



# California Field Crop Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office · P.O. Box 1258 · Sacramento, CA 95812 · (916) 498-5161 · (916) 498-5186 Fax · www.nass.usda.gov/ca

Released: July 18, 2008 · Frequency: Monthly · (USPS 598-270) VOL. 29 NO. 7

**HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:**

Field Crop Acreage and Production .....	1-2
Grain Stocks.....	2
Field Crop Prices.....	3
Potato Acreage and Production .....	2 & 4

**CORN:** As of June 1, the total planted acreage of corn for all purposes is estimated at 670 thousand, up 3 percent from last year. Of these acres, California farmers expected to harvest 215 thousand acres for grain in 2008, up 8 percent from 2007. The market encouraged producers to plant a record acreage of corn in 2008 in order to accommodate the expanding ethanol industry as well as the strong demand for corn used for silage by dairies. In the U.S., corn planted acreage is estimated at 87.3 million, 7 percent below last year. Growers expect to harvest 78.9 million acres for grain, 9 percent below 2007.

(Continued on Page 2)

**FIELD CROP ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION**

**BARLEY:** California's barley harvested acreage is forecast at 60.0 thousand, 50 percent above last year. Nationally, the area to be harvested, at 3.64 million acres, is 4 percent above the 3.51 million acres harvested the previous year.

**FIELD CROP ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION**

Crop	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre			Production		
	2007	2008	2007	2008 Estimate	Unit	2007	2008 Estimate	Unit	2007	2008 Estimate
	1,000 Acres					1,000				
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>										
Wheat, Winter a/	500.0	650.0	240.0	350.0	Tons	2.40	2.25	Tons	576.0	787.5
Wheat, Durum	85.0	170.0	75.0	155.0	Tons	2.85	3.15	Tons	213.8	488.3
Oats a/	210.0	300.0	20.0	35.0	Tons	1.49	1.44	Tons	29.8	50.4
Barley a/	85.0	120.0	40.0	60.0	Tons	1.44	1.32	Tons	57.6	79.2
Corn for Grain b/	650.0	670.0	200.0	215.0	Tons	5.04	c/	Tons	1,008.0	c/
Rice, All	534.0	534.0	533.0	532.0	Cwt.	82.20	c/	Cwt.	43,822.0	c/
Long	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	Cwt.	71.00	d/	Cwt.	639.0	d/
Medium	460.0	460.0	459.0	458.0	Cwt.	85.30	d/	Cwt.	39,153.0	d/
Short e/	65.0	65.0	65.0	65.0	Cwt.	62.00	d/	Cwt.	4,030.0	d/
Cotton, Upland	195.0	110.0	194.0	c/	Lbs.	1,608.00	c/	Bales	650.0	c/
Cotton, American-Pima	260.0	175.0	257.0	c/	Lbs.	1,481.00	c/	Bales	793.0	c/
Sweet Potatoes	13.5	14.5	13.3	14.5	Cwt.	320.00	d/	Cwt.	4,256.0	d/
Sugar Beets f/	40.0	31.6	39.1	31.3	Tons	37.50	c/	Tons	1,466.0	c/
Beans, Dry, All g/	59.0	46.0	58.0	45.0	Cwt.	20.90	c/	Cwt.	1,212.0	c/
Hay, All	---	---	1,610.0	1,540.0	Tons	5.85	c/	Tons	9,422.0	c/
Alfalfa	---	---	990.0	950.0	Tons	7.20	c/	Tons	7,128.0	c/
Other	---	---	620.0	590.0	Tons	3.70	c/	Tons	2,294.0	c/
Safflower	50.0	90.0	48.5	88.0	Lbs.	2,350.00	d/	Lbs.	113,975.0	d/
Sunflowers	h/	h/	h/	h/	Lbs.	h/	h/	Lbs.	h/	h/
<b>UNITED STATES</b>										
Wheat, Winter a/	44,987.0	46,605.0	35,952.0	40,252.0	Tons	1.27	1.39	Tons	45,479.7	55,927.4
Wheat, Durum	2,149.0	2,655.0	2,112.0	2,583.0	Tons	1.02	1.04	Tons	2,150.6	2,696.2
Oats a/	3,760.0	3,467.0	1,505.0	1,443.0	Tons	0.97	1.03	Tons	1,465.6	1,486.0
Barley a/	4,020.0	4,130.0	3,508.0	3,640.0	Tons	1.45	1.44	Tons	5,083.8	5,227.7
Corn for Grain b/	93,600.0	87,327.0	86,542.0	78,940.0	Tons	4.23	c/	Tons	366,069.0	c/
Rice, All	2,761.0	2,895.0	2,748.0	2,879.0	Cwt.	71.90	c/	Cwt.	197,456.0	c/
Long	2,063.0	2,250.0	2,052.0	2,237.0	Cwt.	69.30	d/	Cwt.	142,182.0	c/
Medium	632.0	579.0	630.0	576.0	Cwt.	81.20	d/	Cwt.	51,184.0	c/
Short e/	66.0	66.0	66.0	66.0	Cwt.	62.00	d/	Cwt.	4,090.0	c/
Cotton, Upland	10,535.0	9,044.0	10,201.0	c/	Lbs.	864.00	c/	Bales	18,355.1	c/
Cotton, American-Pima	292.2	202.0	288.1	c/	Lbs.	1,419.00	c/	Bales	851.8	c/
Sweet Potatoes	100.6	104.1	97.5	100.8	Cwt.	185.00	d/	Cwt.	18,082.0	d/
Sugar Beets f/	1,268.8	1,080.1	1,246.8	1,027.3	Tons	25.60	c/	Tons	31,912.0	c/
Beans, Dry, All g/	1,526.9	1,398.0	1,478.7	1,339.2	Cwt.	17.20	c/	Cwt.	25,371.0	c/
Hay, All	---	---	61,625.0	60,439.0	Tons	2.44	c/	Tons	150,304.0	c/
Alfalfa	---	---	21,670.0	20,778.0	Tons	3.35	c/	Tons	72,575.0	c/
Other	---	---	39,955.0	39,661.0	Tons	1.95	c/	Tons	77,729.0	c/
Safflower	180.0	191.0	172.0	183.0	Lbs.	1,215.00	d/	Lbs.	208,995.0	d/
Sunflowers	2,068.0	2,164.0	2,009.5	2,062.5	Lbs.	1,437.00	d/	Lbs.	2,888,555.0	d/

