



United States Department of Agriculture
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California Field Crop Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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American-Pima cotton production is forecast at 400 thousand bales, 50 percent below last year's crop. The 151 thousand acres for harvest are 41 percent below last year. As of December 1, cotton harvest was nearly complete throughout the growing area.

The U.S. all cotton production is forecast at 13.6 million 480-pound bales, up 1 percent from the November forecast, but down 29 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 843 pounds per acre, up 6 pounds from last month, but down 36 pounds from the record high yield in 2007.

CALIFORNIA AND U.S. COTTON PRODUCTION FORECAST

California's 2008 **Upland** cotton production is forecast at 370 thousand bales as of December 1, 3 percent below the November forecast, and 43 percent below last year. This is based on 117 thousand acres for harvest, with an average yield of 1,518 pounds per acre. The harvest of the Upland cotton was behind last year due to cool weather in the early fall months.

Upland cotton harvested area, at 7.59 million acres, is unchanged from the November forecast, but down 26 percent from last year. **American-Pima** production is forecast at 444 thousand bales, down 3 percent from November and down 48 percent from last year. Harvested acres are unchanged from last month, but down 41 percent from last year.

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 1/	9.0	9.0	Cwt.	71.00	2/	Cwt.	639.0	2/
Medium 1/	459.0	458.0	Cwt.	85.30	2/	Cwt.	39,153.0	2/
Short 1/, 3/	65.0	50.0	Cwt.	62.00	2/	Cwt.	4,030.0	2/
Cotton, Upland 4/	194.0	117.0	Lbs.	1,608.00	1,518.00	Bales	650.0	370.0
Cotton, American-Pima 4/	257.0	151.0	Lbs.	1,481.00	1,272.00	Bales	793.0	400.0
Sugar Beets 1/, 5/	39.1	25.8	Tons	37.50	39.10	Tons	1,466.0	1,009.0
Beans, Dry Edible 6/	58.0	51.9	Cwt.	20.90	20.30	Cwt.	1,212.0	1,054.0
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 1/	86,542.0	78,177.0	Tons	4.23	4.31	Tons	366,069.0	336,557.0
Rice, All 1/	2,748.0	2,924.0	Cwt.	71.85	69.59	Cwt.	197,456.0	203,476.0
Long 1/, 7/	2,052.0	2,297.0	Cwt.	69.29	2/	Cwt.	142,182.0	154,733.0
Medium 1/, 7/	630.0	576.0	Cwt.	81.24	2/	Cwt.	51,184.0	45,516.0
Short 1/, 3/, 7/	66.0	51.0	Cwt.	61.97	2/	Cwt.	4,090.0	3,227.0
Cotton, Upland 4/	10,201.0	7,585.0	Lbs.	864.00	833.00	Bales	18,355.1	13,169.0
Cotton, American-Pima 4/	288.1	170.0	Lbs.	1,419.00	1,254.00	Bales	851.8	444.0
Sugar Beets 1/, 5/	1,246.8	1,051.6	Tons	25.60	26.80	Tons	31,912.0	28,179.0
Beans, Dry Edible 6/	1,478.7	1,448.0	Cwt.	17.16	17.75	Cwt.	25,371.0	25,701.0
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/ To be released January 12, 2009.
 3/ Sweet rice production included with short grain.
 4/ Cotton yield in pounds; production in 480-pound net weight bales.
 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/ Rice class production forecasts for 2008 are based on a five-year average of class percentages.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - NOVEMBER 2008

Prices received by California farmers at mid-November were above the previous month for other hay. Prices were below mid-November for dry edible beans, all potatoes, summer potatoes, fall potatoes, all hay and alfalfa hay. Mid-November prices for upland cotton lint were not published to avoid possible disclosure of individual operations. There was insufficient data to establish a Mid-November price for wheat, oats and barley. Prices were above a year earlier for dry edible beans, all potatoes, fall potatoes and all types of hay.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in November, at 139 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 12 points (7.9 percent) from October. The Crop Index is down 16 points (9.5 percent) and the Livestock Index decreased 2 points (1.6 percent). Producers received lower prices for soybeans, corn, lettuce and hogs, and higher prices for tomatoes, potatoes, cucumbers and cantaloupes. 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 milk, cattle, cotton, and cottonseed offset decreased marketings of soybeans, potatoes, peanuts and lettuce.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 2 points (1.4 percent) from November 2007. The Food Commodities Index, at 140, decreased 9 points (6.0 percent) from last month and decreased 5 points (3.4 percent) from November 2007.

