	Cwt.	62.00	3/	Cwt.	4,030.0	3/
Cotton, Upland 1/ 4/	194.0	117.0	Lbs.	1,608.00	1,559.00	Bales	650.0	380.0
Cotton, American-Pima 1/ 4/	257.0	151.0	Lbs.	1,481.00	1,335.00	Bales	793.0	420.0
Sugar Beets 5/	39.1	25.8	Tons	37.50	39.10	Tons	1,466.0	1,009.0
Beans, Dry Edible 1/ 6/	58.0	51.0	Cwt.	20.90	21.00	Cwt.	1,212.0	1,071.0
Hay, All 1/	1,610.0	1,540.0	Tons	5.85	5.84	Tons	9,422.0	8,987.0
Alfalfa Hay 1/	990.0	950.0	Tons	7.20	7.10	Tons	7,128.0	6,745.0
Other Hay 1/	620.0	590.0	Tons	3.70	3.80	Tons	2,294.0	2,242.0
UNITED STATES								
Wheat, Winter 1/	35,952.0	39,614.0	Tons	1.27	1.42	Tons	45,479.7	56,037.1
Wheat, Durum 1/	2,112.0	2,584.0	Tons	1.02	0.98	Tons	2,150.6	2,546.3
Oats 1/	1,505.0	1,395.0	Tons	0.97	1.02	Tons	1,465.6	1,418.2
Barley 1/	3,508.0	3,767.0	Tons	1.45	1.53	Tons	5,083.8	5,748.0
Corn for Grain	86,542.0	78,177.0	Tons	4.23	4.31	Tons	366,069.0	336,557.0
Rice, All	2,748.0	2,924.0	Cwt.	71.85	69.59	Cwt.	197,456.0	203,476.0
Long 7/	2,052.0	2,297.0	Cwt.	69.29	3/	Cwt.	142,182.0	154,733.0
Medium 7/	630.0	576.0	Cwt.	81.24	3/	Cwt.	51,184.0	45,516.0
Short 7/	66.0	51.0	Cwt.	61.97	3/	Cwt.	4,090.0	3,227.0
Cotton, Upland 4/	10,201.0	7,585.0	Lbs.	864.00	827.00	Bales	18,355.1	13,069.0
Cotton, American-Pima 4/	288.1	170.0	Lbs.	1,419.00	1,296.00	Bales	851.8	459.0
Sugar Beets 5/	1,246.8	1,051.6	Tons	25.60	26.80	Tons	31,912.0	28,179.0
Beans, Dry Edible 1/ 6/	1,478.7	1,424.6	Cwt.	17.16	17.74	Cwt.	25,371.0	25,268.0
Hay, All 1/	61,625.0	60,439.0	Tons	2.44	2.49	Tons	150,304.0	150,500.0
Alfalfa Hay 1/	21,670.0	20,778.0	Tons	3.35	3.44	Tons	72,575.0	71,424.0
Other Hay 1/	39,955.0	39,661.0	Tons	1.95	1.99	Tons	77,729.0	79,076.0

1/ Estimates for current year carried forward from previous month.
 2/ Sweet rice production included with short grain.
 3/ To be released in 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.

CALIFORNIA MILLED RICE STOCKS – OCTOBER 2008

Milled rice stocks in all positions totaled 612 thousand cwt., 6 percent below a year ago. The data for whole kernels, second heads, screenings, and brewers were not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

ROUGH AND MILLED RICE STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS, OCTOBER 1

Type of Rice	CALIFORNIA 1/	
	2007	2008
	1,000 Cwt.	
ROUGH RICE TOTAL	2,995	1,837
Long Grain	77	---
Medium Grain	2,506	1,084
Short Grain	412	---
MILLED RICE TOTAL	651	612
Whole Kernels Total	442	---
Long Grain	---	---
Medium Grain	---	---
Short Grain	---	---
Broken Kernels Total	209	---
Second Heads	---	---
Screenings	---	---
Brewers	---	---

1/ Missing data not published to avoid disclosure of individual reports.

CALIFORNIA ROUGH RICE STOCKS – OCTOBER 1, 2008

California rough rice stocks in all positions on October 1, 2008, totaled 1.84 million cwt., down 39 percent from the total on October 1, 2007. California rough rice stocks were down 68 percent from the August 1, 2008 level. Medium grain varieties accounted for 59 percent of the total rough rice, while long and short varieties combined to account for 41 percent of the total rough rice stocks.

CALIFORNIA ROUGH RICE STOCKS

Month	Season		
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
	1,000 Cwt.		
December 1	30,395	35,672	38,189
March 1	21,195	24,129	27,523
June 1 a/	---	---	13,484
August 1	7,924	7,407	5,746
October 1	3,676	2,995	1,837

a/ Estimate began in 2008.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION

California's production of fall potatoes is expected to total 3.94 million cwt., 4 percent above last year. The yield is expected to be 5 percent above the previous year. The harvested acreage, at 7.80 thousand acres, is down 1 percent from 2007.

The total U. S. potato production in 2008 from all four seasons is forecast at 411 million cwt, down 8 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 1.04 million acres, decreased 8 percent from 2007. Yield is forecast at 394 cwt. per acre, down 2 cwt. from last year's record high.

