



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Southern Region News Release
August 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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US corn production for 2018 is forecast at 14.6 billion bushels, down less than 1 percent from last year. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 178.4 bushels per acre, up 1.8 bushels from 2017. If realized, this will be the highest yield on record for the United States. Soybean production is forecast at 4.59 billion bushels, up 4 percent from last year. All cotton production is forecast at 19.2 million 480-pound bales, down 8 percent from last year. All wheat production, at 1.88 billion bushels, is down less than 1 percent from the July forecast but up 8 percent from 2017. Peanut production is forecast at 6.09 billion pounds, down 16 percent from 2017.

Key findings for the Southern Region from the August Crop Production include:

Alabama: Corn, cotton, peanuts and soybeans are all forecast to be record high yields, if realized. Corn for grain production is forecast at 40.0 million bushels, up 2 percent from 2017. Yield is forecast at 170 bushels per acre, up 3 bushels from last year. Cotton production at 1.0 million bales is up 25 percent from last year and the largest production since 1955. Yield is forecast at 1,000 pounds per acre, up 98 pounds from last year. Peanut production is forecast at 628 million pounds, down 11 percent. Yield is forecast at 4,000 pounds per acre, up 350 pounds from last year. Soybeans production at 17.0 million bushels is up 7 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 48 bushels per acre, up 2 bushels from last year. Peach production at 4,950 tons is forecast up 230 percent from last year’s crop which lacked necessary chill hours.

Florida: Cotton production forecast, at 220,000 bales, is up 42 percent from 2017. Yield is forecast at 935 pounds per acre, up 176 pounds from last year. If realized, this will be a record high yield for cotton. Peanut production is forecast at 604 million pounds, down 9 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 4,000 pounds per acre, up 450 pounds from last year. If realized, this will tie the record yield from 2014. Sugarcane for sugar and seed is forecast down 1 percent at 16.9 million tons.

Georgia: Corn for grain production is forecast at 52.8 million bushels, up 22 percent from 2017. Yield is forecast at 173 bushels per acre, a 3 bushel decrease from last year. Cotton production at 2.9 million bales is up 30 percent. Peanut production is forecast at 3.11 billion pounds, down 14 percent from 2017. Yield is forecast at 4,500 pounds per acre, up 120 pounds from last year. Soybeans production at 7.22 million bushels is up 15 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 38 bushels per acre, down 4 bushels from last year. Peach production rebounded from last year’s devastated crop and is forecast at 25,000 tons for 2018, up 150 percent.

South Carolina: Corn for grain production is forecast at 39.4 million bushels, down 11 percent from 2017. Yield is forecast at 127 bushels per acre, a decrease of 9 bushels from last year. Cotton production at 500,000 bales is up 6 percent. Peanut production is forecast at 365 million pounds, down 23 percent from 2017. Soybeans production at 15.2 million bushels is up 2 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 37 bushels per acre, down 1 bushel from last year. The 2018 peach production forecast is up 396 percent from last year’s crop that suffered from inadequate chill hours followed by several days of freezing temperatures.

Peach Production — States and United States: 2017 and Forecasted August 1, 2018

[Current year estimates are for the full 2018 crop year]

| State | Total production | |
|----------------------|------------------|---------|
| | 2017 | 2018 |
| | (tons) | (tons) |
| Alabama | 1,500 | 4,950 |
| Georgia..... | 10,000 | 25,000 |
| South Carolina | 11,000 | 54,600 |
| United States | 696,650 | 732,050 |

Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service - *Crop Production*, August 2018

Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production — States and United States: 2017 and Forecasted August 1, 2018