The November All Crops Index is 152, down 9.5 percent from October, but 2.0 percent above November 2007. Index decreases for commercial vegetables, fruits and nuts, feed grains and hay and cotton more than offset the index increase for potatoes and dry beans.

The November Food Grains Index, at 216, is 5.3 percent below the previous month, and 5.7 percent below a year ago. The November all wheat price, at \$204.33 per ton, is down \$18.00 from October and \$42.00 below November 2007.

The November Feed Grains and Hay Index is 174, down 9.8 percent from last month, but 13 percent above a year ago. The corn price, at \$140.71 per ton, is down \$15.36 from last month, but \$17.85 above November 2007. The all hay price, at \$147.00 per ton, is down \$10.00 from October, but up \$18.00 from last November. Sorghum grain, at \$5.63 per cwt., is \$1.45 below October, and 63 cents below November last year.

The November Cotton Index, at 84, is down 8.7 percent from October and 12 percent below last year. The November price, at 50.8 cents per pound, is down 4.7 cents from the previous month and 6.6 cents below last November.

The November Potatoes and Dry Beans Index, at 156, is up 11 percent from last month, and 32 percent from November 2007. The all potato price, at \$8.87 per cwt., is up \$1.49 from October, and \$2.40 from last November. The all dry bean price, at \$33.10 per cwt., is down \$6.90 from the previous month, but \$5.00 above November 2007.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		November 2007	October 2008	Nov 15, 2008	November 2007	October 2008	Nov 15, 2008
Dollars							
Corn 2/	Tons	---	---	---	122.86	156.07	140.71
Wheat 2/	Tons	175.67	263.00	3/	246.33	222.33	204.33
Oats 2/	Tons	3/	3/	3/	164.38	203.13	148.13
Barley 2/	Tons	4/	4/	3/	179.58	233.75	198.75
Sorghum Grain 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	6.26	7.08	5.63
Rice 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	11.40	16.90	17.30
Dry Edible Beans 2/	Cwt.	46.90	66.80	65.60	28.10	40.00	33.10
All Potatoes 5/	Cwt.	6.65	14.40	10.80	6.47	7.38	8.87
Winter	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	21.30	18.50	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	6.65	10.30	10.10	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	157.00	185.00	177.00	129.00	157.00	147.00
Alfalfa Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	169.00	203.00	192.00	136.00	172.00	163.00
Other Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	105.00	128.00	129.00	118.00	122.00	116.00
Upland Cotton Lint 2/	Lbs	4/	4/	4/	0.574	0.555	0.508
Cottonseed	Tons	4/	---	277.00	158.00	237.00	223.00

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/ Insufficient data to establish a price.

4/ Not published due to possible disclosure.

5/ Monthly average.

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

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	Nov 2007	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Nov 2007	Oct 2008	Nov 2008
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	899	1/ 958	886	141	1/ 151	139
All Crops	733	1/ 828	751	149	1/ 168	152
Food Grains	728	1/ 725	687	229	1/ 228	216
Feed Grains and Hay	550	1/ 689	622	154	1/ 193	174
Cotton	485	1/ 469	429	95	1/ 92	84
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	595	1/ 709	791	118	1/ 140	156
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/	2,198	2,485	2,430	165	187	183
Parity Ratio 3/	41	39	36	85	81	76

