



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

Released: January 18, 2013 · Frequency: Monthly · (USPS 598-270) VOL. 34 NO. 1

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Field Crop Acreage, Yield, and Production	1
Cotton, Hay, and Wheat	2
Rice and Grain	3
Field Crop Prices.....	4
Sweet Potato Production.....	5
Ag Census Reminder	6

FIELD CROP ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre			Production		
	2011	2012	2011	2012 Estimate	Unit	2011	2012 Estimate	Unit	2011	2012 Estimate
	1,000 Acres					Number			1,000	
CALIFORNIA										
Wheat, Winter 1/	670	610	420	310	Tons	2.55	2.55	Tons	1,071	791
Wheat, Durum	120	140	115	135	Tons	3.27	3.15	Tons	376	425
Oats 1/	200	230	15	25	Tons	1.60	1.44	Tons	24.0	36.0
Barley 1/	100	120	75	80	Tons	1.51	1.32	Tons	113	106
Corn, All	630	610	---	---	Tons	---	---	Tons	---	---
For Grain	---	---	150	180	Tons	5.18	5.18	Tons	777	932
For Silage	---	---	475	425	Tons	26.0	26.5	Tons	12,350	11,263
Rice, All	585	561	580	556	Lbs.	8,350	8,110	Cwt.	48,402	45,070
Long	7	6	7	6	Lbs.	5,500	5,000	Cwt.	385	300
Medium	535	500	530	495	Lbs.	8,500	8,300	Cwt.	45,050	41,085
Short 2/	43	55	43	55	Lbs.	6,900	6,700	Cwt.	2,967	3,685
Cotton, All 3/	456.0	367.0	454.0	365.0	Lbs.	1,418	1,604	Bales	1,341.0	1,220.0
Upland 3/	182.0	142.0	181.0	141.0	Lbs.	1,474	1,651	Bales	556.0	485.0
American-Pima 3/	274.0	225.0	273.0	224.0	Lbs.	1,380	1,575	Bales	785.0	735.0
Cottonseed 4/	---	---	---	---	Tons	---	---	Tons	565.0	515.0
Sugar Beets 5/	25.2	24.5	25.2	24.5	Tons	46.5	44.0	Tons	1,172	1,078
Beans, Dry, All 6/	57.5	58.5	57.0	57.5	Lbs.	1,900	2,270	Cwt.	1,083	1,304
Hay, All	---	---	1,410	1,550	Tons	5.66	5.62	Tons	7,980	8,715
Alfalfa	---	---	880	950	Tons	6.90	6.90	Tons	6,072	6,555
Other	---	---	530	600	Tons	3.60	3.60	Tons	1,908	2,160
Safflower	57.0	53.0	56.0	52.5	Lbs.	1,900	2,100	Lbs.	106,400	110,250
Sunflower	44.0	50.8	43.5	50.3	Lbs.	1,018	1,294	Lbs.	44,300	65,110
UNITED STATES										
Wheat, Winter 1/	40,646	41,324	32,314	34,834	Tons	1.39	1.42	Tons	44,810	49,356
Wheat, Durum	1,369	2,123	1,312	2,102	Tons	1.15	1.17	Tons	1,514	2,459
Oats 1/	2,496	2,760	939	1,045	Tons	0.91	0.98	Tons	858	1,024
Barley 1/	2,559	3,637	2,239	3,244	Tons	1.67	1.63	Tons	3,739	5,287
Corn, All	91,936	97,155	---	---	Tons	---	---	Tons	---	---
For Grain	---	---	83,989	87,375	Tons	4.12	3.45	Tons	346,069	301,848
For Silage	---	---	5,935	7,379	Tons	18.4	15.4	Tons	109,094	113,450
Rice, All	2,689	2,699	2,617	2,678	Lbs.	7,067	7,449	Cwt.	184,941	199,479
Long	1,794	1,994	1,739	1,979	Lbs.	6,691	7,285	Cwt.	116,352	144,163
Medium	851	649	834	643	Lbs.	7,861	8,020	Cwt.	65,562	51,571
Short 2/	44	56	44	56	Lbs.	6,880	6,688	Cwt.	3,027	3,745
Cotton, All 3/	14,735.4	12,315.4	9,460.9	9,426.8	Lbs.	790	866	Bales	15,573.2	17,009.9
Upland 3/	14,428.0	12,077.0	9,156.0	9,190.0	Lbs.	772	849	Bales	14,722.0	16,250.0
American-Pima 3/	307.4	238.4	304.9	236.8	Lbs.	1,340	1,540	Bales	851.2	759.9
Cottonseed 4/	---	---	---	---	Tons	---	---	Tons	5,370.0	5,759.0
Sugar Beets 5/	1,232.8	1,230.1	1,213.2	1,204.2	Tons	23.8	29.3	Tons	28,896	35,236
Beans, Dry, All 6/	1,217.9	1,742.5	1,167.9	1,690.4	Lbs.	1,703	1,889	Cwt.	19,890	31,925
Hay, All	---	---	55,653	56,260	Tons	2.36	2.13	Tons	131,216	119,878
Alfalfa	---	---	19,213	17,292	Tons	3.40	3.01	Tons	65,332	52,049
Other	---	---	36,440	38,968	Tons	1.81	1.74	Tons	65,884	67,829
Safflower	130.7	169.8	127.3	160.1	Lbs.	1,333	1,121	Lbs.	169,671	179,424
Sunflower	1,543.0	1,919.0	1,457.8	1,841.0	Lbs.	1,398	1,513	Lbs.	2,038,275	2,785,695