| Crop and State | Area planted | | Area harvested | | Yield per acre | | Production | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | 2017 (1,000 acres) | 2018 (1,000 acres) | 2017 (1,000 acres) | 2018 (1,000 acres) | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 (1,000) | 2018 (1,000) |
| Corn¹ (bushels) | | | | | | | | |
| Alabama..... | 250 | 250 | 235 | 235 | 167.0 | 170.0 | 39,245 | 39,950 |
| Florida ² | 75 | 80 | 37 | 50 | 161.0 | | 5,957 | |
| Georgia | 290 | 360 | 245 | 305 | 176.0 | 173.0 | 43,120 | 52,765 |
| South Carolina..... | 350 | 330 | 325 | 310 | 136.0 | 127.0 | 44,200 | 39,370 |
| United States..... | 90,167 | 89,128 | 82,703 | 81,770 | 176.6 | 178.4 | 14,604,067 | 14,586,485 |
| Cotton, all³ (bales) | | | | | | | | |
| Alabama..... | 435.0 | 490.0 | 430.0 | 485.0 | 902 | 1,000 | 808.0 | 1,010.0 |
| Florida..... | 99.0 | 115.0 | 98.0 | 113.0 | 759 | 935 | 155.0 | 220.0 |
| Georgia | 1,280.0 | 1,450.0 | 1,270.0 | 1,440.0 | 841 | 967 | 2,225.0 | 2,900.0 |
| South Carolina..... | 250.0 | 260.0 | 248.0 | 258.0 | 912 | 930 | 471.0 | 500.0 |
| United States..... | 12,612.5 | 13,518.0 | 11,100.4 | 10,139.4 | 905 | 911 | 20,922.5 | 19,235.0 |
| Hay, all other (tons) | | | | | | | | |
| Alabama..... | (NA) | (NA) | 860 | 850 | 2.50 | 2.70 | 2,150 | 2,295 |
| Florida ² | (NA) | (NA) | 300 | 280 | 2.50 | | 750 | |
| Georgia | (NA) | (NA) | 620 | 600 | 2.90 | 3.10 | 1,798 | 1,860 |
| South Carolina ² | (NA) | (NA) | 260 | 260 | 2.60 | | 676 | |
| United States..... | (NA) | (NA) | 37,221 | 37,717 | 2.05 | 1.88 | 76,387 | 70,726 |
| Peanuts..... (pounds) | | | | | | | | |
| Alabama..... | 195.0 | 160.0 | 193.0 | 157.0 | 3,650 | 4,000 | 704,450 | 628,000 |
| Florida..... | 195.0 | 160.0 | 186.0 | 151.0 | 3,550 | 4,000 | 660,300 | 604,000 |
| Georgia | 835.0 | 700.0 | 825.0 | 690.0 | 4,380 | 4,500 | 3,613,500 | 3,105,000 |
| South Carolina..... | 122.0 | 100.0 | 118.0 | 96.0 | 4,000 | 3,800 | 472,000 | 364,800 |
| United States..... | 1,870.6 | 1,502.0 | 1,775.6 | 1,461.0 | 4,074 | 4,167 | 7,233,600 | 6,088,600 |
| Soybeans (bushels) | | | | | | | | |
| Alabama..... | 350 | 360 | 345 | 355 | 46.0 | 48.0 | 15,870 | 17,040 |
| Florida ² | 15 | 15 | 14 | 14 | 34.0 | | 476 | |
| Georgia | 155 | 200 | 150 | 190 | 42.0 | 38.0 | 6,300 | 7,220 |
| South Carolina..... | 400 | 420 | 390 | 410 | 38.0 | 37.0 | 14,820 | 15,170 |
| United States..... | 90,142 | 89,557 | 89,522 | 88,862 | 49.1 | 51.6 | 4,391,553 | 4,585,916 |
| Sugarcane⁴ (tons) | | | | | | | | |
| Florida..... | (NA) | (NA) | 412.7 | 407.0 | 41.1 | 41.4 | 16,942 | 16,850 |
| United States..... | (NA) | (NA) | 904.1 | 909.0 | 36.8 | 35.8 | 33,238 | 32,586 |
| Tobacco..... (pounds) | | | | | | | | |
| Georgia | (NA) | (NA) | 12.5 | 12.5 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 26,250 | 26,250 |
| South Carolina..... | (NA) | (NA) | 12.0 | 12.0 | 2,100 | 1,800 | 25,200 | 21,600 |
| United States..... | (NA) | (NA) | 321.5 | 303.7 | 2,209 | 2,130 | 710,161 | 646,752 |

(NA) Not available.

¹ Planted for all purposes, harvested for grain.

² Blank cells indicate that individual state level estimates will be published in the *Crop Production 2018 Summary*, released January 2019.

³ Yield is in pounds. Production ginned and to be ginned. Production is in 480-lb. net weight bales.

⁴ For sugar and seed.

Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service - *Crop Production*, August 2018