

crop production



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HIGHLIGHTS OF U.S. CROP REPORT AS OF JANUARY 1, 1974

Cotton production is forecast at 13.0 million bales, 1 percent below last month and down 5 percent from 1972. Harvested acres totaled 12.0 million, down 8 percent from 1972. Cottonseed production is estimated at 5.2 million tons, 4 percent below 1972.

Citrus production is expected to be 7 percent below last season but up 6 percent from the 1971-72 crop.

Orange production is forecast at 203.7 million boxes, down 2 percent (3.9 million boxes) from the December 1 forecast and 9 percent (20.6 million boxes) below last year.

Grapefruit production is forecast at 65 million boxes, down 4 percent (3.0 million boxes) from the December 1 forecast and slightly less than last year.

Lemon crop prospects, at 18 million boxes, are unchanged from the December 1 forecast but 19 percent below last year's record high.

Potatoes--Winter production for 1974 is forecast at 2.5 million cwt, 12 percent below the 1973 crop of 2.9 million cwt but 7 percent above 1972. Intended plantings for the 1974 spring potato crop are estimated at 103,200 acres, 3 percent more than the 99,900 acres planted in 1973.

Hay stocks on farms totaled a record high 93.4 million tons, 5 percent above a year earlier.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE CROP REPORTING BOARD

CrPr 2-2 (1-74)

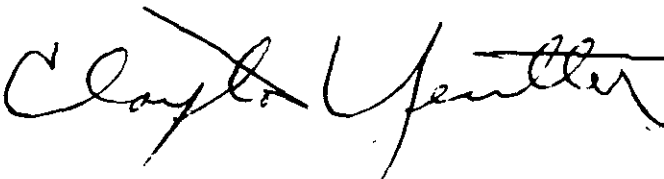
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

CROP SUMMARY AS OF JANUARY 1, 1974

Harvest of the cotton crop is nearing completion while the corn, sorghum, and soybean harvests are complete except for scattered fields in some States. Cotton production is forecast at 5 percent below the 1972 crop. The 1973-74 citrus crop is expected to be 7 percent below the large 1972-73 crop. The winter potato production forecast, at 2.5 million cwt., is down 12 percent from a year earlier. Hay stocks on farms January 1, 1974 are up 5 percent from last year.

The CROP PRODUCTION report contains State and National estimates with related information on selected agricultural commodities. These data were prepared and adopted by the Crop Reporting Board which consists of commodity statisticians from the Statistical Reporting Service's field offices and Washington headquarters.

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United States Crop Summary as of January 1, 1974
Citrus Fruits, Production 1/

Crop	1972-73	Indicated 1973-74	
		Dec. 1, 1973	Jan. 1, 1974
		1,000 boxes	
Oranges	224,260	207,600	203,700
Grapefruit	65,240	68,000	65,000
Lemons	22,200	18,000	18,000

1/ Season begins with bloom of the first year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year.

Cotton

Crop	Acreage		Lint yield per		Production	
	Harvested		harvested acre		480 lb. net weight bales	
	1972	1973	1972	1973	1972	1973
	1,000 acres		Pounds		1,000 bales	
All Cotton	12,983.8	11,989.0	507	519	13,702.1	12,961.2

Irish Potatoes

Seasonal group	Acreage			
	Planted	Indi- cated	Harvested	For harvest
	1973	1974	1973	1974
	1,000 acres		1,000 acres	
Winter	14.0	13.8	14.0	13.6
Spring	99.9	103.2	98.9	Mar. 8
	Yield per acre		Production	
	1973	Indi- cated 1974	1973	Indi- cated 1974
	Cwt.		1,000 cwt.	
Winter	204	184	2,853	2,499
Spring	214	Apr. 10	21,213	Apr. 10

Hay: Stocks on farms

Crop	1973	1974
	1,000 tons	
January 1	88,835	93,440
May 1	24,322	

DECEMBER WEATHER AND CROP PROGRESS

Harvest of the Texas cotton crop continued ahead of average during December and by January 1 was near completion in all areas except the southern Low Plains, according to the Crop Reporting Board. Corn, sorghum, and soybean harvests were wrapped up with only scattered fields in some States left on January 1.

