

Crop Production



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Winter Wheat Production Down 14 Percent

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.61 billion bushels, down 14 percent from 1998. All classes of winter are down from the previous estimate with SRW showing the smallest percentage drop. Based on conditions around May 1, the U.S. yield is forecast at 44.4 bushels per acre, 2.5 bushels less than last year's record high. Grain area totals 36.3 million acres, down 9 percent from last season.

All oranges production forecast for 1998-99 is 9.84 million tons, down 1 percent from last month's forecast and down 28 percent from last year's record large crop of 13.7 million tons. Florida's all orange forecast is 188 million boxes (8.46 million tons), 1 percent below the April forecast and 23 percent less than the record large 244 million boxes (11.0 million tons) utilized last season. Early and midseason varieties in Florida are forecast at 112 million boxes (5.04 million tons), unchanged from April and 20 percent below last season. Florida's Valencia forecast of 76.0 million boxes (3.42 million tons) is 3 percent less than the previous forecast and 27 percent lower than last season's utilization.

All orange production in Texas is forecast at 1.47 million boxes (62,000 tons), up 2 percent from last month's forecast. The Texas early and midseason orange forecast remained unchanged at 1.30 million boxes (55,000 tons), but the Valencia forecast was increased 21 percent from April to 170,000 boxes (7,000 tons). California's all orange production forecast of 34.0 million boxes (1.28 million tons) is carried forward from April and is down 51 percent from the 1997-98 utilization of 69.0 million boxes (2.59 million tons). Arizona's all orange production forecast of 1.20 million boxes (45,000 tons) is also carried forward from April.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield for the 1998-99 season is forecast at a record high 1.64 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix, up from the April forecast of 1.63 gallons per box. The forecast projects the final yield as reported by the Florida Citrus Processors Association. Projected average yield for early and midseason varieties is final at a record high 1.58 gallons per box. Valencias are projected to yield a record high 1.75 gallons per box, up from 1.72 gallons last month.

This is the first **May 1 peach forecast** since 1986 and includes only California. The 1999 peach crop in California is forecast at 1.79 billion pounds, up 2 percent from last year but 5 percent below the 1997 crop. Bearing acreage is estimated at 66,800 acres, up less than 1 percent from last year and 1 percent above 1997. In contrast to last season, there has been an adequate amount of chilling hours over the winter season which should lead to increased production.

The California Freestone crop is forecast at 740 million pounds, up 5 percent from last year. Freestone bearing acreage is estimated at 37,000 acres, up 2 percent from 1998 and up 5 percent from 1997. Temperatures have been on the cool side most of the spring and crop development is running behind normal due to the cool weather. Some frost damage has been reported in several areas.

The California Clingstone crop is forecast at 1,050 million pounds, up slightly from last year. Clingstone bearing acreage is estimated at 29,800 acres, down 2 percent from 1998 and 4 percent below 1997. Frost damage in Yuba and Sutter counties appears to have been more prevalent than earlier reports indicated. Peach Rust continues to be a problem for some growers due to early spring rains.

This report was approved on May 12, 1999.



Acting Secretary of
Agriculture
Richard E. Rominger



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
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**Winter Wheat: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by State
and United States, 1998 and Forecasted May 1, 1999**

State	Planted	Harvested		Yield		Production	
	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Bushels</i>	<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
AL	115	85	70	42.0	47.0	3,570	3,290
AZ	10	8	10	90.0	85.0	720	850
AR	910	900	830	51.0	53.0	45,900	43,990
CA	500	380	390	60.0	70.0	22,800	27,300
CO	2,600	2,550	2,400	39.0	38.0	99,450	91,200
DE	75	73	73	51.0	58.0	3,723	4,234
FL	10	13	9	43.0	40.0	559	360
GA	300	240	230	43.0	48.0	10,320	11,040
ID	760	770	710	82.0	77.0	63,140	54,670
IL	1,050	1,200	1,020	48.0	52.0	57,600	53,040
IN	550	650	510	55.0	57.0	35,750	29,070
IA	30	32	25	40.0	43.0	1,280	1,075
KS	10,000	10,100	9,500	49.0	43.0	494,900	408,500
KY	650	550	470	45.0	54.0	24,750	25,380
LA	120	90	110	44.0	43.0	3,960	4,730
MD	215	215	205	50.0	55.0	10,750	11,275
MI	620	570	600	54.0	54.0	30,780	32,400
MN	65	57	63	27.0	28.0	1,539	1,764
MS	170	150	155	45.0	46.0	6,750	7,130
MO	1,020	1,250	950	46.0	48.0	57,500	45,600
MT	1,050	1,250	1,000	39.0	40.0	48,750	40,000
NE	2,000	1,800	1,900	46.0	40.0	82,800	76,000
NV	11	6	10	100.0	90.0	600	900
NJ	42	44	32	52.0	54.0	2,288	1,728
NM	445	265	265	30.0	30.0	7,950	7,950
NY	120	130	115	54.0	56.0	7,020	6,440
NC	650	680	600	41.0	46.0	27,880	27,600
ND	50	60	48	35.0	32.0	2,100	1,536
OH	1,050	1,160	1,030	64.0	61.0	74,240	62,830
OK	6,400	5,100	4,500	39.0	34.0	198,900	153,000
OR	710	790	640	67.0	59.0	52,930	37,760
PA	210	190	205	51.0	52.0	9,690	10,660
SC	225	240	215	32.0	43.0	7,680	9,245
SD	1,300	1,420	1,260	43.0	42.0	61,060	52,920
TN	520	370	300	41.0	47.0	15,170	14,100
TX	6,200	3,900	3,400	35.0	31.0	136,500	105,400
UT	150	150	145	50.0	50.0	7,500	7,250
VA	280	245	250	45.0	58.0	11,025	14,500
WA	1,900	2,100	1,800	65.0	64.0	136,500	115,200
WV	11	8	8	57.0	54.0	456	432
WI	125	135	120	55.0	57.0	7,425	6,840
WY	180	200	170	32.0	33.0	6,400	5,610
US	43,399	40,126	36,343	46.9	44.4	1,880,605	1,614,799

**Durum Wheat: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by State
and United States, 1997-98 and Forecasted May 1, 1999 ¹**

State	Area Harvested		Yield		Production		
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Bushels</i>	<i>Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
AZ	144	75	105.0	95.0	8,010	15,120	7,125
CA	175	105	90.0	95.0	13,680	15,750	9,975
MN	5		37.0		180	185	
MT	430		28.0		7,540	12,040	
ND	2,950		33.0		57,860	97,350	
SD	24		26.0		513	624	
US	3,728		37.8		87,783	141,069	

¹ Area harvested for U.S. and northern States will be published in "Acreage" released June 30, 1999. Yield and production will be published in "Crop Production" released July 12, 1999.

**Wheat: Production by Class, United States, 1997-98
and Forecasted May 1, 1999 ¹**

Year	Winter			Spring			Total
	Hard Red	Soft Red	White	Hard Red	White	Durum	
	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	<i>1,000 Bushels</i>
1997	1,098,303	471,987	275,238	491,324	56,831	87,783	2,481,466
1998	1,182,092	442,639	255,874	486,781	41,928	141,069	2,550,383
1999	989,274	410,675	214,850				

¹ Wheat class estimates are based on varietal acreage survey data available for all wheat producing States. Unless unusual situations dictate, the previous end-of-season class percentages are used throughout the forecast season.

**Hay: Stocks on Farms by State and United States,
December 1 and May 1, 1996-99**

State	Dec 1			May 1		
	1996	1997	1998	1997	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
AL	1,489	1,646	1,213	193	191	141
AZ	82	171	177	28	34	28
AR	1,888	2,075	1,900	236	272	260
CA	2,594	1,598	3,246	160	420	406
CO	2,006	2,133	2,807	209	616	966
CT	97	69	77	13	16	13
DE	11	7	18	6	5	8
FL	437	436	357	31	65	27
GA	924	1,045	1,000	302	203	209
ID	2,285	2,743	3,329	286	520	777
IL	1,258	1,327	2,100	286	474	543
IN	1,131	1,213	1,775	162	327	350
IA	3,500	3,374	4,500	715	623	1,050
KS	5,600	5,609	6,500	841	889	1,525
KY	4,334	3,615	4,695	627	603	913
LA	502	668	290	126	103	58
ME	202	152	196	57	25	56
MD	433	381	333	84	55	76
MA	108	92	101	31	17	40
MI	2,514	1,993	2,093	460	414	556
MN	4,018	3,647	5,261	540	640	1,493
MS	1,620	1,530	1,500	160	198	200
MO	6,470	6,239	6,933	872	881	1,387
MT	4,674	5,042	4,568	492	1,151	1,104
NE	5,063	4,549	5,170	968	1,222	1,306
NV	758	708	857	61	151	233
NH	70	49	72	12	9	17
NJ	92	138	121	27	20	15
NM	546	479	450	74	165	170
NY	2,254	1,998	1,990	555	344	435
NC	1,160	1,162	1,189	137	152	163
ND	4,777	4,069	4,064	675	744	545
OH	2,074	2,387	2,558	173	616	581
OK	4,397	4,444	3,042	790	919	507
OR	2,108	1,600	2,159	97	621	135
PA	2,613	2,299	2,800	600	452	730
RI	6	9	12	1	1	2
SC	308	410	415	101	82	96
SD	8,530	7,888	9,500	1,570	2,031	2,000
TN	3,049	3,184	3,175	419	555	635
TX	6,252	8,764	5,496	1,400	2,191	1,450
UT	1,327	1,658	1,695	302	435	485
VT	330	261	328	86	73	116
VA	2,666	1,591	1,693	622	250	417
WA	1,162	1,295	1,663	283	308	410
WV	895	848	949	117	110	150
WI	4,600	4,320	5,100	1,150	1,271	1,400
WY	1,965	2,129	2,372	287	363	611
US	105,179	103,044	111,839	17,424	21,827	24,795

