



Crop Production

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All Cotton Up 2 percent

All cotton production is forecast at 16.9 million 480-pound bales, up 2 percent from last month, and up 21 percent from 1998. Yield is expected to average 604 pounds per harvested acre, down 21 pounds from last year. Texas production was increased 300,000 bales from November's forecast, while California was increased 50,000 bales. On November 28, U.S. harvest was 88 percent complete, compared to the 5-year average of 87 percent.

All oranges: The forecast of the 1999-00 U.S. all orange crop is 12.2 million tons, up 1 percent from October and up 24 percent from last season. Florida's all orange forecast is 214 million boxes (9.63 million tons), 1 percent more than the October 1 forecast and 15 percent higher than the 186 million boxes (8.36 million tons) utilized last season. Early and midseason varieties in Florida are forecast at 124 million boxes (5.58 million tons), unchanged from October and 11 percent higher than last season. Florida's Valencia forecast of 90.0 million boxes (4.05 million tons) is 3 percent above the October 1 forecast and 22 percent higher than last season's final utilization. Texas orange production is forecast at 1.60 million boxes (68,000 tons), unchanged from October and up 12 percent from last season. California and Arizona orange production forecasts were carried forward from the October forecast.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield for the 1999-00 season is forecast at 1.60 gallons per box at 42.0 degrees Brix, unchanged from October. The final all orange yield for 1998-99 as reported by the Florida Citrus Processors Association was a record high 1.63 gallons per box. Projected yields for 1999-00 early-midseason and Valencia varieties will be published in the January Crop Production report.

This report was approved on December 10, 1999.



Acting Secretary of
Agriculture
Richard E. Rominger



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**Cotton: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by Type, State,
and United States, 1998 and Forecasted December 1, 1999**

Type and State	Area Harvested		Yield			Production ¹	
	1998	1999	1998	1999		1998	1999
				Nov 1	Dec 1		
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Bales ²</i>	<i>1,000 Bales ²</i>
Upland							
AL	475.0	560.0	559	540	540	553.0	630.0
AZ	248.0	239.0	1,177	1,205	1,245	608.0	620.0
AR	900.0	960.0	645	710	715	1,209.0	1,430.0
CA	620.0	585.0	887	1,231	1,272	1,146.0	1,550.0
FL ³	80.0	88.0	489	524	524	81.5	96.0
GA	1,280.0	1,450.0	578	530	513	1,542.0	1,550.0
KS ³	16.5	28.0	404	411	411	13.9	24.0
LA	525.0	595.0	586	702	726	641.0	900.0
MS	940.0	1,180.0	737	716	708	1,444.0	1,740.0
MO	357.0	375.0	471	582	595	350.0	465.0
NM ³	60.3	67.0	640	716	716	80.4	100.0
NC	705.0	810.0	699	462	462	1,026.0	780.0
OK	120.0	170.0	560	480	424	140.0	150.0
SC	286.0	315.0	587	450	434	350.0	285.0
TN	445.0	565.0	589	476	501	546.0	590.0
TX	3,300.0	5,000.0	524	461	490	3,600.0	5,100.0
VA ³	91.0	109.0	765	819	819	145.1	186.0
US	10,448.8	13,096.0	619	581	594	13,475.9	16,196.0
Amer-Pima							
AZ	15.5	11.2	830	836	750	26.8	17.5
CA	180.0	259.0	941	1,112	1,112	352.8	600.0
NM	7.3	7.0	658	686	583	10.0	8.5
TX	32.0	32.0	791	825	795	52.7	53.0
US	234.8	309.2	904	1,063	1,054	442.3	679.0
All							
AL	475.0	560.0	559	540	540	553.0	630.0
AZ	263.5	250.2	1,156	1,188	1,223	634.8	637.5
AR	900.0	960.0	645	710	715	1,209.0	1,430.0
CA	800.0	844.0	899	1,194	1,223	1,498.8	2,150.0
FL ³	80.0	88.0	489	524	524	81.5	96.0
GA	1,280.0	1,450.0	578	530	513	1,542.0	1,550.0
KS ³	16.5	28.0	404	411	411	13.9	24.0
LA	525.0	595.0	586	702	726	641.0	900.0
MS	940.0	1,180.0	737	716	708	1,444.0	1,740.0
MO	357.0	375.0	471	582	595	350.0	465.0
NM	67.6	74.0	642	714	704	90.4	108.5
NC	705.0	810.0	699	462	462	1,026.0	780.0
OK	120.0	170.0	560	480	424	140.0	150.0
SC	286.0	315.0	587	450	434	350.0	285.0
TN	445.0	565.0	589	476	501	546.0	590.0
TX	3,332.0	5,032.0	526	463	492	3,652.7	5,153.0
VA ³	91.0	109.0	765	819	819	145.1	186.0
US	10,683.6	13,405.2	625	592	604	13,918.2	16,875.0

¹ Production ginned and to be ginned.

² 480-Lb. net weight bales.

³ Estimates for current year carried forward from previous forecast.

**Cottonseed: Production, United States,
1997-98 and Forecasted December 1, 1999**

State	Production		
	1997	1998	1999 ¹
	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
US	6,934.6	5,365.4	6,395.0

¹ Based on a 3-year average lint-seed ratio.

**Burley Tobacco: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production by State,
and United States, 1997-98 and Forecasted December 1, 1999**

State	Area Harvested		Yield		Production ¹		
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
Type 31							
IN	8,500	6,500	2,000	1,800	18,690	17,000	11,700
KY	215,000	210,000	1,935	1,800	470,400	416,025	378,000
MO ¹	2,700	2,300	2,130	1,950	7,035	5,751	4,485
NC	8,100	8,400	1,450	1,550	13,314	11,745	13,020
OH	9,800	9,800	1,830	1,720	22,230	17,934	16,856
TN	51,000	51,000	1,795	1,850	93,330	91,545	94,350
VA	10,400	11,000	1,940	2,250	20,574	20,176	24,750
WV ¹	1,600	1,700	1,350	1,300	3,060	2,160	2,210
US	307,100	300,700	1,896	1,814	648,633	582,336	545,371

¹ Estimates for current year carried forward from an earlier forecast.

