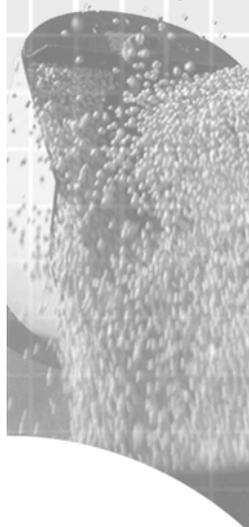


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FLORIDA

FLORIDA: Widespread showers crossing from the Panhandle down to the southern Peninsula at the beginning of July brought substantial rains to several localities. Fieldwork in many areas was suspended due to the continuous rains. Cucumber mosaic and tomato spot wilt virus was reported in some tobacco fields as well as in some other row crops in the northern Peninsula. Despite two tropical systems that pummeled the Panhandle leading into mid-July there was no significant damage to crops. Water accumulation over the Peninsula caused flooding in lowland areas. Peanuts and cotton benefited from the rains which boosted growth and development. Unremitting rains by mid-month increased disease pressure in many crop fields. Hay baling throughout the month was limited since frequent rains hindered fieldwork. Continuous rains delayed hay baling throughout the month in addition to lowering the quality of some hay. By the end of July, crops remained in mostly good condition despite continual rains throughout the month. Wet conditions in July kept soil moisture supplies adequate to surplus in most areas.

Wet conditions continued into early August which reduced the quality of some hay and lowered the yield prospects for peanuts and cotton. There were increased reports of disease in some peanut fields. Some tobacco growers completed tobacco harvesting by early August with others planning to finish by mid-August. Some soybeans growers in the Panhandle were unable to make timely applications of pesticides due to wet fields.

COTTON: Production is expected to total 97,000 bales compared to 109,000 bales harvested last year. Yield per acre is set at 548 pounds, down 53 pounds from the 601 pounds per acre for the 2004 crop. Acreage to be picked is estimated at 85,000 acres, down 2,000 acres from a year ago.

PEANUTS: Harvested acreage is forecast at 165,000 acres, up 35,000 acres from a year ago. Yield is expected to average 2,900 pounds per acre, up 100 pounds from the 2004 crop yield. Production is set at 478.5 million pounds, from the 364 million pounds produced last year.

SUGARCANE: Production for both sugar and seed is set at 15,540,000 tons, up almost 9 percent from the 14,281,000 tons produced last year. Yield is expected to average 37.0 tons per acre versus 35.2 tons in 2004. Producers expect to harvest 420,000 acres for the season, compared to 406,000 acres harvested last season.

TOBACCO: Growers expect to produce 7,000,000 pounds, a decrease of 29 percent from the 9,800,000 pounds produced last year. Acreage is set at 2,800 acres, down 1,200 acres from the 4,000 acres harvested in 2004. Yield is expected to average 2,500 pounds per acre, up 50 pounds from last year.

UNITED STATES

COTTON: All cotton production is forecast at 21.3 million 480-pound bales, down 8 percent from last year's record high 23.3 million bales. Yield is expected to average 748 pounds per harvested acre, down 107 pounds from 2004. Upland cotton production is forecast at 20.6 million 480-pound bales, 9 percent below 2004. American-Pima production is forecast at 725,000 bales, down 3 percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 13.7 million acres of all cotton and 13.4 million acres of upland cotton, both 5 percent above last year. American-Pima harvested area is expected to total 261,000 acres, 13,000 more than 2004. Cotton farmers in the Southeastern States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia) rated the majority of cotton crop as fair to good. Development has been ahead of average, especially in North Carolina and Virginia. After Tropical Storm Arlene crossed the Southeast, dry weather and warmer than normal temperatures enhanced growing condition in mid-June. Tropical Storm Cindy and Hurricane Dennis, in early to mid-July, brought moderate to heavy rain with localized flooding. Hot, humid days at the end of July allowed the crop to make excellent progress.

PEANUTS: Production is forecast at a record high 5.14 billion pounds, up 21 percent from last year's crop and up 24 percent from 2003. Area for harvest is expected to total 1.61 million acres, unchanged from June but up 16 percent from 2004. Yields are expected to average a record high 3,190 pounds per acre, 133 pounds per acre above last year. Planted acres, at 1.65 million, are unchanged from the June estimate but 15 percent above 2004. Production in the Southeast States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina) is expected to total 3.73 billion pounds, up 30 percent from last year's level. Yields in the four-State area are expected to average 3,065 per acre, 119 pounds above 2004. Expected area for harvest, at 1.22 million acres, is unchanged from June but up 25 percent from 2004. As of July 31, peanuts pegging in Alabama, at 57 percent, and Florida, at 99 percent, exceeded the 5-year averages by 26 percentage points and 9 percentage points, respectively. In Georgia, peanuts pegging, at 94 percent, lagged the 5-year average by 1 percentage point.