December temperatures averaged warmer than normal in the eastern and western thirds of the Nation, but were below normal in the central third, particularly the Northern Plains and western Corn Belt. It was one of the warmest Decembers on record in parts of New England, the Carolinas, and the Northwest.

The first 10 days were much warmer than usual in the East and Northwest and many eastern cities had record highs on several days. During the second 10 days, winter took hold over much of the Nation except in the West and parts of New England where temperatures remained above normal. The freeze line dropped well into Texas and Florida. On December 20 early morning lows fell to 27° at Mobile, Ala. and 28° at Lake Charles, La. The next morning Corpus Christi, Texas, reached a record low 18°, the coldest December temperature ever recorded there. The hard freeze damaged some vegetables and citrus in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. The weather warmed markedly during the final 10 days and the month ended much warmer than usual except over Central and Northern Plains.

Total precipitation for the month was highly variable, ranging from over 20 inches along the Washington-Oregon coast to no precipitation in much of Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. Precipitation in New England and the Eastern Seaboard, the central Corn Belt, and the Central Plains was more than twice the normal amount.

Severe winter weather hit most of the Nation's midsection on December 3. Snow and sleet, driven by high winds, blanketed the Central Plains. Heavy rain fell from the Carolinas to New England, and snow fell on the Appalachians during the first 10 days. The period from December 10-15 was fairly dry, but during the following 5 days heavy precipitation, much of it as snow, fell on the eastern half of the Nation. Heavy snowfall also fell on the Central States, paralyzing travel with amounts up to 19 inches in some places. The month ended relatively dry except in the Southeast and parts of California. From 1 to 4 inches of rain fell from Louisiana to Tennessee and Georgia.

WINTER WHEAT was under a protective blanket of snow in most of the northern half of the country around January 1 as precipitation was above normal during December except in the Southwest.

In the Great Plains, wheat made some growth in early December when temperatures averaged above normal. However, top growth to date over most of the Plains is less than normal. Although little damage from wind has occurred, the threat exists. Soil moisture is abundant except in the Plains of Texas and the Oklahoma Panhandle where supplies remain short.

Montana and the Pacific Northwest received mostly above normal precipitation for the second consecutive month. Washington growers were especially optimistic after a very dry 1973 season.

Wheat in Missouri and the eastern Corn Belt was mostly under snow around January 1. Soil moisture supplies are abundant. In other States east of the Mississippi River, the crop remains in generally good condition. In early December the first general rain in nearly 4 months was very beneficial to fall seedings in North Carolina and other South Atlantic States.

COTTON: All cotton production is expected to total 13.0 million bales, off 1 percent from the December 1 forecast and down 5 percent from 1972. Harvest made good progress and was near completion in all areas except the Southwest. Estimated production consists of 12.9 million bales of upland cotton and 79,200 bales of American-Pima. This production is expected from 12.0 million harvested acres. Cottonseed production, based on a 3-year average lint-seed ratio, is estimated at 5.2 million tons, down 4 percent from 1972.

The Texas and Oklahoma harvest advanced rapidly in December. Upland production in these States is forecast at 5.1 million bales, 11 percent more than 1972. Ginnings were 83 percent complete by January 1.

In the Delta States--Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Missouri--4.0 million bales are expected, down 1.1 million bales from 1972. Harvest was nearly complete and ginnings were about 99 percent complete in these States.

The California, Arizona, and New Mexico upland cotton crop is forecast at 2.5 million bales, down 1 percent from the December 1 forecast. Ginnings were 97 percent complete by January 1.

The Southeastern States--Alabama, Georgia, and the Carolinas--expect production to total 1.3 million bales, 3 percent less than 1972. Good weather allowed virtual completion of harvest by January 1 and 93 percent of the crop had been ginned.

The Bureau of Census reports 11.6 million running bales of cotton ginned by January 1, virtually the same as January 1, 1973.

