



California Field Crop Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office · P.O. Box 1258 · Sacramento, CA 95812 · (916) 498-5161 · (916) 498-5186 Fax · www.nass.usda.gov/ca

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WHEAT FORECAST

California farmers are expected to produce 840 thousand tons of winter wheat in 2012, 22 percent below last year. The 350 thousand acres expected to be harvested for grain are down 17 percent from last year. The yield is expected to average 2.40 tons per acre, 6 percent below last year.

Durum wheat production is forecast at 449 thousand tons, an increase of 19 percent from 2011. Due to warm spring weather in California, crop development advanced ahead of normal. Acreage expected for harvest, at 130 thousand, is 13 percent above last year's acreage. If realized, California's yield of 3.45 tons per acre will be a record high.

U.S. winter wheat production is forecast at 50.8 million tons, up 13 percent from 2011. Based on May 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 1.43 tons per acre, up 3 percent from last year. Expected grain area totals 35.6 million acres, up 10 percent from last year.

The U.S. estimate for Durum wheat production for states other than Arizona and California will not be available until July 11, 2012.

WHEAT FORECAST

| Crop and Location | | Area Harvested | | Yield | | Production | |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------|--------|-------|------|------------|--------|
| | | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 |
| | | 1,000 Acres | | Tons | | 1,000 Tons | |
| WINTER | California | 420 | 350 | 2.55 | 2.40 | 1,071 | 840 |
| | UNITED STATES | 32,314 | 35,580 | 1.39 | 1.43 | 44,810 | 50,811 |
| DURUM | California | 115 | 130 | 3.27 | 3.45 | 376 | 449 |
| | Arizona | 79 | 99 | 3.03 | 3.45 | 239 | 342 |
| | UNITED STATES | 1,312 | 1/ | 1.15 | 2/ | 1,514 | 2/ |

1/ Published June 29, 2012. 2/ Published July 11, 2012.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - APRIL 2012

Mid-April prices received by California farmers were above March for all potatoes and fall potatoes. Prices for all hay and alfalfa hay were below the previous month. The mid-April price for other types of hay was unchanged from March. Mid-April prices for wheat and dry edible beans were not published to avoid possible disclosure of individual operations. There were insufficient sales to establish a mid-month price for barley or for cotton lint.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April, at 177 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, decreased 7 points (3.8 percent) from March. The Crop Index is down 5 points (2.4 percent) and the Livestock Index decreased 7 points (4.4 percent). Producers received lower prices for broilers, corn, cattle, and eggs and higher prices for soybeans, onions, hay, and oranges. 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 movement of cattle, strawberries, milk, and broilers offset the decreased marketing of soybeans, corn, wheat, and cotton.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 1 point (0.6 percent) from April 2011. The Food Commodities Index, at 166, decreased 5 points (2.9 percent) from last month but is unchanged from April 2011.

The April All Crops Index, at 205, decreased 2.4 percent from March, but is 2.5 percent above April 2011. Index decreases for feed grains & hay and food grains more than offset the index increases for oilseeds, fruits & nuts, and commercial vegetables.

The April Food Grains Index, at 223, is down 1.8 percent from the previous month and 8.6 percent below a year ago. The April price for all wheat, at \$229.00 per ton, is down \$10.67 from March and \$38.00 below April 2011.

The April Feed Grains & Hay Index, at 265, declined 2.2 percent from last month, but is 0.8 percent higher than a year ago. The corn price, at \$219.29 per ton, is down \$7.50 from last month and \$7.85 below April 2011. The all hay price, at \$190 per ton, is up \$47.00 from March and \$9.00 from last April. Sorghum grain, at \$10.40 per cwt., is 50 cents below March and down \$1.30 from April last year.

The April Upland Cotton Index, at 151, is up 1.3 percent from March and 5.6 percent above last year. The April price, at 91.6 cents per pound, is up 1.4 cents from the previous month and 4.9 cents from last April.

The April Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 192, is up 5.5 percent from last month and 2.1 percent above April 2011. The all potato price, at \$10.57 per cwt., is up 59 cents from March, but down 60 cents from last April. The all dry bean price, at \$47.90 per cwt., is up 80 cents from the previous month and \$16.10 higher than April 2011.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