**Citrus Fruits: Utilized Production by Crop, State, and United States,
1996-97, 1997-98 and Forecasted May 1, 1999 ¹**

Crop and State	Utilized Production Boxes			Utilized Production Ton Equivalent		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
	<i>1,000 Boxes ²</i>	<i>1,000 Boxes ²</i>	<i>1,000 Boxes ²</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
Oranges						
Early Mid & Navel ³						
AZ ⁴	400	350	550	15	13	21
CA ⁴	40,000	44,000	17,000	1,500	1,650	638
FL	134,200	140,000	112,000	6,039	6,300	5,040
TX	1,300	1,350	1,300	55	57	55
US	175,900	185,700	130,850	7,609	8,020	5,754
Valencia						
AZ ⁴	600	650	650	23	25	24
CA ⁴	24,000	25,000	17,000	900	938	638
FL	92,000	104,000	76,000	4,140	4,680	3,420
TX	120	175	170	5	7	7
US	116,720	129,825	93,820	5,068	5,650	4,089
All						
AZ ⁴	1,000	1,000	1,200	38	38	45
CA ⁴	64,000	69,000	34,000	2,400	2,588	1,276
FL	226,200	244,000	188,000	10,179	10,980	8,460
TX	1,420	1,525	1,470	60	64	62
US	292,620	315,525	224,670	12,677	13,670	9,843
Temples						
FL	2,400	2,250	1,800	108	101	81
Grapefruit						
White Seedless						
FL ⁵	23,500	18,300	18,000	999	777	765
Colored Seedless						
FL ⁶	31,400	30,600	29,500	1,334	1,301	1,254
Other						
FL	900	650	600	38	28	26
All						
AZ ⁴	900	800	700	30	27	23
CA ⁴	8,200	9,000	8,500	275	301	285
FL ^{5 6}	55,800	49,550	48,100	2,371	2,106	2,045
TX	5,300	4,800	5,600	212	192	224
US	70,200	64,150	62,900	2,888	2,626	2,577
Tangerines						
AZ ^{4 7}	550	600	900	21	23	34
CA ^{4 7}	2,600	2,400	1,700	98	90	64
FL	6,300	5,200	4,950	299	247	235
US	9,450	8,200	7,550	418	360	333
Lemons ⁴						
AZ	2,600	2,600	3,500	99	99	133
CA	22,600	22,000	18,000	859	836	684
US	25,200	24,600	21,500	958	935	817
Tangelos						
FL	3,950	2,850	2,550	178	128	115
K-Early Citrus						
FL	150	40	80	7	2	4

¹ The crop year begins with the bloom of the first year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year. ² Net lbs. per box: oranges-AZ & CA-75, FL-90, TX-85; grapefruit-AZ & CA-67, FL-85, TX-80; lemons-76; tangelos, K-Early Citrus & Temples-90; tangerines-AZ & CA-75, FL-95. ³ Navel and miscellaneous varieties in AZ and CA. Early (including Navel) and midseason varieties in FL and TX. Small quantities of tangerines in TX. ⁴ Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast. ⁵ Excludes White Seedless economic abandonment of 3,000,000 boxes in 1996-97 and 5,000,000 boxes in 1997-98. ⁶ Excludes Colored Seedless economic abandonment of 3,000,000 boxes in 1996-97 and 1,000,000 boxes in 1997-98. ⁷ Includes tangelos and tangors.

**Spring Potatoes: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by State
and United States, 1997-98 and Forecasted May 1, 1999 ¹**

State	Area Harvested		Yield		Production		
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
AL	1.7	1.6	130	175	272	221	280
AZ	8.1	9.4	282	290	1,820	2,284	2,726
CA	18.5	19.5	335	365	8,073	6,198	7,118
FL	34.5	29.0	213	261	7,150	7,358	7,560
Hastings	24.5	22.0	235	280	5,258	5,758	6,160
Other FL	10.0	7.0	160	200	1,892	1,600	1,400
NC	17.5	16.5	190	195	3,287	3,325	3,218
TX	10.3	9.8	170	235	1,697	1,751	2,303
US	90.6	85.8	233	270	22,299	21,137	23,205

**Peaches: Total Production by Crop, California,
1997-1998 and Forecasted May 1, 1999**

State	Total Production		
	1997	1998	1999
	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>
Freestone	739.0	707.3	740.0
Clingstone ¹	1,148.0	1,044.2	1,050.0
Total	1,887.0	1,751.5	1,790.0

¹ CA Clingstone is over-the-scale tonnage and includes culls and cannery diversions.

**Almonds (shelled basis): Utilized Production,
California, 1997-98 and Forecasted May 1, 1999**

State	Utilized Production		
	1997	1998 ¹	1999
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
CA	759,000	520,000	760,000

¹ Revised.

**Avocados: Bearing Acreage, Yield, Production, Price,
and Value, by State and United States, 1997-99**

Year	Bearing Acreage ¹	Yield per Acre	Production		Utilization			
			Total	Utilized	Fresh	Processed		
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>		
CA								
1997-98	59,900	2.57	154,000	154,000	152,500	1,500		
1998-99	59,400	2.04	121,000	121,000	119,300	1,700		
FL								
1997-98	5,900	4.07	24,000	24,000	24,000			
1998-99	6,000	3.83	23,000	23,000	23,000			
HI								
1997-98	250	1.00	250	250	250			
1998-99	240	1.04	250	250	250			
US								
1997-98	66,050	2.70	178,250	178,250	176,750	1,500		
1998-99	65,640	2.20	144,250	144,250	142,550	1,700		
			Price per Ton		Value of Production			
			Fresh	Processed	All	Fresh	Processed	All
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
CA								
1997-98	1,720.00	782.00	1,710.00	262,300	1,173	263,473		
1998-99	1,640.00	597.00	1,630.00	195,652	1,015	196,667		
FL								
1997-98	584.00		584.00	14,016		14,016		
1998-99	716.00		716.00	16,468		16,468		
HI								
1997-98	1,060.00		1,060.00	265		265		
1998-99	1,040.00		1,040.00	260		260		
US								
1997-98	1,560.00	782.00	1,560.00	276,581	1,173	277,754		
1998-99	1,490.00	597.00	1,480.00	212,380	1,015	213,395		

¹ Bearing acreage estimates are based on periodic orchard inventory surveys.

Papayas: Area and Fresh Production, by Month, Hawaii, 1998-99

Month	Area				Fresh Production	
	Total in Crop		Harvested		1998	1999
	1998	1999	1998	1999		
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
Mar	3,205	3,735	1,750	2,110	2,845	2,830
Apr	3,205	3,750	1,775	2,150	3,375	3,085

**Bananas, Guavas, Papayas, and Taro: Area Harvested, Yield,
and Production, Hawaii, 1997-98**

Crop	Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
Bananas ^{1 2}	950	1,420	14.4	14.8	13,700	21,000
Guavas ²	730	710	21.8	20.6	15,900	14,600
Papayas ^{1 2}	1,985	2,120	19.5	18.8	38,800	39,900
Taro ^{1 3}	450	490			5,500	6,000

¹ 1998 revised.

² Only utilized production is estimated.

³ Acreage is total acres in crop, not harvested acreage. Yield is not estimated.

**Tobacco: Area Harvested, Yield, Production, Price, and Value
by State and United States, 1997-98 ¹**

State	Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
CT	2,545	2,815	1,622	1,519	4,128	4,276
FL	7,300	6,800	2,610	2,515	19,053	17,102
GA	43,000	41,000	2,075	2,200	89,225	90,200
IN	8,900	8,500	2,100	2,000	18,690	17,000
KY	250,500	226,260	1,988	1,961	497,928	443,628
MD	8,000	6,500	1,500	1,400	12,000	9,100
MA	1,175	1,265	1,628	1,413	1,913	1,788
MO	3,000	2,700	2,345	2,130	7,035	5,751
NC	321,400	251,100	2,275	2,197	731,199	551,730
OH	11,400	9,800	1,950	1,830	22,230	17,934
PA	8,100	7,800	2,100	2,015	17,020	15,720
SC	54,000	45,000	2,340	2,050	126,360	92,250
TN	59,480	59,415	1,922	1,870	114,292	111,100
VA	53,080	45,000	2,215	2,131	117,576	95,898
WV	1,800	1,600	1,700	1,350	3,060	2,160
WI	2,550	2,100	2,231	1,687	5,690	3,542
US	836,230	717,655	2,137	2,061	1,787,399	1,479,179
	Price per Pound			Value of Production		
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
CT ²	6.000	5.400	13,884	12,398		
FL	1.721	1.697	32,790	29,022		
GA	1.712	1.707	152,753	153,971		
IN	1.870	1.897	34,950	32,249		
KY	1.903	1.917	947,528	850,470		
MD	1.720	1.630	20,640	14,833		
MA ²	9.500	5.670	12,569	7,581		
MO	1.895	1.905	13,331	10,956		
NC	1.720	1.771	1,257,705	977,267		
OH	1.869	1.904	41,548	34,146		
PA	1.490	1.101	25,360	17,301		
SC	1.735	1.711	219,235	157,840		
TN	1.952	1.963	223,092	218,097		
VA	1.765	1.816	207,479	174,193		
WV	1.878	1.915	5,747	4,136		
WI	1.505	1.497	8,565	5,304		
US	1.802	1.828	3,217,176	2,699,764		

¹ 1998 revised.

² CT and MA type 61 price and value not published to avoid disclosure; not included in U.S. total.

**Tobacco: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by Class, Type,
State, and United States, 1997 - 1998 ¹**

Class and Type	Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
Class 1, Flue-cured						
Type 11, Old Belts						
NC	88,000	69,000	2,070	2,285	182,160	157,665
VA	41,000	33,000	2,315	2,220	94,915	73,260
US	129,000	102,000	2,148	2,264	277,075	230,925
Type 12, Eastern NC Belt						
NC	185,000	143,000	2,365	2,240	437,525	320,320
Type 13, NC Border & SC Belt						
NC	40,000	31,000	2,455	2,000	98,200	62,000
SC	54,000	45,000	2,340	2,050	126,360	92,250
US	94,000	76,000	2,389	2,030	224,560	154,250
Type 14, GA-FL Belt						
FL	7,300	6,800	2,610	2,515	19,053	17,102
GA	43,000	41,000	2,075	2,200	89,225	90,200
US	50,300	47,800	2,153	2,245	108,278	107,302
Total 11-14	458,300	368,800	2,285	2,204	1,047,438	812,797
Class 2, Fire-cured						
Type 21, VA Belt						
VA	1,200	1,500	1,640	1,560	1,968	2,340
Type 22, Eastern District						
KY	3,750	3,850	2,560	2,315	9,600	8,913
TN	7,400	7,300	2,480	2,330	18,352	17,009
US	11,150	11,150	2,507	2,325	27,952	25,922
Type 23, Western District						
KY	3,600	3,600	2,970	2,805	10,692	10,098
TN	600	590	2,750	2,500	1,650	1,475
US	4,200	4,190	2,939	2,762	12,342	11,573
Total 21-23	16,550	16,840	2,554	2,365	42,262	39,835
Class 3, Air-cured						
Class 3A, Light Air-cured						
Type 31, Burley						
IN	8,900	8,500	2,100	2,000	18,690	17,000
KY	240,000	215,000	1,960	1,935	470,400	416,025
MO	3,000	2,700	2,345	2,130	7,035	5,751
NC	8,400	8,100	1,585	1,450	13,314	11,745
OH	11,400	9,800	1,950	1,830	22,230	17,934
TN	51,000	51,000	1,830	1,795	93,330	91,545
VA	10,800	10,400	1,905	1,940	20,574	20,176
WV	1,800	1,600	1,700	1,350	3,060	2,160
US	335,300	307,100	1,934	1,896	648,633	582,336
Type 32, Southern MD Belt						
MD	8,000	6,500	1,500	1,400	12,000	9,100
PA	3,200	3,300	1,950	1,900	6,240	6,270
US	11,200	9,800	1,629	1,568	18,240	15,370
Total 31-32	346,500	316,900	1,925	1,886	666,873	597,706

See footnotes at end of table.

