

# CALIFORNIA CROP PRODUCTION REPORT

Released: December 10, 2002

The California Agricultural Statistics Service today released the crop production forecast for December.

**Cotton** – The Upland cotton production forecast is 1.43 million bales as of December 1, unchanged from the November 1 forecast, but down 19% from the 2001 crop. Harvested acreage of 477,000 resulted in a yield of 1,439 pounds per acre. American Pima cotton production is forecast at 580,000 bales, up 2% from last month, but down 9% from last year. Harvested acreage remains at 209,000 resulting in a yield of 1,332 pounds per acre. Harvest was mostly complete by December 1, with the exception of a few counties in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys. Rain in late November and early December did delay harvest in some locations and caused some damage to quality, but yields were not affected significantly.

**Dry Edible Beans** – Dry edible bean production is estimated to be 1.81 million cwt., 21% above last year. Harvested acreage totaled 89,000, 5% above last year. The overall yield was 2,030 pounds per acre, up 15% from last year. The dry bean crop has progressed well this year. Harvest of a few varieties, particularly Garbanzo Beans, started in early June. There were a few reports of lygus and aphids, but not at a significant level of infestation. Harvest will continue through the end of December.

Production forecasts are released on a monthly basis and do not reflect final production estimates. Late summer and fall harvests may change these estimates considerably. The next production forecast will be issued January 10, 2003.

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