



FIELD CROPS

CROP PRODUCTION

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FLORIDA

WEATHER: July was a hot and humid month. One to two inches of precipitation occasionally came to the Panhandle, but most rain fell over the central and southern regions. High temperatures were usually in the 90s. Some field crops were behind schedule due to excess soil moisture that delayed spring planting. Grasshoppers took their toll on soybeans and some were replanted. Several soybean fields in Holmes County experienced death of seedlings. Some cotton, peanuts, and soybeans experienced drought stress early in the month. Corn growers in Washington and Holmes counties were concerned about pollination of the crop during the hot days of July. Yield may be significantly reduced for some field corn. Most second cuttings of hay were baled mid-month when rain showers were avoided. Overall, cotton was in fair to good condition and growth regulators were applied by some growers. Fungicide treatments were applied to numerous peanut fields and disease pressure was slightly higher than normal due to abundant rain earlier in the season. Conditions for sugarcane growth were reported as favorable. As of the week ending August 2, peanut pegging was 80% complete and the condition was rated 20% fair, 63% good, and 17% excellent.

COTTON: Production is expected to total 95,000 bales compared to 124,000 bales harvested last year. Yield per acre is set at 724 pounds, down 21 percent from the 916 pounds per acre for the 2008 crop. Acreage to be picked is estimated at 63,000 acres, down 2,000 acres from a year ago.

PEANUTS: Harvested acreage is forecast at 110,000 acres, down 30,000 acres from last year. Yield is expected to average 3,100 pounds per acre, down 100 pounds from the 2008 crop yield. Production is set at 341 million pounds, down from the 448 million pounds produced last year.

SUGARCANE: Production for both sugar and seed is set at 15.4 million tons, up 16 percent from the 13.3 million tons produced last year. Yield is expected to average 38.5 tons per acre versus 33.1 tons per acre in 2008. Producers expect to harvest 400,000 acres for the season, slightly below the 401,000 acres harvested during the 2008 crop.

UNITED STATES

COTTON: Upland cotton production is forecast at 12.8 million 480-pound bales, 4 percent above 2008. Upland cotton growers planted 8.91 million acres, unchanged from the June estimate but down 4 percent from a year ago. Growers expected to harvest 7.62 million acres, up 3 percent from last year. Producers in the Southeastern States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia) finished planting in the middle of June. Throughout the region, the crop was rated in mostly fair to good condition by month's end. Due to the later planted crop, development was also slightly behind normal throughout the Delta States. Texas producers have abandoned 1.20 million of the 4.90 million acres planted due to adverse weather conditions throughout the State.

PEANUTS: Production is forecast at 3.53 billion pounds, down 32 percent from last year and down 4 percent from 2007. Area for harvest is expected to total 1.07 million acres, unchanged from June but down 29 percent from 2008. Yields are expected to average 3,301 pounds per acre, down 115 pounds from last year's record yield but would be the second highest yield on record if realized. Planted acreage, at 1.10 million, is unchanged from the June estimate. Production in the Southeast States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina) is expected to total 2.64 billion pounds, down 30 percent from last year's production. As of August 1, crop development in the region was behind normal due to planting delays in the spring caused by wet field conditions. Despite the delay in development, the majority of the acreage was rated in fair to good condition as of August 2.

SUGARCANE: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed is forecast at 29.1 million tons, up 5 percent from last year. Expected production increases in Florida and Texas more than offset the expected decreases in Hawaii and Louisiana. Producers intend to harvest 862,700 acres for sugar and seed during the 2009 crop season, up 8,700 acres from the June acreage report but down 5,300 acres from last year. Expected yield is forecast at 33.7 tons per acre, up 1.9 tons from 2008.

OTHER HAY: Production is forecast at 79.0 million tons, up 4 percent from last year. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 2.01 tons per acre, up 0.06 tons from last year. Harvested area, at 39.2 million acres, is unchanged from June but up 113,000 acres from the previous year. Higher moisture levels in the eastern portions of the U.S. and the Pacific Northwest increased yields from last year.

