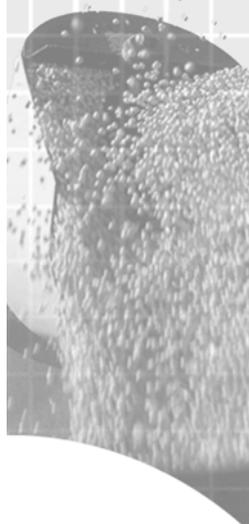


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## FLORIDA

**FLORIDA:** Scattered showers helped relieve drought conditions in most areas, but more rains were still needed to aid crop development during early July. Some peanut growers were unable to plant the remainder of the crop because of the dry conditions. Irrigated peanuts and cotton developed normally; however, dryland crops suffered from drought in the Panhandle and some northern Peninsula areas with yield prospects reduced significantly. Light rains by mid-month provided some relief to some areas in the Panhandle. Continued dry conditions caused widespread infestations of lesser cornstalk borer in non-irrigated peanut fields; cotton condition was reportedly fair but most plants have not made normal vegetative growth. By late July, in some Panhandle areas, peanut pod set was poor and pressure was heavy from the lesser cornstalk borer feeding on plants. Prolonged dry conditions over the Panhandle and northern Peninsula slowed hay growth and lowered hay quality with some producers not making the earliest cuttings. Some dryland peanuts in the Panhandle pegs burned off due to prior dry weather with some plants not developing any nuts. Soil moisture supplies in most areas continued to be depleted with supplies rated mostly short for the month.

**COTTON:** Production is expected to total 115,000 bales compared to 135,000 bales harvested last year. Yield per acre is set at 531 pounds, down 231 pounds from the 762 pounds per acre for the 2005 crop. Acreage to be picked is estimated at 104,000 acres, down 19,000 acres from a year ago.

**PEANUTS:** Harvested acreage is forecast at 120,000 acres, down 32,000 acres from last year. Yield is expected to average 2,300 pounds per acre, down 400 pounds from the 2005 crop yield. Production is set at 276 million pounds, down from the 410.4 million pounds produced last year.

**SUGARCANE:** Production for both sugar and seed is set at 13,954,000 tons, up slightly over 9 percent from the 12,746,000 tons produced last year. Yield is expected to average 34.2 tons per acre versus 31.8 tons in 2005. Producers expect to harvest 408,000 acres for the season, compared to 401,000 acres harvested last season.

**TOBACCO:** Growers expect to produce 1,100,000 pounds, a decrease of 56 percent from the 2,500,000 pounds produced last year. Acreage is set at 2,860 acres, down 48 percent from the 5,500 acres harvested in 2005. Yield is expected to average 2,600 pounds per acre, up 400 pounds from last year.

## UNITED STATES

**COTTON:** All cotton production is forecast at 20.4 million 480-pound bales, down 14 percent from last year's record high 23.9 million bales. Yield is expected to average 765 pounds per harvested acre, down 66 pounds from 2005. Upland cotton production is forecast at 19.5 million 480-pound bales, 16 percent below 2005. Missouri and Tennessee producers are expecting record high production at 1.03 million and 1.25 million 480-pound bales, respectively. American-Pima production is forecast at a record high 893,000 bales, up 42 percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 12.8 million acres of all cotton and 12.5 million acres of upland cotton, down 7 percent and 8 percent, respectively. American-Pima harvested area is expected to total a record high 333,000 acres, up 24 percent from 2005.

**PEANUTS:** Production is forecast at 3.26 billion pounds, down 32 percent from last year's crop and down 24 percent from 2004. If realized, this would be the lowest production since 1980. Area for harvest is expected to total 1.23 million acres, down 3 percent from June and down 24 percent from 2005. Yields are expected to average 2,645 pounds per acre, 315 pounds per acre below last year. Planted acres, at 1.26 million, are down 3 percent from the June estimate and 24 percent below 2005. Production in the Southeast States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina) is expected to total 2.25 billion pounds, down 34 percent from last year's level. Yields in the region are expected to average 2,410 pounds per acre, 416 pounds below 2005. Hot, dry weather in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia caused crop conditions to decline sharply from last year. As of July 30, peanuts pegging in Alabama, at 43 percent, lagged the 5-year average by 39 percentage points. Peanuts pegging in Florida, at 95 percent, Georgia, at 93 percent, and South Carolina, at 90 percent, were near their respective 5-year averages.

**SUGARCANE:** Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2006 is forecast at 28.2 million tons, up 6 percent from last year. Sugarcane growers intend to harvest 921,800 acres for sugar and seed during the 2006 crop year, fractionally below last year's final harvested acres. Yield is forecast at 30.6 tons per acre, 1.8 tons more than 2005. In Florida, area harvested and yield are both expected to be higher than last year's hurricane-damaged crop, for a 9-percent increase in production. In Louisiana, where hurricanes also damaged last year's crop, growers expect to harvest 10,000 fewer acres, and dry conditions have limited yield expectations to 24.0 tons per acre, just 1.1 tons higher than last year.