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>
Oct	3,785	3,225	2,240	1,625	3,165	3,850
Nov	3,785	3,205	2,215	1,585	3,250	3,480

**Citrus Fruits: Utilized Production by Crop, State, and United States,
1997-98, 1998-99 and Forecasted December 1, 1999¹**

Crop and State	Utilized Production Boxes			Utilized Production Ton Equivalent		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
	<i>1,000 Boxes²</i>	<i>1,000 Boxes²</i>	<i>1,000 Boxes²</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
Oranges						
Early Mid & Navel ³						
AZ ⁴	350	550	400	13	21	15
CA ⁴	44,000	21,000	40,000	1,650	787	1,500
FL	140,000	112,000	124,000	6,300	5,040	5,580
TX	1,350	1,250	1,300	57	53	55
US	185,700	134,800	165,700	8,020	5,901	7,150
Valencia						
AZ ⁴	650	600	500	25	22	19
CA ⁴	25,000	17,000	27,000	938	638	1,013
FL	104,000	73,700	90,000	4,680	3,317	4,050
TX	175	180	300	7	8	13
US	129,825	91,480	117,800	5,650	3,985	5,095
All						
AZ ⁴	1,000	1,150	900	38	43	34
CA ⁴	69,000	38,000	67,000	2,588	1,425	2,513
FL	244,000	185,700	214,000	10,980	8,357	9,630
TX	1,525	1,430	1,600	64	61	68
US	315,525	226,280	283,500	13,670	9,886	12,245
Temples						
FL	2,250	1,800	2,100	101	81	95
Grapefruit						
White Seedless ⁵						
FL	18,300	17,800	18,500	777	757	786
Colored Seedless ⁶						
FL	30,600	28,700	27,000	1,301	1,220	1,148
Other						
FL	650	550	500	28	23	21
All						
AZ ⁴	800	750	650	27	25	22
CA ⁴	8,000	7,500	8,000	268	251	268
FL ^{5,6}	49,550	47,050	46,000	2,106	2,000	1,955
TX	4,800	6,100	5,500	192	244	220
US	63,150	61,400	60,150	2,593	2,520	2,465
Tangerines						
AZ ^{4,7}	600	950	700	23	36	26
CA ^{4,7}	2,400	1,500	2,300	90	56	86
FL	5,200	4,950	6,400	247	235	304
US	8,200	7,400	9,400	360	327	416
Lemons ⁴						
AZ	2,600	3,450	3,900	99	131	148
CA	21,000	16,200	20,500	798	616	779
US	23,600	19,650	24,400	897	747	927
Tangelos						
FL	2,850	2,550	2,600	128	115	117
K-Early Citrus						
FL	40	80	90	2	4	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 5,000,000 boxes in 1997-98.

⁶ Excludes Colored Seedless economic abandonment of 1,000,000 boxes in 1997-98. ⁷ Includes tangelos and tangors.

**Dry Edible Beans: Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production
by State and United States, 1997-99¹**

State	Area Planted			Area Harvested		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
CA	135.0	110.0	135.0	132.0	105.0	132.0
CO	135.0	170.0	165.0	120.0	155.0	155.0
ID	100.0	105.0	105.0	98.0	103.0	103.0
KS	22.0	20.0	22.0	20.0	19.0	20.9
MI	315.0	300.0	350.0	305.0	295.0	350.0
MN	175.0	190.0	205.0	165.0	175.0	165.0
MT	12.2	16.6	26.5	11.7	16.0	25.7
NE	190.0	195.0	210.0	180.0	188.0	187.0
NM	12.0	10.5	1.0	12.0	9.5	1.0
NY	44.0	31.0	31.0	43.5	30.0	30.2
ND	620.0	750.0	630.0	565.0	710.0	570.0
OR	9.0	8.7	11.5	8.9	8.6	10.8
TX	15.0	15.0	20.0	14.0	13.5	18.0
UT	5.8	6.0	6.7	5.2	5.9	6.6
WA	38.0	40.0	36.0	38.0	40.0	36.0
WI	9.8	7.3	8.3	9.5	7.2	8.0
WY	32.0	39.0	40.0	31.0	37.0	38.0
US	1,869.8	2,014.1	2,003.0	1,758.8	1,917.7	1,857.2
	Yield per Acre			Production		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
CA	2,270	1,480	1,970	3,000	1,554	2,600
CO	1,900	1,850	1,950	2,280	2,868	3,023
ID	2,200	2,050	2,050	2,156	2,112	2,112
KS	1,900	2,000	1,850	380	380	387
MI	1,620	1,500	2,100	4,941	4,425	7,350
MN	1,550	1,450	1,550	2,558	2,538	2,558
MT	2,200	2,190	1,770	257	350	454
NE	2,060	1,950	2,000	3,708	3,666	3,740
NM	1,700	1,800	1,800	204	171	18
NY	1,560	1,420	1,370	679	426	414
ND	1,260	1,380	1,450	7,119	9,798	8,265
OR	2,040	1,770	1,610	182	152	174
TX	1,020	1,000	1,490	143	135	268
UT	800	510	800	42	30	53
WA	2,240	2,230	2,080	850	890	750
WI	1,800	1,600	1,550	171	115	124
WY	2,260	2,180	2,090	700	808	793
US	1,670	1,586	1,781	29,370	30,418	33,083