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 2008 dry bean production is estimated at 1.05 million cwt., 13 percent below last year. Harvested acreage totaled 52.0 thousand, 11 percent below the previous year. The overall yield was 2,030 pounds per acre, down 3 percent from last year. **Large lima** production, at 340 thousand cwt., was 13 percent above the 2007 crop. **Baby lima** production, estimated at 270 thousand cwt., was 28 percent below last year's crop. **Light red kidney** production, at 30.0 thousand cwt., was 36 percent above last year. The **dark red kidney** output of 8.00 thousand cwt. was 60 percent above the 2007 crop. The **blackeye** crop of 145 thousand cwt. was 46 percent below last year. Production of **garbanzos** totaled 117 thousand cwt., 3 percent above last year.

U.S. production of dry edible beans is estimated at 25.7 million cwt. for 2008, up 2 percent from the October forecast and up 1 percent from 2007. Harvested area is forecast at 1.45 million acres, 2 percent above the October forecast, but 2 percent below the previous year's harvested acreage. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,775 pounds per acre, an increase of 1 pound from October's forecast and 59 pounds above the 2007 yield. If realized, this will be the highest yield on record for the U.S. Production increased from a year ago for all classes except pinto, large chickpeas, blackeye peas and small limas. Production remained unchanged for small white.

DRY BEAN ACRES HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, BY VARIETY, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES 1/								
Crop	Area Harvested			Yield Per Acre 2/			Production 2/	
	2007	2008		2007	2008	2007	2008	
	1,000 Acres			Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.	
CALIFORNIA								
Large Lima	13.8	15.5		21.40	21.90	302.0	340.0	
Baby Lima	15.6	11.7		24.20	23.10	377.0	270.0	
Blackeye	12.5	7.1		21.50	20.40	269.0	145.0	
Light Red Kidney	1.5	2.0		14.70	15.00	22.0	30.0	
Dark Red Kidney	0.5	0.6		10.00	13.30	5.0	8.0	
Pink 3/	---	---		---	---	---	---	
Garbanzo	6.0	6.3		19.00	18.60	114.0	117.0	
Black 3/	0.4	---		20.00	---	8.0	---	
Pinto 3/	---	---		---	---	---	---	
Cranberry	0.8	1.3		22.50	16.20	18.0	21.0	
Other (Misc.)	6.9	7.4		14.10	16.60	97.0	123.0	
BEANS, ALL DRY	58.0	51.9		20.90	20.30	1,212.0	1,054.0	
UNITED STATES								
Large Lima	13.8	15.5		21.40	21.90	302.0	340.0	
Baby Lima	15.6	11.7		24.20	23.10	377.0	270.0	
Blackeye	27.1	26.9		18.34	13.72	497.0	369.0	
Light Red Kidney	46.0	52.7		17.48	19.13	804.0	1,008.0	
Dark Red Kidney	39.1	45.2		16.91	18.92	661.0	855.0	
Pink	29.9	30.3		19.33	20.03	578.0	607.0	
Garbanzo	121.6	85.5		12.43	12.48	1,511.0	1,067.0	
Small White	0.4	0.5		25.00	20.00	10.0	10.0	
Navy	211.2	246.4		18.06	18.67	3,815.0	4,601.0	
Great Northern	57.0	71.2		20.81	22.87	1,186.0	1,628.0	
Cranberry	8.5	8.9		14.59	15.84	124.0	141.0	
Small Red	29.7	40.9		18.01	19.51	535.0	798.0	
Black	171.6	168.7		16.16	17.40	2,773.0	2,935.0	
Pinto	674.6	605.3		17.24	17.11	11,631.0	10,354.0	
Other (Misc.)	32.6	38.3		17.39	18.75	567.0	718.0	
BEANS, ALL DRY	1,478.7	1,448.0		17.16	17.75	25,371.0	25,701.0	

1/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

2/ Clean basis.

3/ Included in "Other (Misc.)" for California.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION

California's fall potato production is forecast at 3.94 million cwt., up 4 percent from 2007. Favorable weather conditions resulted in excellent crop quality and yields.

