



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



California Farm News

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office · P.O. Box 1258 · Sacramento, CA 95812 · (916) 498-5161 · www.nass.usda.gov/ca

Media Contact: Jack Rutz, 1-800-851-1127 · November 9, 2007

CALIFORNIA CROP PRODUCTION REPORT

SACRAMENTO -- The USDA-NASS, California Field Office today released the crop production forecast for November. The latest survey, which was conducted during the last week of October and the first week of November, included the following commodities:

Cotton - American Pima cotton production in California is forecast at 750 thousand bales, up 9 percent from the 2006 crop and up 4 percent from last month's forecast. Harvested acreage is estimated at 257 thousand acres, resulting in a yield of 1,401 pounds per acre. Upland cotton production in California is forecast at 600 thousand bales, up 5 percent from the October forecast, but down 23 percent from last year's crop. With harvested acreage at 194 thousand acres, the yield is forecast at 1,485 pounds per acre. Cotton harvest is well underway, with defoliation still occurring in just a few fields. Weather conditions have been excellent for cotton this season and subsequently picking has increased significantly since mid-October. Well over half of the crop has already been harvested and some growers are shredding stalks in harvested fields in compliance with plow-down regulations.

Rice - All rice production in California is forecast at 43.4 million cwt. for 2007, up 8 percent from the previous year. The yield forecast is 8,350 pounds per acre, and the harvested acreage is estimated at 520 thousand. A lack of rain during March allowed rice growers to get an early start on their field preparations for the 2007 crop. Growers began planting rice during the middle of April, and were mostly finished planting by the end of May. Weather conditions were ideal during the early stages of growth. As of the middle of June, most of the rice fields in California had emerged and were showing steady growth. Rice fields were in various stages of heading during August. Harvest began during September and continued during October. As of November 4, harvest was approximately 60 percent complete.

Corn - Corn for grain production is expected to total 931 thousand tons, up 83 percent from last year. Harvested acreage of 190 thousand is up 73 percent, and the yield forecast of 4.90 tons per acre is up 6 percent from the previous year. Corn for grain harvest commenced by the end of August and continued through October.

Sugar Beets - California sugar beet production is forecast at 1.47 million tons, down 6 percent from the 2006 crop. Harvested acreage is estimated at 39.1 thousand, and the yield forecast is 37.5 tons per acre. Harvest of the fall crop in the Central Valley was complete by late September, with record high sugar content. Planting in the Imperial Valley is ongoing.

Production forecasts are released on a monthly basis and do not reflect final production estimates. Late fall harvests may change these forecasts. The next production forecast will be issued December 11, 2007.

###