

Crop Production



United States
Department of
Agriculture

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Cotton Production Down 9 Percent From Last Year Record Orange Production

All cotton production is forecast at 18.0 million bales, down 1 percent from last month and 9 percent below 1994's record output. This year's crop remains the fourth largest on record. The Texas crop was reduced 50,000 bales from December as yields were affected by insects and cold weather, but eastern States accounted for the majority of the decrease. Unfavorable weather in the Carolina's during harvest reduced yields.

All orange production, expected to be the largest crop on record, is forecast at 11.9 million tons, up 2 percent from the previous forecast and 3 percent above last season. This forecast does not reflect effects of freezing weather in Florida after January 1. Florida's forecast is 206 million boxes (9.27 million tons), 1 percent higher than the December forecast and slightly above last season. Early and mid-season varieties are expected to produce a record high 126 million boxes (5.67 million tons), an increase of 2 percent over the previous forecast and 5 percent above last year. The Valencia forecast is 80.0 million boxes (3.60 million tons), unchanged from December but down 7 percent from a year ago. California's all orange production forecast, at 68.0 million boxes (2.55 million tons), is 3 percent above the October forecast and 11 percent more than last season. The Navel orange forecast, at 40.0 million boxes (1.50 million tons), is up 5 percent from October and 14 percent from last year. The California Valencia forecast is 28.0 million boxes (1.05 million tons), equal to October but 8 percent more than last year.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield for the 1995-96 season is forecast at 1.47 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix, down from 1.50 gallons per box in December. Initial projections for the early and mid-season varieties are 1.42 gallons per box, down from last year's 1.44 gallons per box. The Valencia crop is expected to yield 1.55 gallons per box, down from 1.58 gallons per box a year ago. The final 1994-95 yield for all fruit used in FCOJ was 1.50 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix. The forecast projects the final yield as reported by the Florida Citrus Processors Association.


Crop Summary: Area Planted, Harvested, Yield, and Production,
United States, 1995-96 (Domestic Units)


Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1995	1996	1995	1996
	1,000 Acres			
Winter Potatoes	13.3	13.6	11.9	13.5
	Yield Per Acre		Production	
	1995	1996	1995	1996
	----- Cwt -----		----- 1,000 Cwt -----	
Winter Potatoes	208	210	2,473	2,829

Crop Summary: Hay Stocks on Farms, United States, 1994-95
(Domestic Unit)

Date	1994	1995
	1,000 Tons	
May 1	22,096	20,775
December 1	105,296	109,547

This report was approved on January 16, 1996, by the Secretary of Agriculture and the National Agricultural Statistics Service's Agricultural Statistics Board.


Secretary of
Agriculture
Dan Glickman


Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
Rich Allen

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States,
1994 and Forecasted January 1, 1996
(Domestic Units)

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1994	1995	1994	1995
	1,000 Acres			
All Cotton	13,720.1	16,932.4	13,322.3	15,985.9
Upland	13,551.6	16,717.8	13,155.9	15,774.8
Amer-Pima	168.5	214.6	166.4	211.1

Crop Summary: Yield per Acre and Production, United States,
1994 and Forecasted January 1, 1996
(Domestic Units)

Crop and Unit	Yield per Acre:		Production		
	1994	1995	1994	Dec 1, 1995	Jan 1, 1996
	1,000				
All Cotton 1/ Upland 1/ Amer-Pima 1/ Cottonseed	Bale: " " Ton	708 540 821	19,662.0 19,324.3 337.7 7,603.9	18,235.7 17,878.7 357.0 7,020.7	17,971.2 17,610.2 361.0 6,924.5
Citrus Fruits 2/ Oranges Grapefruit Lemons	Ton " "		1994-95 11,616 2,912 916	1995-96 11,741 2,797 1,045	1995-96 11,918 2,763 1,026

1/ Yield in pounds.

