



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

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Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



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CROP PRODUCTION – AUGUST 2016

NEW MEXICO HIGHLIGHTS

Based on August 1 conditions, **alfalfa hay** production in New Mexico is forecast at 893,000 tons, according to the August 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is unchanged from the production in 2015. New Mexico farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 190,000 acres of **alfalfa hay** this year, unchanged from 2015. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 4.70 tons per acre, compared to last year's yield of 4.70 tons per acre.

All **cotton** production in New Mexico is expected to total 78,000 480-lb bales, up 7 percent from 2015. Producers expect to harvest 65,000 bales of upland cotton and 13,000 bales of Pima cotton. Area of all cotton harvested, forecast at 36,800 acres, is down 1,100 acres from last year. The all cotton yield is forecast at 1,017 pounds per acre, up 92 pounds from 2015. As of July 31, New Mexico's cotton crop condition was rated 2 percent very poor, 23 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Cotton setting bolls were 57 percent complete, compared with 58 percent last year and the 5-year average of 51 percent.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture** dry hay for 2016 is forecast at 61.5 million tons, up 4 percent from 2015. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.40 tons per acre, up 0.08 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 18.1 million acres, unchanged from the June forecast but up 2 percent from 2015.

All cotton production is forecast at 15.9 million 480-pound bales, up 23 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 800 pounds per harvested acre, up 34 pounds from last year. Upland cotton production is forecast at 15.3 million 480-pound bales, up 23 percent from 2015. Pima cotton production is forecast at 565,000 bales, up 30 percent from last year.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.