The U.S. production of fall potatoes for 2008 is forecast at 373 million cwt, down 8 percent from 2007. Area harvested, at 918,200 acres, is virtually unchanged from the July estimate but 8 percent lower than last year. The average yield is forecast at 407 cwt. per acre, down 2 cwt. from last year's record high yield, and if realized, this will be the second highest yield on record.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION BY STATE

State	Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Acres		Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
California	7.9	7.8	480	505	3,792	3,939
Colorado	59.1	56.9	355	375	20,981	21,338
Idaho	349.0	304.0	373	378	130,010	114,805
- 10 SW Co.	21.0	15.0	490	525	10,290	7,875
- Other Co.	328.0	289.0	365	370	119,720	106,930
Maine	57.0	54.5	295	265	16,815	14,443
Massachusetts	2.7	2.7	310	260	837	702
Michigan	42.0	42.5	350	320	14,700	13,600
Minnesota	47.0	45.0	440	420	20,680	18,900
Montana	11.2	10.8	330	340	3,696	3,672
Nebraska	19.8	19.2	415	410	8,217	7,872
Nevada	7.3	5.8	390	410	2,847	2,378
New Mexico	5.4	5.8	370	370	1,998	2,146
New York	18.3	17.8	285	325	5,216	5,785
North Dakota	91.0	81.0	260	280	23,660	22,680
Ohio	3.0	2.1	330	325	990	683
Oregon	36.5	35.3	554	521	20,238	18,387
- Malheur Co.	3.5	2.8	455	415	1,593	1,162
- Other Co.	33.0	32.5	565	530	18,645	17,225
Pennsylvania	10.0	9.5	220	265	2,200	2,518
Rhode Island	0.6	0.5	300	285	180	143
Washington	165.0	155.0	620	605	102,300	93,775
Wisconsin	64.0	62.0	440	415	28,160	25,730
U.S. TOTAL - FALL	996.8	918.2	409	407	407,517	373,496
U.S. TOTAL - ALL SEASONS	1,129.7	1,043.1	396	394	446,807	410,545

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - OCTOBER 2008

Prices received by California farmers at mid-October were above September for all other hay. Sales were too insufficient to establish a mid-month price for wheat, oats, and barley. Prices were above a year earlier for all potatoes, summer potatoes, and all types of hay.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in October, at 145 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased nine points (5.8 percent) from September. The Crop Index is down 17 points (9.8 percent) and the Livestock Index decreased five points (3.8 percent). Producers received lower prices for corn, soybeans, wheat, and cattle and higher prices for sweet corn, broccoli, lettuce, and eggs. 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, cottonseed, and cotton offset decreased marketings of milk, wheat, sweet corn, and grapes.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up four points (2.8 percent) from October 2007. The Food Commodities Index, at 144, decreased eight points (5.3 percent) from last month, but was unchanged from October 2007.

The October All Crops index is 157, down 9.8 percent from September, but 5.4 percent above October 2007. Index decreases for feed grains & hay, food grains, oil-bearing crops, and potatoes & dry beans more than offset the index increase for commercial vegetables.

The October Food Grains index, at 205, is 18 percent below the previous month and 14 percent below a year ago. The October all wheat price, at \$193.00 per tons, is down \$54.67 from September and \$62.00 below October 2007.

The October Feed Grain and Hay index is 177, down 19 percent from last month, but 20 percent above a year ago. The corn price, at \$142.50 per ton, is down \$36.79 from last month, but \$25.00 above October 2007. The all hay price, at \$157 per ton, is down \$4.00 from September, but up \$29.00 from last October. Sorghum grain, at \$5.75 per cwt, is \$2.46 below September and 43 cents below October last year.

The October Cotton index, at 100, is down 1.0 percent from September, but 8.7 percent above last year. The October price, at 60.8 cents per pound, is down 0.3 cent from the previous month, but 5.3 cents above last October.

The October Potatoes and Dry Beans index, at 142, is down 11 percent from last month, but 37 percent above October 2007. The all potato price, at \$7.86 per cwt, is down 93 cents from September, but up \$2.18 from last October. The all dry bean price, at \$33.80 per cwt, is down \$3.00 from the previous month, but \$7.90 above October 2007.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		Oct. 2007	Sep. 2008	Oct. 15, 2008	Oct. 2007	Sep. 2008	Oct. 15, 2008
Dollars							
Corn 2/	Tons	---	---	---	117.50	179.29	142.50
Wheat 2/	Tons	223.67	3/	4/	255.00	247.67	193.00
Oats 2/	Tons	4/	4/	4/	153.13	205.63	169.38
Barley 2/	Tons	4/	3/	4/	188.75	239.17	207.08
Sorghum Grain 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	6.18	8.21	5.75
Rice 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	10.80	17.10	17.00
Dry Edible Beans 2/	Cwt.	3/	53.00	49.00	25.90	36.80	33.80
All Potatoes 5/	Cwt.	7.65	21.50	21.30	5.68	8.79	7.86
Winter	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	9.50	21.50	21.30	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	6.30	---	---	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	156.00	190.00	188.00	128.00	161.00	157.00
Alfalfa Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	166.00	203.00	200.00	136.00	176.00	172.00
Other Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	118.00	142.00	145.00	113.00	122.00	122.00
Upland Cotton Lint 2/	Lbs	4/	4/	4/	0.555	0.611	0.608
Cottonseed	Tons	246.00	4/	---	153.00	253.00	237.00

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		
	Oct. 2007	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008	Oct. 2007	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	896	980 1/	919	141	154	145
All Crops	734	856	773	149	174	157
Food Grains	752	793 1/	652	237	250 1/	205
Feed Grains and Hay	530	782 1/	633	148	219 1/	177
Cotton	469	516 1/	514	92	101 1/	100
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	524	804 1/	717	104	159 1/	142
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/	2,220	2,645	2,597	165	197	193
Parity Ratio 3/	41	39	37	86	81	77

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.