



# California Field Crop Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## MARCH 1, 2013 PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

California's March intentions estimates were based on a survey of more than 2,500 California farmers. The survey was conducted March 1-15, but referred to farmers' intentions on **March 1**. Therefore, the impact of weather or market conditions since that date is not reflected in this report.

**COTTON:** On March 1, California farmers were intending to plant 90.0 thousand acres of Upland cotton in 2013, down 37 percent from the acreage seeded in 2012. In addition, growers were expecting to seed 190 thousand acres of American Pima cotton in 2013, down 16 percent from last year. Nationally, Upland area is expected to total 9.82 million acres, down 19 percent from 2012. American Pima area is expected to total 206 thousand acres, down 14 percent from 2012.

**CORN:** California farmers were expecting to plant 560 thousand acres of corn for all purposes in 2013, an 8 percent decrease from last year. **U.S.** corn growers intend to plant 97.3 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2013, up slightly from last year and 6 percent higher than in 2011. If realized, this will represent the highest planted acreage in the U.S. since 1936 when an estimated 102 million acres were planted.

**OATS:** On March 1, farmers in **California** had planted or were expecting to plant 200 thousand acres of oats, 13 percent less than in 2012. This is the same acreage as in 2011 and represents a record low acreage for California. **Nationally**, area seeded to oats for the 2013 crop year is expected to total 2.90 million acres, up 5 percent from 2012. If realized, this will be the third lowest U.S. total on record.

**WHEAT:** In **California**, acreage seeded to Winter wheat is forecast at 610 thousand acres, unchanged from last year. Another 90.0 thousand acres have been seeded to Durum wheat, 36 percent below the amount planted in 2012. At the **U.S.** level, the 2013 winter wheat planted area is estimated at 42.0 million acres, is 2 percent above last year and up slightly from the previous estimate. Area seeded to Durum wheat is estimated at 1.75 million acres, down 18 percent from the previous year.

**RICE:** California farmers intended to seed rice on 550 thousand acres, 2 percent below the acreage seeded in 2012. The expressed intentions were to seed 490 thousand acres of medium grain varieties, 2 percent below last year. The long grain rice acreage forecast is 5.0 thousand acres, down 17 percent from last season. The short grain rice planted acreage forecast is 55.0 thousand acres, unchanged from last season. Short grain and all rice forecasts include the intended plantings of sweet rice. **Nationally**, area planted to rice in 2013 is expected to total 2.61 million acres, down 3 percent from 2012. Higher prices for competing commodities contributed to the expected decline in rice acres compared with last year. While short grain acres are expected to remain unchanged, long and medium grain acres are expected to be down 3 and 4 percent, respectively.

**BARLEY:** On March 1, **California** farmers had planted or intended to plant 90.0 thousand acres of barley, down 25 percent from the previous year. **U.S.** producers intend to seed 3.63 million acres of barley for the 2013 crop year, down slightly from the previous year. If realized, this will be the fifth smallest seeded area on record.

**SUGAR BEETS:** California producers have planted or intend to plant 24.5 thousand acres of sugar beets, unchanged from the acreage seeded in 2012. **Nationally**, area planted to sugar beets for the 2013 crop year is expected to total 1.20 million acres, down 2 percent from the 1.23 million acres planted in 2012.

**DRY EDIBLE BEANS:** On March 1, seeding of dry edible beans was planned for 49.0 thousand acres in **California**, down 6 percent from last year. **Nationally**,

growers intend to plant 1.50 million acres in 2013, down 14 percent from last year, but 23 percent above 2011.

**ALL HAY:** California producers intend to harvest hay from 1.45 million acres, down 6 percent from last year. **U.S.** producers intend to harvest 56.4 million acres of all hay in 2013, up slightly from 2012.

**SWEET POTATOES:** California farmers were expecting to plant 18.0 thousand acres of sweet potatoes in 2013, unchanged from last year. **Nationally**, planted area of sweet potatoes is estimated at 122 thousand acres for the 2013 season, down 6 percent from last year.