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

Crop Summary: Area Planted, Harvested, Yield, and Production,
United States, 1995-96 (Metric Units)

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1995	1996	1995	1996
	Hectares			
Winter Potatoes	5,380	5,500	4,820	5,460
	Yield Per Hectare		Production	
	1995	1996	1995	1996
	Metric Tons			
Winter Potatoes	23.27	23.50	112,170	128,320

Crop Summary: Hay Stocks on Farms, United States, 1994-95
(Metric Unit)

Date	1994	1995
	Metric Tons	
May 1	20,045,150	18,846,760
December 1	95,522,920	99,379,370

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States,
1994 and Forecasted January 1, 1996
(Metric Units)

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1994	1995	1994	1995
	Hectares			
All Cotton	5,552,390	6,852,370	5,391,400	6,469,330
Upland	5,484,200	6,765,530	5,324,060	6,383,900
Amer-Pima	68,190	86,850	67,340	85,430

Crop Summary: Yield per Hectare and Production, United States,
1994 and Forecasted January 1, 1996
(Metric Units)

Crop	Yield per Hectare:		Production		
	1994	1995	1994	Dec 1, 1995	Jan 1, 1996
	Metric Tons				
All Cotton	0.79	0.60	4,280,900	3,970,360	3,912,770
Upland	0.79	0.60	4,207,370	3,892,630	3,834,170
Amer-Pima	1.09	0.92	73,530	77,730	78,600
Cottonseed			6,898,140	6,369,070	6,281,800
Citrus Fruits 1/			1994-95	1995-96	1995-96
Oranges			10,537,860	10,651,260	10,811,830
Grapefruit			2,641,720	2,537,400	2,506,550
Lemons			830,980	948,010	930,770

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

Cotton: Area Planted and Harvested by Type, State,
and United States, 1993-95

Type and State	Area Planted			Area Harvested		
	1993	1994	1995	1993	1994	1995
	1,000 Acres					
Upland						
AL	443.0	463.0	590.0	430.0	455.0	578.0
AZ	316.0	313.0	365.0	315.0	312.0	364.0
AR	990.0	980.0	1,170.0	970.0	970.0	1,100.0
CA	1,050.0	1,100.0	1,170.0	1,045.0	1,095.0	1,165.0
FL	54.0	69.0	110.0	53.5	68.0	109.0
GA	615.0	885.0	1,500.0	600.0	875.0	1,490.0
KS	1.6	1.4	3.8	1.4	1.2	2.8
LA	890.0	900.0	1,085.0	875.0	890.0	1,075.0
MS	1,330.0	1,280.0	1,460.0	1,300.0	1,270.0	1,420.0
MO	345.0	352.0	461.0	335.0	345.0	451.0
NM	53.5	55.0	61.0	48.7	50.0	56.0
NC	390.0	486.0	810.0	385.0	485.0	790.0
OK	370.0	360.0	380.0	350.0	340.0	315.0
SC	202.0	225.0	345.0	198.0	223.0	342.0
TN	625.0	590.0	700.0	615.0	585.0	660.0
TX	5,550.0	5,450.0	6,400.0	5,050.0	5,150.0	5,750.0
VA	23.2	42.2	107.0	22.8	41.7	107.0
US	13,248.3	13,551.6	16,717.8	12,594.4	13,155.9	15,774.8
Amer-Pima						
AZ	57.0	48.0	48.6	56.9	47.9	48.1
CA	91.0	81.0	115.0	91.0	80.8	115.0
NM	11.0	11.0	15.0	11.0	10.7	15.0
TX	31.0	28.5	36.0	30.0	27.0	33.0
US	190.0	168.5	214.6	188.9	166.4	211.1
All						
AL	443.0	463.0	590.0	430.0	455.0	578.0
AZ	373.0	361.0	413.6	371.9	359.9	412.1
AR	990.0	980.0	1,170.0	970.0	970.0	1,100.0
CA	1,141.0	1,181.0	1,285.0	1,136.0	1,175.8	1,280.0
FL	54.0	69.0	110.0	53.5	68.0	109.0
GA	615.0	885.0	1,500.0	600.0	875.0	1,490.0
KS	1.6	1.4	3.8	1.4	1.2	2.8
LA	890.0	900.0	1,085.0	875.0	890.0	1,075.0
MS	1,330.0	1,280.0	1,460.0	1,300.0	1,270.0	1,420.0
MO	345.0	352.0	461.0	335.0	345.0	451.0
NM	64.5	66.0	76.0	59.7	60.7	71.0
NC	390.0	486.0	810.0	385.0	485.0	790.0
OK	370.0	360.0	380.0	350.0	340.0	315.0
SC	202.0	225.0	345.0	198.0	223.0	342.0
TN	625.0	590.0	700.0	615.0	585.0	660.0
TX	5,581.0	5,478.5	6,436.0	5,080.0	5,177.0	5,783.0
VA	23.2	42.2	107.0	22.8	41.7	107.0
US	13,438.3	13,720.1	16,932.4	12,783.3	13,322.3	15,985.9

