NEWS RELEASE
United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE
PO Box 1809, Las Cruces, NM 88004
Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PRODUCTION – AUGUST 2021

NEW MEXICO HIGHLIGHTS

Based on August 1 conditions, alfalfa hay production in New Mexico is forecast at 689,000 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 2020. New Mexico farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 135,000 acres of alfalfa hay this year, up 5,000 acres from 2020. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 5.10 tons per acre, compared to last year’s yield of 5.30 tons per acre.

All cotton production in New Mexico is expected to total 62,000 480-lb bales, down 13 percent from 2020. Upland cotton harvested acreage is forecast at a record low 20,000 acres, down 6,000 acres from last year. As of August 1, producers expect to harvest a record low 40,000 480-lb bales of upland cotton, down 30 percent from last year. Upland yield is forecast at 960 pounds per acre, down 92 pounds per acre from last year. As of August 1, 25 percent of cotton was setting bolls, compared with 46 percent last year and the five-year average of 37 percent. The cotton crop was rated 19 percent poor, 40 percent fair, 31 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Pima cotton harvested acreage is estimated at 11,000 acres, up 500 acres from last year. As of August 1, producers expect to harvest 22,000 480-lb bales of Pima cotton, compared with 14,500 bales last year. Pima yield is forecast at 960 pounds per acre, up 297 pounds per acre from last year.

Peanut production for 2021 is forecast at 20.15 million pounds, up 40 percent from the 14.40 million pounds produced a year earlier. Yields are expected to average 3,100 pounds per acre, up from 3,000 pounds per acre last year. Growers expect to harvest 6,500 acres this year, up 1,700 acres from last year. As of August 1, the peanut crop was rated 9 percent poor, 46 percent fair, and 45 percent good.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Production of alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay for 2021 is forecast at 47.8 million tons, down 10 percent from 2020. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 2.97 tons per acre, down 0.3 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 16.1 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report but down 1 percent from 2020. Production of other hay is forecast at 70.9 million tons, down 4 percent from 2020. Based on August 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 2.00 tons per acre, down 0.05 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 35.4 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report but down 2 percent from 2020.

All cotton production is forecast at 17.3 million 480-pound bales, up 18 percent from 2020. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 800 pounds per harvested acre, down 47 pounds from 2020. Upland cotton production is forecast at 16.9 million 480-pound bales, up 20 percent from 2020. Pima cotton production is forecast at 371,000 bales, down 32 percent from 2020. All cotton area harvested is forecast at 10.4 million acres, up 25 percent from 2020.

Peanut production is forecast at 6.64 billion pounds, up 8 percent from 2020. Area harvested is expected to total 1.59 million acres, down 1 percent from the Acreage report and down 2 percent from 2020. Based on conditions as of August 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 4,183 pounds per acre, up 387 pounds per acre from 2020.

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

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