a/ Includes area planted in preceding fall.

b/ Planted acres for all purposes.

c/ Estimate to be released August 12, 2008.

d/ To be released January 2009.

e/ Includes sweet rice.

f/ Relates to year of intended harvest in all states, except California. In California, related to year of intended harvest for fall planted beets in central California and to year of planting for over-wintered beets in central and southern California.

g/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

h/ Not available.

**FIELD CROP ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION**  
(Continued from Page 1)

**COTTON:** California's cotton growers planted 110 thousand acres of Upland cotton and 175 thousand acres of American Pima cotton in 2008. Upland acreage is down 44 percent, and American Pima acreage is down 33 percent from 2007. Upland planted acreage is at its lowest level on record. Additionally, 2008 marks the first time Pima acres have exceeded Upland acres in California. Nationally, planted Upland cotton acreage is expected to total 9.04 million acres, down 14 percent from last year. Growers intend to plant 202 thousand acres of American-Pima cotton, down 31 percent from last year.

**DRY BEANS:** An estimated 46.0 thousand acres in California were seeded to dry edible beans for the 2008 season, down 22 percent from last year's total. The U.S. dry edible bean seeded acreage is estimated at 1.40 million acres, down 8 percent from last year. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 1.34 million, down 9 percent from a year ago.

**HAY:** On June 1, California growers expected to harvest alfalfa from 950 thousand acres in 2007, down 4 percent from last year's 990 thousand acres. The estimate for all other hay to be harvested is 590 thousand acres, down 5 percent from last year's total. U.S. acreage harvested for alfalfa hay is estimated at 20.8 million, down 4 percent from 2007. All other hay harvested acreage is expected to total 39.7 million acres, down 1 percent from a year earlier.