- 1/ Includes acreage planted during the preceding fall.
- 2/ Sweet rice acreage, yield, and production are included with short grain.
- 3/ Cotton yield is in pounds; production is in 480 pound net-weight bales. For 2012, production is ginned and to be ginned.
- 4/ Estimates based on 3-year average lint-seed ratio.
- 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 on a clean basis.

CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES COTTON

California's 2012 **Upland** cotton production is estimated at 485 thousand 480-pound bales as of January 1, a decrease of 13 percent from last year. This is based on 141 thousand acres for harvest. The yield is calculated at a record high 1,651 pounds per acre, up 177 pounds from last year.

California's 2012 **American Pima** cotton production is estimated at 735 thousand 480-pound bales, 6 percent below last year's crop. The yield of 1,575 pounds is 195 pounds above 2011.

U.S. **Upland** cotton production is estimated at 16.3 million 480-pound bales, down 2 percent from the December 1 forecast but up 10 percent from last year. The U.S. yield for Upland cotton is estimated at 849 pounds per acre, up 68 pounds from last month and up 77 pounds from 2011. Upland planted area, estimated at 12.1 million acres, is down 16 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 9.19 million acres, is down 10 percent from last month, but up fractionally from last year. Record high yields are forecast in Alabama, California, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia.

U.S. **American Pima** producers planted 238 thousand acres, down 22 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 27.0 thousand acres, is down 22 percent from last year. Production is estimated at 760 thousand bales (480-pound), up 16 percent from the September 1 forecast but down 11 percent from last year. The U.S. yield is estimated at 1,540 pounds per acre, up 212 pounds from the September 1 forecast and up 200 pounds from last year.

HAY STOCKS

Stocks of all hay on California farms totaled 1.90 million tons as of December 1, 2012. This was 16 percent above the 1.64 million tons on hand a year earlier.

As of December 1, 2012 U.S. hay stocks stored on farms totaled 76.5 million tons, down 16 percent from a year ago. This is the lowest December 1 stocks level since 1957. Disappearance from May 1, 2012 - December 1, 2012 totaled 64.7 million tons, compared with 62.7 million tons for the same period a year ago.

HAY STOCKS ON FARMS

State	May 1		December 1	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
	1,000 Tons			
California	160	240	1,640	1,900
Arizona	40	35	250	240
Nevada	46	238	830	650
Oregon	280	275	2,200	1,700
Utah	144	350	1,420	900
United States	22,217	21,381	90,726	76,547

WINTER AND DURUM WHEAT SEEDING

California farmers are expected to seed 610 thousand acres to winter wheat for the 2013 crop, unchanged from the 2012 crop.