HAY STOCKS ON FARMS: January 1 stocks of hay on farms are estimated at a record high 93.4 million tons, up 5 percent from the 88.8 million on hand a year earlier, mainly because of increased production. Stocks were above year-earlier levels in all areas of the Nation except the North Central States where they averaged lower. January 1 hay stocks in the South Central States averaged more than one-third above year-earlier levels.

Disappearance from May 1, 1973 through December 31, 1973 totaled 65.5 million tons, compared with 65.3 million tons a year earlier.

ORANGES: The Nation's 1973-74 orange crop is forecast at 203.7 million boxes, down 2 percent from the December 1 forecast but still the second largest crop on record, 9 percent below the 1972-73 record crop. Florida received four nights of freezing temperatures on December 12, 18, 22, and 23; however, temperatures were not low long enough to significantly damage fruit except in isolated locations. In Texas below freezing temperatures on December 20 lasted for 12 hours. Much of the citrus area received temperatures as low as 26 degrees for 8 hours which caused moderate to severe leaf burn and fruit droppage. Losses will be greater in the early orange varieties but lower losses are expected for Valencia oranges. Arizona has not had any freeze damage. California had cold weather on January 2 and 3 but there was little damage.

Florida's total production is forecast at 157.0 million boxes, 7 percent below last season's record and 2 percent less than the December 1 forecast. Early oranges had a larger droppage and smaller sizes than earlier expected. Texas production of all oranges is forecast at 7.2 million boxes, down 10 percent from December 1 and 3 percent below last year. Prospects in Arizona point to a total crop of 3.5 million boxes, down 3 percent from December 1 and 31 percent below last season. California orange production is forecast at 36 million boxes, unchanged from December 1 and 14 percent below last year.

U. S. January orange forecasts have differed from actual production an average of 6.3 million boxes during the past 9 years, ranging from 1.6 million boxes in 1971-72 to 16.2 million boxes in 1970-71 when a January freeze in Florida reduced the crop.

FLORIDA FROZEN CONCENTRATED JUICE YIELD: The all orange juice yield for 1973-74 is projected at 1.30 gallons of 45-degree brix concentrate per box. Final yield from the 1972-73 crop was 1.33 gallons per box.

GRAPEFRUIT: U. S. production of grapefruit is now expected to total 65 million boxes, 4 percent less than the December 1 forecast and slightly less than last season. Grapefruit did not size as well as expected earlier in Florida and Texas because of dry weather during the fall growing season and cold weather during the middle of December. Below freezing temperatures in Florida on December 12, 18, 22, and 23 were not low enough or long enough to cause fruit damage except in isolated locations. In Texas, however, temperatures on December 20 dropped to below freezing for 12 hours, causing moderate to severe leaf burn. The full extent of the damage cannot be determined at this time.

Florida prospects point to a crop of 46 million boxes, 4 percent below the December 1 forecast but 1 percent above last season. The Texas crop is forecast 8 percent less than on December 1 and 3 percent below the previous season. Arizona and California prospects are the same as last month with Arizona up 6 percent from a year ago and California down 13 percent from last season.

LEMONS: Prospects in California and Arizona point to a crop of 18 million boxes for the 1973-74 season, unchanged from last month's forecast but 19 percent below last season's record high. California production, at 15 million boxes, is unchanged from last month but down 15 percent from the record output of last season. Arizona prospects, at 3 million boxes, are 35 percent below last season as a result of a light fruit set and small size.

TANGELOS: Florida's tangelo production is now expected to total 4.5 million boxes, 6 percent less than the December 1 forecast but still a record--29 percent above last season.

TANGERINES: The portion of the tangerine crop expected to reach marketable size is forecast at 4.3 million boxes, unchanged from last month but 16 percent below last season. Harvest is now active and fruit is of good quality.

TEMPLES: The temple crop in Florida is forecast at 5 million boxes, 6 percent below December 1 and 2 percent less than a year ago.

POTATOES: The first forecast of the 1974 winter potato crop, at 2.5 million cwt, is down 12 percent from the 1973 crop of 2.9 million cwt. California's production is estimated at 1,011,000 cwt, compared with 1,078,000 cwt last year. Digging is now in progress in Kern and Riverside Counties. The cold weather on January 2 and 3 did not affect the crop since it had already matured. The central San Joaquin Counties are ready to begin harvest.

