CROP PRODUCTION – OCTOBER 2021

NEW MEXICO HIGHLIGHTS

Based on October 1 conditions, all cotton production in New Mexico is expected to total 77,000 480-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 unchanged from the September 1 forecast and up 8 percent from last year’s crop.

Upland cotton harvested acreage is forecast at 28,000 acres, up 2,000 acres from last year. As of October 1, producers expect to harvest 57,000 480-lb bales of upland cotton, unchanged from last year. Upland yield is forecast at 977 pounds per acre, unchanged from the September 1 forecast but down 75 pounds per acre from last year. As of October 3, 34 percent of the upland cotton crop had bolls opening, compared with 42 percent last year and 57 percent for the 5-year average. The cotton crop was rated 17 percent poor, 40 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 4 percent excellent as of October 3. Pima cotton harvested acreage is estimated at 12,200 acres, up 1,700 acres from last year and the highest harvested acreage since 12,500 acres were harvested in 2006. As of October 1, producers expect to harvest 20,000 480-lb bales of Pima cotton, compared with 14,500 bales last year, and the highest production since 2006. Pima yield is forecast at 787 pounds per acre, up 124 pounds per acre from last year.

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

Peanut production for 2021 is forecast at 34.10 million pounds, up 130 percent from the 14.82 million pounds produced a year earlier. Yields are expected to average 3,100 pounds per acre, up from 2,850 pounds per acre last year. Growers expect to harvest 11,000 acres this year, up 5,800 acres from last year. As of October 3, New Mexico’s peanut crop condition was rated 8 percent poor, 33 percent fair, and 59 percent good.

Pecan production in New Mexico is forecast at 89.00 million pounds, up 13 percent from the 2020 season.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

All cotton production is forecast at 18.0 million 480-pound bales, down 3 percent from the previous forecast, but up 23 percent from 2020. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 871 pounds per harvested acre, down 24 pounds from the previous forecast but up 24 pounds from 2020. Upland cotton production is forecast at 17.7 million 480-pound bales, down 3 percent from the previous forecast but up 26 percent from 2020. Pima cotton production is forecast at 353,000 bales, up 5 percent from the previous forecast but down 35 percent from 2020. All cotton area harvested is forecast at 9.92 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but up 20 percent from 2020.

Production of alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay for 2021 is forecast at 48.2 million tons, up 1 percent from the August forecast, but down 9 percent from 2020. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 2.99 tons per acre, up 0.02 ton from the August forecast, but down 0.28 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 72.3 million tons, up 2 percent from the August forecast, but down 2 percent from 2020. Based on October 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 2.04 tons per acre, up 0.04 ton from the August forecast, but down 0.01 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 35.4 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report, but down 2 percent from 2020.

Peanut production is forecast at 6.29 billion pounds, down 1 percent from the previous forecast but up 2 percent from the revised 2020 total of 6.16 billion pounds. Area harvested is expected to total 1.53 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast but down 5

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percent from the revised 2020 total. Based on conditions as of October 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 4,105 pounds per acre down 36 pounds per acre from the previous forecast, but up 292 pounds per acre from the revised 2020 yield.

**Pecan** production is forecast at 258 million pounds (utilized, in-shell basis), down 16 percent from 2020. Improved varieties are expected to produce 248 million pounds or 96 percent of the total. The native and seedling varieties are expected to produce 10.3 million pounds, making up the remaining 4 percent of production.

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