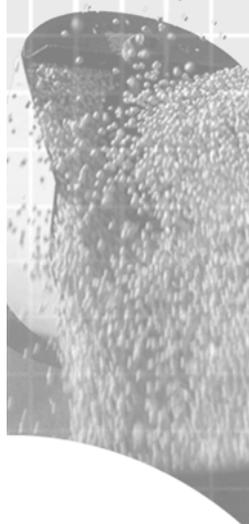


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FLORIDA

FLORIDA: Scattered showers in the last half of July and early August over the Panhandle perked up some dryland acreage. However, peanut pod set was reportedly poor due to the earlier dry weather. The earlier dry conditions slowed hay growth and reduced hay quality with up to half of the early cuttings lost because of the drought. Pecans made a very low nut set in Jefferson County as a result of the dry weather. Showers in early August delayed some hay cutting and baling statewide. Peanuts for boiling in Santa Rosa County showed good yield prospects by mid-August; however, the dry weather hurt the late plantings. By late August, growers indicated that some peanut yield prospects were down by 40 to 50 percent. About 60 percent of cotton showed open bolls near the end of August. The August rainfall caused a significant amount of cotton plants to put on more bolls. During the last week of August, Tropical Storm Ernesto brought heavy rains to some central and southern Peninsula areas. In Hendry County, minimal effects from Ernesto were reported. However, the rains delayed some sugarcane planting and flooded other acreage. In Palm Beach County, sugarcane crop planting remained on schedule with no major damage caused by Ernesto. By early September, peanut digging started with low yields and poor nut quality reported. Some peanut acreage had mature nuts put on during the drought but also had recent pegs and young nuts put on during the August rains. This made the decision of when to start digging peanuts difficult for growers. The peanut crop was rated 25 percent very poor, 30 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 15 percent good and 4 percent excellent around September 1. Peanut producers had dug five percent of the crop by the end of the first week in September. Cotton harvesting slowly gained momentum in early September. However, growers had to decide whether to pick the cotton put on during the drier weather or wait for this second crop to mature.

PEANUTS: As of September 1, growers expected yield to average 2,300 pounds per acre, down 400 pounds or 15 percent from last year's yield but equal to the August forecast. Acreage for harvest, at 120,000 acres, is also equal to the August forecast but down 32,000 acres or 21 percent from a year ago. Production is expected to total 276 million pounds, down 134.4 million pounds or 33 percent from last year's 410.4 million pounds produced.

COTTON: Yield was set at 462 pounds per acre, down 69 pounds or 13 percent from the August forecast and down 300 pounds or 39 percent from last year. Acreage for harvest is expected to total 104,000 acres, up 19,000 acres or 22 percent from last year. Production, at 100,000 bales (480 pounds each), is down 35,000 bales or 26 percent from the 135,000 bales picked a year ago.

SUGARCANE: All harvested acres is set at 407,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from the August forecast but up 6,000 acres from the previous season's acreage. All yield is expected to average 35.4 tons per acre, up 1.2 tons from the August estimate of 34.2 tons per acre, but down 3.6 tons from last year's 31.8 tons per acre average. The all net tonnage is set at 14.41 million tons, up 454,000 tons or 3 percent from the August estimate.

TOBACCO: Harvested acreage is estimated at 1,100 acres, equal to the August figure but down 1,400 acres or 56 percent from last year. Yield is set at 2,400 pounds per acre, up 200 pounds from last year. Production is expected to total 2.64 million pounds, 52 percent below last year.

UNITED STATES

PEANUTS: Production is forecast at 3.20 billion pounds, down 34 percent from last year's crop and down 2 percent from last month. If realized, this would be the lowest production since 1980. Planted area was revised to 1.24 million acres, down 2 percent from the August estimate and down 25 percent from last year. Based on administrative information, Alabama, North Carolina, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas planted fewer acres than previously estimated, while Mississippi, South Carolina, and Virginia planted more acreage. Area for harvest is expected to total 1.21 million acres, down 2 percent from August and down 26 percent from last year. Yields are expected to average 2,640 pounds per acre, down 5 pounds from last month and down 320 pounds from 2005. Production in the Southeast States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina) is expected to total 2.23 billion pounds, down 1 percent from August and down 34 percent from last year's level. Planted area, at 946,000 acres, is down 1 percent from last month and down 22 percent from 2005. Expected acreage for harvest, at 924,000, is down 1 percent from August and down 23 percent from 2005. Yields in the region are expected to average 2,416 pounds per acre, 6 pounds above last month but 410 pounds below 2005. Lack of precipitation and above normal temperatures in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia have caused crop condition to drop sharply from last year. Peanuts in some areas of the Southeast have shown poor pod maturity, burnt pegs, and some insect damage as a result of the hot, dry weather. As of September 3, the percent of crop rated very poor to poor was 35 percent in Alabama, 55 percent in Florida, and 30 percent in Georgia, compared with 7 percent or less for the same time period last year.

COTTON: Production is forecast at 20.3 million 480-pound bales, down slightly from last month and down 15 percent from last year's record high production. Yield is expected to average 762 pounds per acre, down 3 pounds from last month and down 69 pounds from last year. The September harvested area is expected to total 12.8 million acres, virtually unchanged from last month but down 7 percent from last year. Lower production forecasts from last month in the Southeast and California were partially offset by higher production in the Southwest and Texas.