Cotton: Yield and Production by Type, State,
and United States, 1993-95

Type And State	Yield			Production 1/		
	1993	1994	1995	1993	1994	1995
	----- Pounds -----			----- 1,000 Bales 2/ -----		
Upland						
AL	524	766	382	469.0	726.0	460.0
AZ	1,204	1,203	1,042	790.0	782.0	790.0
AR	541	877	637	1,094.0	1,772.0	1,460.0
CA	1,340	1,191	948	2,918.0	2,717.0	2,300.0
FL	696	735	440	77.6	104.1	100.0
GA	586	843	635	733.0	1,537.0	1,970.0
KS	206	480	206	0.6	1.2	1.2
LA	606	815	614	1,105.0	1,512.0	1,375.0
MS	572	806	624	1,550.0	2,132.0	1,845.0
MO	539	856	559	376.0	615.0	525.0
NM	769	720	677	78.0	75.0	79.0
NC	535	820	504	429.0	829.0	830.0
OK	370	349	190	270.0	247.0	125.0
SC	495	846	547	204.0	393.0	390.0
TN	425	726	531	545.0	885.0	730.0
TX	484	458	376	5,095.0	4,915.0	4,500.0
VA	634	944	583	30.1	82.0	130.0
US	601	705	536	15,764.3	19,324.3	17,610.2
Amer-Pima						
AZ	734	806	738	87.0	80.4	74.0
CA	1,132	1,098	897	214.6	184.8	215.0
NM	816	875	672	18.7	19.5	21.0
TX	784	942	742	49.0	53.0	51.0
US	938	974	821	369.3	337.7	361.0
All						
AL	524	766	382	469.0	726.0	460.0
AZ	1,132	1,150	1,006	877.0	862.4	864.0
AR	541	877	637	1,094.0	1,772.0	1,460.0
CA	1,324	1,185	943	3,132.6	2,901.8	2,515.0
FL	696	735	440	77.6	104.1	100.0
GA	586	843	635	733.0	1,537.0	1,970.0
KS	206	480	206	0.6	1.2	1.2
LA	606	815	614	1,105.0	1,512.0	1,375.0
MS	572	806	624	1,550.0	2,132.0	1,845.0
MO	539	856	559	376.0	615.0	525.0
NM	777	747	676	96.7	94.5	100.0
NC	535	820	504	429.0	829.0	830.0
OK	370	349	190	270.0	247.0	125.0
SC	495	846	547	204.0	393.0	390.0
TN	425	726	531	545.0	885.0	730.0
TX	486	461	378	5,144.0	4,968.0	4,551.0
VA	634	944	583	30.1	82.0	130.0
US	606	708	540	16,133.6	19,662.0	17,971.2

1/ Production ginned and to be ginned.

2/ 480-Lb. net weight bales.

Cottonseed: Production by State and United States, 1993-1995

State	Production		
	1993	1994	1995 1/
	1,000 Tons		
AL	175.0	271.0	170.0
AZ	338.0	324.0	330.0
AR	455.0	712.0	586.0
CA	1,142.0	1,063.0	922.0
FL	27.0	33.0	35.0
GA	258.0	516.0	678.0
KS	.2	.5	.5
LA	408.0	549.0	506.0
MS	631.0	842.0	734.0
MO	152.0	238.0	209.0
NM	41.0	36.4	39.0
NC	153.0	295.0	298.0
OK	114.0	101.0	51.0
SC	75.0	134.0	138.0
TN	216.0	348.0	289.0
TX	2,147.0	2,111.0	1,892.0
VA	11.0	30.0	47.0
US	6,343.2	7,603.9	6,924.5

1/ Estimates based on 3-year average lint-seed ratio.