The U.S. Winter wheat seeded area for 2013 is estimated at 41.8 million acres, up 1 percent from 2012 and 3 percent above 2011. Seeding began last August but by the middle of September was behind the 5-year average as producers waited for improved soil moisture levels. However, by the end of October, seeding had progressed ahead of last year and the 5-year average. More acres were seeded this year due to the early row crop harvest and higher prices.

Durum wheat seedings in Arizona and California for 2013 harvest are estimated at 170 thousand acres, down 31 percent from 2012 and 15 percent below 2011. Planting has progressed well in both the San Joaquin Valley and Imperial Valley. No major problems with the crop have been reported.

WINTER AND DURUM WHEAT SEEDING

Area	2011	2012	2013	<u>2013</u> <u>2012</u>
	1,000 Acres			Percent
WINTER WHEAT				
California	670	610	610	100
United States	40,646	41,324	41,820	101
DURUM WHEAT				
California	120	140	90	64
Arizona	80	105	80	76
United States	1,369	2,123	a/	a/

a/ To be published in "Prospective Plantings" on March 28, 2013.

CALIFORNIA AND U.S. RICE CROP

California farmers produced 45.1 million cwt. of rice in 2012. This was 7 percent below the 48.4 million cwt. produced in 2011. The 2012 crop included 300 thousand cwt. of long grain rice, 22 percent below the 385 thousand cwt. produced in 2011. Medium grain production totaled 41.1 million cwt., 9 percent below the 2011 crop. Short grain production was 3.7 million cwt., 24 percent above the previous year. The overall yield of 8,110 pounds per acre was 240 pounds below 2011.

Nationally, production in 2012 is estimated 199 million cwt, up slightly from the previous forecast and 8 percent above 2011. Planted area is estimated at 2.70 million acres, up slightly from 2011. Area harvested, at 2.68 million acres, is up 2 percent from the previous crop year. The average yield for all United States rice is estimated at a record high 7,449 pounds per acre, up 32 pounds from the previous forecast and 382 pounds above the 2011 yield. Good growing conditions, combined with dry weather conditions at harvest led to record setting yields in Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and Texas.

CALIFORNIA DECEMBER 1 ROUGH RICE STOCKS

On December 1, California rough rice stocks in all positions totaled 38.6 million cwt., 3 percent below last year. Off-farms stocks including stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, ports and in transit, totaled 35.6 million cwt. of the total rough rice stored. Stocks being stored on farms accounted for 3.0 million cwt.

CALIFORNIA ROUGH RICE STOCKS

Month	Season		
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
	1,000 Cwt.		
December 1	38,863	39,767	38,607
March 1	27,228	26,571	---
June 1	12,924	13,103	---
August 1	6,622	7,149	---
October 1	2,063	2,480	---

ROUGH AND MILLED RICE STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS

Type of Rice	CALIFORNIA		UNITED STATES	
	December 1		December 1	
	2012	2012	2012	2012
1,000 Cwt.				
ROUGH RICE				
Long Grain	453	a/	93,027	98,662
Medium Grain	36,407	34,578	50,935	45,349
Short Grain	2,907	a/	2,907	3,575
TOTAL ROUGH RICE	39,767	38,607	146,869	147,586
MILLED RICE				
Whole Kernels (Head Rice)				
Long Grain	a/	a/	2,699	2,574
Medium Grain	1,143	a/	1,406	1,638
Short Grain	a/	a/	199	99
Total	1,341	1,625	4,304	4,311
Broken Kernels				
Second Heads	465	a/	1,037	1,247
Screenings	b/	a/	192	136
Brewers	515	a/	710	1,225
Total	980	1,254	1,939	2,608
TOTAL MILLED RICE	2,321	2,879	6,243	6,919

a/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

b/ Screenings included with second heads.

