



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 2019

NEW MEXICO HIGHLIGHTS

Based on October 1 conditions, **all cotton** production in New Mexico is expected to total 114,000 480-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 up 5 percent from the September 1 forecast but down 9 percent from last year's crop.

Upland cotton harvested acreage is forecast at 45,000 acres, down 11,000 acres from last year. As of October 1, producers expect to harvest 105,000 480-lb bales of upland cotton, down 8 percent from last year. Upland yield is forecast at 1,120 pounds per acre, up 53 pounds from the September 1 forecast and up 143 pounds from last year. As of September 29, forty-nine percent of the upland cotton crop had bolls opening, compared with 52 percent last year and 58 percent for the 5-year average. The cotton crop was rated 3 percent very poor, 12 percent poor, 41 percent fair, 31 percent good, and 13 percent excellent as of September 29. **Pima cotton** harvested acreage is estimated at 5,400 acres, down 1,400 acres from last year. As of October 1, producers expect to harvest 9,000 480-lb bales of Pima cotton, compared with 11,500 bales last year. Pima yield is forecast at 800 pounds per acre, down 12 pounds from last year.

New Mexico farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 170,000 acres of **alfalfa hay** this year, up 10,000 acres from 2018. Alfalfa production is forecast at 918,000 tons, up 22 percent from 2018. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 5.40 tons per acre, compared with last year's yield of 4.70 tons per acre and the August 1 forecast of 5.40 tons per acre.

Peanut production for 2019 is forecast at 16.00 million pounds, up 2 percent from the 15.68 million pounds produced a year earlier. Yields are expected to average 3,200 pounds per acre, up from 2,850 pounds per acre last year. Growers expect to harvest 5,000 acres this year, down 500 acres from last year. As of September 29, New Mexico's peanut crop condition was rated 7 percent poor, 61 percent fair, and 32 percent good.

Pecan production in New Mexico is forecast at a record high 97.00 million pounds, up 6 percent from the 2018 season.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

All cotton production is forecast at 21.7 million 480-pound bales, down 1 percent from the previous forecast, but up 18 percent from 2018. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 833 pounds per harvested acre, down 6 pounds from the previous forecast and down 31 pounds from 2018. **Upland cotton** production is forecast at 21.0 million 480-pound bales, down 1 percent from the previous forecast but up 19 percent from 2018. **Pima cotton** production is forecast at 724,000 bales, up 1 percent from the previous forecast but down 10 percent from 2018. All cotton area harvested is forecast at 12.5 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but up 23 percent from 2018.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay** for 2019 is forecast at 54.2 million tons, down 2 percent from the previous forecast but up 3 percent from 2018. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.22 tons per acre, down 0.07 ton from the previous forecast but up 0.05 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 16.8 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but up 1 percent from 2018.

Production of **other hay** is forecast at 76.7 million tons, up 1 percent from the previous forecast and up 8 percent from 2018. Based on October 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 2.13 tons per acre, up 0.02 ton from the previous forecast and up 0.17 ton from last year. If realized, this would represent a new record high for the United States, surpassing the previous record of 2.09 tons per acre in 2016. Harvested area is forecast at 35.9 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but down 1 percent from 2018.

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Peanut production is forecast at 5.48 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous forecast and down less than 1 percent from the revised 2018 total of 5.50 billion pounds. Harvested area is expected to total 1.38 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast but up 1 percent from 2018. Based on conditions as of October 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 3,964 pounds per acre, down 122 pounds from the previous forecast and down 37 pounds from the 2018 average yield of 4,001 pounds per acre.

Pecan production is forecast at 281 million pounds (utilized, in-shell basis), up 21 percent for comparable States in 2018. Improved varieties are expected to produce 253 million pounds or 90 percent of the total. The native and seedling varieties are expected to produce 27.8 million pounds, making up the remaining 10 percent of production.

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