Potatoes: Area Planted, Harvested, Yield, and Production
by Seasonal Group, State, and United States, 1994-96

Seasonal Group and State	Area				Yield		Production		
	Planted		Harvested		1995	1996	1994	1995	1996
	1995	1996	1995	1996	1995	1996	1994	1995	1996
	1,000 Acres				Cwt		1,000 Cwt		
Winter									
CA	5.0	5.7	5.0	5.7	260	250	968	1,300	1,425
FL	8.3	7.9	6.9	7.8	170	180	1,404	1,173	1,404
Total	13.3	13.6	11.9	13.5	208	210	2,372	2,473	2,829
Spring 1/									
AL	2.6		2.5		160		438	400	
AZ	6.5		6.5		270		1,670	1,755	
CA	18.0		17.8		350		7,790	6,230	
FL	38.5		36.0		218		8,588	7,830	
Hastings	28.5		27.0		220		6,380	5,940	
Other FL	10.0		9.0		210		2,208	1,890	
NC	17.5		16.5		185		3,060	3,053	
TX	5.2		5.0		185		1,100	925	
Total	88.3		84.3		240		22,646	20,193	

1/ Revised.

Papayas: Area and Fresh Production, by Month, Hawaii, 1994-95

Month	Area				Fresh Production	
	Total in Crop		Harvested		1994	1995
	1994	1995	1994	1995	1994	1995
	Acres				1,000 Pounds	
Nov	3,190	3,760	1,915	2,340	4,940	3,715
Dec	3,590	3,785	2,250	2,415	5,000	3,675

Citrus Fruits: Utilized Production by Crop, State, and United States,
1994-95 and Forecasted January 1, 1996 1/

Crop and State	Utilized Production Boxes			Utilized Production Ton Equivalent		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
	----- 1,000 Boxes 2/ -----			----- 1,000 Tons -----		
Oranges						
Early Mid & Navel 3/						
AZ	700	400	650	26	15	24
CA	36,600	35,000	40,000	1,372	1,313	1,500
FL	107,300	119,700	126,000	4,829	5,387	5,670
TX	480	950	900	21	40	38
US	145,080	156,050	167,550	6,248	6,755	7,232
Valencia						
AZ	1,200	650	800	45	24	30
CA	27,000	26,000	28,000	1,013	976	1,050
FL	67,100	85,700	80,000	3,020	3,857	3,600
TX	70	105	150	3	4	6
US	95,370	112,455	108,950	4,081	4,861	4,686
All						
AZ	1,900	1,050	1,450	71	39	54
CA	63,600	61,000	68,000	2,385	2,289	2,550
FL	174,400	205,400	206,000	7,849	9,244	9,270
TX	550	1,055	1,050	24	44	44
US	240,450	268,505	276,500	10,329	11,616	11,918
Temples						
FL	2,250	2,550	2,200	101	114	99
Grapefruit						
White Seedless						
FL	24,500	25,700	24,000	1,042	1,092	1,020
Colored Seedless						
FL	25,500	28,700	29,000	1,084	1,220	1,233
Other						
FL	1,050	1,300	1,000	45	55	43
All						
AZ	1,750	1,400	1,200	59	47	40
CA						
Desert	3,400	3,300		114	111	
Other Areas	5,900	6,000		197	201	
Total 4/	9,300	9,300	7,500	311	312	251
FL	51,050	55,700	54,000	2,171	2,367	2,296
TX	3,000	4,650	4,400	120	186	176
US	65,100	71,050	67,100	2,661	2,912	2,763
Tangerines						
AZ	1,000	650	750	37	25	28
CA	2,300	2,200	2,400	86	82	90
FL	4,100	3,550	4,300	195	168	204
US	7,400	6,400	7,450	318	275	322
Lemons						
AZ	5,200	3,600	5,000	197	137	190
CA	20,700	20,500	22,000	787	779	836
US	25,900	24,100	27,000	984	916	1,026
Tangelos						
FL	3,350	3,150	2,700	150	142	122
K-Early Citrus						
FL	210	120	150	9	5	7