**OATS:** Oats were seeded on 300 thousand acres for 2008, up 43 percent from last year's acreage. Acreage expected to be harvested for grain totaled 35.0 thousand acres, 75 percent above 2007. Nationally, the area harvested for grain, at 1.44 million acres, are 4 percent below 2007.

**RICE:** California's seeded rice acreage is estimated at 534 thousand acres; long grain rice 9.00 thousand acres, medium grain 458 thousand acres, short grain 65.0 thousand acres, all unchanged from 2007. U.S. growers are expecting to harvest 2.88 million acres of rice in 2008, 5 percent above last year. Long grain rice will be harvested from 2.24 million acres, medium grain rice from 576 thousand acres, and short grain from 66.0 thousand acres.

**SAFFLOWER:** California safflower growers planted 90.0 thousand acres in 2008. Safflower acreage is up 80 percent from last year's total. U.S. growers are expecting to harvest 183 thousand acres, 6 percent above the previous year.

**SUGAR BEETS:** California growers have planted and intend to plant 31.6 thousand acres to sugar beets, down 21 percent from last year's total planted acreage. U.S. growers planted an estimated 1.08 million acres of sugar beets for 2008, 15 percent below the previous year.

**SUMMER POTATOES:** California's summer potatoes planted and harvested acreage is estimated at 6.00 thousand acres. U.S. growers in the summer producing states planted an estimated 48.0 thousand acres, down 11 percent from the previous year.

**SWEET POTATOES:** California's sweet potato planted and harvested acreage is forecast at 14.5 thousand acres. Nationally, area to be harvested, at 101 thousand acres, is 3 percent above the 97.5 thousand acres harvested the previous year.

**WHEAT:** California's Durum wheat planted acreage is estimated at 170 thousand acres, double the acreage from last year. The 155 thousand acres for grain harvest more than doubled from 2007. California's acreage seeded to Wheat other than Durum totaled 650 thousand acres, up 30 percent from 2007. U.S. Durum planted acreage for 2008 is estimated at 2.66 million acres, increased 24 percent from last year. The area to be harvested for grain is expected to total 2.58 million acres, 22 percent above last year's level. U.S. acreage harvested for Wheat other than Durum is estimated at 40.3 million acres, 12 percent above 2007.

**GRAIN STOCKS**

Stocks of wheat in California on June 1, 2008 totaled 72.2 thousand tons, 31 percent below the 104 thousand tons on hand a year earlier. U.S. stocks of all wheat, at 9.17 million tons, were 33 percent less than the 13.7 million tons on hand June 1, 2007.

Barley stocks in California totaled 6.31 thousand tons on June 1, 2008, 39 percent below a year earlier. U.S. barley stocks, at 1.64 million tons, were 1 percent below the June 1, 2007 total.

Off-farm stocks of corn in California totaled 208 thousand tons on June 1, 2008, 34 percent above a year earlier. U.S. stocks of corn in all positions totaled 113 million tons, 14 percent above June 2007.

**GRAIN STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS**  
(Includes stocks under support and government owned grain.)

Grain and Position	June 1, 2007	March 1, 2008 1/	June 1, 2008
	Tons		
<b>ALL WHEAT</b>			
California			
On-Farm	3,000	9,000	600
Off-Farm 2/	100,950	177,300	71,610
Total	103,950	186,300	72,210
U.S. Total	13,684,590	21,278,100	9,168,540
<b>BARLEY</b>			
California			
Off-Farm 2/ 3/	10,296	13,104	6,312
U.S. Total	1,653,120	2,650,176	1,637,400
<b>OATS</b>			
California			
Off Farm 2/ 3/	3,072	5,168	3,312
U.S. Total	809,568	1,263,808	1,068,864
<b>CORN</b>			
California			
Off-Farm 2/ 3/	155,848	303,464	208,348
U.S. Total	98,936,404	192,044,216	112,784,476
<b>SORGHUM GRAIN</b>			
California			
Off-Farm 2/ 3/ 4/	1,484	---	---
U.S. Total	2,096,360	5,205,424	2,710,540

- 1/ U.S. revised.
- 2/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors.
- 3/ California on-farm stocks and total stocks are included in United States totals.
- 4/ California off-farm stocks and total stocks for June 2008 and March 2008 are included in United States totals.

