



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
**Southern Region News Release**  
**Annual Crop Production**



Cooperating with the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Georgia Department of Agriculture, and South Carolina Department of Agriculture  
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**Key findings for the Southern Region from the Crop Production 2018 Summary**

**Alabama:** Corn for grain production for 2018 totaled 39.0 million bushels, down 1 percent from 2017. In October, Hurricane Michael came across the Florida Panhandle into the southeast corner of Alabama heavily damaging the cotton and peanut crops. Cotton production, at 860,000 bales, is up only 6 percent from last year despite an additional 70,000 harvested acres this year. Peanut production totals 551 million pounds, down 22 percent from 2017, due primarily to a 15 percent decline in planted area. Soybean production, at 13.9 million bushels, is down 12 percent from last year.

**Florida:** With a 33 percent increase in planted area in 2018, corn for grain production totaled 10.2 million bushels, up 71 percent from 2017. Hurricane Michael, a category 5 storm as it landed in the Florida Panhandle in October, caused severe destruction to crops, timber, and structures in the area. Abandoned cotton acreage is at a record high 27,000 acres. As a result, cotton production, estimated at 120,000 bales, is down 23 percent from last year despite an 18 percent increase in planted acres. Peanut planted area is down 21 percent with production totaling 504 million pounds, a 21 percent decrease from 2017. Soybean production is down 4 percent from last year primarily due to larger than normal abandonment after the hurricane.

**Georgia:** Corn for grain production for 2018 totaled 50.2 million bushels, an increase of 16 percent from 2017. In October, Hurricane Michael landed in Florida but quickly moved into Georgia with wind speeds in excess of 70 mph causing widespread damage across much of the state. While cotton planted area at 1.43 million acres is up 150,000 acres from last year, harvested acres were only up 80,000 acres. The resulting production of 1.95 million bales is a decrease of 12 percent from last year. Peanut production, at 2.89 billion pounds, is down 19 percent due primarily to a 20 percent decline from last year's record high planted area. Soybean production is down 14 percent from last year. Tobacco production at 23.8 million pounds is down 10 percent from 2017.

**South Carolina:** Following a record high yield in 2017, corn for grain production for 2018 totaled 39.4 million bushels, down 11 percent from 2017. In September, Hurricane Florence stalled near the Carolina coast, dumping over 15 inches of rain in portions of the Pee Dee area, negatively impacting crop yields before moving northward. Cotton production, at 440,000 bales, is down 7 percent from last year despite an additional 42,000 harvested acres this year. Coming off record high planted area and yield, peanut production for 2018 totals 279 million pounds, a 41 percent decrease from last year. Soybean production is down 25 percent from last year primarily due to a drop in yield following 2017's record high yield. Tobacco production at 22.1 million pounds is down 12 percent from 2017.

**Hay Stocks on Farms — States and United States: May 1 and December 1, 2017 and 2018**

State	May 1		December 1	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)
Alabama .....	240	275	1,550	1,750
Florida .....	40	65	490	570
Georgia.....	165	200	1,240	1,180
South Carolina.....	80	115	390	430
United States .....	24,400	15,348	84,422	79,055

Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service - *Crop Production*, February 2019

## Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production — States and United States: 2017 and 2018

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield per acre		Production	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)			(1,000)	(1,000)
<b>Corn<sup>1</sup> .....</b> (bushels)								
Alabama.....	250	260	235	250	167.0	156.0	39,245	39,000
Florida.....	75	100	37	65	161.0	157.0	5,957	10,205
Georgia.....	290	325	245	285	176.0	176.0	43,120	50,160
South Carolina.....	350	340	325	310	136.0	127.0	44,200	39,370
United States.....	90,167	89,129	82,733	81,740	176.6	176.4	14,609,407	14,420,101
<b>Cotton, all<sup>2</sup> .....</b> (bales)								
Alabama.....	435.0	510.0	430.0	500.0	902	826	808.0	860.0
Florida.....	99.0	117.0	98.0	90.0	759	640	155.0	120.0
Georgia.....	1,280.0	1,430.0	1,270.0	1,350.0	841	693	2,225.0	1,950.0
South Carolina.....	250.0	300.0	248.0	290.0	912	728	471.0	440.0
United States.....	12,717.5	14,099.0	11,100.4	10,530.5	905	838	20,922.5	18,390.0
<b>Hay, all other .....</b> (tons)								
Alabama.....	(NA)	(NA)	860	850	2.50	2.80	2,150	2,380
Florida.....	(NA)	(NA)	300	280	2.50	3.10	750	868
Georgia.....	(NA)	(NA)	620	600	2.90	2.90	1,798	1,740
South Carolina.....	(NA)	(NA)	300	270	2.60	2.50	780	675
United States.....	(NA)	(NA)	35,770	36,231	2.02	1.96	72,395	70,966
<b>Peanuts.....</b> (pounds)								
Alabama.....	195.0	165.0	193.0	162.0	3,650	3,400	704,450	550,800
Florida.....	195.0	155.0	185.0	140.0	3,450	3,600	638,250	504,000
Georgia.....	835.0	665.0	825.0	650.0	4,330	4,450	3,572,250	2,892,500
South Carolina.....	122.0	87.0	118.0	82.0	4,000	3,400	472,000	278,800
United States.....	1,871.6	1,425.5	1,775.6	1,368.5	4,007	3,991	7,115,410	5,461,600
<b>Sorghum<sup>1</sup> .....</b> (bushels)								
Georgia.....	21	25	12	15	54.0	53.0	648	795
United States.....	5,629	5,690	5,044	5,061	71.7	72.1	361,871	364,986
<b>Soybeans.....</b> (bushels)								
Alabama.....	350	345	345	340	46.0	41.0	15,870	13,940
Florida.....	15	18	14	12	34.0	38.0	476	456
Georgia.....	155	145	150	135	42.0	40.0	6,300	5,400
South Carolina.....	400	390	390	375	38.0	29.5	14,820	11,063
United States.....	90,162	89,196	89,542	88,110	49.3	51.6	4,411,633	4,543,883
<b>Sugarcane<sup>3</sup> .....</b> (tons)								
Florida.....	(NA)	(NA)	412.7	412.1	41.1	42.3	16,942	17,448
United States.....	(NA)	(NA)	904.1	908.2	36.8	38.3	33,238	34,754
<b>Tobacco.....</b> (pounds)								
Georgia.....	(NA)	(NA)	12.5	12.5	2,100	1,900	26,250	23,750
South Carolina.....	(NA)	(NA)	12.0	12.3	2,100	1,800	25,200	22,140
United States.....	(NA)	(NA)	321.5	291.4	2,209	1,830	710,161	533,241

(NA) Not available.

<sup>1</sup> Planted for all purposes, harvested for grain.

<sup>2</sup> Yield is pounds. Production ginned and to be ginned. Production is in 480-lb. net weight bales.

<sup>3</sup> For sugar and seed.

Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service - *Crop Production 2018 Summary*, February 2019