Citrus Fruit Footnotes

- 1/ The crop year begins with the bloom of the first year shown and ends with year harvest is completed.
- 2/ Net lbs. per box: oranges-CA & AZ-75, FL-90, TX-85; grapefruit-CA Desert & AZ-64, in 1991-92 and 1992-93, 67-starting in January 1993-94, CA Other-67, FL-85, TX-80; lemons-76, tangelos, K-Early Citrus & Temples-90; tangerines-CA & AZ-75, FL-95.
- 3/ Navel and miscellaneous varieties in CA and AZ. Early and mid-season varieties in FL and TX, including small quantities of tangerines in TX.
- 4/ California Desert and Other Areas Grapefruit forecasts combined to All Grapefruit beginning in 1995-96.

Hay: Stocks on Farms, May 1 and December 1, by State
and United States, 1994-95

State	May 1		December 1	
	1994	1995 1/	1994 1/	1995
	1,000 Tons			
AL	274	276	1,537	1,270
AZ	25	27	133	265
AR	430	426	2,055	1,910
CA	152	327	1,642	2,250
CO	294	447	2,030	2,390
CT	10	32	105	78
DE	8	10	12	9
FL	79	132	490	397
GA	114	371	1,170	1,050
ID	678	222	2,263	2,794
IL	616	540	1,397	1,979
IN	205	148	1,097	1,584
IA	720	751	4,274	4,079
KS	1,093	796	5,080	4,590
KY	600	648	5,292	4,806
LA	42	97	512	513
ME	36	61	243	272
MD	33	20	347	265
MA	17	28	138	115
MI	753	1,074	3,020	3,166
MN	716	753	4,895	4,374
MS	173	206	1,688	1,368
MO	1,466	1,016	5,755	6,000
MT	1,153	772	3,950	4,931
NE	1,391	1,112	5,413	4,813
NV	166	42	630	750
NH	17	26	90	82
NJ	7	60	205	131
NM	90	50	525	600
NY	361	594	2,377	2,069
NC	36	131	807	900
ND	1,160	857	4,285	5,044
OH	562	307	2,410	2,421
OK	750	700	3,500	3,600
OR	521	85	1,761	2,310
PA	653	724	2,717	2,513
RI	2	3	9	6
SC	44	130	332	396
SD	2,293	1,759	7,477	8,960
TN	417	721	3,340	3,136
TX	826	1,606	7,610	7,322
UT	323	245	1,452	1,481
VT	137	136	389	391
VA	374	445	2,108	2,185
WA	312	139	1,198	1,410
WV	95	100	955	855
WI	1,377	1,441	5,000	4,900
WY	495	182	1,581	2,817
US	22,096	20,775	105,296	109,547

1/ Revised.

December Weather Summary

The month featured two notable storms, a Pacific Northwest "superstorm" (December 12) and a South-to-Northeast snow and rainstorm (December 17-20). The polar jet stream split over the eastern Pacific after the Northwest storm's passage, guiding the latter system into the South for a rendezvous with parched wheat areas from the Texas Plains to southeastern Kansas. Late in the month, however, the Nation's weather pattern quieted under the split-flow regime, broken only by a minor freeze into Peninsular Florida on December 25 and 26.

Monthly temperatures averaged 2 to 8 degrees F above normal throughout the West, highlighted by December-record warmth on the first day of the month. Farther north, frigid air amassed over Alaska and western Canada, reaching the northern Plains on December 7 and ending the East's brief warm spell thereafter. Cold, northwesterly flow intensified across the East late in the month, culminating in the Florida freeze on Christmas Day. December departures reached -2 to -6 degrees F from the Great Lakes States into the Southeast. Farther west, the Plains' winter wheat benefited from the split-jet pattern, which ended a 2.5-month run of wild temperature swings and dry weather.