WINTER WHEAT: Production is forecast at 1.54 billion bushels, up 1 percent from the July 1 forecast but down 18 percent from 2008. Based on August 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 44.2 bushels per acre, up 0.4 bushel from last month but 3.0 bushels below last year. Expected grain area totals 34.8 million acres, down 12 percent from last year but unchanged from last month. The winter wheat harvest continued to progress behind the normal pace, beginning the month with 56 percent complete on July 5, compared with 59 percent for the 5-year average.

CORN: Production is forecast at 12.8 billion bushels, up 5 percent from last year but 2 percent lower than 2007. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 159.5 bushels per acre, up 5.6 bushels from last year. Planted area for all purposes, at 87.0 million acres, is unchanged from June but up 1 percent from 2008. Growers expect to harvest 80.0 million acres for grain, down slightly from June but up 2 percent from last year. As of August 2, sixty-eight percent of the crop was rated in good to excellent condition in the 18 major corn producing States, up 2 percentage points from a year ago.

SOYBEANS: Production is forecast at a record high 3.20 billion bushels, up 8 percent from last year. Area planted, at a record high 77.7 million acres, is up slightly from June and up 3 percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 76.8 million acres, up slightly from June and up 3 percent from 2008. Harvested area, if realized, will be the largest on record. As of August 2, sixty-seven percent of the U.S. soybean crop was rated in good to excellent condition, 4 percentage points above the same week in 2008.

CROP PRODUCTION: Acreage for harvest and forecasts of yield and production for Florida and United States as of August 1, 2009 with comparisons

Crop	Harvested acreage		Yield per acre		Unit	Production	
	2008	For harvest 2009	2008	Indicated 2009		2008	Indicated 2009
	<i>Thousands</i>					<i>Thousands</i>	
FLORIDA							
Cotton	65	63	916	724	1/	124	95
Peanuts	140	110	3,200	3,100	Lbs.	448,000	341,000
Potatoes:							
Winter	2/	2/	2/	2/	Cwt	2/	2/
Spring ^{3/}	27.9	28.6	285	246	Cwt	7,952	7,846
Sugarcane	401	400	33.1	38.5	Ton	13,255	15,400
UNITED STATES							
Corn for grain	78,640	80,007	153.9	159.5	Bu.	12,101,238	12,760,986
Cotton, All ^{4/}	7,568.7	7,765.2	813	816	1/	12,815.3	13,207.0
Hay, Alfalfa	20,980	20,982	3.32	3.48	Ton	69,620	72,986
Hay, All Other	39,082	39,195	1.95	2.01	Ton	76,052	78,955
Peanuts for nuts	1,507	1,068	3,416	3,301	Lbs.	5,147,900	3,525,800
Potatoes:							
Winter ^{3/}	11.0	9.0	230	240	Cwt	2,530	2,160
Spring ^{3/}	68.8	73.4	293	291	Cwt	20,132	21,325
Summer ^{3/}	44.8	42.5	306	341	Cwt	13,694	14,506
Fall ^{3/}	921.1	922.7	409	5/	Cwt	376,386	5/
Rice	2,976	3,000	6,846	7,039	6/	203,733	211,181
Sorghum for grain	7,271	5,948	65	64	Bu.	472,342	380,537
Soybeans for beans	74,641	76,767	39.6	41.7	Bu.	2,959,174	3,199,172
Sugarbeets	1,004.6	1,153.5	26.7	28.2	Ton	26,837	32,473
Sugarcane for sugar and seed	868.0	862.7	31.8	33.7	Ton	27,603	29,093
Tobacco, All	354.5	343.0	2,258	2,288	Lbs.	800,504	784,660
Wheat:							
Winter	39,614	34,787	47.2	44.2	Bu.	1,867,903	1,537,348
Durum	2,584	2,453	32.8	39.9	Bu.	84,877	97,986
Other spring	13,487	13,205	40.5	41.5	Bu.	546,744	548,260

^{1/}Yield in pounds, production in 480 pound net weight bales.

^{2/}Winter potatoes combined with spring.

^{3/}Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.

^{4/}Includes both upland and Amer-Pima cotton.

^{5/}First forecast in November.

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