¹ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

**Dry Edible Beans: Area Planted and Harvested by Commercial
Class, State, and Total, 1997-99**

Class and State	Area Planted			Area Harvested		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
Large Lima						
CA	30.0	26.0	25.0	29.0	25.0	24.0
Baby Lima						
CA	37.0	13.0	27.0	36.0	12.0	26.0
Navy						
CO	0.2	0.6		0.2	0.6	
ID	3.8	1.5	5.4	3.7	1.5	5.3
MI	150.0	75.0	150.0	145.0	74.0	150.0
MN	58.0	51.0	80.0	56.0	46.0	64.0
NE	6.0	5.0	7.0	5.9	4.8	6.2
NM	5.0	2.0		5.0	2.0	
ND	160.0	120.0	195.0	147.0	114.0	175.0
OR	0.9	0.4	1.2	0.9	0.4	1.2
WY	2.0		2.0	1.9		1.8
Total	385.9	255.5	440.6	365.6	243.3	403.5
Great Northern						
CO	0.3	0.2		0.3	0.2	
ID	5.5	7.5	6.6	5.4	7.4	6.5
KS	1.4			1.3		
MN	3.0	2.5	2.8	2.5	2.2	2.5
NE	96.0	97.0	115.0	94.0	93.2	104.0
WA			1.1			1.1
WY	4.0	6.0	8.0	3.9	5.5	7.5
Total	110.2	113.2	133.5	107.4	108.5	121.6
Small White						
ID	3.3	1.5	2.5	3.2	1.4	2.5
OR	1.3	0.3	0.6	1.3	0.3	0.6
WA	3.5	1.0	1.8	3.5	1.0	1.8
Total	8.1	2.8	4.9	8.0	2.7	4.9

Dry Edible Beans: Yield and Production by Commercial Class, State, and Total, 1997-99 (continued)

Class and State	Yield per Acre			Production		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
Large Lima						
CA	2,480	1,250	1,710	718	312	410
Baby Lima						
CA	2,510	1,700	2,600	902	204	675
Navy						
CO	1,500	1,500		3	9	
ID	2,460	2,330	2,150	91	35	114
MI	1,580	1,600	2,300	2,290	1,180	3,450
MN	1,650	1,620	1,560	926	745	998
NE	1,980	2,130	1,950	117	102	121
NM	1,840	2,000		92	40	
ND	1,320	1,550	1,460	1,943	1,767	2,555
OR	2,330	2,250	1,920	21	9	23
WY	2,160		2,060	41		37
Total	1,511	1,598	1,809	5,524	3,887	7,298
Great Northern						
CO	1,670	1,500		5	3	
ID	2,220	2,140	2,110	120	158	137
KS	1,690			22		
MN	1,600	1,360	1,600	40	30	40
NE	2,100	1,990	2,030	1,974	1,855	2,111
WA			2,450			27
WY	2,310	2,310	2,240	90	127	168
Total	2,096	2,003	2,042	2,251	2,173	2,483
Small White						
ID	2,410	2,210	2,080	77	31	52
OR	2,150	2,330	2,000	28	7	12
WA	2,230	2,200	2,110	78	22	38
Total	2,288	2,222	2,082	183	60	102

**Dry Edible Beans: Area Planted and Harvested by Commercial
Class, State, and Total, 1997-99 (continued)**

Class and State	Area Planted			Area Harvested		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
Pinto						
CO	119.0	152.0	135.0	105.5	138.0	128.5
ID	39.0	44.2	31.2	38.2	43.5	30.6
KS	18.0	18.5	16.5	16.4	17.7	15.8
MI	10.0	21.0	9.0	10.0	20.0	9.0
MN	43.0	55.0	38.0	41.0	52.0	24.0
MT	12.2	12.2	13.9	11.7	12.0	13.5
NE	67.0	76.0	60.0	59.7	73.7	54.0
NM	7.0	5.5	1.0	7.0	4.5	1.0
ND	415.0	540.0	363.0	376.0	510.0	332.0
OR	1.3	2.2	2.4	1.3	2.2	2.3
TX	1.5	0.5	0.6	1.4	0.5	0.6
UT	5.8	6.0	6.7	5.2	5.9	6.6
WA	10.0	16.0	9.0	10.0	16.0	9.0
WY	25.0	28.0	28.0	24.3	27.0	27.0
Total	773.8	977.1	714.3	707.7	923.0	653.9
Light Red Kidney						
CA	10.0	9.5	8.0	10.0	8.5	8.0
CO	12.2	10.0	15.0	11.2	9.4	12.5
ID	1.1	1.6	0.8	1.1	1.6	0.8
MI	14.0	14.0	17.0	14.0	13.0	17.0
MN	10.0	11.0	11.0	9.5	10.5	10.5
NE	17.0	13.0	19.0	16.6	12.6	14.8
NY	25.0	16.0	17.7	24.5	15.5	17.5
WA		0.9	2.0		0.9	2.0
Total	89.3	76.0	90.5	86.9	72.0	83.1
Dark Red Kidney						
CA	5.0	5.5	3.5	5.0	5.5	3.5
ID	0.5	0.9	1.0	0.5	0.9	1.0
MI	12.0	9.0	9.0	11.5	9.0	9.0
MN	36.0	34.0	38.0	34.0	32.0	36.0
NY	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
ND	1.8	5.5	5.0	1.6	5.2	4.7
WI	9.8	7.3	8.3	9.5	7.2	8.0
Total	67.1	64.2	66.8	64.1	61.8	64.2
Pink						
CA	4.0	5.5	2.0	4.0	5.5	2.0
ID	14.4	17.6	19.2	14.2	17.2	18.7
MN	8.0	13.0	14.0	7.5	12.2	10.2
ND	8.0	13.0	11.0	7.0	12.6	10.0
WA	3.7	6.0	4.5	3.7	6.0	4.5
Total	38.1	55.1	50.7	36.4	53.5	45.4

Dry Edible Beans: Yield and Production by Commercial Class, State, and Total, 1997-99 (continued)