The month opened with all-time December warmth in locations such as Salt Lake City, UT (69 degrees F) and Worland, WY (67 degrees F). Four days later, a high of 84 degrees F tied a December record in New Orleans, LA. By December 10, however, daily-record cold blanketed the South and East, dropping temperatures to -5 degrees F as far south as Springfield, MO. The cold outbreak also initiated record Great Lake-effect snow squalls that totaled 61.7 inches (on December 8-12) in Sault Sainte Marie, MI and 37.9 inches (in 24 hours on December 9-10) in Buffalo, NY. By month's end, Sault Sainte Marie logged an all-time monthly snowfall record (98.8 inches) and a December-record precipitation total (6.24 inches). Elsewhere in the Nation's northeastern quadrant, snowfall also exceeded December-record totals in Mansfield, OH (23.4 inches) and Charleston, WV (22.0 inches). Monthly totals were boosted by the December 17-20 storm, which produced 8 inches of snow or more from central Indiana to New England, and fueled 4- to 10-inch rainfall from eastern Texas to northwestern Florida.

In contrast, December precipitation was the lowest on record in Waterloo, IA (0.16 inches), and totaled less than one-tenth of an inch in locations such as Phoenix, AZ (0.01 inches), North Platte, NE (0.02 inches), and Denver, CO (0.06 inches). Only a trace of rain fell in Colorado Springs, CO for a second consecutive month. A 2-month dry spell in Peninsular Florida ended as the New Year began, but not in time to boost low December totals of 0.23 inches in Miami Beach and 0.76 inches in Orlando. In California, the December 12 storm and subsequent disturbances jump-started the record-late wet season and briefly pushed the Sierra Nevada snowpack--which ended the year at about 40 percent of normal for the date--to nearly half normal. Farther north, the December 12 "superstorm" produced numerous all-time barometric and wind-gust records. In Oregon, Newport clocked a gust to 107 mph, while Astoria measured a minimum pressure of 28.53 inches (966 millibars).

December Field Work: December in the Pacific Northwest started with high winds and rain. The storm saturated fields and left standing water in low lying fields. In the southern Great Plains, small grain fields were in critical need of moisture after ten successive weeks of dry weather. Emergence of some late planted small grain was poor due to the continued dry conditions.

The following week, in the Pacific Northwest heavy rain fell again on saturated fields resulting in substantial runoff. High winds associated with the storm system damaged some orchards. In the Southwest, small grain planting fell behind normal due to the lateness of the cotton crop. Greenbug problems increased in the southern Great Plains, requiring increased spraying. Florida's

citrus area remained dry, with harvest very active for the Christmas market. Later in the month, rain from the southern to the central Great Plains brought relief to dry wheat fields.

A winter storm from the South to the Northeast at mid-month brought fieldwork to a halt. Snowfall over the Midwest and Northeast preceded sub-zero temperatures and the snow cover protected most of the winter wheat from the low temperatures. The snow cover was patchy across the Northern Plains. The snow brought much needed moisture to small grain fields in the central States. Rain in the southern Great Plains provided some relief to parched wheat fields. In Florida, brief durations of below freezing temperatures did negligible damage to citrus trees and fruit. Freezing weather burned some of Florida's vegetable crops, but the damage was not significant. Temperatures did not stay below the danger point long enough to damage fruit. Dry weather in the Pacific Northwest reduced standing water in low lying fields. In the southern Great Plains and Delta States, some early wheat fields had minor insect problems.

Toward the end of December, heavy rainfall in Florida over the New Year's weekend left fields muddy and slowed central Florida's vegetable harvest. In southwestern Florida, some vegetables were damaged from freezing weather. Harvest activity for Florida's oranges for processing was active. Storms at week's end in the Pacific Northwest brought additional moisture to already saturated fields. Rains hampered fieldwork in California, but boosted small grain growth. Dryland small grain fields in the Texas High Plains benefited from late month snowfall, but additional moisture was needed. Dry conditions and cool weather slowed small grain growth in central Texas.

Cotton: Upland cotton planted acreage was estimated at 16.7 million acres, up 23 percent from 1994. Harvested acreage, at 15.8 million acres, was 20 percent greater than last year. Producers planted 214,600 acres of American-Pima cotton in 1995, up 27 percent from 1994 with harvested acreage at 211,100 acres, a 27 percent increase from last year.

In Texas, harvest was 97 percent complete by late December, slightly ahead of last year's pace, as open weather prevailed. Producers planted 6.40 million acres, up 17 percent from 1994 while harvested acreage of 5.75 million was up 12 percent. Plantings were delayed because of dry conditions, but in early June, heavy rains and hail caused replanting. A cool September with the heaviest rains in 60 years lowered potential yields from earlier months.

