



Nevada Ag Stats Newsletter

Nevada Field Office · PO Box 8880 · Reno, NV 89507
www.nass.usda.gov/nv

Released: November 5, 2012

Alfalfa Hay Forecast

Nevada: The October 1 alfalfa hay production forecast is 1,080 thousand tons, 2 percent below the 2011 total. Yield is forecast to average 4.50 tons/acre, up from 4.40 tons in 2011. Area harvested for hay, at 240,000 acres, was down 10,000 acres from last year. Some growers were finishing with the third cutting and fourth cutting was underway during the survey period.

United States: Production is forecast at 55.6 million tons, up 1 percent from August but down 15 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the lowest production level since 1953. Based on October 1 conditions, yield is expected to average 2.95 tons per acre, up 0.03 ton from August but down 0.45 ton from last year. If realized, this will be the lowest United States yield since 1988. Harvested area is forecast at 18.8 million acres, down 2 percent from 2011.

Monsoonal moisture in the Southwest led to expected increases in alfalfa hay yield throughout the region. Similarly, increased rainfall in the eastern Corn Belt allowed producers to harvest additional cuttings from what was anticipated in August. Conversely, above average temperatures and limited rainfall continued to plague much of the Northern Tier, western Corn Belt, and central Great Plains during September, causing further depletion of soil moisture levels. Forecasted alfalfa hay yields throughout most of these regions declined compared both to August and last year. Some of the largest expected yield declines were evident in the Great Plains and Corn Belt, where temperatures have remained warmer than normal and precipitation totals have been less than 50 percent of normal since July.

Alfalfa & Alfalfa Mixtures for Hay: Area Harvested, Yield, & Production for 11 Western States and the United States: 2011 and Forecasted October 1, 2012

State	Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
AZ	250	250	8.30	8.80	2,075	2,200
CA	880	980	6.90	7.00	6,072	6,860
CO	800	790	3.60	3.70	2,880	2,923
ID	1,000	1,000	4.30	4.00	4,300	4,000
MT	2,000	1,800	2.20	1.80	4,400	3,240
NV	250	240	4.40	4.50	1,100	1,080
NM	210	210	5.20	5.00	1,092	1,050
OR	400	400	4.50	4.00	1,800	1,600
UT	580	520	4.10	4.10	2,378	2,132
WA	380	400	5.20	5.00	1,976	2,000
WY	620	525	2.50	2.40	1,550	1,260
US	19,213	18,812	3.40	2.95	65,332	55,566

2012 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE
YOUR VOICE. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

Quarterly Milk Production

Milk production in the United States during the July - September quarter totaled 48.7 billion pounds, up 0.1 percent from the July - September quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.22 million head, 15,000 head more than the same period last year.

Nevada milk production during the third quarter of 2012 was 161 million pounds, a decrease of 5.8% from the third quarter of 2011. The average number of milk cows in the State during July – September was 28,000 head, compared with 29,000 a year earlier.

Milk Cows and Production by Quarter - United States: 2011-2012

[May not add due to rounding]

Quarter	Milk cows ¹		Milk per cow ²		Milk production ²		
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	Change from 2011
	1,000 head	1,000 head	pounds	pounds	million pounds	million pounds	Percent
January-March	9,168	9,254	5,286	5,513	48,459	51,017	5.3
April-June	9,191	9,257	5,489	5,562	50,448	51,484	2.1
July-September	9,200	9,215	5,292	5,287	48,684	48,724	0.1
October-December	9,216		5,279		48,654		
Annual	9,194		21,345		196,245		

¹ Includes dry cows; excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Hay Prices

Nevada: The all hay price, at \$200.00 per ton, is down \$1.00 from September and down \$12.00 from last October. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures came in at \$202.00 per ton, down \$1.00 from September and down \$14.00 from a year ago. All other hay, at \$180.00 per ton, is up \$2.00 from September and up \$19.00 from a year ago.

United States: The all hay price, at \$193 per ton, is up \$6.00 from September and \$8.00 higher than last October. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures came in at \$212.00 per ton, up \$7.00 from September. All other hay at \$146.00 per ton, is up \$4.00 from last month.

Hay Prices Received by Type measured in \$ per Ton – Select States & United States: October 2012

