



FIELD CROPS

CROP PRODUCTION

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Florida

Weather: Early October rains caused delays in harvesting peanuts and sugarcane. Drier weather after mid-October allowed for harvesting and cotton defoliation to get underway. At the end of the month, 90 percent of the peanuts were harvested, and the cotton and sugarcane harvests continued to make good progress.

Cotton: Based on conditions as of November 1, growers expected to harvest 105,000 acres, down 13,000 acres or 11 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at a record 960 pounds per acre. Production is estimated at 210,000 bales, up 27,000 bales or 15 percent from 2011.

Peanuts: Harvested acreage is estimated at 200,000 acres, up 43,000 acres or 27 percent from a year ago. Yield is expected to average a record 3,800 pounds per acre, up 300 pounds from the previous year. Total expected production is at 760 million pounds, up 38 percent from last year's 549.5 million pounds.

Sugarcane: All acreage for harvest is set at 410,000 acres, up 3 percent from last season. Expected yield is set at 38.0 tons per acre, the same as the previous year. Production for sugar and seed is estimated 15.58 million tons, up 3 percent from a year ago.

United States

Cotton: Upland cotton harvested area is expected to total 10.2 million acres, unchanged from last month but up 11 percent from 2011. Pima harvested area, at 237,400 acres, was carried forward from last month. As of November 4, sixty-four percent of the crop had been harvested, 4 percentage points behind last year but 6 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Defoliation and harvesting activities progressed in the Southeast throughout the month. Record high yields are forecast in Alabama, Arizona, Florida, and Georgia. In Georgia, objective yield data forecasted boll weights to be the highest on record. Ginnings totaled 6,339,000 running bales prior to November 1, compared with 6,440,400 running bales ginned prior to the same date last year. All cotton production is forecast at 17.4 million 480-pound bales, up 1 percent from last month and up 12 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 802 pounds per acre, up 12 pounds from last year. Upland cotton production is forecast at 16.8 million 480-pound bales, up 14 percent from 2011. Pima cotton production, forecast at 657,000 bales, was carried forward from last month.

Peanuts: Production is forecast at 6.47 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the October forecast and up 77 percent from last year. Area for harvest is expected to total 1.59 million acres, unchanged from October but 48 percent higher than 2011. Based on conditions as of November 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at a record high 4,058 pounds per acre, up 226 pounds from October and up 672 pounds from last year. Record high yields are also expected in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Texas, and Virginia. As of November 4, eighty-seven percent of the United States acreage was harvested, 8 percentage points ahead of last year and 10 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Weather conditions were ideal for peanut harvesting during October in most peanut-producing regions.

Corn: Production is forecast at 10.7 billion bushels, up slightly from the October forecast but down 13 percent from 2011. This represents the lowest production in the United States since 2006. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 122.3 bushels per acre, up 0.3 bushel from the October forecast but 24.9 bushels below the 2011 average. If realized, this will be the lowest average yield since 1995. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 87.7 million acres, unchanged from the October forecast and up 4 percent from 2011. The November 1 corn objective yield data indicate the lowest number of ears per acre since 2005 for the combined 10 objective yield States (Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin). Aided by mostly favorable conditions during the first part of October, corn producers were harvesting the Nation's crop at one of the quickest paces on record. As of October 14, seventy-nine percent of this year's crop was harvested, 37 percentage points ahead of last year and 41 points ahead of the 5-year average pace. Despite precipitation during the latter part of October that slowed late-season harvesting in many of the major corn producing areas, 95 percent of the Nation's corn crop was harvested as of November 4. This is 10 percentage points ahead of last year and 24 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average pace.

Soybeans: Production is forecast at 2.97 billion bushels, up 4 percent from October but down 4 percent from last year. Based on November 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 39.3 bushels per acre, up 1.5 bushels from last month but down 2.6 bushels from last year. Compared with last month, yield forecasts are higher or unchanged across all States except for Oklahoma and Texas. Area for harvest in the United States is forecast at 75.7 million acres, unchanged from October and up 3 percent from last year.

Sugarcane: Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2012 is forecast at 32.1 million tons, up 3 percent from the October 1 forecast and up 9 percent from 2011. Producers intend to harvest 896,000 acres for sugar and seed during the 2012 crop year, down 2,000 acres from the previous forecast. Expected yield for sugar and seed is forecast at 35.8 tons per acre, up 1.0 ton from the October 1 forecast. The sugarcane crop in Louisiana benefitted from cool and dry weather during October.2

Crop Production: Acreage for Harvest and Forecasts of Yield and Production for Florida and United States as of November 1, 2012 with Comparisons

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2012 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun.]

Crop	Harvested acreage		Yield per acre		Unit	Production	
	2011	For harvest 2012	2011	Indicated 2012		2011	Indicated 2012
	(thousands)	(thousands)				(thousands)	(thousands)
Florida							
Cotton ¹	118.0	105.0	744.0	960.0	(¹)	183.0	210.0
Peanuts	157.0	200.0	3,500.0	3,800.0	pounds	549,500.0	760,000.0
Potatoes:							
Spring.....	35.6	36.3	256.0	260.0	cwt	9,112.0	9,438.0
Sugarcane	397.0	410.0	38.0	38.0	net tons	15,085.0	15,580.0
United States							
Corn for Grain	83,981.0	87,721.0	147.2	122.3	bushels	12,358,412.0	10,725,191.0
Cotton, All ¹	9,460.9	10,443.4	790.0	802.0	(¹)	15,573.2	17,447.0
Hay, Alfalfa	19,213.0	18,812.0	3.40	2.95	tons	65,332.0	55,566.0
Hay, All Other.....	36,420.0	38,762.0	1.81	1.71	tons	65,812.0	66,408.0
Peanuts for Nuts.....	1,080.6	1,594.0	3,386.0	4,058.0	pounds	3,658,590.0	6,468,650.0
Potatoes:							
Spring.....	91.5	96.1	279.0	289.0	cwt	25,573.0	27,740.0
Summer.....	46.0	49.0	280.0	356.0	cwt	12,894.0	17,447.0
Fall.....	939.5	991.5	416.0	426.0	cwt	391,180.0	422,016.0
Rice	2,618.0	2,677.0	7,067.0	7,417.0	(²)	185,009.0	198,548.0
Sorghum for Grain	3,929.0	5,016.0	54.6	51.1	bushels	214,443.0	256,164.0
Soybeans for Beans.....	73,776.0	75,693.0	41.9	39.3	bushels	3,093,524.0	2,971,022.0
Sugarbeets.....	1,213.1	1,215.5	23.8	28.8	tons	28,828.0	34,946.0
Sugarcane for							
Sugar and Seed	872.6	896.0	33.7	35.8	net tons	29,383.0	32,120.0
Sweet Potatoes.....	129.7	128.5	208.0		cwt	26,964.0	
Tobacco, All.....	325.0	338.1	1,841.0	2,308.0	pounds	598,320.0	780,428.0
Wheat, All:.....	45,705.0	48,991.0	43.7	46.3	bushels	1,999,347.0	2,269,117.0
Winter.....	32,314.0	34,834.0	46.2	47.2	bushels	1,493,677.0	1,645,202.0
Durum	1,312.0	2,102.0	38.5	39.0	bushels	50,482.0	81,956.0
Other Spring.....	12,079.0	12,055.0	37.7	45.0	bushels	455,188.0	541,959.0

¹ Production ginned and to be ginned. Yield in pounds, production in 480 pound net weight bales.

² Yield in pounds, production in hundredweight. Includes sweet rice production.