The Delta States (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee) had a dry season during 1995. Plantings were behind normal early in the season due to excessive rainfall. In June, the pace equaled the average. Boll counts and weights were among the lowest of the past 10 years, resulting in a low yielding crop. Planted acreage was up 19 percent from 1994 and harvested acreage was up 16 percent.

Arizona planted and harvested acres increased by 17 percent from 1994. California producers increased acreage 6 percent for both planted and harvested acreage. Early season rains and cool temperatures in both States delayed plantings and also caused lower yields. Boll numbers and weights were much less than anticipated early in the season.

In the Southeastern States (Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina), cotton acreage continued to increase, as plantings of the 1995 crop in this region were 58 percent above 1994, and harvested acreage was 57 percent greater. Hot, dry conditions caused poor crop development, and yields in the region averaged 273 pounds less than previous year's yields. Excessive rains during the fall in the Carolina's delayed harvest and caused high boll loss.

American-Pima production is forecast at 361,000 bales, up 7 percent from 1994 and up 4,000 bales from the December forecast. Yields, at an average of

821 pounds per acre, declined 153 pounds from last year resulting from unfavorable weather early in the season, mainly in California. Many California growers picked fields two and three times.

All cotton ginnings totaled 17,002,100 running bales prior to January 1, compared with 18,438,400 running bales ginned to the same date last year and 15,320,650 running bales in 1993.

Winter Potatoes: Production of winter potatoes in 1996 is forecast at 2.83 million cwt. This level is up 14 percent from 1995 and 19 percent above 1994. Area for harvest is estimated at 13,500 acres, up 13 percent from a year ago and 10 percent above two years ago. The average yield is projected at 210 cwt per 2 cwt higher than last year.

Planting in Florida is nearly completed in the winter areas and crop progress is satisfactory. Harvest of early fields should be under way by the end of January. Acreage for harvest is up 13 percent from a year ago and farmers expect yields to climb 10 cwt per acre. A 10 percent larger California winter potato crop is forecast as acreage gained 14 percent over a year earlier. The average yield is expected to be lower. Planting is finished and crop development is progressing normally.

Spring Potatoes, 1995 Revised: Production of spring potatoes was finalized at 20.2 million cwt in 1995, down 11 percent from a year earlier but 3 percent above 1993. Harvested area was estimated at 84,300 acres, down 7 percent while the average yield of 240 cwt per acre dropped 11 cwt. The final spring crop tally is 10 percent below the forecast on May 1, with larger producing States finding fewer potatoes than earlier anticipated.

Papayas: Hawaii fresh papaya production is 3.68 million pounds for December, 1 percent lower than November and 27 percent lower than a year ago.

Weather conditions during December were variable with sunshine interspersed with periods of showers. Temperatures were unseasonably warm for much of the month. Papaya ringspot virus continued to take a heavy toll in some orchards.

Area devoted to papaya production is estimated at 3,785 acres, 1 percent more than November and 5 percent more than last December. Harvested area, totaling 2,415 acres, was 3 percent higher than last month and 7 percent higher than a year ago.

Grapefruit: The January 1 forecast of the 1995-96 U.S. grapefruit crop is 2.76 million tons, down 1 percent from last month and down 5 percent from last season. Production of all three types of Florida grapefruit remained unchanged from December at 54.0 million boxes (2.30 million tons), down 3 percent from last season. Average fruit size was at near record levels and fruit quality remained good. The Florida white seedless grapefruit forecast is 24.0 million boxes (1.02 million tons), a decrease of 7 percent from the 1994-95 crop. The colored seedless forecast is 29.0 million boxes (1.23 million tons), an increase of 1 percent from a year ago. The seedy grapefruit crop is expected to be 1.00 million boxes (43,000 tons), 23 percent fewer than last year. Almost 12.1 million boxes of all seedless grapefruit were picked through the end of December.

California's crop is forecast at 7.50 million boxes (251,000 tons), 12 percent below October and 19 percent below last season. Poor weather affected overall grapefruit set. Quality is very good, color is excellent, and texture is smooth. Some defects include wind scar and sheepnose.