## CALIFORNIA AND U.S. FIELD CROPS

Crop	2011	2012	Indicated 2013	<u>2013</u>
	1,000 Acres			2012
<b>Wheat, Winter 1/</b>				
California	670	610	610	100
U.S.	40,646	41,324	41,988	102
<b>Wheat, Durum 2/</b>				
California 3/	120	140	90	64
U.S.	1,369	2,123	1,751	82
<b>Oats 1/ 2/</b>				
California	200	230	200	87
U.S.	2,496	2,760	2,901	105
<b>Barley 1/ 2/</b>				
California	100	120	90	75
U.S.	2,559	3,637	3,634	100
<b>Corn, All 2/</b>				
California	630	610	560	92
U.S.	91,936	97,155	97,282	100
<b>Rice 2/</b>				
California:				
All	585	561	550	98
Long	7	6	5	83
Medium	535	500	490	98
Short 4/	43	55	55	100
U.S.:				
All	2,689	2,699	2,611	97
Long	1,794	1,994	1,933	97
Medium	851	649	622	96
Short	44	56	56	100
<b>Cotton, Upland 2/</b>				
California	182.0	142.0	90.0	63
U.S.	14,428.0	12,077.0	9,820.0	81
<b>Cotton, Amer.-Pima 2/</b>				
California	274.0	225.0	190.0	84
U.S.	307.4	238.4	206.0	86
<b>Beans, Dry Edible 2/ 5/</b>				
California	57.5	58.5	49.0	84
U.S.	1,217.9	1,742.5	1,500.0	86
<b>Sugar Beets 6/</b>				
California 7/	25.2	24.5	24.5	100
U.S. 8/	1,232.8	1,230.1	1,201.1	98
<b>Hay, All 2/ 9/</b>				
California	1,410	1,550	1,450	94
U.S.	55,653	56,260	56,419	100
<b>Sweet Potatoes 2/</b>				
California	18.5	18.0	18.0	100
U.S.	133.6	130.5	122.3	94

1/ Includes area planted in preceding fall.

2/ Intended plantings in 2013 as indicated by reports from farmers.

3/ Includes area planted in preceding fall in California.

4/ Includes sweet rice.

5/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

6/ Intended plantings in 2013 as indicated by reports from processors.

7/ Relates to year of intended harvest for fall planted beets in central California and to year of planting for overwintered beets in central and southern California.

8/ Relates to year of intended harvest in all states, except California.

9/ Area harvested.

**CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES – MARCH 2013**

Mid-March prices received by California farmers decreased from February for all types of hay and were unchanged for fall potatoes. There was insufficient data to publish a price for wheat, barley, dry edible beans, spring potatoes and upland cotton lint.

**U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX**

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March, at 202 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased 3 points (1.5 percent) from February. The Crop Index is up 5 points (2.1 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 3 points (1.9 percent). Producers received higher prices for lettuce, broilers, corn, and eggs and lower prices for hogs, milk, wheat, and onions. 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 strawberries, corn, broilers, and milk offset the decreased marketing of cattle, soybeans, cotton, and hay.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 18 points (9.8 percent) from March 2012. The Food Commodities Index, at 185, increased 2 points (1.1 percent) from last month and is 13 points (7.6 percent) higher than March 2012.

The March All Crops Index, at 240, increased 2.1 percent from February and is 14 percent above March 2012. Index increases for

feed grains & hay and commercial vegetables more than offset the index decreases for oilseeds and food grains.

The March Food Grains Index, at 246, is 2.4 percent below the previous month but 7.4 percent above a year ago. The March price for all wheat, at \$255.33 per ton, is down \$10.34 cents from February but \$15.33 higher than March 2012.

The March Feed Grains & Hay Index, at 307, is up 2.0 percent from last month and 13 percent above a year ago. The corn price, at \$256.43 per ton, is up \$5.00 from last month and \$29.64 above March 2012. The all hay price, at \$196 per ton, increased \$2.00 from February and is \$13.00 higher than last March. Sorghum grain, at \$12.30 per cwt., is 20 cents above February and up \$1.40 from March last year.

The March Upland Cotton Index, at 123, is down 0.8 percent from February and 17 percent below last year. The March price, at 74.6 cents per pound, is down 0.7 cents from the previous month and 15.4 cents below last March.

The March Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 144, is down 3.4 percent from last month and 21 percent below March 2012. The all potato price, at \$8.14 per cwt., is up 2 cents from February, but down \$1.84 from last March. The all dry bean price, at \$32.00 per cwt., is down \$6.50 from the previous month and \$15.10 below March 2012.

**AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS a/**

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		March 2012	February 2013	Mar 15, 2013	March 2012	February 2013	Mar 15, 2013
Dollars							
Corn b/	Tons	---	---	---	226.79	251.43	256.43
Wheat b/	Tons	c/	d/	d/	240.00	265.67	255.33
Oats b/	Tons	---	---	---	235.63	253.13	255.63
Barley b/	Tons	d/	c/	d/	222.50	269.58	262.08
Sorghum Grain b/	Cwt.	---	---	---	10.90	12.10	12.30
Rice b/	Cwt.	---	---	---	14.10	14.80	15.30
Dry Edible Beans b/	Cwt.	56.30	c/	d/	47.10	38.50	32.00
All Potatoes e/	Cwt.	8.75	6.75	6.75	9.98	8.12	8.14
Spring	Cwt.	d/	d/	d/	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	8.75	6.75	6.75	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled b/	Tons	239.00	207.00	201.00	183.00	194.00	196.00
Alfalfa Hay, Baled b/	Tons	245.00	212.00	204.00	200.00	218.00	219.00
Other Hay, Baled b/	Tons	215.00	187.00	185.00	147.00	148.00	149.00
Upland Cotton Lint b/	Lbs	c/	0.873	d/	0.900	0.753	0.746
Cottonseed	Tons	---	d/	---	---	217.00	---