**OFF-FARM RICE STOCKS**

Stocks of milled rice stored in California mills and warehouses on June 1, 2008 totaled 1.34 million cwt. This was 33 percent below the 2.01 million cwt. stored in March 2008. Nationally, milled rice stocks in all positions on June 1 totaled 4.37 million cwt., down 22 percent from March 1, 2008.

California rough rice stocks in all positions totaled 13.5 million cwt. on March 1, 2008. This was 51 percent below the 27.5 million cwt. on hand in March 2008. Nationally, rough rice in all positions on June 1 totaled 53.4 million cwt., down 49 percent from the total on March 1, 2008.

**ROUGH AND MILLED RICE STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS**

Type of Rice	CALIFORNIA		UNITED STATES	
	June 1		June 1	
	2007 a/	2008	2007 a/	2008
	1,000 Cwt.			
<b>ROUGH RICE TOTAL</b>	---	13,484	---	53,418
Long Grain	---	b/	---	35,580
Medium Grain	---	11,579	---	16,284
Short Grain	---	b/	---	1,554
<b>MILLED RICE TOTAL</b>	---	1,343	---	4,373
<b>Whole Kernels Total</b>	---	782	---	2,943
Long Grain	---	3	---	2,015
Medium Grain	---	707	---	850
Short Grain	---	72	---	78
<b>Broken Kernels Total</b>	---	561	---	1,430
Second Heads	---	371	---	906
Screenings c/	---	b/	---	145
Brewers	---	190	---	379

- a/ Estimates began in 2008.
- b/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.
- c/ Screenings included with second heads.

**CALIFORNIA ROUGH RICE STOCKS a/**

Month	Season		
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
	1,000 Cwt.		
December 1	30,395	35,672	38,189
March 1	21,195	24,129	27,523
June 1 b/	---	---	13,484
August 1	7,924	7,407	---
October 1	3,676	2,995	---

- a/ Small amount of on-farm stocks included in off-farm total.
- b/ Estimates began in 2008.

**CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES – JUNE 2008**

Mid-June prices received by California farmers were above May for dry edible beans, all potatoes, spring potatoes, and fall potatoes. All hay and alfalfa hay were below the previous month's level. Other hay remained the same as the previous month. Prices for upland cotton lint were not published to avoid disclosure of individual buyers. Sales were too insufficient to establish a mid-month price for oats and barley. Crop prices at mid-June were above the previous year's level for wheat, dry edible beans, all potatoes, spring potatoes, fall potatoes, and all types of hay.

**U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX**

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in June, at 162 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 11 points (7.3 percent) from May. The Crop Index is up 19 points (11 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 3 points (2.2 percent). Producers received higher prices for corn, soybeans, milk, and lettuce and lower prices for strawberries, cantaloupes, and wheat. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of wheat, hay, grapes, and cantaloupes offset decreased marketings of tomatoes, oranges, strawberries, and sweet corn.

The June All Crops Index is 190, up 11 percent from May and 35 percent above June 2007. Index increases for potatoes & dry beans, oil-bearing crops, feed grains & hay, and commercial vegetables more than offset the index decreases for food grains, cotton, and fruits & nuts.

The June Food Grains Index, at 276, is 2.5 percent below the previous month, but 64 percent above a year ago. The June all wheat price, at \$276.00 per ton, is down \$19.67 from May, but \$108.33 above June 2007.

The June Feed Grains & Hay Index is 250, up 10 percent from last month and 57 percent above a year ago. The corn price, at \$218.57 per ton, is up \$30.00 from last month and \$92.50 above June 2007. The all hay price, at \$161.00 per ton, is down \$5.00 from May, but up \$30.00 from last June. Sorghum grain, at \$11.70 per cwt., is \$2.38 above May and \$5.59 above June last year.