| Commodity | Unit | CALIFORNIA | | | UNITED STATES | | |
|-----------------------|------|------------|------------|--------------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| | | April 2011 | March 2012 | Apr 15, 2012 | April 2011 | March 2012 | Apr 15, 2012 |
| Dollars | | | | | | | |
| Corn 2/ | Tons | --- | --- | --- | 227.14 | 226.79 | 219.29 |
| Wheat 2/ | Tons | 3/ | 3/ | 3/ | 267.00 | 239.67 | 229.00 |
| Oats 2/ | Tons | --- | --- | --- | 221.25 | 236.88 | 225.00 |
| Barley 2/ | Tons | 4/ | 4/ | 4/ | 183.75 | 222.08 | 226.25 |
| Sorghum Grain 2/ | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | 11.70 | 10.90 | 10.40 |
| Rice 2/ | Cwt. | --- | --- | --- | 13.10 | 13.60 | 14.30 |
| Dry Edible Beans 2/ | Cwt. | 45.70 | 56.30 | 3/ | 31.80 | 47.10 | 47.90 |
| All Potatoes 5/ | Cwt. | 19.30 | 8.75 | 9.00 | 11.17 | 9.98 | 10.57 |
| Spring | Cwt. | 20.20 | 4/ | 4/ | --- | --- | --- |
| Fall | Cwt. | 10.70 | 8.75 | 9.00 | --- | --- | --- |
| All Hay, Baled 2/ | Tons | 227.00 | 240.00 | 232.00 | 143.00 | 181.00 | 190.00 |
| Alfalfa Hay, Baled 2/ | Tons | 242.00 | 245.00 | 235.00 | 161.00 | 201.00 | 207.00 |
| Other Hay, Baled 2/ | Tons | 140.00 | 215.00 | 215.00 | 105.00 | 139.00 | 140.00 |
| Upland Cotton Lint 2/ | Lbs | 4/ | 3/ | 4/ | 0.867 | 0.902 | 0.916 |
| Cottonseed | Tons | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

- 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 possible disclosure of 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 | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------|----------|---------------|----------|----------|
| | Apr 2011 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 | Apr 2011 | Mar 2012 | Apr 2012 |
| Prices Received | | | | | | |
| All Farm Products | 1,115 | 1,166 | 1,122 | 176 | 184 | 177 |
| All Crops | 992 | 1,040 | 1,014 | 200 | 210 | 205 |
| Food Grains | 774 | 719 | 706 | 244 | 227 | 223 |
| Feed Grains and Hay | 938 | 967 | 944 | 263 | 271 | 265 |
| Cotton | 734 | 763 | 775 | 143 | 149 | 151 |
| Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans | 955 | 925 | 972 | 188 | 182 | 192 |
| Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 1/ | 2,706 | 2,829 | 2,830 | 203 | 213 | 213 |
| Parity Ratio 2/ | 41 | 41 | 40 | 87 | 86 | 83 |

- 1/ All production indexes as of 15th of month.
- 2/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.

SPRING POTATOES

In California, harvest is underway and growers are reporting a normal crop year. California spring potato production is forecast at 11.7 million cwt., up 1 percent from April's forecast and 7 percent from 2011.

Nationally, production for 2012 is forecast at 27.7 million cwt., up 2 percent from the previous forecast and 8 percent from 2011. Planted acreage is forecast at 97.7 thousand acres, a 1 percent decrease from the April forecast. Area for harvest is forecast at 96.1 thousand acres, up 500 acres from the previous forecast. The average yield forecast, at 289 cwt. per acre, is up 4 cwt. from the April forecast.

SPRING POTATOES

| State | Area Harvested | | Yield | | Production | | |
|----------------|----------------|------|-------|------|------------|--------|--------|
| | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
| | 1,000 Acres | | Cwt. | | 1,000 Cwt. | | |
| Arizona | 3.8 | 3.5 | 280 | 275 | 1,036 | 1,064 | 963 |
| California | 28.0 | 29.5 | 390 | 395 | 10,935 | 10,920 | 11,653 |
| Florida | 35.6 | 36.3 | 256 | 260 | 7,950 | 9,112 | 9,438 |
| Hastings | 23.1 | 23.3 | 270 | 260 | 5,075 | 6,237 | 6,058 |
| Other | 12.5 | 13.0 | 230 | 260 | 2,875 | 2,875 | 3,380 |
| North Carolina | 16.5 | 17.5 | 170 | 200 | 2,925 | 2,805 | 3,500 |
| Texas | 7.6 | 9.3 | 220 | 235 | 1,951 | 1,672 | 2,186 |
| UNITED STATES | 91.5 | 96.1 | 279 | 289 | 24,797 | 25,573 | 27,740 |

HAY STOCKS ON FARMS

Stocks of hay on California farms as of May 1, 2012 totaled 240 thousand tons. This is 15 percent of the December 1 stocks and is 50 percent above May 1, 2011.

Nationally, all hay stored on farms May 1, 2012, totaled 21.4 million tons, down 4 percent from a year ago. Disappearance from December 1, 2011 - May 1, 2012 totaled 69.3 million tons, compared with 79.9 million tons for the same period a year ago. This is the smallest disappearance since 1985.