U.S. Production of fall potatoes for 2008 is forecast at 374 million cwt., up slightly from the November forecast but down 8 percent from 2007. Area harvested, at 921 thousand acres, is virtually unchanged from the November forecast, but 8 percent lower than last year. The average yield, forecast at 406 cwt. per acre, is down 1 cwt. from November's forecast and down 3 cwt. from last year's record high yield.

Idaho's yield is forecast at 378 cwt. per acre. If realized, this will be the second highest yield on record, 8 cwt. below the record yield set in 2006. Production in Idaho is down from last year due to a 13 percent decrease in harvested acres. In Eastern Washington, potatoes were planted on time, but growth was delayed due to cool, wet weather in the early summer which also delayed planting in the western part of the State. Potato size was smaller than last year, but quality was good. In Colorado, the growing season was favorable for the San Luis Valley. However, severe hail storms in August damaged plants just before vine killing. As a result, potato sizes were variable. Despite a slow start for the potato crop in Oregon, most growers reported normal to slightly below normal yields.

FALL POTATO ACRES HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION									
State	Acres Harvested			Yield			Production		
	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
	1,000 Acres			Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.		
California	8.6	7.9	7.8	450	480	505	3,870	3,792	3,939
Idaho	334.0	349.0	304.0	386	373	378	128,915	130,010	114,805
- 10 SW Co.	21.0	21.0	15.0	475	490	525	9,975	10,290	7,875
- Other Co.	313.0	328.0	289.0	380	365	370	118,940	119,720	106,930
Oregon	35.0	36.5	35.3	530	554	521	18,533	20,238	18,387
- Malheur Co.	3.5	3.5	2.8	435	455	415	1,523	1,593	1,162
- Other Co.	31.5	33.0	32.5	540	565	530	17,010	18,645	17,225
Washington	155.0	165.0	155.0	580	620	600	89,900	102,300	93,000
UNITED STATES TOTAL	1,121.9	1,129.7	1,046.1	393	396	393	441,348	446,807	411,409

FALL POTATO STOCKS

California's fall potato stocks were estimated at 1.90 million cwt. as of December 1, 2008, 5 percent below last year. The amount in storage on December 1 represents 48 percent of production, compared with 53 percent a year ago.

The 13 major potato States held 242 million cwt. of potatoes in storage December 1, 2008, down 9 percent from a year ago, and 7 percent below December 1, 2006. Potatoes in storage accounted for 66 percent of the 2007 fall storage States' production, slightly below December 1, 2007. Klamath Basin stocks totaled 4.00 million cwt. on December 1, 2008, down 5 percent from a year ago. Klamath Basin stocks include potatoes stored in California and Klamath County, Oregon.

Potato disappearance, at 123 million cwt., was 6 percent below December 1, 2007 and down 5 percent from December 1, 2006. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 13.0 million cwt., was down 8 percent from the same date in 2007 and down 2 percent from 2006.

Processors in the 9 major States have used 71.8 million cwt. of potatoes this season, down 2 percent from the same period last year and down 3 percent from 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounted for 10.7 million cwt. of the total processing, down 16 percent from last year and 26 percent below the same period in 2006.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS ON DECEMBER 1 a/

State	Crop of 2007			Crop of 2008		
	Production	Stocks Dec 1, 2007	Pct.of Prod.	Production	Stocks Dec 1, 2008	Pct.of Prod.
	1,000 Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.		
California	3,792	2,000	53	3,939	1,900	48
Idaho	130,010	92,000	71	114,805	83,000	72
Oregon	20,238	18,000	89	18,387	15,900	86
Klamath Basin b/	---	4,200	---	---	4,000	---
Washington	102,300	59,000	58	93,000	49,500	53
13-State Total	398,465	267,500	67	365,694	242,200	66

a/ Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant the following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2008 totaled 24.5 million cwt.

b/ Includes potato stocks in CA and Klamath County, OR.