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**Tobacco: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by Class, Type, State,
and United States, 1997 - 1998 ¹ (continued)**

Class and Type	Area Harvested		Yield		Production	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
Class 3, Air-cured						
Class 3B, Dark						
Air-cured						
Type 35, One Sucker						
Belt						
KY	2,050	2,450	2,290	2,280	4,695	5,586
TN	480	525	2,000	2,040	960	1,071
US	2,530	2,975	2,235	2,238	5,655	6,657
Type 36, Green River						
Belt						
KY	1,100	1,360	2,310	2,210	2,541	3,006
Type 37, VA Sun-cured						
Belt						
VA	80	100	1,490	1,220	119	122
Total 35-37	3,710	4,435	2,241	2,206	8,315	9,785
Class 4, Cigar Filler						
Type 41, PA Seedleaf						
PA	4,900	4,500	2,200	2,100	10,780	9,450
Class 5, Cigar Binder						
Class 5A, CT Valley						
Binder						
Type 51, CT Valley						
Broadleaf						
CT	1,315	1,435	1,760	1,600	2,314	2,296
MA	725	925	1,825	1,445	1,323	1,337
US	2,040	2,360	1,783	1,539	3,637	3,633
Class 5B, WI Binder						
Type 54, Southern WI						
WI	1,800	1,500	2,330	1,735	4,194	2,603
Type 55, Northern WI						
WI	750	600	1,995	1,565	1,496	939
Total 54-55	2,550	2,100	2,231	1,687	5,690	3,542
Total 51-55	4,590	4,460	2,032	1,609	9,327	7,175
Class 6, Cigar Wrapper						
Type 61, CT Valley						
Shade-grown						
CT	1,230	1,380	1,475	1,435	1,814	1,980
MA	450	340	1,310	1,325	590	451
US	1,680	1,720	1,431	1,413	2,404	2,431
All Cigar Types						
Total 41-61	11,170	10,680	2,015	1,784	22,511	19,056
All Tobacco	836,230	717,655	2,137	2,061	1,787,399	1,479,179

¹ 1998 Revised.

**Tobacco: Price and Value by Class, Type,
State, and United States, 1997-98 ¹**

Class and Type	Price per Pound		Value of Production	
	1997 <i>Dollars</i>	1998 <i>Dollars</i>	1997 <i>1,000 Dollars</i>	1998 <i>1,000 Dollars</i>
Class 1, Flue-cured				
Type 11, Old Belts				
NC	1.710	1.780	311,494	280,644
VA	1.727	1.792	163,918	131,282
US	1.716	1.784	475,412	411,926
Type 12, Eastern NC Belt				
NC	1.720	1.773	752,543	567,927
Type 13, NC Border & SC Belt				
NC	1.720	1.716	168,904	106,392
SC	1.735	1.711	219,235	157,840
US	1.728	1.713	388,139	264,232
Type 14, GA-FL Belt				
FL	1.721	1.697	32,790	29,022
GA	1.712	1.707	152,753	153,971
US	1.714	1.705	185,543	182,993
Total 11-14	1.720	1.756	1,801,637	1,427,078
Class 2, Fire-cured				
Type 21, VA Belt				
VA	2.125	1.936	4,182	4,530
Type 22, Eastern District				
KY	2.268	2.259	21,773	20,134
TN	2.260	2.251	41,476	38,287
US	2.263	2.254	63,249	58,421
Type 23, Western District				
KY	2.242	2.159	23,971	21,802
TN	2.226	2.159	3,673	3,185
US	2.240	2.159	27,644	24,987
Total 21-23	2.250	2.208	95,075	87,938
Class 3, Air-cured				
Class 3A, Light Air-cured				
Type 31, Burley				
IN	1.870	1.897	34,950	32,249
KY	1.886	1.903	887,174	791,696
MO	1.895	1.905	13,331	10,956
NC	1.860	1.899	24,764	22,304
OH	1.869	1.904	41,548	34,146
TN	1.886	1.907	176,020	174,576
VA	1.903	1.892	39,152	38,173
WV	1.878	1.915	5,747	4,136
US	1.885	1.903	1,222,686	1,108,236
Type 32, Southern MD Belt				
MD	1.720	1.630	20,640	14,833
PA	1.300	0.800	8,112	5,016
US	1.576	1.291	28,752	19,849
Total 31-32	1.877	1.887	1,251,438	1,128,085

See footnotes at end of table.

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**Tobacco: Price and Value by Class, Type, State,
and United States, 1997-98 ¹ (continued)**

Class and Type	Price per Pound		Value of Production	
	1997	1998	1997	1998
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
Class 3, Air-cured				
Class 3B, Dark Air-cured				
Type 35, One Sucker Belt				
KY	2.011	1.952	9,442	10,904
TN	2.003	1.913	1,923	2,049
US	2.010	1.946	11,365	12,953
Type 36, Green River Belt				
KY	2.034	1.974	5,168	5,934
Type 37, VA Sun-cured Belt				
VA	1.908	1.709	227	208
Total 35-37	2.016	1.951	16,760	19,095
Class 4, Cigar Filler				
Type 41, PA Seedleaf PA	1.600	1.300	17,248	12,285
Class 5, Cigar Binder				
Class 5A, CT Valley Binder				
Type 51, CT Valley Broadleaf				
CT	6.000	5.400	13,884	12,398
MA	9.500	5.670	12,569	7,581
US	7.273	5.499	26,453	19,979
Class 5B, WI Binder				
Type 54, Southern WI				
WI	1.500	1.500	6,291	3,905
Type 55, Northern WI				
WI	1.520	1.490	2,274	1,399
Total 54-55	1.505	1.497	8,565	5,304
Total 51-55	3.754	3.524	35,018	25,283
Class 6, Cigar Wrapper				
Type 61, CT Valley Shade-grown				
CT ²				
MA ²				
US ²				
All Cigar Types				
Total 41-55	2.599	2.260	52,266	37,568
All Tobacco	1.802	1.828	3,217,176	2,699,764

¹ 1998 revised.

² CT and MA type 61 price and value not published to avoid disclosure; not included in U.S. total.

**Tobacco: Farm Marketings, Percent of Sales by Class,
Month, and State, 1998 Marketing Year**

Class and State	1998						1999				Total
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Flue-cured											
FL	13	27	41	19							100
GA	9	26	44	21							100
NC	4	29	44	22	1						100
SC	7	34	42	17							100
VA		27	38	32	3						100
Fire-cured											
VA						79	21				100
KY							63	32	5		100
TN							43	48	9		100
Air-cured											
IN					14	42	35	9			100
KY					18	47	28	7			100
MD									61	39	100
MO					30	33	21	16			100
NC					26	50	24				100
OH					15	39	37	9			100
PA ¹											
TN					23	60	17				100
VA					25	58	17				100
WV ¹											

¹ Sales by month are not available.

**Cotton: Area Planted and Harvested and Yield
by Type, State, and United States, 1997-98 ¹**

Type and State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
Upland						
AL	535.0	495.0	442.0	475.0	597	559
AZ	325.0	250.0	324.0	248.0	1,255	1,177
AR	980.0	920.0	965.0	900.0	837	645
CA	880.0	650.0	875.0	620.0	1,202	887
FL	100.0	89.0	99.0	80.0	577	489
GA	1,440.0	1,370.0	1,425.0	1,280.0	646	578
KS	12.0	17.0	10.0	16.5	418	404
LA	655.0	535.0	650.0	525.0	728	586
MS	985.0	950.0	970.0	940.0	901	737
MO	395.0	370.0	390.0	357.0	695	471
NM	70.0	66.3	66.0	60.3	676	640
NC	690.0	710.0	685.0	705.0	652	699
OK	200.0	160.0	190.0	120.0	462	560
SC	290.0	290.0	286.0	286.0	688	587
TN	490.0	450.0	480.0	445.0	662	589
TX	5,500.0	5,650.0	5,200.0	3,300.0	474	524
VA	101.0	92.0	100.0	91.0	659	765
US	13,648.0	13,064.3	13,157.0	10,448.8	666	619
Amer-Pima						
AZ	22.0	15.9	22.0	15.5	912	830
CA	185.0	200.0	184.0	180.0	1,141	941
NM	11.0	7.3	11.0	7.3	641	658
TX	32.0	105.0	32.0	32.0	815	791
US	250.0	328.2	249.0	234.8	1,056	904
All						
AL	535.0	495.0	442.0	475.0	597	559
AZ	347.0	265.9	346.0	263.5	1,233	1,156
AR	980.0	920.0	965.0	900.0	837	645
CA	1,065.0	850.0	1,059.0	800.0	1,191	899
FL	100.0	89.0	99.0	80.0	577	489
GA	1,440.0	1,370.0	1,425.0	1,280.0	646	578
KS	12.0	17.0	10.0	16.5	418	404
LA	655.0	535.0	650.0	525.0	728	586
MS	985.0	950.0	970.0	940.0	901	737
MO	395.0	370.0	390.0	357.0	695	471
NM	81.0	73.6	77.0	67.6	671	642
NC	690.0	710.0	685.0	705.0	652	699
OK	200.0	160.0	190.0	120.0	462	560
SC	290.0	290.0	286.0	286.0	688	587
TN	490.0	450.0	480.0	445.0	662	589
TX	5,532.0	5,755.0	5,232.0	3,332.0	477	526
VA	101.0	92.0	100.0	91.0	659	765
US	13,898.0	13,392.5	13,406.0	10,683.6	673	625

¹ 1998 revised.