HAY STOCKS ON FARMS

| State | December 1 | | | May 1 | | |
|---------------|------------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
| | 1,000 Tons | | | | | |
| California | 2,400 | 1,850 | 1,640 | 432 | 160 | 240 |
| Arizona | 500 | 365 | 250 | 60 | 40 | 35 |
| Nevada | 1,012 | 819 | 830 | 310 | 46 | 238 |
| Oregon | 2,200 | 2,100 | 2,200 | 420 | 280 | 275 |
| Utah | 1,330 | 1,050 | 1,420 | 245 | 144 | 350 |
| UNITED STATES | 107,222 | 102,134 | 90,726 | 20,931 | 22,217 | 21,381 |

2011 COTTON PRODUCTION

California farmers produced 556 thousand bales (480 lb. net weight) of Upland cotton in 2011, 46 percent more than the 380 thousand bales produced in 2010. Harvested acreage, at 181 thousand, was 47 percent above the 123 thousand harvested the previous year. The average yield was 1,474 pounds per acre, 9 pounds below 2010.

American-Pima producers planted 274 thousand acres, up 51 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 273 thousand acres, is up 52 percent from last year. Production is estimated at 785 thousand bales (480-pound), up 69 percent from last year. The average yield is estimated at 1,380 pounds per acre, up 143 pounds from 2010.

All cotton production in the U.S. is estimated at 15.6 million 480-pound bales, down 14 percent from the 2010 crop. The U.S. yield for all

cotton is estimated at 790 pounds per acre, down 22 pounds from the previous season.

The U.S. Upland cotton production is estimated at 14.7 million 480-pound bales, down 16 percent from the 2010 crop. The U.S. yield for Upland cotton is estimated at 772 pounds per acre, down 33 pounds from 2010. The Upland cotton abandonment rate, at 37 percent, is a record high.

The U.S. American-Pima production is estimated at 851,200 bales (480-pound), up 69 percent from 2010. The U.S. yield is estimated at 1,340 pounds per acre, up 140 pounds from the previous season.

COTTON AND COTTONSEED

| Commodity Item | | Unit | CALIFORNIA | | UNITED STATES | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|------------|---------|---------------|-----------|
| | | | 2010 | 2011 | 2010 | 2011 |
| UPLAND COTTON: | Acres Planted | 1,000 Acres | 124.0 | 182.0 | 10,770.0 | 14,428.0 |
| | Acres Harvested | 1,000 Acres | 123.0 | 181.0 | 10,497.0 | 9,156.0 |
| | Yield | Lbs./Acre | 1,483 | 1,474 | 805 | 772 |
| | Production 1/ | 1,000 Bales | 380.0 | 556.0 | 17,600.0 | 14,722.0 |
| | Price 2/ | Cents/Lb. | 105.0 | 108.0 | 81.5 | 91.3 |
| | Value 2/ 3/ | 1,000 Dollars | 191,520 | 279,936 | 6,915,833 | 6,596,123 |
| AMERICAN-PIMA COTTON: | Acres Planted | 1,000 Acres | 182.0 | 274.0 | 204.2 | 307.4 |
| | Acres Harvested | 1,000 Acres | 180.0 | 273.0 | 201.7 | 304.9 |
| | Yield | Lbs./Acre | 1,237 | 1,380 | 1,200 | 1,340 |
| | Production 1/ | 1,000 Bales | 464.0 | 785.0 | 504.1 | 851.2 |
| | Price 2/ | Cents/Lb. | 180.0 | 164.0 | 179.0 | 164.0 |
| | Value 2/ 3/ | 1,000 Dollars | 400,896 | 614,016 | 432,229 | 666,818 |
| COTTONSEED: | Production | 1,000 Tons | 330.0 | 565.0 | 6,098.1 | 5,370.0 |
| | Sales to Oil Mills | 1,000 Tons | 75.0 | 92.0 | 3,254.0 | 2,695.0 |
| | Other Farm Disposition 4/ | 1,000 Tons | 255.0 | 473.0 | 2,844.1 | 2,675.0 |
| | Used for Planting 4/ 5/ | 1,000 Tons | 4.1 | 3.5 | 97.8 | 87.4 |
| | Price | Dollars/Ton | 252.0 | 351.0 | 161.0 | 260.0 |
| | Value | 1,000 Dollars | 83,160 | 186,030 | 988,656 | 1,387,943 |
| | Value of Sales to Oil Mills | 1,000 Dollars | 18,900 | 32,292 | 523,894 | 700,700 |

1/ Production ginned and to be ginned. 2/ For 2011 based on marketings and monthly prices received from August 1, 2011 - December 31, 2011

3/ Value based on 480-lb. net weight bale. 4/ Includes planting seed, feed, exports, inter-farm sales, shrinkage, losses, and other uses.

5/ Seed for planting is produced in crop year shown, but used in the following year.

VIC TOLOMEO, Director
 SARAH HOFFMAN - KELLY KRUG, Deputy Directors
 Doug Flohr - Aaron Cosgrove
 Stephanie Holm - Robert Jeutong - Jennifer Johnson - Brian Kugel
 Jodi Letterman - John McDonnell - Karen Olmstead
 Lena Schwedler - Jennifer Van Court - Adam Wosoba
 Estimates Group - (916) 498-5161

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