SUGARCANE: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2006 is forecast at 28.4 million tons, 1 percent above the August forecast and 7 percent above 2005. Sugarcane growers intend to harvest 910,800 acres for sugar and seed during the 2006 crop year, down 1 percent from the August forecast and last year's final harvested area. Yield is forecast at 31.2 tons per acre, 0.6 ton above the previous forecast and 2.4 tons above the 2005 yield. Due to an increase in yield over last year's hurricane-damaged crop, Louisiana's production is up slightly, despite a 20,000 acre reduction in harvested area.

TOBACCO: Flue-cured production is expected to total 455 million pounds, 2 percent below last month but up 19 percent from 2005. Growers plan to harvest 208,100 acres in 2006, unchanged from the August forecast but 19 percent above a year ago. Yields are forecast to average 2,185 pounds per acre, 46 pounds below the last forecast but 3 pounds greater than the previous year. In North Carolina, the leading flue-cured tobacco producing State, production is forecast at 330 million pounds, 1 percent below the August 1 forecast but up 20 percent from last year. Growers in North Carolina expect to harvest 150,000 acres, unchanged since last month but up 22 percent from a year ago. Yields in North Carolina are expected to average 2,200 pounds per acre, down 30 pounds from the August forecast and 27 pounds below 2005. Growers in all flue-cured tobacco producing States except Virginia expect lower yields than a month ago. Tobacco is suffering in the southern States due to the extremely dry, hot weather for most of the season. However, heavy rains from Tropical Storm Ernesto had adverse affects especially in South Carolina. The rain there caused late maturing tobacco to ripen quickly. This left some growers unable to harvest this tobacco in a timely manner and left them struggling to make barn space to cure it.

CORN: Production is forecast at 11.1 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last month and fractionally above 2005. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 154.7 bushels per acre, up 2.5 bushels from August and 6.8 bushels from last year. If realized, yield and production would be the second largest on record, behind 2004. Forecast yields are higher than August across the northern Great Plains and western Corn Belt as moderate to heavy precipitation during the month improved soil moisture levels and crop conditions. Expected yields across the eastern Corn Belt are unchanged from last month. Farmers expect to harvest 71.8 million acres of corn for grain, down 250,000 acres from August and down 4 percent from 2005.

SOYBEANS: Production is forecast at 3.09 billion bushels, up 6 percent from the August forecast and up slightly from the 2005 crop. If realized, this would be the second highest production on record. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 41.8 bushels per acre, up 2.2 bushels from August but down 1.5 bushels from last year's record high yield. Compared with last month, yields are forecast higher across the Corn Belt and most of the northern and central Great Plains. Near or above normal moisture in those areas during August improved crop conditions. In contrast, yields are down or unchanged from the August 1 forecast across the Gulf Coast States and Atlantic Coast States, with the exception of South Carolina.

CROP PRODUCTION: Acreage for harvest and forecasts of yield and production for Florida and United States as of September 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>	
FLORIDA							
Cotton	85	104	762	462	^{1/}	135	100
Peanuts	152	120	2,700	2,300	Lbs.	410,400	276,000
Potatoes:							
Winter ^{2/}	5.8	5.5	240	250	Cwt	1,392	1,375
Spring ^{2/}	23.2	23.7	281	294	Cwt	6,527	6,962
Sugarcane	401	407	31.8	35.4	Ton	12,746	14,408
Tobacco, Type 14	2.5	1.1	2,200	2,400	Lbs.	5,500	2,640
UNITED STATES							
Corn for grain	75,107	71,841	147.9	154.7	Bu.	11,112,072	11,113,766
Cotton, all ^{3/}	13,802.6	12,816.0	831	762	^{1/}	23,890.2	20,345.0
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	1,213	2,960	2,640	Lbs.	4,821,250	3,202,600
Potatoes							
Winter ^{2/}	19.8	17.5	247	264	Cwt	4,892	4,615
Spring ^{2/}	66.7	69.7	281	296	Cwt	18,724	20,646
Summer ^{2/}	51.4	54.8	342	342	Cwt	17,567	18,731
Fall ^{4/}	1,086.9	1,116.4	390	^{5/}	Cwt	423,926	^{5/}
Rice	3,364	2,823	6,636	6,846	^{6/}	223,235	193,253
Sorghum for grain	5,736	5,317	68.7	57.3	Bu.	393,893	304,635
Soybeans for beans	71,361	73,935	43.3	41.8	Bu.	3,086,432	3,092,970
Sugarbeets	1,242.9	1,343.6	22.2	24.1	Ton	27,537	32,390
Sugarcane for							
sugar and seed	922.6	910.8	28.8	31.2	Ton	26,604	28,419
Tobacco, All	298.1	334.2	2,171	2,224	Lbs.	647,278	743,098
Wheat, all	50,119	47,084	42.0	38.3	Bu.	2,104,690	1,801,355
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

^{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/} 2005 crop revised.

^{5/} First forecast in November.

^{6/} Yield in pounds, production in hundredweight. Includes sweet rice production.