**Cotton: Production and Bales Ginned by Type,
State, and United States, 1997-98**

Type and State	Production in 480-lb Net Weight Bales ¹		Lint-seed Ratio ²		Bales Ginned in 480-lb Net Weight Bales ³	
	1997	1998 ⁴	1997	1998	1997	1998
	<i>1,000 Bales</i>	<i>1,000 Bales</i>			<i>Bales</i>	<i>Bales</i>
Upland						
AL	550.0	553.0			545,900	555,000
AZ	847.0	608.0			824,550	591,400
AR	1,683.0	1,209.0			1,654,750	1,191,650
CA	2,191.0	1,146.0			2,212,950	1,162,450
FL ⁵	119.1	81.5				
GA	1,919.0	1,542.0			1,942,100	1,564,150
KS ⁵	8.7	13.9				
LA	986.0	641.0			1,022,000	665,650
MS	1,821.0	1,444.0			1,808,400	1,435,050
MO	565.0	350.0			555,350	343,150
NM	93.0	80.4			69,250	63,600
NC	930.0	1,026.0			941,150	1,039,000
OK	183.0	140.0			180,550	142,300
SC	410.0	350.0			395,750	342,200
TN	662.0	546.0			660,600	543,400
TX	5,140.0	3,600.0			5,164,750	3,616,950
VA	137.2	145.1			133,050	135,400
US	18,245.0	13,475.9			18,239,650	13,470,100
Amer-Pima						
AZ	41.8	26.8			42,350	26,750
CA	437.2	352.8			436,600	352,750
NM	14.7	10.0			10,500	6,900
TX	54.3	52.7			58,500	55,750
US	548.0	442.3			547,950	442,150
All						
AL	550.0	553.0			545,900	555,000
AZ	888.8	634.8			866,900	618,150
AR	1,683.0	1,209.0	0.383	0.383	1,654,750	1,191,650
CA	2,628.2	1,498.8	0.396	0.398	2,649,550	1,515,200
FL ⁵	119.1	81.5				
GA	1,919.0	1,542.0			1,942,100	1,564,150
KS ⁵	8.7	13.9				
LA	986.0	641.0	0.392	0.391	1,022,000	665,650
MS	1,821.0	1,444.0	0.380	0.382	1,808,400	1,435,050
MO	565.0	350.0			555,350	343,150
NM	107.7	90.4			79,750	70,500
NC	930.0	1,026.0			941,150	1,039,000
OK	183.0	140.0			180,550	142,300
SC	410.0	350.0			395,750	342,200
TN	662.0	546.0			660,600	543,400
TX	5,194.3	3,652.7	0.377	0.373	5,223,250	3,672,700
VA	137.2	145.1			133,050	135,400
US	18,793.0	13,918.2			18,787,600	13,912,250

¹ Production ginned and to be ginned.

² Estimates available only for the five States shown. Three-year average.

³ Equivalent 480-lb net weight bales ginned, not adjusted for cross-State movement.

⁴ 1998 revised.

⁵ Bales withheld to avoid disclosure of individual gins, but are included in U.S. totals.

**Cottonseed: Production and Farm Disposition
by State and United States, 1997-98 ¹**

State	Production		Farm Disposition				Used for Planting ³	
			Sales to Oil Mills		Other ²			
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
AL	196.0	192.0	87.0	67.0	109.0	125.0	5.7	6.4
AZ	312.0	288.0	73.0	52.0	239.0	236.0	2.4	2.4
AR	632.0	478.0	528.0	422.0	104.0	56.0	8.7	9.1
CA	942.0	544.0	153.0	84.0	789.0	460.0	7.2	7.1
FL	45.0	26.0	31.0	14.0	14.0	12.0	1.0	1.1
GA	660.0	658.0	332.0	286.0	328.0	372.0	16.4	18.0
KS	3.1	5.8	3.1	5.6	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.3
LA	359.0	236.0	206.0	134.0	153.0	102.0	4.8	5.1
MS	704.0	561.0	660.0	543.0	44.0	18.0	9.5	11.0
MO	223.0	135.0	148.0	121.0	75.0	14.0	3.9	3.9
NM	40.5	32.6	2.3	4.5	38.2	28.1	0.8	0.7
NC	321.0	351.0	63.0	88.0	258.0	263.0	6.4	6.9
OK	72.0	54.0	56.0	47.0	16.0	7.0	1.8	2.5
SC	142.0	122.0	89.0	69.0	53.0	53.0	2.0	2.0
TN	260.0	205.0	208.0	154.0	52.0	51.0	4.7	5.3
TX	1,983.0	1,558.0	1,543.0	1,227.0	440.0	331.0	57.6	57.4
VA	40.0	51.0	0.0	0.0	40.0	51.0	0.8	0.9
US	6,934.6	5,497.4	4,182.4	3,318.1	2,752.2	2,179.3	133.9	140.1

¹ 1997 crop revised, 1998 crop preliminary.

² Includes planting seed, feed, exports, inter-farm sales, shrinkage, losses, and other uses.

³ Included in "other" farm disposition. Planting seed from previous years' crop.

Cotton: Cumulative Large Bolls and Harvesting Loss

The National Agricultural Statistics Service conducted cotton objective yield surveys in 5 States which accounted for 60 percent of the 1998 U.S. Upland cotton production. Plots were randomly selected from a scientific sample of cotton fields. Two sample plots per field were visited monthly from August 1 through harvest to obtain specific counts and measurements. The “large bolls” are total bolls counted from August through harvest. This count includes only bolls greater than one inch in diameter and burrs. Data in this table are actual field counts from this survey.

**Cotton: Cumulative Large Bolls and Harvesting Loss
by State, 1989-98**

Year	Arkansas		California	
	Large Bolls ¹	Harvest Loss per Acre	Large Bolls ¹	Harvest Loss per Acre
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
1989	578	57	802	125
1990	669	74	843	131
1991	782	89	814	110
1992	817	73	819	116
1993	753	105	839	122
1994	812	83	806	133
1995	689	66	680	105
1996	741	64	744	165
1997	811	101	697	103
1998	640	122	655	180
	Louisiana		Mississippi	
1989	708	83	710	90
1990	888	78	693	93
1991	770	68	726	90
1992	875	60	708	84
1993	661	65	608	76
1994	748	75	760	99
1995	615	49	607	78
1996	607	52	729	82
1997	643	45	833	76
1998	600	75	821	84
	Texas		Blank	
1989	369	32		
1990	489	39		
1991	430	41		
1992	489	53		
1993	489	36		
1994	486	41		
1995	415	36		
1996	498	39		
1997	458	27		
1998	482	37		

¹ Total large bolls in 40 feet of row.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 1998-99
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	6,340.0	5,274.0	5,867.0	
Corn for Grain ²	80,187.0	78,219.0	72,604.0	
Corn for Silage			5,919.0	
Hay, All			60,016.0	60,093.0
Alfalfa			23,642.0	
All Other			36,374.0	
Oats	4,902.0	4,732.0	2,765.0	2,686.0
Rice	3,345.0	3,580.0	3,317.0	
Rye	1,571.0	1,590.0	418.0	
Sorghum for Grain ²	9,626.0	8,804.0	7,723.0	
Sorghum for Silage			305.0	
Wheat, All	65,871.0	63,029.0	59,002.0	
Winter	46,449.0	43,399.0	40,126.0	36,343.0
Durum	3,805.0	4,270.0	3,728.0	
Other Spring	15,617.0	15,360.0	15,148.0	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1,127.0		1,092.0	
Cottonseed				
Flaxseed	336.0	521.0	329.0	
Mustard Seed	98.9		95.6	
Peanuts	1,521.0	1,508.0	1,467.0	
Rapeseed	4.8		4.7	
Safflower	303.0		285.0	
Soybeans for Beans	72,375.0	73,105.0	70,811.0	
Sunflower	3,553.0	3,955.0	3,476.0	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All	13,392.5	13,944.2	10,683.6	
Upland	13,064.3	13,639.0	10,448.8	
Amer-Pima	328.2	305.2	234.8	
Sugarbeets	1,497.9	1,547.7	1,451.6	
Sugarcane			951.5	
Tobacco			717.7	647.9
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	9.0		7.4	
Dry Edible Beans	2,010.1	2,045.5	1,913.9	
Dry Edible Peas	323.4		309.1	
Lentils	162.0		158.5	
Wrinkled Seed Peas				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			6.1	
Ginger Root (HI)			0.4	
Hops			36.6	
Peppermint Oil			124.0	
Potatoes, All	1,422.7		1,393.7	
Winter	15.5	17.9	15.0	17.7
Spring	93.0	87.7	90.6	85.8
Summer	73.0		68.1	
Fall	1,241.2		1,220.0	
Spearmint Oil			27.4	
Sweet Potatoes	86.8	86.7	83.8	
Taro (HI) ³			0.5	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 1999 crop year. ² Area planted for all purposes. ³ Acreage is total acres in crop, not harvested acreage.

Crop Summary: Yield and Production, United States, 1998-99
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Unit	Yield		Production	
		1998	1999	1998	1999
				<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Grains & Hay					
Barley	Bu	60.1		352,445	
Corn for Grain	"	134.4		9,761,085	
Corn for Silage	Ton	16.0		94,525	
Hay, All	"	2.52		151,338	
Alfalfa	"	3.47		82,010	
All Other	"	1.91		69,328	
Oats	Bu	60.4		167,122	
Rice ²	Cwt	5,669		188,051	
Rye	Bu	28.2		11,795	
Sorghum for Grain	"	67.3		519,933	
Sorghum for Silage	Ton	11.4		3,487	
Wheat, All	Bu	43.2		2,550,383	
Winter	"	46.9	44.4	1,880,605	1,614,799
Durum	"	37.8		141,069	
Other Spring	"	34.9		528,709	
Oilseeds					
Canola	Lb	1,455		1,588,620	
Cottonseed ³	Ton			5,497	
Flaxseed	Bu	20.4		6,708	
Mustard Seed	Lb	855		81,750	
Peanuts	"	2,702		3,963,440	
Rapeseed	"	1,353		6,360	
Safflower	"	1,446		412,085	
Soybeans for Beans	Bu	38.9		2,756,794	
Sunflower	Lb	1,509		5,246,701	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops					
Cotton, All ²	Bale	625		13,918.2	
Upland ²	"	619		13,475.9	
Amer-Pima ²	"	904		442.3	
Sugarbeets	Ton	22.5		32,660	
Sugarcane	"	35.8		34,057	
Tobacco	Lb	2,061		1,479,179	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils					
Austrian Winter Peas ²	Cwt	1,405		104	
Dry Edible Beans ²	"	1,611		30,828	
Dry Edible Peas ²	"	1,920		5,934	
Lentils ²	"	1,223		1,938	
Wrinkled Seed Peas	"			674	
Potatoes & Misc.					
Coffee (HI)	Lb	1,480		9,000	
Ginger Root (HI)	"	50,000		18,000	
Hops	"	1,625		59,548	
Peppermint Oil	"	78		9,727	
Potatoes, All	Cwt	343		477,381	
Winter	"	199	204	2,980	3,618
Spring	"	233	270	21,137	23,205
Summer	"	277		18,896	
Fall	"	356		434,368	
Spearmint Oil	Lb	109		2,987	
Sweet Potatoes	Cwt	142		11,887	
Taro (HI) ³	Lb			6,000	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 1999 crop year. ² Yield in pounds. ³ Yield is not estimated.

Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 1997-99
(Domestic Units) ¹

Crop	Unit	Production		
		1997	1998	1999
		<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Citrus ²				
Grapefruit	Ton	2,888	2,626	2,577
K-Early Citrus (FL)	"	7	2	4
Lemons	"	958	935	817
Oranges	"	12,677	13,670	9,843
Tangelos (FL)	"	178	128	115
Tangerines	"	418	360	333
Temples (FL)	"	108	101	81
Non-Citrus				
Apples	1,000 Lbs	10,323.8	10,943.6	
Apricots	Ton	139.2	118.3	
Bananas (HI)	Lb	13,700.0	21,000.0	
Grapes	Ton	7,290.9	5,595.6	
Olives (CA)	"	104.0	90.0	
Papayas (HI)	Lb	38,800.0	39,900.0	
Peaches	1,000 Lbs	2,624.6	2,425.8	
Pears	Ton	1,042.5	926.2	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	"	214.0	108.0	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	"	25.5	25.6	
Nuts & Misc.				
Almonds (CA)	Lb	759,000	520,000	760,000
Hazelnuts	Ton	47.0	15.5	
Pecans	Lb	335,000	155,050	
Pistachios (CA)	"	180,000	188,000	
Walnuts (CA)	Ton	269.0	227.0	
Maple Syrup	Gal	1,298	1,159	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 1999 crop year.

² Production years are 1996-97, 1997-98, and 1998-99.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, United States, 1998-99
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	2,565,730	2,134,340	2,374,320	
Corn for Grain ²	32,450,880	31,654,450	29,382,110	
Corn for Silage			2,395,360	
Hay, All ³			24,287,880	24,319,040
Alfalfa			9,567,680	
All Other			14,720,190	
Oats	1,983,790	1,914,990	1,118,970	1,087,000
Rice	1,353,690	1,448,790	1,342,360	
Rye	635,770	643,460	169,160	
Sorghum for Grain ²	3,895,550	3,562,890	3,125,420	
Sorghum for Silage			123,430	
Wheat, All ³	26,657,330	25,507,210	23,877,520	
Winter	18,797,450	17,563,140	16,238,590	14,707,650
Durum	1,539,850	1,728,030	1,508,680	
Other Spring	6,320,040	6,216,040	6,130,240	
Oilseeds				
Canola	456,090		441,920	
Cottonseed				
Flaxseed	135,980	210,840	133,140	
Mustard Seed	40,020		38,690	
Peanuts	615,530	610,270	593,680	
Rapeseed	1,940		1,900	
Safflower	122,620		115,340	
Soybeans for Beans	29,289,440	29,584,860	28,656,500	
Sunflower	1,437,860	1,600,550	1,406,700	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All ³	5,419,810	5,643,080	4,323,550	
Upland	5,286,990	5,519,570	4,228,520	
Amer-Pima	132,820	123,510	95,020	
Sugarbeets	606,190	626,340	587,450	
Sugarcane			385,060	
Tobacco			290,430	262,180
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	3,640		2,990	
Dry Edible Beans	813,470	827,790	774,540	
Dry Edible Peas	130,880		125,090	
Lentils	65,560		64,140	
Wrinkled Seed Peas				
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)			2,470	
Ginger Root (HI)			150	
Hops			14,830	
Peppermint Oil			50,180	
Potatoes, All ³	575,750		564,020	
Winter	6,270	7,240	6,070	7,160
Spring	37,640	35,490	36,660	34,720
Summer	29,540		27,560	
Fall	502,300		493,720	
Spearmint Oil			11,090	
Sweet Potatoes	35,130	35,090	33,910	
Taro (HI) ⁴			200	

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Crop Summary: Yield and Production, United States, 1998-99
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Yield		Production	
	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>	<i>Metric Tons</i>
Grains & Hay				
Barley	3.23		7,673,580	
Corn for Grain	8.44		247,942,980	
Corn for Silage	35.80		85,751,640	
Hay, All ²	5.65		137,291,520	
Alfalfa	7.78		74,398,220	
All Other	4.27		62,893,300	
Oats	2.17		2,425,770	
Rice	6.35		8,529,850	
Rye	1.77		299,610	
Sorghum for Grain	4.23		13,206,910	
Sorghum for Silage	25.63		3,163,350	
Wheat, All ²	2.91		69,410,050	
Winter	3.15	2.99	51,181,680	43,947,630
Durum	2.54		3,839,270	
Other Spring	2.35		14,389,100	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1.63		720,590	
Cottonseed ³			4,987,160	
Flaxseed	1.28		170,390	
Mustard Seed	0.96		37,080	
Peanuts	3.03		1,797,790	
Rapeseed	1.52		2,880	
Safflower	1.62		186,920	
Soybeans for Beans	2.62		75,027,640	
Sunflower	1.69		2,379,860	
Cotton, Tobacco & Sugar Crops				
Cotton, All ²	0.70		3,030,330	
Upland	0.69		2,934,030	
Amer-Pima	1.01		96,300	
Sugarbeets	50.44		29,628,650	
Sugarcane	80.24		30,895,990	
Tobacco	2.31		670,940	
Dry Beans, Peas & Lentils				
Austrian Winter Peas	1.58		4,720	
Dry Edible Beans	1.81		1,398,330	
Dry Edible Peas	2.15		269,160	
Lentils	1.37		87,910	
Wrinkled Seed Peas			30,570	
Potatoes & Misc.				
Coffee (HI)	1.65		4,080	
Ginger Root (HI)	56.04		8,160	
Hops	1.82		27,010	
Peppermint Oil	0.09		4,410	
Potatoes, All ²	38.39		21,653,640	
Winter	22.27	22.91	135,170	164,110
Spring	26.15	30.31	958,760	1,052,560
Summer	31.10		857,110	
Fall	39.91		19,702,600	
Spearmint Oil	0.12		1,350	
Sweet Potatoes	15.90		539,190	
Taro (HI) ³			2,720	

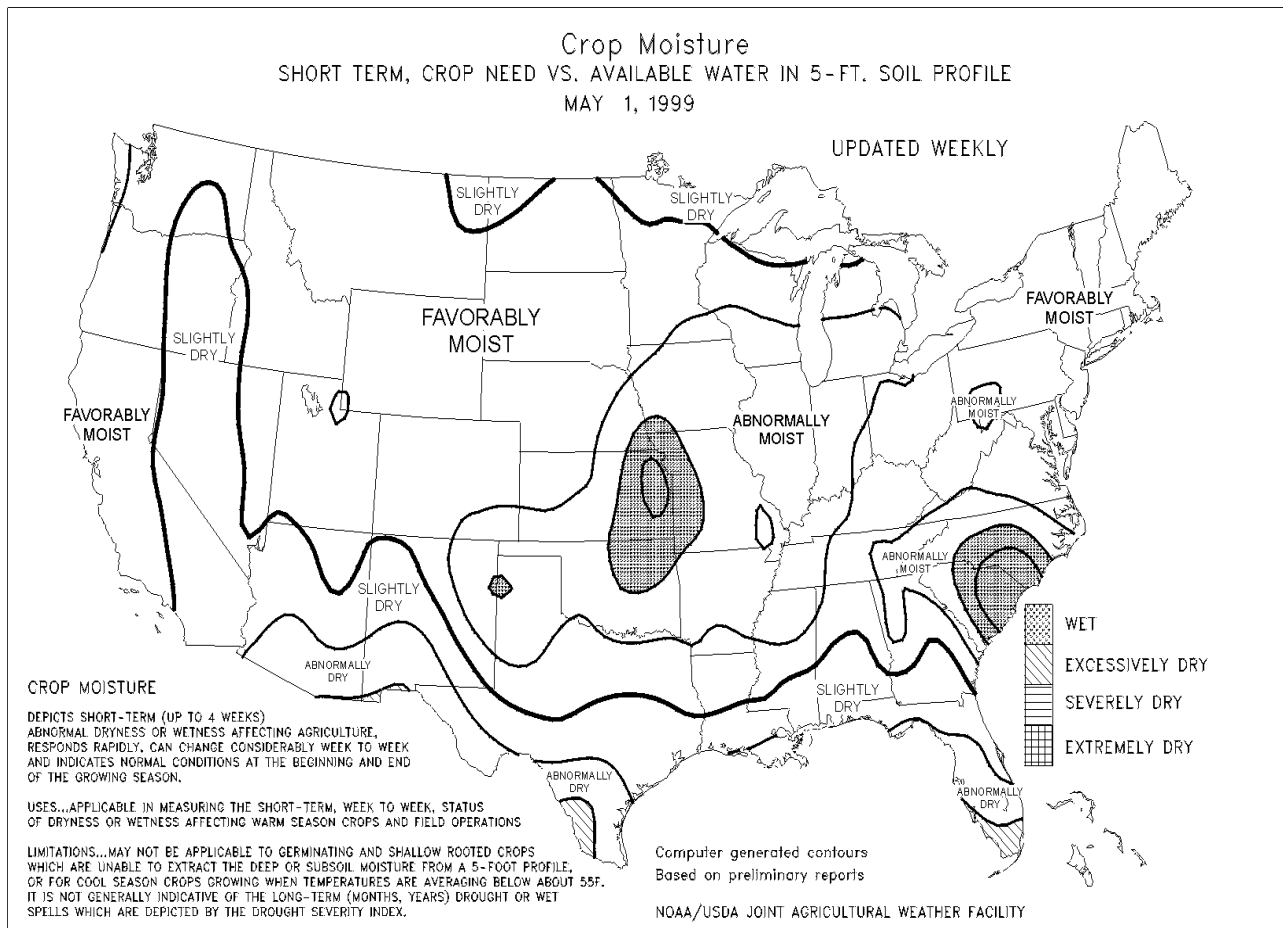
¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 1999 crop year. ² Production may not add due to rounding. ³ Yield is not estimated.

Fruits and Nuts Production, United States, 1997-99
(Metric Units) ¹

Crop	Production		
	1997	1998	1999
	<i>Metric tons</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>	<i>Metric tons</i>
Citrus ²			
Grapefruit	2,619,950	2,382,270	2,337,820
K-Early Citrus (FL)	6,350	1,810	3,630
Lemons	869,080	848,220	741,170
Oranges	11,500,380	12,401,220	8,929,420
Tangelos (FL)	161,480	116,120	104,330
Tangerines	379,200	326,590	302,090
Temple (FL)	97,980	91,630	73,480
Non-Citrus			
Apples	4,682,800	4,963,930	
Apricots	126,310	107,320	
Bananas (HI)	6,210	9,530	
Grapes	6,614,190	5,076,200	
Olives (CA)	94,350	81,650	
Papayas (HI)	17,600	18,100	
Peaches	1,190,500	1,100,320	
Pears	945,740	840,270	
Prunes, Dried (CA)	194,140	97,980	
Prunes & Plums (Ex CA)	23,130	23,220	
Nuts & Misc.			
Almonds (CA)	344,280	235,870	344,730
Hazelnuts	42,640	14,060	
Pecans	151,950	70,330	
Pistachios (CA)	81,650	85,280	
Walnuts (CA)	244,030	205,930	
Maple Syrup	6,490	5,790	

¹ Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 1999 crop year.