GRAIN STOCKS

Stocks of wheat in California on December 1, 2012 totaled 375 thousand tons, 13 percent below the 433 thousand tons on hand a year earlier. U.S. stocks of all wheat totaled 49.8 million tons, down slightly from a year ago.

Barley stocks in California on December 1, 2012 totaled 18.4 thousand tons, 12 percent below a year earlier. U.S. barley stocks, at 3.79 million tons, were 14 percent above the December 1, 2011 total.

Off-farm stocks of corn in California totaled 292 thousand tons on December 1, 2012, 21 percent below a year earlier. U.S. stocks of corn in all positions totaled 225 million tons.

**GRAIN STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS
(Includes stocks under support and government owned grain.)**

Grain and Position	Dec. 1, 2011	Sept. 1, 2012 1/	Dec. 1, 2012
	Tons		
ALL WHEAT			
California			
On-Farm	24,000	30,000	21,000
Off-Farm 2/	409,260	527,130	354,000
Total	433,260	557,130	375,000
U.S. Total	49,875,540	63,142,110	49,795,650
BARLEY			
California			
Off-Farm 2/ 3/	20,976	18,408	18,360
U.S. Total	3,334,584	4,722,624	3,789,480
OATS			
California			
Off-Farm 2/ 3/	3,520	2,608	2,528
U.S. Total	1,266,160	1,359,552	1,168,848
CORN			
California			
Off-Farm 2/ 3/	368,508	103,516	292,264
U.S. Total	270,111,044	27,692,756	224,853,272
SORGHUM GRAIN			
California			
Off-Farm 2/	6,804	1,232	9,996
U.S. Total	4,226,628	642,656	3,892,924

1/ Revised corn, oats barley and wheat.

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

3/ California on-farm stocks and total stocks are included in U.S. totals.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - DECEMBER 2012

Prices received by California farmers at mid-December were above November for dry, edible beans, all potatoes, fall potatoes and cottonseed. The December prices were below November for alfalfa hay and all types of hay. Mid-December prices for wheat and upland cotton were not published due to possible disclosure of individual operations. There was insufficient data to establish a mid-December price for barley and spring potatoes. Prices were above a year earlier for dry, edible beans and cottonseed.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 201 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, decreased 5 points (2.4 percent) from November. The Crop Index is down 8 points (3.4 percent) and the Livestock Index remained unchanged. Producers received lower prices for milk, lettuce, turkeys, and eggs and higher prices for soybeans, broilers, cattle, and grapes. 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 wheat, milk, broilers, and hay offset the decreased marketing of corn, soybeans, cattle, and grapes.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 22 points (12 percent) from December 2011. The Food Commodities Index, at 187, decreased 3 points (1.6 percent) from last month, but increased 18 points (11 percent) from December 2011.

The December All Crops Index, at 228, decreased 3.4 percent from November, but is 15 percent above December 2011. Index decreases for fruits & nuts, feed grains & hay, and commercial vegetables more than offset the index increases for oilseeds and food grains.

The December Food Grains Index, at 268, is 1.1 percent above the previous month and 13 percent above a year ago. The December price for all wheat, at \$277.67 per ton, is down \$4.33 from November but \$37.67 above December 2011.

The December Feed Grains & Hay Index, at 299, is down 1 percent from last month, but 19 percent above a year ago. The corn price, at \$250.36 per ton, is down 35 cents from last month, but \$41.07 above December 2011. The all hay price, at \$192 per ton, is down \$1.00 from November, but up \$18.00 from last December. Sorghum grain, at \$12.30 per cwt., is 10 cents below November, but \$1.80 above December last year.

The December Upland Cotton Index, at 114, is up 0.9 percent from November, but 22 percent below last year. The December price, at 68.8 cents per pound, is up 0.4 cents from the previous month, but 20.1 cents below last December.

