



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 2020

NEW MEXICO HIGHLIGHTS

Based on October 1 conditions, **all cotton** production in New Mexico is expected to total 90,000 480-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 5 percent from the September 1 forecast but up 5 percent from last year's crop.

Upland cotton harvested acreage is forecast at 35,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from last year. As of October 1, producers expect to harvest 65,000 480-lb bales of upland cotton, down 16 percent from last year. Upland yield is forecast at 891 pounds per acre, down 138 pounds from the September 1 forecast but up 70 pounds from last year. As of October 4, 43 percent of the upland cotton crop had bolls opening, compared with 57 percent last year and 64 percent for the 5-year average. The cotton crop was rated 6 percent very poor, 22 percent poor, 52 percent fair, 17 percent good, and 3 percent excellent as of October 4. **Pima cotton** harvested acreage is estimated at 10,800 acres, up 5,800 acres from last year. As of October 1, producers expect to harvest 25,000 480-lb bales of Pima cotton, compared with 9,000 bales last year. Pima yield is forecast at a record high 1,111 pounds per acre, up 247 pounds from last year and 55 pounds above the previous record of 1,056 pounds per acre in 2003.

New Mexico farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 155,000 acres of **alfalfa hay** this year, down 5,000 acres from 2019. Alfalfa production is forecast at 682,000 tons, down 13 percent from the 784,000 tons produced in 2019. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 4.40 tons per acre, compared with last year's yield of 4.90 tons per acre and the August 1 forecast of 4.80 tons per acre.

Peanut production for 2020 is forecast at 19.22 million pounds, up 27 percent from the 15.09 million pounds produced a year earlier. Yields are expected to average 3,100 pounds per acre, down from 3,210 pounds per acre last year. Growers expect to harvest 6,200 acres this year, up 1,500 acres from last year. As of October 4, New Mexico's peanut crop condition was rated 5 percent very poor, 20 percent poor, 32 percent fair, and 43 percent good.

Pecan production in New Mexico is forecast at 86.00 million pounds, down 2 percent from the 2019 season.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

All cotton production is forecast at 17.0 million 480-pound bales, down less than 1 percent from the previous forecast, and down 14 percent from 2019. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 909 pounds per harvested acre, down 1 pound from the previous forecast but up 86 pounds from 2019. Upland cotton production is forecast at 16.5 million 480-pound bales, down less than 1 percent from the previous forecast and down 14 percent from 2019. Pima cotton production is forecast at 545,000 bales, down 3 percent from the previous forecast and down 20 percent from 2019. All cotton area harvested is forecast at 9.01 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but down 22 percent from 2019.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay** for 2020 is forecast at 52.6 million tons, up 2 percent from the August forecast but down 4 percent from 2019. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.22 tons per acre, up 0.06 ton from the August forecast but down 0.06 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 16.4 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, and down 2 percent from 2019. Record high yields are forecast in Arizona, Idaho, and Oregon.

Production of **other hay** is forecast at 75.1 million tons, up 2 percent from the August forecast and up 1 percent from 2019. Based on October 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 2.08 tons per acre, up 0.04 from the August forecast and up 0.01 ton from last year. If realized this yield would represent the second highest yield on record. Harvested area is forecast at 36.0 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but up 1 percent from 2019.

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Peanut production is forecast at 6.70 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous forecast and up 22 percent from the revised 2019 total of 5.47 billion pounds. Area harvested is expected to total 1.62 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast and up 17 percent from 2019. Based on conditions as of October 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 4,125 pounds per acre, down 60 pounds per acre from the previous month's forecast but up 191 pounds per acre from the revised 2019 yields.

Pecan production is forecast at 292 million pounds (utilized, in-shell basis), up 14 percent from 2019. Improved varieties are expected to produce 277 million pounds or 95 percent of the total. The native and seedling varieties are expected to produce 15.1 million pounds, making up the remaining 5 percent of production.

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