² Production years are 1996-97, 1997-98, and 1998-99.

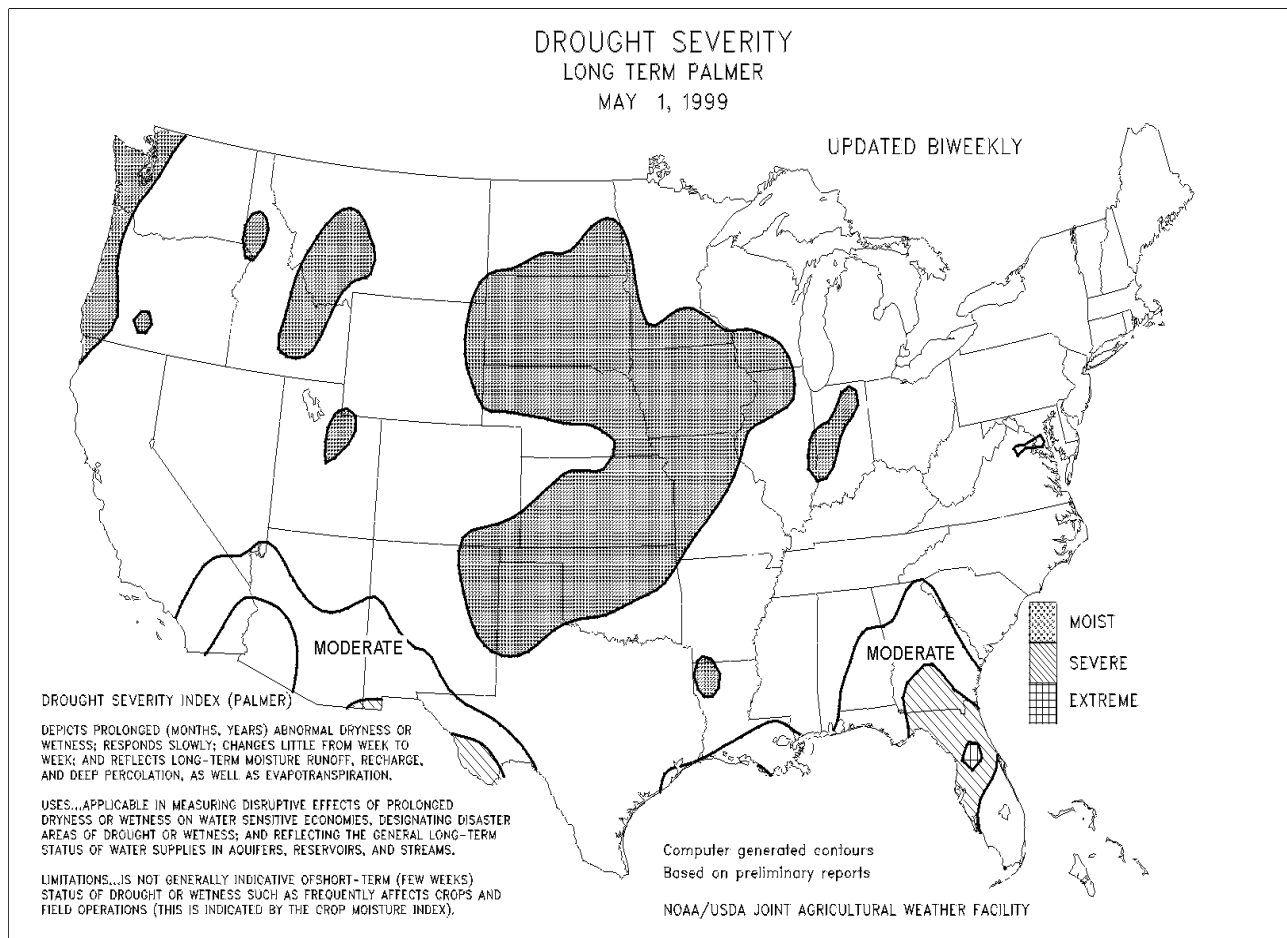


Crop Moisture

Depicts short term (up to about 4 weeks) abnormal dryness or wetness affecting Agriculture, responds rapidly, can change considerably week to week, and indicates normal conditions at the beginning and end of the growing season.

Uses...applicable in measuring the short term, week-to-week, status of dryness or wetness affecting warm season crops and field operations.

Limitations...may not be applicable to germination and shallow rooted crops which are unable to extract the deep or subsoil moisture from a 5-foot profile, or for cool season crops growing when temperatures are averaging below about 55 degrees fahrenheit. It is not generally indicative of the long term (months, years) drought or wet spells which are depicted by the drought severity index.



Drought Severity

Drought severity index (Palmer): Depicts prolonged (months, years) abnormal dryness or wetness; responds slowly; changes little from week to week; and reflects long term moisture runoff, recharge, and deep percolation, as well as evapotranspiration.

Uses...applicable in measuring disruptive effects of prolonged dryness or wetness on water sensitive economies; designating disaster areas of drought or wetness and reflecting the general long-term status of water supplies in aquifers, reservoirs, and streams.

Limitations...is not generally indicative of short-term (few weeks) status of drought or wetness such as frequently affects crops and field operations (this is indicated by the crop moisture index).

April Weather Summary: A persistent, high-amplitude jet stream pattern promoted cool conditions in the West and warm weather in the East. Numerous storm systems took a similar path across the Intermountain West, central and southern Plains and Corn Belt, contributing to heavy precipitation and fieldwork delays. Heavy snow occasionally blanketed the northern Plains and Rocky Mountain States, and April-record rainfall soaked parts of the east-central Plains and upper Midwest. Late in the month, beneficial rain fell across the Southeast, including Florida, locally improving topsoil moisture and curbing the threat of wildfires. While the Southeast's rain aided winter grains and spring-sown crops (corn, cotton, soybeans, sorghum, peanuts, and rice), long-term moisture deficits persisted across Florida, southern Georgia, and southeastern Alabama. Unfavorably dry weather stressed spring-sown crops in southern Texas, where significant rain last fell in late March. Drier-than-normal weather accompanied cool conditions in California and the Northwest, promoting spring planting but resulting in a slow start to the growing season. In the Southwest, early-month storms provided short-term relief from La Niña-driven winter dryness, but failed to significantly dent long-term moisture deficits.

Monthly precipitation totaled more than 200 percent of normal in a broad swath from Arizona and southern California northeastward to the upper Midwest. Totals topped 400 percent of normal on parts of the central and southern High Plains and the Desert Southwest. More than 8 inches of rain fell during April in a band from northern Oklahoma to western Iowa, and in a few areas near southern Lake Michigan. In contrast, less than half the normal monthly precipitation dampened New England, the Northwest, and parts of Florida. Despite late-month showers, monthly totals were also less than 50 percent of normal across the southern portions of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia.

Monthly temperatures averaged as much as 6 degrees F below normal in several areas from southern California to the central Rockies, and as much as 4 degrees F below normal on the High Plains. East of the Mississippi River and along the western Gulf Coast, however, readings ranged from 0 to 5 degrees F above normal.

General Crop Comments: The month began with heavy rains that halted fieldwork and eroded hillsides in the lower Mississippi Valley and adjacent areas of the southern Great Plains and middle Mississippi Valley. Rain in the Southwest and several inches of snow in the northern Great Plains eased moisture shortages, but soils remained abnormally dry in many areas of both regions. Light rainfall moistened soils and temporarily delayed spring tillage and fertilizing in parts of the Southeast, lower Ohio Valley, Corn Belt, and Southwest. Below-normal temperatures hindered crop development in the central and northern High Plains and California. Coastal areas of the Pacific Northwest remained cold and rainy, adversely affecting crop conditions and promoting diseases. A combination of heat and dry weather triggered wildfires in Florida.

During the second week of the month, strong thunderstorms delivered soaking rains, spawned tornadoes, and halted fieldwork in the western Corn Belt. Adjacent areas of the Great Plains, eastern Corn Belt, and Great Lakes received lighter showers that moistened soils and temporarily delayed spring tillage. Warm weather in the southern Plains, lower Mississippi Valley, and Southeast promoted rapid development of winter wheat and early row crops. In the lower Mississippi Valley, wet soils and additional showers continued to limit fieldwork and planting. The Southeast, Atlantic Coastal Plains, and most of the Great Plains were dry, promoting tillage and fertilizing operations, but disrupting planting. Cold weather slowed crop development and delayed planting along the Pacific Coast, especially in California.

A mid-month cold front pushed southward through the Great Plains, freezing maturing wheat fields in the southern Great Plains and halting development in the central and northern Great Plains. Hail associated with a line of severe storms also caused crop damage in the southern Great Plains. Persistent showers limited fieldwork and prevented row crop planting in most of the Corn Belt and central Great Plains. Dry conditions along the Ohio River Valley in the southern Corn Belt and Atlantic Coastal Plains permitted steady fieldwork and planting accelerated. Dry weather aided fieldwork and small grain seeding, while sunny skies improved wheat development in parts of the northern Great Plains, northern Rocky Mountains, and Pacific Northwest. Soils remained wet in North Dakota and western Minnesota due to poor drying conditions, while some areas of the Pacific Northwest needed rain to germinate seeds. Warmer weather encouraged planting and aided crop development in the Southwest.

Later in the month, heavy rains halted fieldwork in the northern Corn Belt, and lighter rainfall limited progress in other areas of the Corn Belt. In the southern Great Plains, a line of thunderstorms delivered brief downpours that increased soil moisture levels and aided crop development. Hail and isolated flooding associated with the thunderstorms damaged some wheat in Oklahoma. In the Southeast and Atlantic Coastal Plains, continued dry weather aided fieldwork, but discouraged planting and hindered crop emergence. Planting and field preparations accelerated in the lower Mississippi Valley, as warm, windy weather rapidly dried wet soils. Dry, sunny weather favored fieldwork and small grain seeding in the northern Great Plains. Dry soils stressed winter wheat in the Pacific Northwest, while warm, dry weather in California promoted crop development, and field activities rapidly progressed. A slow-moving upper-level low pressure system over the Great Basin produced a mixture of precipitation that replenished topsoil moisture in parts of the central High Plains and Rockies.