The December Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 139, is down 3.5 percent from last month and 17 percent below December 2011. The all potato price, at \$7.26 per cwt., is down 13 cents from November and \$1.80 lower than last December. The all dry bean price, at \$36.70 per cwt., is down \$2.50 from the previous month and \$5.30 below December 2011.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS ^{a/}

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		December 2011	November 2012	Dec 15, 2012	December 2011	November 2012	Dec 15, 2012
Dollars							
Corn b/	Tons	---	---	---	209.29	250.71	250.36
Wheat b/	Tons	c/	271.00	c/	240.00	282.00	277.67
Oats b/	Tons	---	---	---	223.13	245.00	236.25
Barley b/	Tons	d/	d/	d/	227.50	268.75	257.08
Sorghum Grain b/	Cwt.	---	---	---	10.50	12.40	12.30
Rice b/	Cwt.	---	---	---	14.70	14.40	14.80
Dry Edible Beans b/	Cwt.	51.20	54.70	55.20	42.00	39.20	36.70
All Potatoes ^{e/}	Cwt.	8.75	6.85	6.95	9.06	7.39	7.26
Spring	Cwt.	d/	d/	d/	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	8.75	6.85	6.95	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled b/	Tons	231.00	204.00	203.00	174.00	193.00	192.00
Alfalfa Hay, Baled b/	Tons	240.00	210.00	209.00	195.00	215.00	217.00
Other Hay, Baled b/	Tons	200.00	180.00	180.00	131.00	144.00	142.00
Upland Cotton Lint b/	Lbs	1.180	c/	c/	0.889	0.684	0.688
Cottonseed	Tons	350.00	365.00	369.00	264.00	257.00	254.00

a/ 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.

b/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

c/ Not published to avoid possible disclosure of operations.

d/ Insufficient data to establish a price.

e/ Monthly average.

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

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	Dec 2011	Nov 2012	Dec 2012	Dec 2011	Nov 2012	Dec 2012
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	1137	1310	1274	179	206	201
All Crops	982	1169	1128	198	236	228
Food Grains	750	839	849	237	265	268
Feed Grains and Hay	900	1077	1067	252	302	299
Cotton	752	579	582	147	113	114
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	853	731	703	168	144	139
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 1/	2738	2897	2888	206	218	217
Parity Ratio 2/	42	45	44	87	94	93

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.

SWEET POTATO PRODUCTION

California sweet potato production for 2012 is estimated at 6.17 million cwt., an increase of 6 percent over last year's crop. Harvested acres are estimated at 18.0 thousand acres, 1 percent below 2011. The yield of 343 cwt. per acre is 7 percent above last year.

Nationally, production of sweet potatoes in 2012 is estimated at 26.5 million cwt., down 2 percent from last year. Growers harvested 127 thousand acres, down 2 percent from last year. Yield per acre, at 209 cwt., is up 1 cwt from last year. In Mississippi, yields were negatively impacted in some areas due to excessive rainfall. In Florida, frost damage was reported in some areas, but the impact was minimal. Growing conditions were favorable in Louisiana resulting in a yield that is the highest on record. Favorable growing conditions also prevailed in New Jersey.

SWEET POTATO PRODUCTION

State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
	1,000 Acres				Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.	
Alabama	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.6	129	210	323	546
Arkansas	3.6	4.0	3.5	3.9	180	200	630	780
California	18.5	18.0	18.2	18.0	320	343	5,824	6,174
Florida	3.3	6.4	3.0	6.3	160	120	480	756
Louisiana	14.0	10.0	13.0	9.5	185	205	2,405	1,948
Mississippi	24.0	24.0	23.0	22.0	181	160	4,163	3,520
New Jersey	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	150	160	195	208
North Carolina	65.0	63.0	64.0	62.0	200	200	12,800	12,400
Texas	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.0	120	150	144	150
United States	133.6	130.5	129.7	126.6	208	209	26,964	26,482



Fill out your Agriculture Census.

Visit www.agcensus.usda.gov



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

2012 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE
YOUR VOICE. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

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

USDA-NASS, California Field Office publications
are available free-of-charge on the Internet at:
www.nass.usda.gov/ca