The winter crop in Florida is estimated at 1,488,000 cwt, 16 percent less than 1973 production of 1,775,000 cwt. Harvesting is now underway in the Everglades and Martin County area. Frost hit all producing areas on December 12 and 13 and again during the December 16-22 period. No extensive damage occurred since most fields were mature.

Intended plantings of spring potatoes for 1974 are estimated at 103,200 acres, 3 percent more than the 99,900 acres planted last year and 7 percent above the 96,900 acres planted in 1972.

Intended plantings for California are estimated at 36,800 acres, compared with 34,700 acres planted in 1972. For Arizona, intended plantings are estimated at 11,000 acres, compared with 9,900 acres planted last year. Acreage expectations are also up in Alabama and Texas. Reductions in acreage are expected in North Carolina and Florida.

Cotton

State	Acreage			Lint yield per harvested acre			Production		
	Harvested			1971	1972	1973	480-lb. net weight bales 1/		
	1971	1972	1973				1971	1972	1973
	1,000 acres			Pounds			1,000 bales		
<u>Upland</u>									
N. C.	175	170	173	371	337	458	135	119	165
S. C.	320	340	294	412	435	482	275	308	295
Ga.	385	430	375	466	395	506	374	354	395
Tenn.	425	485	440	597	543	480	528	548	440
Ala.	558	580	510	551	470	424	640	567	450
Mo.	313	405	180	614	520	493	401	439	185
Miss.	1,325	1,606	1,340	613	599	645	1,693	2,005	1,800
Ark.	1,140	1,410	1,000	522	488	497	1,240	1,435	1,035
La.	500	665	520	576	509	485	600	705	525
Okl.	396	510	515	215	313	401	177	332	430
Texas	4,700	5,000	5,200	263	408	429	2,579	4,246	4,650
N. Mex.	130	131	127	493	581	510	133	158	135
Ariz.	241	271	275	928	1,067	1,065	466	603	610
Calif.	741	863	942	723	982	892	1,117	1,765	1,750
Va.	4.2	2.5	2.5	247	265	499	2.2	1.4	2.6
Fla.	9.3	11.3	10.8	602	572	533	11.7	13.5	12.0
Ill.	.8	1.1	0	242	256	0	.4	.6	0
Ky.	4.3	5.0	.4	573	397	480	5.1	4.1	.4
Nev.	2.3	2.1	1.9	319	607	505	1.5	2.7	2.0
U. S. Upland	11,369.9	12,888.0	11,906.6	438	507	519	10,378.9	13,606.3	12,882.0
<u>Amer-Pima</u>									
Texas	35.4	34.5	31.2	478	437	400	35.3	31.4	26.0
N. Mex.	20.6	21.1	17.0	473	349	282	20.3	15.4	10.0
Ariz.	44.4	39.9	34.0	456	587	607	42.1	48.8	43.0
Calif.	.6	.3	.2	325	385	480	.4	.2	.2
U. S. A. P.	101.0	95.8	82.4	466	480	461	98.1	95.8	79.2
U. S. All	11,470.9	12,983.8	11,989.0	438	507	519	10,477.0	13,702.1	12,961.2

1/ Production ginned and to be ginned.