As the end of the month approached, heavy rains halted fieldwork and planting in the High Plains, parts of eastern Kansas and Oklahoma, and adjacent areas of southern Missouri. Heavy rains ended excessive dryness in parts of the Atlantic Coastal Plains and eased drought conditions in southern Florida. Lighter precipitation hampered field activities in the southern Appalachians and the Tennessee, lower Ohio, and middle Mississippi Valleys. Dry conditions aided planting in the eastern and northern Corn Belt, northern Great Plains, and Southwest. Excessive dryness delayed

planting and hindered emergence and growth in parts of the Gulf Coast region and adjacent inland areas of the Southeast and lower Mississippi Valley. Below-normal temperatures hindered winter wheat development and emergence of other small grains and row crops in the central and southern Great Plains and most of the Corn Belt. Above-normal temperatures promoted crop emergence and development in the northern Great Plains and Great Lakes States, but dry soils hindered crop emergence. In California, cool weather, scattered showers, and strong winds caused minor planting delays.

When the month ended, planting of most major field crops was behind normal. One-fifth of the corn acreage was planted compared with nearly one-third for the 5-year average. Cotton, sorghum, and peanut planting was several days behind normal, while soybean and rice planting was only slightly behind the average. Seeding of small grains was well ahead of normal as the month ended and emergence was slightly ahead of normal. Winter wheat development was also ahead of the normal as the month ended, with more than one-fourth of the crop headed. Harvesting began in southern Texas and fields were rapidly maturing in central and eastern Texas.

Winter Wheat: Area for 1999 grain harvest is forecast at 36.3 million acres, down 9 percent from 1998. If realized, this will be the smallest winter wheat area since 1971. Soft Red Winter (SRW) and White wheat took the biggest percentage hit. Both classes are down 12 percent from last year. Hard Red Winter (HRW) area is down 8 percent from a year ago with Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas accounting for about 1.8 million acres of the HRW drop.

Good or better condition ratings of winter wheat tracked below 1998 through April then moved just above last year the first weekend of May. For the most part, the Nation's winter wheat crop seems to have wintered well. Last December's freeze hit the Oregon counties of Umatilla and Morrow hard which led to reseeding with barley and/or other spring wheat. Several states indicate moisture is needed.

The cool, dry spring has slowed growth in Washington and Idaho. Soil moisture is adequate to surplus in Utah. Eastern Oregon needs rain. Expectations for a good crop are high in New York's growing area. Soft Red Winter areas generally enjoyed a mild winter with few problems encountered this spring. Some insect problems were noted in Virginia and North Carolina has reported some cereal leaf blight. Otherwise, SRW growers seem to have a very good crop as of May 1. Low prices have resulted in additional and later cattle grazing in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. Forecasted head counts from the Objective Yield surveys in these three states are down from the last two years but are still above average. Abundant topsoil moisture is reported in Colorado and Montana. The HRW crops in Nebraska and Oklahoma are developing ahead of average. South Dakota's winter crop prospects are excellent. The south Texas harvest began in late April. Oklahoma's harvest should start by June 1.

Durum Wheat: Production of Durum wheat in Arizona and California is forecast at a collective 17.1 million bushels. This is down 45 percent from their 1998 total of 30.9 million bushels primarily due to large drops in acreage levels. Frost damage to the Arizona crop has caused concern over prospective yields this year; thus, the 10 bushel reduction. California's crop is rated in good to excellent condition; cool March and April temperatures slowed development. The Imperial Valley harvest began in late April with average yields reported; the San Joaquin Valley crop is heading and won't be ready for cutting until mid-June.

Hay Stocks on Farms: Stocks of all hay on farms totaled 24.8 million tons on May 1, 1999, up 14 percent from May 1 of the previous year. Disappearance of hay from December 1, 1998 - May 1, 1999, totaled 87.0 million tons, 7.2 percent higher than the 1997 crop disappearance of 81.2 million tons for the same period.

Stocks of hay on May 1, 1999, were higher compared to last year in 33 of the 48 estimating states. Mild winter conditions, combined with good hay production, led to stocks increases across much of the nation. Florida and the Southern Plains were adversely affected by drought conditions and showed sharp decreases in hay stocks.

Almonds: The first forecast of 1999 California almond production is 760 million pounds, shelled basis. This is up 46 percent from last year's crop and 1 million pounds over the 1997 record of 759 million pounds. Bearing acreage totals 475,000, up 5 percent from 1998. Growers reported good to excellent pollination and tree development. However, potential yields were limited by April frosts and cool temperatures. The crop is currently about one week behind normal because of the cold weather.

Avocados: U.S. avocado production for the 1998-99 season totaled 144,250 tons, down 19 percent from last season. Bearing acres totaled 65,640, down 1 percent from the 1997-98 season. The value of the 1998-99 crop totaled

\$213 million, down 23 percent from last season. The season average price for all avocados was \$1,480 per ton, down 5 percent from the 1997-98 season.

California avocado production, at 121,000 tons, dropped 21 percent from the previous year. Although most of the growing areas were spared damage from the hard freeze in December 1998, heavy rains during the bloom season hurt production. Florida produced 4 percent less avocados than in 1997-98 but the value of the crop increased by 17 percent. The value increased primarily due to the quality of fruit and strong demand. Hawaii avocado production was unchanged from the previous year. Value of production decreased by 2 percent due to soft local demand.

Papayas: Hawaii fresh papaya production is estimated at 3.09 million pounds for April, 9 percent higher than March but 9 percent lower than April 1998. Area devoted to papaya production totaled 3,750 acres in April, virtually unchanged from a month ago but 17 percent more than a year ago. Area harvested, totaling 2,150 acres, was 2 percent higher than March and 21 percent higher than last April. April weather conditions were a mix of sunshine and heavy rains over major papaya producing orchards. Rainfall and overcast skies slowed fruit development and delayed some farm activities during the first half of April.

Total Hawaiian papaya utilization during 1998 is estimated at 39.9 million pounds, 3 percent higher than the previous year. Fresh sales of 35.6 million pounds were virtually unchanged from a year ago. Processed utilization, at 4.3 million pounds, is 39 percent higher than last year. Bearing area is 2,120 acres, 7 percent more than 1997.

Dry conditions during the first three months of 1998 had a detrimental effect on unirrigated papaya orchards. These orchards are on the Island of Hawaii and make up three-fourths of the State's total papaya acreage. The severity of the drought varied by area and soil type. Orchards experienced heavy flower drop. Failed plantings due to the lack of consistent rainfall were reported. Although showers replenished soil moisture in April, the effects of the drought were evident in smaller fruit and lower yields.

Bananas: Hawaii banana production for 1998 is estimated at a record high 21.0 million pounds, up 53 percent from 1997. New and maturing acreage boosted production levels. The State's harvested area reached a record high 1,420 acres, up 470 acres from a year ago. Weather during 1998 was drier than normal but major orchards use irrigation to offset lower rainfall. Control efforts for Banana Bunchy Top Virus continue.

Taro: Hawaii taro production for 1998 was estimated at 6.00 million pounds, up 9 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 490 acres, was up 40 acres from 1997. Yields of taro used for poi increased due to improved weather and the subsiding of the Taro Pocket Rot disease. Weather conditions for fresh use taro were generally unfavorable -- initially too dry then too wet. Phytophthora (leaf blight) became widespread with the advent of rainy weather and corm development was hampered.

Grapefruit: The May 1 forecast of the 1998-99 U.S. grapefruit crop is 2.58 million tons, down 1 percent from the April forecast and down 2 percent from last season. The May 1 forecast of Florida grapefruit is decreased to 48.1 million boxes (2.05 million tons). If realized, the forecast will be down 3 percent from a year ago. The white seedless forecast is 18.0 million boxes (765,000 tons), down 5 percent from April and 2 percent lower than last season. Lower yields are anticipated from the remaining unharvested rows due to the condition of the fruit, the dry weather, and harvest priorities. The colored seedless forecast remains at 29.5 million boxes (1.25 million tons), down 4 percent from 1997-98. If realized, it will be the third largest crop ever recorded. The forecast of seedy grapefruit is increased to 600,000 boxes (26,000 tons). All seedy grapefruit are certified in processed form and records are dependent on load tickets.

Grapefruit production in Texas is forecast at 5.60 million boxes (224,000 tons), up 4 percent from April and up 17 percent from the previous season. Utilized production was higher than expected as the harvesting season winds down. California and Arizona forecasts are carried forward from April.

Tangerines: The 1998-99 U.S. tangerine crop is forecast at 333,000 tons, up 2 percent from last month but down 8 percent from the previous year's utilization. Florida's tangerine crop is forecast at 4.95 million boxes (235,000 tons), 2 percent higher than the April forecast. The lasting quality and demand for the fruit have been excellent this season and weekly certifications continue. California and Arizona tangerine forecasts are carried forward from the April forecasts.

Tangelos: Florida's May tangelo forecast is final at 2.55 million boxes (115,000 tons) and is the smallest crop in more than 20 years, with the exception of the 2.45 million boxes (110,000 tons) from the 1995-96 season. The forecast is down 11 percent from last season.

Temples: Florida's Temple forecast is reduced to 1.80 million boxes (81,000 tons), 10 percent less than last month's forecast and 20 percent less than last season. Estimated utilization through the end of April is 1.77 million boxes and weekly utilization has declined to almost nothing. The route survey indicated only 4 percent of the rows left to be harvested. Most of these rows have useable late or "off-bloom" fruit but harvest is questionable.

Florida Citrus: Florida's citrus belt was mostly hot and dry during April. There were a few days of light scattered rains the last week of the month. Rainfall amounts were not sufficient and growers had to continue round the clock irrigation. Many wells have run dry and on both coasts there are reports of salt water intrusion causing the water source to be unusable for most citrus operations. The bloom cycle has been slowed by the dry weather. Most trees completed bloom by the middle of April. There are, however, several groves still in full bloom the first of May. The prolonged dry conditions have limited new growth on most older trees. Some weaker trees in non-irrigated groves have lost all of their leaves and a few have died.

Harvest of Valencia oranges was very active during April. Most of the oranges have gone to the processors. Movement of all seedless grapefruit slowed during the month as supplies were running low. Harvest of Temples and Honey tangerines was completed by the end of the month. Caretakers were kept very busy irrigating and cutting cover crops that were competing for surface soil moisture.

Texas Citrus: Harvest for the 1998-99 season was nearing completion by the end of April. Some areas of the Rio Grande Valley received beneficial rainfall during April which should improve the grapefruit bloom which was lagging behind normal.

California Citrus: Grapefruit picking was active during April and the grapefruit had good quality and color. Lemons were harvested in the coastal area of southern California. Good quality was reported. The lemons in the San Joaquin Valley were devastated by the December freeze. Virtually no lemons have been picked in the Valley since the freeze. Picking of navel oranges ended by late April in the San Joaquin Valley and southern California. A good quality crop was harvested from southern California, where only about 10 percent of the state's navel acreage is located. Valencia orange picking in southern California was active during April with a good quality crop reported. Harvest was also active in the San Joaquin Valley, but not very many Valencia oranges were salvageable for the fresh market due to the December freeze.