Class and State	Yield per Acre			Production		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
Pinto						
CO	1,890	1,900	1,950	1,991	2,617	2,512
ID	2,200	2,100	2,170	842	914	664
KS	1,920	2,000	1,850	315	354	292
MI	1,400	1,470	1,890	140	293	170
MN	1,350	1,400	1,430	555	726	343
MT	2,200	2,200	2,240	257	264	302
NE	1,990	1,880	2,030	1,188	1,386	1,096
NM	1,600	2,040	1,800	112	92	18
ND	1,240	1,340	1,460	4,644	6,832	4,860
OR	2,310	1,910	1,520	30	42	35
TX	1,210	600	830	17	3	5
UT	800	510	800	42	30	53
WA	2,350	2,380	2,300	235	380	207
WY	2,270	2,140	2,050	552	578	554
Total	1,543	1,572	1,699	10,920	14,511	11,111
Light Red Kidney						
CA	1,980	1,380	1,500	198	117	120
CO	2,210	1,810	1,700	248	170	213
ID	2,450	2,000	2,130	27	32	17
MI	1,640	1,310	1,800	230	170	306
MN	1,720	1,570	1,700	163	165	178
NE	2,200	2,000	1,790	365	252	265
NY	1,580	1,350	1,290	387	209	225
WA		2,110	2,150		19	43
Total	1,862	1,575	1,645	1,618	1,134	1,367
Dark Red Kidney						
CA	1,800	850	1,290	90	47	45
ID	2,200	2,220	1,900	11	20	19
MI	1,040	1,000	1,700	120	90	153
MN	1,600	1,410	1,660	543	450	597
NY	1,650	1,600	1,350	33	32	27
ND	1,500	1,690	1,510	24	88	71
WI	1,800	1,600	1,550	171	115	124
Total	1,548	1,362	1,614	992	842	1,036
Pink						
CA	1,550	1,070	1,250	62	59	25
ID	2,290	2,170	2,230	325	373	417
MN	1,650	1,210	1,400	124	148	143
ND	1,360	1,500	1,450	95	189	145
WA	2,510	2,500	2,090	93	150	94
Total	1,920	1,718	1,815	699	919	824

**Dry Edible Beans: Area Planted and Harvested by Commercial
Class, State, and Total, 1997-99 (continued)**

Class and State	Area Planted			Area Harvested		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>
Small Red						
ID	20.5	13.1	19.8	20.1	12.8	19.3
MI	10.0	11.0	15.0	9.0	11.0	15.0
WA	12.0	8.0	8.0	12.0	8.0	8.0
Total	42.5	32.1	42.8	41.1	31.8	42.3
Cranberry						
CA	4.0	2.5	2.5	4.0	2.5	2.5
ID	1.6	0.9	1.3	1.5	0.9	1.2
MI	32.0	27.0	31.0	31.0	26.0	31.0
MN	4.0	3.0	2.6	3.5	2.7	2.4
Total	41.6	33.4	37.4	40.0	32.1	37.1
Black						
CA		2.5	1.0		2.5	1.0
CO	2.0	0.7	0.8	1.6	0.5	0.5
ID	2.3	5.0	4.8	2.3	4.9	4.8
MI	80.0	135.0	108.0	78.0	134.0	108.0
MN	7.0	15.0	10.6	6.0	12.6	9.8
NE	3.0	3.0	7.0	2.9	2.8	6.4
NY	13.0	10.5	9.5	13.0	10.0	9.0
ND	27.0	63.0	41.0	25.5	60.0	37.0
WA		2.2	3.2		2.2	3.2
WY		3.0			2.8	
Total	134.3	239.9	185.9	129.3	232.3	179.7
Blackeye						
CA	30.0	33.0	39.5	29.0	31.0	38.5
TX	12.0	5.5	13.2	11.2	4.9	11.8
Total	42.0	38.5	52.7	40.2	35.9	50.3
Garbanzo						
CA	9.0	5.0	16.5	9.0	5.0	16.5
ID	7.1	10.6	11.8	6.9	10.3	11.7
OR	3.3	3.9	2.7	3.2	3.9	2.4
MT		4.0	12.1		3.8	11.7
ND			10.0			8.0
WA	4.9	5.0	5.4	4.9	5.0	5.4
Total	24.3	28.5	58.5	24.0	28.0	55.7
Other						
CA	6.0	7.5	10.0	6.0	7.5	10.0
CO	1.3	6.5	14.2	1.2	6.3	13.5
ID	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.6
KS	2.6	1.5	5.5	2.3	1.3	5.1
MI	7.0	8.0	11.0	6.5	8.0	11.0
MN	6.0	5.5	8.0	5.0	4.8	5.6
MT		0.4	0.5		0.2	0.5
NE	1.0	1.0	2.0	0.9	0.9	1.6
NM		3.0			3.0	
NY	4.0	2.5	1.8	4.0	2.5	1.7
ND	8.2	8.5	5.0	7.9	8.2	3.3
OR	2.2	1.9	4.6	2.2	1.8	4.3
TX	1.5	9.0	6.2	1.4	8.1	5.6
WA	3.9	0.9	1.0	3.9	0.9	1.0
WY	1.0	2.0	2.0	0.9	1.7	1.7
Total	45.6	58.8	71.9	43.1	55.8	65.0

Dry Edible Beans: Yield and Production by Commercial Class, State, and Total, 1997-99 (continued)