The Texas grapefruit forecast, at 4.40 million boxes (176,000 tons) , is unchanged from last month but down 5 percent from last year. Arizona's crop is expected to be 1.20 million boxes (40,000 tons), unchanged from the previous forecast in October but 14 percent below the 1994-95 crop.

Lemons: The 1995-96 U.S. lemon crop is forecast at 1.03 million tons, down 2 percent from the October forecast but up 12 percent from the 1994-95 crop.

The California lemon forecast remains unchanged from October at 22.0 million boxes (836,000 tons) but up 7 percent from last year. Fruit quality is generally good to fair with most common defects being wind scar and Botrytis bumps. Arizona's lemon forecast decreased 9 percent from October to 5.00 million boxes (190,000 tons). The crop is expected to be up 39 percent from a year ago.

Tangelos: The 1995-96 Florida tangelo crop is forecast at 2.70 million boxes (122,000 tons), unchanged from last month but down 14 percent from last year's production. There were nearly 1.6 million boxes of tangelos utilized by month's end.

Tangerines: The 1995-96 U.S. tangerine crop is forecast at 322,000 tons, 1 percent less than last month but 17 percent more than last year. The Florida tangerine forecast is 4.30 million boxes (204,000 tons), unchanged from the previous forecast. About 2.7 million boxes of tangerines were harvested. Picking of Florida's Honey tangerines started while Dancy harvest was almost over. California's tangerine forecast is 2.40 million boxes (90,000 tons), 4 percent more than October's forecast and 9 percent more than last season. The Arizona forecast was reduced 21 percent from last quarter to 750,000 boxes (28,000 tons), but was 15 percent more than last season.

Temples: The 1995-96 forecast of Florida temple production is 2.20 million boxes (99,000 tons), unchanged from last month but down 14 percent from last season. Temple harvest began with fresh shipments.

K-Early Citrus: The 1995-96 forecast of Florida K-Early Citrus fruit is 150,000 boxes (7,000 tons), unchanged from the last forecast but up 25 percent from last season. K-early harvest was complete by the end of November.

Florida Citrus: Most of December was dry and warm in the Florida citrus belt. More rain fell the last three days of the month than the entire rest of the month. Christmas week temperatures turned cold with some below freezing temperatures recorded. Some icing of fruit occurred in the historically coldest locations, and some foliage suffered freeze burn. Those cold temperatures caused several crops that could have gone fresh to go directly to processing. Harvest of all crops during December was very active for both fresh and processing use. Caretakers cut cover crops prior to and following harvest for fire prevention in those minimum care groves. An estimated 64.6 million boxes of early and mid oranges (excluding Navels) were utilized by month's end. Navel utilization through the end of December was 4.8 million boxes.

Texas Citrus: Grapefruit harvest moved ahead during December and was about 36 percent complete by the end of the month. Early and mid season orange harvest was about 59 percent complete. Interior quality of fruit remained very good, however, sheepnose fruit continued to cause lower packouts

from some groves. Most areas of the Rio Grande Valley received beneficial rainfall.

California Fruits and Nuts: Winter pruning of orchards and vineyards continued throughout December. Dormant sprays were applied to nut and stonefruit trees. High winds early in the month caused some damage to northern Sacramento Valley orchards. Avocado picking continued. Table grape and pecan harvests were completed.

California Citrus: Grapefruit picking in the desert was active during December with excellent quality and color reported. Texture was smooth but there was some wind scar and sheepnose defects. Lemon harvest gathered momentum last month. Quality varied with wind scar and bud mite a concern to growers. Navel orange picking progressed with better color and maturity. Moderate amounts of creasing were reported. Valencia oranges were maturing with harvest expected to start in the desert area by mid-February. Tangerine picking continued with large sizes, good color and few defects.

Hay Stocks on Farm: Stocks of all hay on farms totaled 110 million tons on *December 1, 1995, 4 percent above the stocks of* one year earlier. Large stocks increases occurred in most western States and the Dakotas. The largest decreases in stocks occurred in most southern States and in the northeast.

Report Features

The next "Crop Production" report will be released at 8:30 a.m. ET on February 9, 1996.

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information.

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