California Fruits and Nuts: Low nightly temperatures in early April caused some frost damage to grapes, nuts, and fruit in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys. Damage appears to be isolated and not widespread. Hailstorms also caused some damage. Most of the month was dry, but maturity and development of the fruit were slowed by cooler than normal April temperatures. Growers were busy with weed control, irrigation, and thinning stone fruit. Fungicides were applied to grapes, stone fruit, and almonds.

Spring Potatoes: Spring potato production in 1999 is forecast at 23.2 million cwt, up 10 percent from last year and 4 percent above 1997. The May production forecast is 6 percent above April 1, because of ideal growing seasons in Texas, Arizona, and Hastings, Florida. Area for harvest is estimated at 85,800 acres, down 5 percent from a year ago and 2 percent below two years ago. The average yield is forecast at 270 cwt per acre, up 37 cwt over last year and 15 cwt above two years ago.

The Hastings, Florida area had a very good growing season and no frost damage. Active harvest is underway. Florida's other spring areas are about finished digging. California potato growth during April was slowed by cold weather and frost, making harvest about 10 days late. Arizona's growing weather has been exceptionally good for potatoes. Harvest started in early April in Yuma and during the third week in Central Arizona. In Texas, harvest is started and yields are turning out better than the April 1 projection. Development in North Carolina and Alabama was slowed by drying soils and scattered frost. Harvest is difficult in dry Alabama soils.

Tobacco: U.S. production for 1998 was revised down 3 percent and harvested acreage down 1 percent from December 1998. Tobacco production, at 1.48 billion pounds in 1998, was down 17 percent from 1997, and was at the lowest level since 1995. Tobacco producers harvested 717,655 acres, down 14 percent from the previous year. Final yield per acre averaged 2,061 pounds, compared to 2,137 in 1997. Burley and Flue-cured tobacco types showed large declines from a year ago.

Flue-cured production totaled 813 million pounds in 1998, down 22 percent from 1997. Growers harvested 368,800 acres, down 20 percent from the previous year. North Carolina led all Flue-cured states with 66 percent of the U.S. total production. North Carolina's Flue-cured production decreased 22 percent from 1997.

Burley production totaled 582 million pounds in 1998, 10 percent less than 1997. The average yield for burley was 1,896 pounds, down 38 pounds from the previous year. Kentucky led all Burley states with 70 percent of the U.S. total production. Kentucky's acreage decreased 10 percent and their yield averaged 1,935 pounds per acre, down 25 pounds from a year ago.

Dark Air-cured tobacco production increased 18 percent from 1997 but Cigar types declined 15 percent from a year ago. Yields were down for Cigar types due to poor quality.

Cotton: The 1998 United States all cotton final production totaled 13.9 million bales, 26 percent less than 1997's production. The 1998 output was the smallest crop since 1989. Upland cotton production, at 13.5 million bales, was 26 percent less than the previous year, while American-Pima production totaled 442,300 bales, down 19 percent from 1997.

The area planted to all cotton totaled 13.4 million acres, down 4 percent from 1997. Harvested area was 10.7 million acres, down 20 percent from the previous year. This large decrease was mainly due to the large abandonment in Texas. Abandonment totaled 20 percent in 1998, compared to only 4 percent the previous year. Yields for the U.S. averaged 625 pounds per harvested acre.

Texas' harvest exceeded the 5-year average during the season, and in late November, harvest was 8 points ahead of the average pace of 87 percent. Texas' irrigated fields showed good progress during the 1998 season, but drought and high temperatures resulted in 2.35 million acres of Upland cotton being abandoned. At the end of August, approximately one-half of the acreage was rated in poor or very poor condition, 17 percent was rated good, and 3 percent was rated excellent. In late August, boll set was complete. Torrential rains in the south during October replenished topsoil moisture, but harvest was interrupted and regrowth became a problem in some fields. Objective yield survey data indicated the third lowest boll weights since 1988. A large amount of American-Pima cotton was seeded in non-traditional producing areas and was subject to substantial abandonment. Acreage planted to all cotton in Texas was 5.76 million, up 4 percent from 1997, but harvested acreage was down 36 percent from last year, at 3.33 million acres. Texas and Oklahoma both had record setting Upland cotton yields due to the large amount of non-irrigated acreage that was abandoned. The abandonment of these acres resulted in the irrigated acreage accounting for a larger proportion of the total, and thus increasing the States' overall yield.

The Delta States (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee) planted and harvested 8 percent less acreage than in 1997. Plantings totaled 3.23 million acres and harvested area totaled 3.17 million acres. Planting was behind the 5-year average due to wet soils until mid-May, when a dry period allowed most States to exceed the average. During the first week of May, producers in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi planted about 30 percent of their acreage. The percent of the Arkansas crop rated in good to excellent condition on July 19, dropped 13 points from late-June to 55 percent. Louisiana's rating dropped 12 points during this same time period to 38 percent, while Mississippi showed only a 5 point drop to 70 percent in good to excellent condition. Hot and dry weather pushed the crop's development ahead of 5-year averages. Missouri's acreage received heavy rains during early August and then dry conditions began with mild temperatures, which lowered yield potential. During September, Louisiana and Mississippi were affected by two tropical storms and Hurricane Georges. The first storm, Frances, had high amounts of rainfall and also moved into southern Arkansas. Tropical storm Hermine made landfall in Louisiana, but had much less rain than the previous storm. In early November, harvest was 8 points behind the 5-year average pace in Missouri, at 70 percent, but the other States were ahead of the average pace. At this same time, Louisiana had 97 percent of the crop harvested, 5 points ahead of the 5-year average. Mississippi and Arkansas producers were 14 points above average with 98 percent and 91 percent of the acreage harvested, respectively, in early November. Tennessee's progress, at 92 percent, was 17 points ahead of the 5-year average and excellent harvest conditions allowed growers to proceed with second pickings. Cotton objective yield data indicated Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi had the lowest boll weights compared to the past 10 years.

Arizona planted 23 percent fewer acres of all cotton than during 1997. Harvested acreage decreased by 24 percent. California producers decreased planted and harvested acreage of all cotton by 20 percent and 24 percent, respectively. Eighty-three percent of Arizona's crop was harvested in late November, 7 points behind the normal pace. California's seeding pace was well behind average most of the season as wet, cool weather prevailed which resulted in cotton development remaining behind average. Only one percent of the California crop was harvested on October 4, 8 points behind average. One month later, producers were 47 points behind the average pace, with only 15 percent harvested. Boll opening, on this same data, was three-fourths complete compared to the 5-year average of 99 percent and the crop's condition was rated as 45 percent good and 45 percent in fair condition. During December, harvest made little

progress in the central valley, due to the poor drying conditions, and some unharvested cotton fields were plowed under because of deteriorating lint quality and unopened bolls. A few fields were second picked, and plowdown for pink bollworm control was ongoing on sandier soils. The plowdown deadline for the southern San Joaquin Valley was extended fifteen days, due to the extremely late harvest season. California's final boll weights were the third lowest since 1988.

In the Southeastern States (Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina), cotton planted acreage was 3 percent less than in 1997, at 2.87 million acres, and harvested acreage was also down 3 percent, at 2.75 million acres. Plantings were behind average for most of the season except in Alabama, where producers exceeded the average planting pace. The weather remained hot and dry after plantings were completed. Hurricane Bonnie entered into North Carolina on August 26, with extreme winds and torrential rainfall, and covered approximately one-half of the cotton acreage in the State. The two largest producing counties were on the western edge of the storm and weren't heavily affected. Hurricane Georges crossed southern Alabama and into Georgia during September, with the heaviest rainfall in Alabama. Additionally, Tropical Storm Earl also affected these States' cotton crop in early September with heavy rain. However, open weather during the fall resulted in larger production than earlier anticipated.

All cotton ginnings totaled 13,912,250 equivalent 480-pound net weight bales during the 1998 season. This compares with 18,787,600 equivalent 480-pound bales ginned in 1997.

Cottonseed: Cottonseed production in 1998 totaled 5.50 million tons, down 21 percent from 1997.

Reliability of May 1 Winter Wheat Production Forecast

Survey Procedures: Objective yield and farm operator surveys were conducted between April 24 and May 4 to gather information on expected yield as of May 1. The objective yield survey was conducted in three States (Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas) where winter wheat is normally mature enough to make meaningful counts. Farm operators were interviewed to update previously reported acreage data and seek permission to randomly locate two sample plots in selected winter wheat fields. The counts made within each sample plot depended upon the crop's maturity. In early fields, counts such as number of stalks, heads in late boot, and number of emerged heads were made to predict the number of heads that would be harvested. A 5-year historical average head weight is used until the crop matures to the point that heads can be clipped, threshed, and weighed. The number of heads times the weight of the heads in a sample plot can then be combined to an estimate of yield per acre. The 5-year average harvesting loss is subtracted to obtain a net yield. The plots are revisited each month until the crop reaches maturity and are harvested on the final visit.

The farm operator survey included a sample of approximately 11,800 wheat producers representing all major production areas. These producers were selected from an earlier acreage survey and were asked about the probable winter wheat acres for harvest and yield on their operation. These growers will be surveyed throughout the growing season to provide indications of average yields as the season progresses.

Estimating Procedures: National and State level objective yield and grower reported data were reviewed for reasonableness and consistency with historical estimates. The survey data were also reviewed considering weather patterns and crop progress compared to previous months and previous years. Each State Statistical Office submits their analysis of the current situation to the Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB). The ASB uses the survey data and the State analyses to prepare the published May 1 forecasts.

Revision Policy: The May 1 production forecast will not be revised; instead, a new forecast will be made each month throughout the growing season. End-of-season estimates are made after harvest. At the end of the marketing season, a balance sheet is calculated using carryover stocks, production, exports, millings, feeding, and ending stocks. Revisions are then made if the balance sheet relationships or other administrative data warrant changes.

Reliability: To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the May 1 winter wheat production forecast, the "Root Mean Square Error", a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. This is done by expressing the deviation between the May 1 production forecast and the final estimate as a percentage of the final estimate, and averaging the squared percentage deviations for the 1979-1998 20-year period; the square root of the average becomes statistically the "Root Mean Square Error". Probability statements can be made concerning expected differences in the current forecast relative to the final end-of-season estimate, assuming that factors affecting this year's forecast are not different from those influencing recent years.

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the May 1 winter wheat production forecast is 6.8 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current production forecast of 1.61 billion bushels will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 6.8 percent or approximately 109 million bushels. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 11.8 percent or approximately 190 million bushels. Differences between the May 1 winter wheat production forecast and the final estimate during the past 20 years have averaged 88 million bushels, ranging from 4 million to 285 million bushels. The May 1 forecast has been below the final estimate 12 times and above 8 times. This does not imply that the May 1 winter wheat forecast this year is likely to understate or overstate final production.

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