HAY STOCKS ON FARMS - JANUARY 1

State	1972	1973	1974
	1,000 tons		
Alabama	638	521	645
Arizona	280	206	304
Arkansas	907	777	1,067
California	1,808	1,632	1,809
Colorado	2,133	1,810	1,948
Delaware	32	33	35
Florida	274	208	261
Georgia	724	593	757
Idaho	2,333	2,340	2,602
Illinois	2,328	2,494	2,276
Indiana	1,526	1,362	1,463
Iowa	5,872	6,083	5,859
Kansas	3,468	3,574	4,115
Kentucky	2,632	2,273	2,619
Louisiana	466	360	536
Maryland	393	358	405
Michigan	1,392	1,840	2,104
Minnesota	5,438	5,600	5,285
Mississippi	793	707	966
Missouri	4,435	4,482	4,996
Montana	3,601	4,013	3,854
Nebraska	5,269	5,569	5,790
Nevada	668	609	624
New Jersey	157	114	158
New Mexico	306	326	300
New York	3,561	2,837	3,279
North Carolina	400	406	384
North Dakota	4,080	4,326	3,493
Ohio	1,992	2,006	2,201
Oklahoma	2,262	1,884	2,724
Oregon	1,491	1,481	1,246
Pennsylvania	2,872	2,401	2,847
South Carolina	280	299	346
South Dakota	4,926	7,038	5,395
Tennessee	1,436	1,407	1,517
Texas	2,592	2,612	4,356
Utah	1,014	968	1,145
Virginia	1,293	1,345	1,440
Washington	1,292	1,159	1,196
West Virginia	776	755	796
Wisconsin	8,091	7,346	7,435
Wyoming	1,831	1,643	1,641
New England	1,363	1,038	1,221
United States	89,425	88,835	93,440

CITRUS FRUITS, PRODUCTION 1/

CROP AND STATE	1971-72	1972-73	INDICATED	1971-72	1972-73	INDICATED
	1,000 BOXES 2/			EQUIVALENT TONS		
ORANGES:						
EARLY, MIDSEASON & NAVAL VARIETIES 3/:						
ARIZONA	900	1,060	500	33,800	39,800	18,800
CALIFORNIA	22,300	18,700	20,000	836,000	701,000	750,000
FLORIDA	68,800	90,000	85,000	3,096,000	4,050,000	3,825,000
TEXAS	3,800	5,000	4,600	171,000	225,000	207,000
TOTAL ABOVE VARIETIES	95,800	114,760	110,100	4,136,800	5,015,800	4,800,800
VALENCIAS:						
ARIZONA	4,000	4,000	3,000	150,000	150,000	113,000
CALIFORNIA	21,100	23,400	16,000	791,000	878,000	600,000
FLORIDA	68,200	79,700	72,000	3,069,000	3,587,000	3,240,000
TEXAS	2,000	2,400	2,600	90,000	108,000	117,000
TOTAL VALENCIAS	95,300	109,500	93,600	4,100,000	4,723,000	4,070,000
ALL ORANGES:						
ARIZONA	4,900	5,060	3,500	183,800	189,800	131,800
CALIFORNIA	43,400	42,100	36,000	1,627,000	1,579,000	1,350,000
FLORIDA	137,000	169,700	157,000	6,165,000	7,637,000	7,065,000
TEXAS	5,800	7,400	7,200	261,000	333,000	324,000
U. S., ALL ORANGES	191,100	224,260	203,700	8,236,800	9,738,800	8,870,800
GRAPEFRUIT:						
ARIZONA	2,540	2,640	2,800	81,500	84,500	89,600
CALIFORNIA, ALL DESERT VALLEYS	5,400	5,400	4,700	175,700	176,400	153,300
OTHER AREAS	3,200	3,000	2,800	102,000	96,000	89,600
FLORIDA, ALL PINK SEEDLESS	2,200	2,400	1,900	73,700	80,400	63,700
WHITE SEEDLESS	47,000	45,400	46,000	1,998,000	1,930,000	1,955,000
OTHER	12,300	11,700	12,000	523,000	497,000	510,000
TEXAS	23,800	23,500	24,000	1,012,000	999,000	1,020,000
U. S., ALL GRAPEFRUIT	10,900	10,200	10,000	463,000	434,000	425,000
	9,200	11,800	11,500	368,000	472,000	460,000
	64,140	65,240	65,000	2,623,000	2,662,900	2,657,900
LEMONS:						
ARIZONA	3,080	4,600	3,000	117,000	175,000	114,000
CALIFORNIA	13,600	17,600	15,000	517,000	669,000	570,000
U. S. LEMONS	16,680	22,200	18,000	634,000	844,000	684,000
TANGELOS:						
FLORIDA	3,900	3,500	4,500	176,000	158,000	203,000
TANGERINES:						
ARIZONA	570	530	400	21,400	19,900	15,000
CALIFORNIA	1,260	1,600	1,300	47,300	60,000	48,000
FLORIDA	3,200	3,000	2,600	152,000	143,000	124,000
TOTAL TANGERINES	5,030	5,130	4,300	220,700	222,900	187,800
TEMPLES:						
FLORIDA	5,300	5,100	5,000	239,000	230,000	225,000