Class and State	Yield per Acre			Production		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
Small Red						
ID	2,300	2,150	2,120	462	275	409
MI	1,670	1,820	2,070	150	200	310
WA	2,330	2,310	2,260	280	185	181
Total	2,170	2,075	2,128	892	660	900
Cranberry						
CA	1,750	1,400	1,000	70	35	25
ID	1,530	2,000	1,830	23	18	22
MI	1,680	1,100	1,600	520	285	496
MN	1,340	1,630	1,420	47	44	34
Total	1,650	1,190	1,555	660	382	577
Black						
CA		1,400	1,100		35	11
CO	500	1,800	2,000	8	9	10
ID	2,170	2,180	2,130	50	107	102
MI	1,790	1,570	2,090	1,400	2,100	2,260
MN	1,420	1,370	1,530	85	172	150
NE	1,590	2,000	1,800	46	56	115
NY	1,530	1,470	1,570	199	147	141
ND	1,310	1,360	1,340	334	816	496
WA		2,500	2,470		55	79
WY		2,390			67	
Total	1,641	1,534	1,872	2,122	3,564	3,364
Blackeye						
CA	2,400	1,840	2,080	695	570	800
TX	1,000	1,690	1,700	112	83	201
Total	2,007	1,819	1,990	807	653	1,001
Garbanzo						
CA	1,670	1,600	1,730	150	80	285
ID	1,580	1,320	1,250	109	136	146
OR	1,750	1,510	920	56	59	22
MT		2,210	1,200		84	140
ND			1,100			88
WA	1,570	1,180	1,110	77	59	60
Total	1,633	1,493	1,330	392	418	741
Other						
CA	1,920	1,270	2,040	115	95	204
CO	2,080	950	2,130	25	60	288
ID	2,110	2,170	2,170	19	13	13
KS	1,870	2,000	1,860	43	26	95
MI	1,400	1,340	1,860	91	107	205
MN	1,500	1,210	1,340	75	58	75
MT		1,000	2,400		2	12
NE	2,000	1,670	2,000	18	15	32
NM		1,300			39	
NY	1,500	1,520	1,250	60	38	21
ND	1,000	1,290	1,520	79	106	50
OR	2,140	1,940	1,910	47	35	82
TX	1,000	600	1,110	14	49	62
WA	2,230	2,220	2,100	87	20	21
WY	1,890	2,120	2,000	17	36	34
Total	1,601	1,253	1,837	690	699	1,194

**Pecans: Utilized Production by Crop, State, and United States,
1997-98 and Forecasted December 1, 1999**

Crop and State	Utilized Production		
	1997	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
Improved Varieties ¹			
AL	7,000	3,500	8,000
AZ	18,500	13,000	19,000
AR ²	1,200	300	760
CA ²	3,000	1,700	2,300
FL ²	600	200	1,500
GA	77,000	35,000	80,000
LA	2,000	3,000	4,000
MS ²	2,600	800	3,000
NM	45,000	32,000	50,000
NC ²	900	1,500	800
OK	3,000	200	3,000
SC ²	2,100	800	800
TX	40,000	20,000	55,000
US	202,900	112,000	228,160
Native & Seedling			
AL	6,000	1,500	5,000
AR ²	2,300	250	3,040
FL ²	1,200	1,100	1,400
GA	23,000	5,000	10,000
KS ²	4,200	50	3,500
LA	10,000	13,000	14,000
MS ²	1,400	400	1,000
NC ²	600	1,000	500
OK	32,000	1,800	32,000
SC ²	1,400	300	300
TX	50,000	10,000	25,000
US	132,100	34,400	95,740
All Pecans			
AL	13,000	5,000	13,000
AZ	18,500	13,000	19,000
AR ²	3,500	550	3,800
CA ²	3,000	1,700	2,300
FL ²	1,800	1,300	2,900
GA	100,000	40,000	90,000
KS ²	4,200	50	3,500
LA	12,000	16,000	18,000
MS ²	4,000	1,200	4,000
NM	45,000	32,000	50,000
NC ²	1,500	2,500	1,300
OK	35,000	2,000	35,000
SC ²	3,500	1,100	1,100
TX	90,000	30,000	80,000
US	335,000	146,400	323,900

¹ Budded, grafted, or topworked varieties.

² Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.

**Sugarcane: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production
by Use, State, and United States, 1997-99**

Use and State	Area Harvested		Yield ¹		Production ¹		
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>	<i>1,000 Tons</i>
For Sugar							
FL	426.0	445.0	40.1	36.5	15,535	17,083	16,243
HI	30.3	32.7	90.0	87.6	2,925	2,727	2,865
LA	400.0	425.0	29.7	34.0	10,716	11,880	14,450
TX	32.0	28.7	32.9	34.0	827	1,053	976
US	888.3	931.4	36.9	37.1	30,003	32,743	34,534
For Seed							
FL	21.0	15.0	40.1	40.0	701	842	600
HI	2.2	2.3	32.4	32.9	84	71	76
LA	35.0	40.0	29.7	34.0	846	1,040	1,360
TX	0.6	2.5	18.3	27.6	75	11	69
US	58.8	59.8	33.4	35.2	1,706	1,964	2,105
For Sugar and Seed							
FL	447.0	460.0	40.1	36.6	16,236	17,925	16,843
HI	32.5	35.0	86.1	84.0	3,009	2,798	2,941
LA	435.0	465.0	29.7	34.0	11,562	12,920	15,810
TX	32.6	31.2	32.6	33.5	902	1,064	1,045
US	947.1	991.2	36.6	37.0	31,709	34,707	36,639

¹ Net tons.

**Coffee: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production
Hawaii 1997-99**

State	Area Harvested			Yield			Production ¹		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>
HI	5,800	6,100	6,400	1,620	1,560	1,640	9,400	9,500	10,500

¹ Parchment basis.

November Weather Summary

A remarkably warm, dry pattern that stressed developing winter wheat in the Plains, Ohio Valley, and the South began to break down toward month's end. Nevertheless, no rain fell during November in the southern Plains or the Southwest, and totals greater than one-half inch were scarce on the Plains except from eastern Nebraska southward into eastern Texas. In contrast, a month-long spell of heavy precipitation kept the Northwest wet, especially from the Cascades and northern Sierra Nevada westward to the coast. The 9-month drought persisted in the interior Northwest, however, primarily from southeastern Oregon and southern Idaho southward into the northern Great Basin. Farther east, drought stretched through a 16th month in much of the middle and lower Ohio Valley, despite beneficial late-month showers. Meanwhile, a fourth consecutive month of extremely dry weather left topsoil parched from central and eastern Texas to the Delta.

Fueled by an early- to mid-month warm spell that produced well over 800 daily record highs and more than six dozen monthly record highs, November temperatures averaged above normal nearly nationwide. Monthly departures ranged from +4 to +12 degrees F on the Plains and +4 to +8 degrees F in the Midwest. Well-above-normal temperatures were also observed elsewhere, except along the Gulf Coast, where near-normal readings prevailed.