**TOBACCO:** Flue-cured tobacco production is expected to total 464 million pounds, down 2 percent from the previous forecast but up 21 percent from 2005. Growers plan to harvest 208,100 acres in 2006, down 1 percent from last month but 19 percent above last year. Yields are expected to average 2,231 pounds per acre, down 25 pounds from the July 1 forecast but 49 pounds greater than a year ago. Harvest is underway in all flue-cured States. Weather conditions have varied as growers in parts of North Carolina experienced weather that was too wet while Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina have experienced dry conditions, all of which may adversely affect tobacco quality and yields. Scattered rainfall in July has helped Virginia growers overcome early season dry conditions increasing optimism for a good crop.



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**CORN:** Corn production is forecast at 11.0 billion bushels, down 1 percent from last year and 7 percent below 2004. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 152.2 bushels per acre, up 4.3 bushels from last year. If realized, yield would be the second largest and production would be the third largest on record. Forecast yields across the Great Plains and western Corn Belt are at or below last year as scarce precipitation and above normal temperatures depleted soil moisture levels and caused crop conditions to decline. Expected yields are generally higher than last year in the eastern Corn Belt and Ohio Valley as frequent rainfall and near normal temperatures throughout much of the growing season helped maintain adequate soil moisture. The largest yield increase from last year is in Illinois where farmers expect to average 172 bushels per acre, 29 bushels above last year's drought-reduced yield. The largest yield decreases are expected in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and North Dakota.

**SOYBEANS:** Soybean production is forecast at 2.93 billion bushels, down 5 percent from 2005 and down 6 percent from 2004. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 39.6 bushels per acre, down 3.7 bushels from the record high U.S. yield set last year. Yields are lower than 2005 throughout the Great Plains, the western Corn Belt, and the Gulf Coast States, while yields are expected to remain unchanged or increase in the Ohio Valley, Arkansas, Missouri, and the Atlantic Coast States. Area for harvest, at 73.9 million acres, remains unchanged from June but is up 4 percent from 2005.

**CROP PRODUCTION: Acreage for harvest and forecasts of yield and production for Florida and United States as of August 1, 2006 with comparisons**

Crop	Harvested acreage		Yield per acre		Unit	Production	
	2005	For harvest 2006	2005	Indicated 2006		2005	Indicated 2006
	<i>Thousands</i>		<i>Units</i>			<i>Thousands</i>	
<b>FLORIDA</b>							
Cotton	85	104	762	531	<sup>1/</sup>	135	115
Peanuts	152	120	2,700	2,300	Lbs.	410,400	276,000
Potatoes:							
Winter <sup>2/</sup>	5.8	5.5	240	250	Cwt	1,392	1,375
Spring <sup>2/</sup>	23.2	23.7	281	294	Cwt	6,527	6,962
Sugarcane	401	408	31.8	34.2	Ton	12,746	13,954
Tobacco, Type 14	2.5	1.1	2,200	2,600	Lbs.	5,500	2,860
<b>UNITED STATES</b>							
Corn for grain	75,107	72,091	147.9	152.2	Bu.	11,112,072	10,975,740
Cotton, all <sup>3/</sup>	13,802.6	12,815.0	831	765	<sup>1/</sup>	23,890.2	20,431.0
Hay, Alfalfa	22,389	22,407	3.38	3.18	Ton	75,771	71,205
Hay, All Other	39,260	40,290	1.91	1.77	Ton	74,819	71,121
Peanuts for nuts	1,629	1,233	2,960	2,645	Lbs.	4,821,250	3,260,800
Potatoes:							
Winter <sup>2/</sup>	19.8	17.5	247	264	Cwt	4,892	4,615
Spring <sup>2/</sup>	66.7	69.7	281	296	Cwt	18,724	20,646
Summer <sup>2/</sup>	51.4	56.8	342	330	Cwt	17,567	18,731
Fall <sup>2/</sup>	949.5	974.4	401	<sup>4/</sup>	Cwt	381,026	<sup>4/</sup>
Rice	3,364	2,895	6,636	6,813	<sup>5/</sup>	223,235	197,242
Sorghum for grain	5,736	5,317	68.7	55.8	Bu.	393,893	296,453
Soybeans for beans	71,361	73,935	43.3	39.6	Bu.	3,086,432	2,927,634
Sugarbeets	1,242.9	1,344.2	22.2	23.7	Ton	27,537	31,835
Sugarcane for							
sugar and seed	922.6	921.8	28.8	30.6	Ton	26,604	28,205
Tobacco, All	298.1	334.5	2,171	2,228	Lbs.	647,278	745,294
Wheat, all					Bu.		
Winter	33,794	31,108	44.4	41.2	Bu.	1,499,129	1,283,134
Durum	2,716	1,822	37.2	30.0	Bu.	101,105	54,710
Other spring	13,609	14,154	37.1	32.7	Bu.	504,456	463,511

<sup>1/</sup> Yield in pounds, production in 480 pound net weight bales.

<sup>2/</sup> Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.

<sup>3/</sup> Includes both upland and Amer-Pima cotton.

<sup>4/</sup> First forecast in November.

<sup>5/</sup> Yield in pounds, production in hundredweight. Includes sweet rice production.