



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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PRODUCTION – OCTOBER 2016

NEW MEXICO HIGHLIGHTS

Based on October 1 conditions, **all cotton** production in New Mexico is expected to total 97,000 480-lb bales, according to the October 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is down 3 percent from the September 1 forecast but up 33 percent from last year's crop.

Upland cotton harvested acreage is forecast at 40,000 acres, up 9,000 acres from last year. As of October 1, producers expect to harvest 82,000 480-lb bales of upland cotton, up 37 percent from last year. Upland yield is forecast at 984 pounds per acre, down 36 pounds from the September 1 forecast but up 55 pounds from last year. As of October 2, 70 percent of the upland cotton crop had bolls opening, compared with 72 percent last year and 66 percent for the 5-year average. The cotton crop was rated 3 percent very poor, 26 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 31 percent good, and 6 percent excellent as of October 2. **Pima cotton** harvested acreage is estimated at 7,700 acres, up 800 acres from last year. As of October 1, producers expect to harvest 15,000 480-lb bales of Pima cotton, compared with 13,000 bales last year. Pima yield is forecast at 935 pounds per acre, up 31 pounds from last year.

New Mexico farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 190,000 acres of **alfalfa hay** this year, unchanged from 2015. Alfalfa production is forecast at 931,000 tons, up 4 percent from the 893,000 tons produced in 2015. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 4.90 tons per acre, compared to last year's yield of 4.70 tons per acre and the August forecast of 4.70 tons per acre.

Pecan production in New Mexico is forecast at 72.00 million pounds, down 1 percent from the 2015 season.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

All cotton production is forecast at 16.0 million 480-pound bales, down less than 1 percent from September but up 24 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 797 pounds per harvested acre, up 31 pounds from last year. **Upland cotton** production is forecast at 15.5 million 480-pound bales, up 24 percent from 2015. **Pima cotton** production, forecast at 562,000 bales, was carried forward from last month.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay** for 2016 is forecast at 62.8 million tons, up 7 percent from 2015. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.48 tons per acre, up 0.16 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 18.1 million acres, unchanged from the August forecast but up 2 percent from 2015.

Pecan production is forecast at 263 million pounds (utilized, in-shell basis), up 3 percent from 2015. Improved varieties are expected to produce 239 million pounds or 91 percent of the total. The native and seedling varieties are expected to produce 23.8 million pounds, making up the remaining 9 percent of production.

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