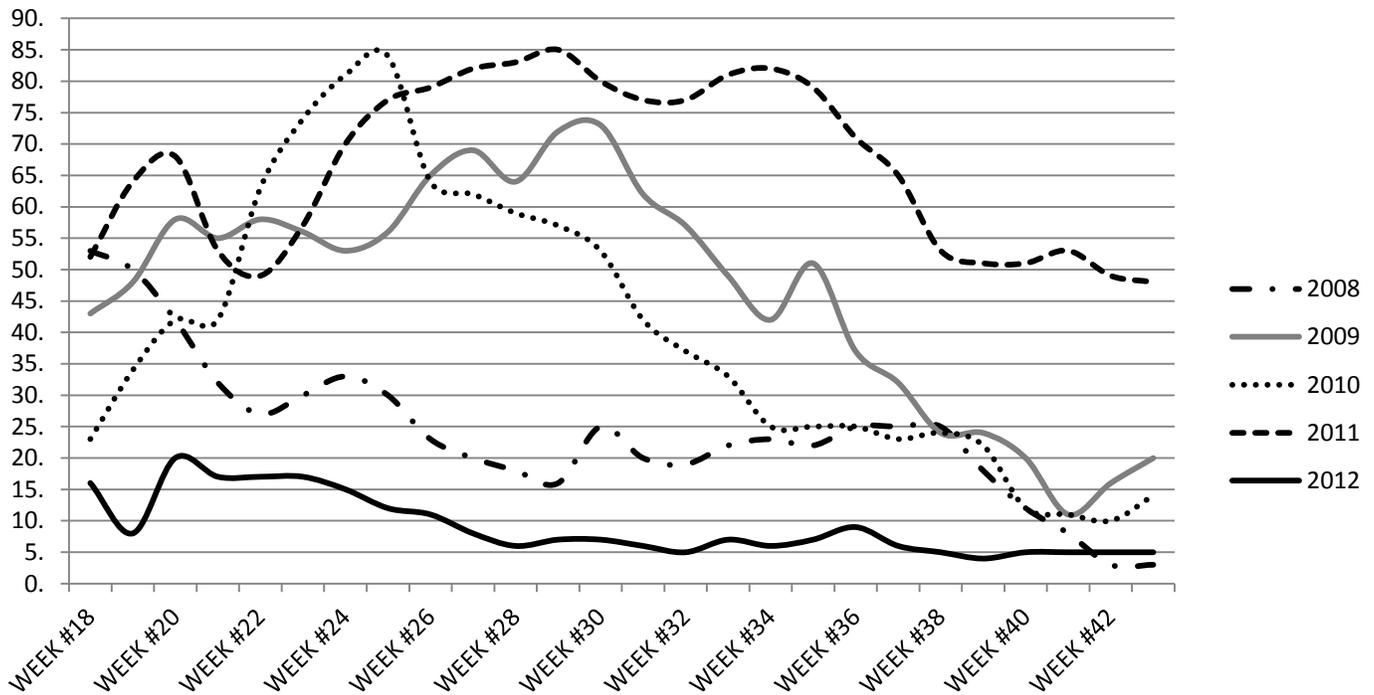
State	All Hay			Alfalfa Hay			Other Hay ¹		
	Oct. 2011	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012	Oct. 2011	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012	Oct. 2011	Sept. 2012	Oct. 2012
Arizona	222.00	201.00	191.00	225.00	200.00	190.00	165.00	220.00	215.00
California	229.00	198.00	206.00	240.00	201.00	209.00	180.00	187.00	194.00
Idaho	224.00	186.00	195.00	233.00	190.00	200.00	150.00	130.00	140.00
Nevada	212.00	201.00	200.00	216.00	203.00	202.00	161.00	178.00	180.00
Oregon	238.00	205.00	221.00	245.00	226.00	232.00	210.00	175.00	205.00
Utah	200.00	184.00	183.00	200.00	187.00	187.00	163.00	150.00	147.00
United States	185.00	187.00	193.00	204.00	205.00	212.00	133.00	142.00	146.00

¹ Other hay is comprised of grain and grain mixtures, timothy, clover, wild, prairie, range, and other types.

Pasture and Range Condition, Percent Rating Good or Better Week Ending October 28, 2012



Pasture and Range Condition, Percent Rating Good or Better for Nevada, by Week During Growing Season 2008 to 2012



UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 NEVADA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
 PO BOX 8880
 RENO, NEVADA 89507



NEVADA
 FIELD
 OFFICE

PRSR STD
 POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
 USDA
 PERMIT NO. G-38

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Nevada Ag Stats is a monthly newsletter published by the National Agricultural Statistics Service of the USDA
 Inquiries may be directed to Martin J. Owens, Director, Nevada Field Office
 This publication is also available on the web at www.nass.usda.gov/nv/

October Weather Summary

The month of October was warm with high temperatures in the 80s and 90s. Low temperatures were below freezing. Temperatures were above normal averaging between 1.6 and 4.0 degrees above normal. Las Vegas recorded the high of 99 degrees. Most other stations recorded highs in the mid 80's. By the middle of October most areas of the State were experiencing frost at night. Eureka recorded a low of 14 degrees. All stations recorded some precipitation. Tonopah and Las Vegas recorded the most with 0.94 inches. Pasture and range conditions were in poor to very poor condition. Alfalfa production continued with the extended warm weather. A few Nevada producers went for a 4th cutting. Most crop harvest concluded. Seasonal onions were being taken to sheds for sorting, bagging, and shipping. Livestock producers worked to gather livestock for market and to move herds to winter pastures. Main farm and ranch activities include: harvest of hay, weed control, equipment maintenance, and planting of fall-seeded crops.

Weather data for stations in Nevada: October 2012

Station	Temperature (°F)				Precipitation (inches)		
	Monthly Avg.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Monthly Total	Departure from Normal	Greatest 24 Hour
Reno	58.0	+4.0	90	29	0.08	-0.43	0.08
Elko	48.9	+2.3	85	15	0.25	-0.50	0.14
Ely	48.4	+3.1	80	15	0.91	-0.09	0.51
Winnemucca	49.8	+1.6	88	19	0.53	-0.14	0.31
Eureka	49.5	+3.3	83	14	0.20	-0.54	0.11
Tonopah	55.6	+2.8	86	28	0.94	+0.60	0.84
Las Vegas	71.8	+2.3	99	50	0.94	+0.67	0.84