General Crop Comments: Dry weather provided excellent conditions for finishing the row crop harvest, completing fall tillage, and applying fertilizer. Moisture shortages steadily increased, hindering winter wheat germination and growth, although record warmth stimulated development where adequate moisture was available. After mid-month, dry soils forced some producers in the southern Great Plains and Southeast to delay planting of winter grains. A wet weather pattern developed in the Pacific Northwest, ending drought conditions along the coast and easing dry conditions in some inland areas. In the Atlantic Coastal Plains, the harvest pace gradually accelerated, as a pattern of wet weather was replaced by favorably dry weather.

By November 14, the Nation's corn harvest was 98 percent complete, more than 1 week ahead of last year's 93-percent pace and 2 weeks ahead of the 91-percent average for this date. Early in the month, harvest slowed in the Corn Belt, as progress neared completion in most areas. The end of the harvest season approached far ahead of normal in the eastern Corn Belt, and well ahead of normal in the western Corn Belt. As of November 7, harvest progress was more than 30 percentage points ahead of normal in Michigan, and more than 20 percentage points ahead of normal in Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Harvest accelerated in Colorado, South Dakota, and Pennsylvania early in the month and remained active through mid-month, as dry weather aided progress.

Ninety-seven percent of the soybean crop was harvested by November 14, slightly ahead of last year's 96-percent pace and more than a week ahead of the 94-percent average for this date. The harvest pace slowed dramatically in the Corn Belt, where most of the acreage was harvested by the beginning of the month. Harvest activity remained brisk in the Mississippi Delta, where warm weather quickly ripened double-cropped and other late-planted fields. On November 7, progress was well ahead of normal along the Ohio, Tennessee, and Mississippi River Valleys. In the Atlantic Coastal Plains, harvest gained momentum as a dry weather pattern emerged and soils gradually dried. The end of the harvest season approached well ahead of normal in Tennessee and Kentucky.

Nearly two-thirds of the cotton was picked when the month began, behind last year's pace, but ahead of the average for this date. In Arkansas, Missouri, and Tennessee, harvest rapidly neared completion early in the month. On November 7, progress was more than 30 percentage points ahead of normal in Oklahoma and 15 percentage points ahead of normal in California. Picking was active in the southern Great Plains, Southwest, and Southeast early in the month, but lagged well behind normal in North Carolina, New Mexico, and Arizona. Dry weather aided harvesting in New Mexico, where the pace accelerated and advanced to near normal by mid-month. As the month progressed, picking gradually accelerated in the Southeast, but progress remained far behind normal in North Carolina. In Texas, picking steadily progressed, but the harvest pace lagged behind the 5-year average. Harvest activity diminished in Oklahoma near mid-month, as the season advanced well beyond the peak. By November 28, eighty-eight percent of the crop was harvested in the U.S., compared with 90 percent last year and the normal pace of 87 percent.

Ninety-five percent of the winter wheat acreage was planted by November 14, equal to last year's pace and the 5-year average. By mid-month, planting was complete in the Corn Belt and central and northern Great Plains. Dry weather aided sowing in Arkansas, Missouri, and Oregon early in the month, while increasing moisture shortages limited planting progress in Texas, especially after mid-month. The planting pace was also slow in North Carolina, where sowing was delayed while farmers concentrated on

harvesting other crops. Planting was nearly complete in the Pacific Northwest and Mississippi Delta by mid-month, but remained active in the Southeast and California after mid-month. Ninety-one percent of the acreage was emerged on November 28, three percentage points behind last year and the 5-year average. Soft red winter wheat rapidly emerged in the eastern Corn Belt early in the month, despite increasing moisture shortages. Emergence lagged behind normal in Oregon and Texas due to dry soils. Poor stands and slow growth limited livestock grazing in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. Conditions deteriorated in Montana, Nebraska, and South Dakota due to a combination of moisture shortages and record heat. Unseasonable warmth, usually beneficial to crop growth, aided insect populations and promoted disease development in the central and southern Great Plains.

Cotton: Upland cotton harvested acreage, at 13.1 million acres, is up 25 percent from last year, but unchanged from the November estimate. American-Pima harvested acreage, at 309,200 acres, is up 32 percent from 1998.

Harvest of the Texas cotton crop progressed near normal throughout November under generally dry, open conditions. However, the first hard freeze did not occur in the Plains until late November, so many producers sprayed to aid harvest. On November 28, seventy-seven percent of the cotton acreage in Texas was reported harvested. This compares to 78 percent for the 5-year average. Cotton stalk destruction closely followed harvest in many areas. Dry weather aided harvesting in New Mexico throughout November as progress advanced to near normal by mid-month. Cotton objective yield data indicate Texas' crop has the seventh lowest boll weights in the last 10 years.

The Delta States (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee) made good progress on harvest and were virtually complete by mid-November. While the dry conditions were instrumental in aiding a quick harvest, these conditions also led to some deterioration in the quality of the crop. Data from objective yield surveys show boll weights in Arkansas and Mississippi were the lowest in the last ten years, while Louisiana's weight was ranked as the ninth lowest out of the last ten years.

Arizona's cotton harvest gained momentum during mid-November, but was still behind average. Seventy-nine percent of the acreage was harvested as of November 28, compared to 87 percent for the 5-year average. California, at 96 percent harvested as of November 28, made great progress during the first half of November and was nearly complete by the end of the month. Following harvest in California, fields were being disced for pink bollworm control. December 1 cotton objective yield counts show boll weights in California are the lowest in the last ten years.

In the Southeastern States (Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina), harvest progress gradually accelerated during November. However, North Carolina continues to lag behind normal due to adverse weather conditions early in the harvest season. Alabama producers harvested 95 percent of their acreage as of November 28, compared to 94 percent on average. On November 28, Georgia was 4 points ahead of average with 86 percent of the acreage harvested, and South Carolina was 5 points ahead of average with 92 percent harvested. North Carolina continues to be behind normal due to the affects of earlier hurricanes and subsequent wet fields. Generally dry conditions throughout November has allowed progress to accelerate. As of November 28, seventy-two percent of the acreage was harvested, compared to 87 percent on average.