SUGARCANE: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2005 is forecast at 31.1 million tons, up 7 percent from last year. Sugarcane growers intend to harvest 947,900 acres for sugar and seed during the 2005 crop year, up 1 percent from last year's final harvested acres. Yield is forecast at 32.8 tons per acre, 1.9 tons more than 2004. Sugarcane yields in Louisiana and Florida are up from last year while yields are expected to be down in Texas and Hawaii. Cool spring temperatures in Louisiana slowed crop progress; however, hot rainy weather in July helped crop development.

TOBACCO: Flue-cured tobacco production is expected to total 410 million pounds, unchanged from the previous forecast but 21 percent below 2004. Growers plan to harvest 186,300 acres in 2004, unchanged from last month but down 18 percent from last year. Yields are expected to average 2,203 pounds per acre, unchanged from the July 1 forecast but 69 pounds below the previous year. The Southern flue-cured tobacco States have experienced heavy rains leading to crop damage and lower expected yields than last year. Overall, most growers rate their crop fair to good with the exception of growers in Virginia, who expect a very good crop. Harvest was active in all flue-cured States.



United States
Department
Of Agriculture



National
Agricultural
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CORN: Production is forecast at 10.3 billion bushels, down 12 percent from last year but 3 percent above 2003. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 139.2 bushels per acre, down 21.2 bushels from the record high last year. With the exception of Michigan, forecast yields are lower in all of the Corn Belt States as warm, dry weather throughout the growing season depleted soil moisture levels and stressed the crop. Across the U.S., yields are forecast lower than last year in 29 of the 33 published corn States. The largest decreases occurred in Missouri, Illinois, and Kansas. Farmers expect to harvest 74.4 million acres of corn for grain, unchanged from June but up 1 percent from 2004.

SOYBEANS: Production is forecast at 2.79 billion bushels, down 11 percent from 2004 but up 14 percent from 2003. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 38.7 bushels per acre, down 3.8 bushels from the record high U.S. yield set last year. Yields are lower than 2004 across most of the country, with the exceptions being Georgia, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Carolina, and Wisconsin. Area for harvest, at 72.2 million acres, has declined slightly from June and is down 2 percent from 2004.

CROP PRODUCTION: Acreage for harvest and forecasts of yield and production for Florida and United States as of August 1, 2005 with comparisons

Crop	Harvested acreage		Yield per acre		Unit	Production	
	2004	For harvest 2005	2004	Indicated 2005		2004	Indicated 2005
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Units</i>			<i>Thousands</i>	
FLORIDA							
Cotton	87	85	601	548	^{1/}	109	97
Peanuts	130	165	2,800	2,900	Lbs.	364,000	478,500
Potatoes:							
Winter ^{2/}	5.5	5.8	285	270	Cwt	1,568	1,566
Spring ^{2/}	24.5	23.2	313	282	Cwt	7,678	6,550
Sugarcane	406	420	35.2	37.0	Ton	14,281	15,540
Tobacco, Type 14	4.0	2.8	2,450	2,500	Lbs.	9,800	7,000
UNITED STATES							
Corn for grain	73,632	74,368	160.4	139.2	Bu.	11,807,217	10,349,841
Cotton, all ^{3/}	13,057	13,657	855	748	^{1/}	23,250.7	21,291.0
Hay, Alfalfa	21,707	22,118	3.47	3.34	Ton	75,383	73,849
Hay, All Other	40,209	39,605	2.05	1.92	Ton	82,391	76,068
Peanuts for nuts	1,394	1,612	3,057	3,190	Lbs.	4,261,700	5,142,100
Potatoes:							
Winter	18.5	19.8	260	256	Cwt	4,818	5,066
Spring	72.2	64.4	314	281	Cwt	22,663	18,099
Summer	54.0	49.1	341	331	Cwt	18,429	16,243
Fall	1,022.8	955.7	401	^{4/}	Cwt	410,023	^{4/}
Rice ^{5/}	3,325	3,288	6,942	6,897	^{5/}	230,818	226,763
Sorghum for grain	6,517	6,030	69.8	63.1	Bu.	454,899	380,319
Soybeans for beans	73,958	72,184	42.5	38.7	Bu.	3,140,996	2,791,133
Sugarbeets	1,306.9	1,247.8	22.9	21.3	Ton	29,956	26,639
Sugarcane for sugar and seed	938.2	947.9	30.9	32.8	Ton	29,013	31,104
Tobacco, All	408.0	316.9	2,155	2,137	Lbs.	879,227	677,088
Tobacco, Types 11 - 14	228.4	186.3	2,272	2,203	Lbs.	518,835	410,400
Tobacco, Type 14	27.0	18.8	2,092	1,989	Lbs.	56,490	37,400
Wheat, all	49,999	50,361	43.2	43.0	Bu.	2,158,245	2,167,178
Winter	34,462	34,271	43.5	44.4	Bu.	1,499,434	1,520,848
Durum	2,363	2,453	38.0	37.9	Bu.	89,893	92,955
Other spring	13,174	13,637	43.2	40.6	Bu.	568,918	553,375

^{1/} Yield in pounds, production in 480 pound net weight bales.
^{2/} Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.
^{3/} Includes both upland and Amer-Pima cotton.
^{4/} First forecast in November.
^{5/} Yield in pounds, production in hundredweight. Includes sweet rice production.