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		
	Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2013
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	1168	1262	1280	184	199	202
All Crops	1044	1163	1187	211	235	240
Food Grains	727	798	780	229	252	246
Feed Grains and Hay	968	1074	1096	271	301	307
Cotton	762	637	631	149	124	123
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	925	756	731	182	149	144
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 1/	2842	2940	2942	213	221	221
Parity Ratio 2/	41	43	44	86	90	91

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.

## GRAIN STOCKS

On March 1, 2013 **California** wheat stocks in all positions totaled 229 thousand tons, 2 percent below a year earlier. Off-farm corn stocks were 15 percent below March 2012. Barley off-farm stocks were 9 percent above March 2012. Oats totaled 1.89 thousand tons in California off-farm storage facilities as of March 1. **U.S.** wheat stocks in all positions were 3 percent above a year earlier as of March 1, 2013. Barley stocks were up 24 percent and oat stocks were down 30 percent, respectively. U.S. corn stocks in all positions totaled 151 million tons, and sorghum grain stocks totaled 2.56 million tons.

## OFF-FARM RICE STOCKS

Stocks of milled rice stored in **California** mills and warehouses on March 1, 2013 totaled 2.22 million cwt. This was 17 percent above the 1.89 million cwt. stored a year earlier. Whole kernels accounted for 30 percent of the total milled rice in storage. **Nationally**, milled rice stocks in all positions totaled 6.67 million cwt., up 48 percent from a year ago. Milled rice stocks were comprised of 3.98 million cwt. of whole kernel rice and 2.69 million cwt. of second heads, screenings, and brewers rice.

**California** rough rice stocks in all positions totaled 26.6 million cwt. on March 1, 2013. This was slightly above the stocks on hand a year earlier. **Nationally**, rough rice in all positions on March 1 totaled 104 million cwt., down 2 percent from the total on March 1, 2012.

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

Grain and Position	March 1, 2012	Dec. 1, 2012	March 1, 2013
	Tons		
<b>ALL WHEAT</b>			
California			
On-Farm	18,000	21,000	15,000
Off-Farm 1/	<u>216,780</u>	<u>354,000</u>	<u>214,020</u>
Total	234,780	375,000	229,020
U.S. Total	35,980,350	50,117,370	37,023,540
<b>BARLEY</b>			
California			
Off-Farm 1/ 2/	16,920	22,152	18,432
U.S. Total	2,249,472	3,793,272	2,792,280
<b>OATS</b>			
California			
Off Farm 1/ 2/	2,464	2,528	1,888
U.S. Total	1,196,704	1,170,416	841,472
<b>CORN</b>			
California			
Off-Farm 1/ 2/	270,704	292,264	231,168
U.S. Total	168,653,968	224,916,496	151,170,432
<b>SORGHUM GRAIN</b>			
California			
Off-Farm 1/ 2/	4,620	9,996	4,872
U.S. Total	3,025,848	3,915,716	2,558,948

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

2/ California on-farm stocks and total stocks are included in United States totals.

### ROUGH AND MILLED RICE STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS

Type of Rice	CALIFORNIA		UNITED STATES	
	March 1		March 1	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
1,000 Cwt.				
<b>ROUGH RICE</b>				
Long Grain	366	a/	68,469	69,313
Medium Grain	24,163	23,845	35,978	32,558
Short Grain	2,042	a/	2,044	2,398
<b>TOTAL ROUGH RICE</b>	26,571	26,631	106,491	104,269
<b>MILLED RICE</b>				
<b>Whole Kernels (Head Rice)</b>				
Long Grain	a/	a/	1,856	3,144
Medium Grain	757	599	935	772
Short Grain	a/	a/	49	64
Total	807	663	2,840	3,980
<b>Broken Kernels</b>				
Second Heads	674	a/	1,021	1,225
Screenings b/	---	---	82	271
Brewers	410	a/	551	1,189
Total	1,084	1,554	1,654	2,685
<b>TOTAL MILLED RICE</b>	1,891	2,217	4,494	6,665

a/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

b/ Screenings included with second heads in California.

### CALIFORNIA ROUGH RICE STOCKS

Month	Season		
	2010-11	2011-12	2011-12
	1,000 Cwt.		
December 1	38,863	39,767	38,607
March 1	27,228	26,571	26,631
June 1	12,924	13,103	---
August 1	6,622	7,149	---
October 1	2,063	2,480	---

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