American-Pima production is forecast at 679,000 bales, up 54 percent from 1998's output, but down 5,500 bales from the November forecast. The U.S. yield is forecast at 1,054 pounds per harvested acre, only 2 pounds per acre below the record high yield set in 1997. The production in California was unchanged from the November forecast, while Arizona's production was reduced 2,000 bales. Harvest made great progress in Arizona during the last two weeks of November, but remained behind the average harvest pace. In California, harvest progressed rapidly during the first half of November and remained ahead of normal. By the end of November, harvest was virtually complete. New Mexico's production was reduced 1,500 bales from November and the Texas crop was lowered 2,000 bales.

Ginnings totaled 13,587,200 running bales prior to December 1, compared with 11,309,550 running bales ginned prior to the same date last year and 14,734,600 running bales in 1997.

Burley Tobacco: U.S. burley tobacco production is forecast at 545 million pounds, up 2 percent from last month but down 6 percent from last year and 16 percent below 1997. Yields for 1999 are expected to average 1,814 pounds per acre, 64 pounds above last month's forecast but 82 pounds below the average for 1998. Growers are expected to harvest 300,700 acres, 2 percent below both last month and

last year. Burley markets opened on November 29. As of December 7, total gross sales for the season totaled 179.8 million pounds.

Papayas: Hawaii fresh papaya production is estimated at 3.48 million pounds for November, 10 percent lower than October but 7 percent higher than a year ago. Area devoted to papaya production totaled 3,205 acres, 1 percent lower than October and 15 percent lower than a year ago. Harvested area, totaling 1,585 acres, was 2 percent lower than last month and 28 percent lower than last November. November weather conditions were variable with a mix of sunshine and showers.

Dry Beans: Production of dry edible beans is estimated at 33.1 million cwt for 1999, 9 percent above 1998 and 13 percent above two years ago. Area for harvest is estimated at 1.86 million acres, down 3 percent from 1998 but 6 percent above 1997. Average yield, at 1,781 pounds per acre, increased 195 pounds from 1998. Production is up in 1999 for all estimating states except New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming.

California and Michigan had major increases in production from 1998. Michigan produced 7.35 million cwt, the highest since 1982 when production was 7.98 million cwt. Michigan also had a record high yield of 2,100 pounds per acre, 250 pounds greater than the previous high of 1,850 pounds per acre set in 1991. California produced 2.60 million cwt for 1999, 67 percent above 1998.

In North Dakota early harvest progress was a week behind average due to late plantings in the spring, and wet weather during early September. However, due to dry conditions during October, harvest was virtually complete by the third week, slightly ahead of average. Wet conditions during the growing season in some areas of the Northeast district promoted diseases such as white mold which contributed to abandoned acreage.

Michigan's dry bean harvest was completed by the third week in October, well ahead of normal. Timely rains lessened the effect of root rot and dry conditions late in the growing season held white mold in check. The result was a record yield.

In Nebraska yield is the second highest in the decade, however, hail damage during the growing season and rain damage before harvest in some areas left a large amount of unharvested acres. In California harvest went well this season with good quality reported.

Harvest in Idaho was completed ahead of average due to good weather conditions during harvest. Yields for dryland producers in Colorado are higher due to adequate moisture during the growing season.

In New York, some acreage was abandoned due to the effects of dry weather during the summer. Unharvested acres in Minnesota were up due to wet conditions in the Northwest district of the State. In Wisconsin, yields were lower due to hot and dry conditions during the end of July. Utah's dry bean production is up this year due to ample rains during the growing season in their major growing area. Yield results were mixed in Montana. Some growers had excellent growing conditions and produced a favorable crop, while other areas received significant moisture during harvest which caused poor quality and abandonment.

Production is above 1998 levels for all varieties except black, pink, and pinto. Pinto, the largest variety, decreased 23 percent from 1998, while navy, the next largest variety, increased 88 percent.

Grapefruit: The forecast of the 1999-00 grapefruit crop for the United States is 2.47 million tons. The forecast is down 6 percent from the initial October forecast and down 2 percent from last season. The Florida grapefruit crop is forecast at 46.0 million boxes (1.96 million tons), unchanged from the special November 1 forecast that Florida conducted due to Hurricane Irene that passed through in mid-October, but down 8 percent from the October forecast. The white seedless forecast, at 18.5 million boxes (786,000 tons), is down 10 percent from October but up 4 percent from last year. The colored seedless utilization is forecast at 27.0 million boxes (1.15 million tons), 7 percent less than the initial forecast and 6 percent less than the 1998-99 season. The seedy grapefruit crop is expected to total 500,000 boxes (21,000 tons), unchanged from the previous forecast but 9 percent less than the previous season. The Texas grapefruit forecast remained at 5.50 million boxes (220,000 tons) and is down 10 percent from last season. The California and Arizona forecasts are brought forward from earlier forecasts.

Tangelos: The 1999-00 tangelo forecast from Florida remains at 2.60 million boxes (117,000 tons), 2 percent more than last season's utilized production. Average fruit size and below average droppage contributed to the increase from last season. Movement to date is considerably less than this time last year.

Tangerines: The 1999-00 U.S. tangerine crop is forecast at 416,000 tons, up 27 percent from the freeze-damaged crop last season. Florida's tangerine forecast continues at 6.40 million boxes (304,000 tons), 29 percent higher than last season. Below average fruit drop and higher fruit count per tree lead to the increase over last season's final utilization. The sizes of Florida tangerines are mostly below average. Nearly a third of Florida's tangerine crop has been harvested as of December 1. The California and Arizona forecasts are brought forward from earlier forecasts.

Temples: Florida's 1999-00 Temple forecast is 2.10 million boxes (94,500 tons), unchanged from the initial forecast in October and 17 percent higher than the 1.80 million boxes recorded last season. Fruit sizes continue to be below average. Loss from droppage is average. Harvest has not yet started.

K-Early Citrus: The K-Early Citrus Fruit forecast for 1999-00 is 90,000 boxes (4,050 tons), an increase of 20,000 boxes from October's initial forecast and 10,000 boxes more than the final utilization last season. Just over 80,000 boxes have been utilized as of December 1.