1/ THE CROP YEAR BEGINS WITH THE BLOOM OF THE FIRST YEAR SHOWN AND ENDS WITH COMPLETION OF HARVEST THE FOLLOWING YEAR. 2/ NET CONTENT OF BOX VARIES. APPROXIMATE AVERAGES ARE AS FOLLOWS: ORANGES - CALIFORNIA AND ARIZONA, 75 LBS.; FLORIDA AND OTHER STATES, 90 LBS.; GRAPEFRUIT - CALIFORNIA DESERT VALLEYS, AND ARIZONA, 64 LBS.; OTHER CALIFORNIA AREAS, 67 LBS.; FLORIDA, 85 LBS.; AND TEXAS, 80 LBS.; LEMONS - 76 LBS.; TANGELOS - 90 LBS.; TANGERINES - CALIFORNIA AND ARIZONA, 75 LBS.; FLORIDA, 95 LBS.; AND TEMPLES - 90 LBS. 3/ NAVAL AND MISCELLANEOUS VARIETIES IN CALIFORNIA AND ARIZONA. EARLY AND MIDSEASON VARIETIES IN FLORIDA AND TEXAS, INCLUDING SMALL QUANTITIES OF TANGERINES IN TEXAS.

IRISH POTATOES 1974 CROP

SEASONAL GROUP AND STATE	ACREAGE			YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
	HARVESTED		FOR	INDI-		INDI-			
	1972	1973	HARVEST	1972	1973	CATED	1972	1973	CATED
	1,000 ACRES			CWT.			1,000 CWT.		
WINTER:									
CALIF.	5.7	4.9	4.3	170	220	235	969	1,078	1,011
FLA.	9.7	9.1	9.3	140	195	160	1,358	1,775	1,488
TOTAL	15.4	14.0	13.6	151	204	184	2,327	2,853	2,499

SEASONAL GROUP AND STATE	ACREAGE						FOR HARVEST 1974
	PLANTED			HARVESTED			
	1972	1973 1/	INDICATED 1974	1972	1973 1/	1,000 CWT.	
SPRING:							
ALA.	9.0	11.0	12.5	9.0	11.0	MAR. 8	
ARIZ.	3.0	9.9	11.0	8.0	9.9	"	
ARK. 2/	.4			1.4		"	
CALIF.	3.2	34.7	36.8	31.2	34.7	"	
FLA.-HASTINGS	21.3	19.0	18.5	21.1	19.0	"	
FLA.-OTHER	2.0	2.1	1.9	1.8	2.1	"	
LA.	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.3	"	
MISS.	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	"	
N. C.	11.2	11.4	10.0	11.0	11.2	"	
TEXAS	8.0	7.1	7.8	7.6	6.7	"	
TOTAL	96.9	99.9	103.2	95.8	98.9		

SEASONAL GROUP AND STATE	YIELD PER ACRE			PRODUCTION		
	1972	1973 1/	INDICATED 1974	1972	1973 1/	INDICATED 1974
	CWT.			1,000 CWT.		
SPRING:						
ALA.	155	118	APRIL 10	1,395	1,298	APRIL 10
ARIZ.	300	210	"	2,400	2,079	"
ARK. 2/	65		"	91		"
CALIF.	355	325	"	11,076	11,278	"
FLA.-HASTINGS	142	180	"	2,996	3,420	"
FLA.-OTHE.	140	150	"	252	315	"
LA.	75	83	"	203	191	"
MISS.	85		"	170	170	"
N. C.	146	145	"	1,606	1,624	"
TEXAS	108	125	"	822	838	"
TOTAL	219	214		21,011	21,213	

1/ REVISED.

2/ ESTIMATES DISCONTINUED AFTER 1972.

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