Florida Citrus: Growers and caretakers have been irrigating to maintain good tree and fruit condition in Florida's citrus growing counties because of dry weather. There was limited new foliage due to the lack of moisture, shorter days, and cooler temperatures. By the end of November, most of the early types of fruit had excellent on-tree coloring suitable for fresh pack. Maturity continues to be a problem on many early crops due to prolonged and multiple blooms last spring. Some fresh fruit picking crews were spot picking fruit to avoid the later bloom green fruit. All of the packinghouses and most of the processing plants were running full time. Some of the processors were running around the clock to move the fruit they have committed. Caretakers were very busy during the month cutting cover crops that had grown out of control with the help of the heavy rains in October. Some sprays were applied to help prevent brown rot. Growers were still pushing and burning dead trees. Some resetting continued in the larger groves.

Texas Citrus: Texas is looking forward to a good crop this year. Grapefruit and early orange quality is very good. Movement to date is well ahead of last year's pace. No adverse weather has affected the Rio Grande Valley.

California Citrus: Picking of the 1998-99 Valencia oranges was completed and the harvest of the 1999-00 navel oranges gathered momentum in November. Color and maturity have been behind normal progress in the new crop navels. Lemon and grapefruit picking was active in southern California. Tangerine harvest was also active.

California Fruits and Nuts: With the harvest completed for many noncitrus fruit and nut crops, growers kept busy with pruning, tree removal, and planting of cover crops. Other activities included fumigating the ground in preparation for new settings of peach, prune, walnut, and almond trees.

Kiwifruit and persimmon harvests were still active in November, but picking of grapes for fresh and wine uses was winding down. Olive and pecan harvests were also near completion by month's end.

Pecans: The December forecast for 1999 pecan production is 324 million pounds, unchanged from October. This compares to last year's 146 million pounds. Pecans, known for their alternate bearing pattern, were expected to yield a large 1999 crop. However, dry weather has limited overall quantity as well as quality. Improved varieties are expected to account for 228 million pounds of the total while native and seedling varieties are projected to make up the difference of 95.7 million pounds.

The Georgia's portion, at 90.0 million pounds, is down 10.0 million from the October forecast. The lack of rain has seriously affected quality in non-irrigated orchards while irrigated groves are generally producing better quality nuts.

The Texas forecast has also been lowered 10.0 million pounds to 80.0 million. The colder temperatures pushed harvest progress past the halfway mark. Dry conditions and insect damage are limiting factors. New Mexico's production is expected to reach 50.0 million pounds, with the crop in generally good condition.

Oklahoma was the only other December forecast state to change from the October forecast, increasing their estimate to 35.0 million pounds. If realized, this crop would tie 1997's crop as being the largest since 47.0 million were harvested in 1988.

Sugarcane: Production is forecast at a record high 36.6 million tons, 6 percent above the previous record of 34.7 million tons set last year. U.S. sugarcane growers intend to harvest a record high 991,200 acres for sugar and seed during the 1999 crop year, 5 percent more than last year's final harvested acres. The record high acreage is due to a 30,000 acre expansion in Louisiana and a 13,000 acre increase in Florida. Yield is forecast at 37.0 tons per acre, slightly above last year's yield of 36.6 tons. Louisiana's forecasted yield, at 34.0 tons per acre is a record high, 4.3 tons above the previous record high set last year.

Harvest steadily progressed with few rain delays. In Florida, all mills were grinding cane and about one-fourth of the acreage was harvested by the end of November. Louisiana's harvest was 61 percent complete as of November 29, slightly ahead of the 60-percent average for that date. By the end of the month, harvest was nearly complete in Hawaii, but remained active in Texas.

Coffee: Hawaii coffee production is estimated at 10.5 million pounds (parchment basis) for the 1999-00 season, up 11 percent from the 1998-99 season and the largest output since the 1962-63 season. Coffee production from the island of Hawaii (includes the Kona districts), is expected to be lower than last season. Less than favorable weather, heavy pruning the previous season, and relatively low farm prices are responsible for the decline. Harvesting on the islands of Maui, Molokai, Oahu, and Kauai is anticipated to show increases. Nearly all fields on these islands are irrigated, which offset the dry conditions and uneven rainfall that affected growers on the island of Hawaii. Harvested acreage is estimated at a record high 6,400 acres, up 5 percent from last season.

Reliability of December 1 Crop Production Forecasts

Survey Procedures: Cotton objective yield surveys were conducted to gather information on expected yields as of December 1. The objective yield surveys were conducted in the major producing States that normally account for approximately 80 percent of the U.S. production. Randomly selected fields and plots within fields are surveyed each month. At crop maturity, the fruit is harvested and weighed. After the farm operator has harvested the sample field, another plot is sampled to obtain current year harvesting loss.

Estimating Procedures: National and State level objective yield survey estimates were reviewed for reasonableness and consistency with historical estimates. In addition, reports from cotton ginners in each State were considered. 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 December 1 forecast.

Revision Policy: The December 1 cotton production forecast will not be revised; instead, a new forecast will be made in January followed by end-of-season estimates in May. At the end of the marketing year, administrative records are reviewed and revisions are made, if data relationships warrant changes. Harvested acres may be revised at any time a production forecast is made, if there is strong evidence that the intended harvested area has changed since the last estimate.

Reliability: To assist users in evaluating the reliability of the December 1 production forecasts, the "Root Mean Square Error," a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviation between the December 1 production forecast and the final estimate is expressed as a percentage of the final estimate. The average of squared percentage deviations for the 20-year (1979-1998) period is computed; then 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 December 1 cotton production forecast is 1.8 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current production forecast will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 1.8 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 3.0 percent.

Changes between the December 1 forecast and the final estimate during the past 20 years have averaged 205,000 bales, ranging from 26,000 to 479,000 bales. The December 1 forecast has been below the final estimate 11 times and above 9 times. The difference does not imply that the December 1 cotton forecast this year is likely to understate or overstate final production.

Information Contacts

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