The June Cotton Index, at 98, is down 2 percent from May, but 31 percent above last year. The June price, at 59.2 cents per pound, is down 1.3 cents from the previous month, but 13.8 cents above last June.

The June Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 181, is up 12 percent from last month and 37 percent above June 2007. The all potato price, at \$10.37 per cwt., is up \$1.21 from May and up \$2.62 from last June. The all dry bean price, at \$38.60 per cwt., is up \$2.90 from the previous month and \$14.20 above June 2007.

**AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/**

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		June 2007	May 2008	Jun 15, 2008	June 2007	May 2008	Jun 15, 2008
Dollars							
Corn 2/	Tons	---	---	---	126.07	188.57	218.57
Wheat 2/	Tons	172.33	3/	225.00	167.67	295.67	276.00
Oats 2/	Tons	3/	4/	4/	158.75	226.88	227.50
Barley 2/	Tons	155.42	4/	4/	137.50	188.33	195.83
Sorghum Grain 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	6.11	9.32	11.70
Rice 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	10.00	16.10	16.70
Dry Edible Beans 2/	Cwt.	42.70	47.70	48.70	24.40	35.70	38.60
All Potatoes 5/	Cwt.	13.00	14.40	17.60	7.75	9.16	10.37
Winter	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	13.70	15.60	18.10	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	12.90	---	---	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	8.20	9.75	12.90	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	154.00	204.00	203.00	131.00	166.00	161.00
Alfalfa Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	163.00	218.00	217.00	137.00	177.00	172.00
Other Hay, Baled 2/	Tons	127.00	158.00	158.00	111.00	134.00	130.00
Upland Cotton Lint 2/	Lbs	3/	3/	3/	0.454	0.605	0.592
Cottonseed	Tons	---	---	---	---	---	---

- 1/ The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers. They are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.
- 2/ Previous month revised to monthly average.
- 3/ Not published to avoid possible disclosure.
- 4/ Insufficient sales to establish a price.
- 5/ Monthly average.

**INDEX NUMBER OF PRICES RECEIVED AND PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, UNITED STATES**

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	Jun 2007	May 2008	Jun 2008	Jun 2007	May 2008	Jun 2008
Prices Received						
All Farm Products	872	956 1/	1,026	137	151 1/	162
All Crops	698	841 1/	937	141	171 1/	190
Food Grains	533	900 1/	877	168	283 1/	276
Feed Grains and Hay	570	813 1/	895	159	227 1/	250
Cotton	384	511 1/	500	75	100	98
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	670	814 1/	918	132	161 1/	181
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities,						
Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/	2,149	2,476 1/	2,526	161	186 1/	189
Parity Ratio 3/	41	39	41	85	81 1/	86

- 1/ Revised.
- 2/ All production indexes as of 15th of month.
- 3/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.

**POTATO ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION**

California's planted and harvested fall potato acreage for 2008 are forecast at 9.00 thousand acres, 10 percent above the previous year's estimate of 8.20 thousand acres. Nationally, harvested acres are forecast at 916 thousand acres, 8 percent below 2007 and 7 percent below two years ago.

California's summer potato planted and harvested acreage for 2008 are estimated at 6.00 thousand acres, down 14 percent from last year's planted and harvested acreage. Nationally, production of summer potatoes is forecast at 14.6 million cwt., a 14 percent decrease from a year ago. Harvested area is estimated at 45.5 thousand acres, 11 percent below last year.

**POTATO ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION**

Seasonal Group and State	Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	Thousand Acres		Cwt.		Thousand Cwt.	
WINTER 1/ - California	11.5	11.0	215	240	2,473	2,640
SPRING 1/ - California	15.5	14.3	395	420	6,123	6,006
SUMMER - California	7.0	6.0	360	375	2,520	2,250
TOTAL SUMMER	51.3	45.5	332	321	17,032	14,627
FALL 2/ - California	8.2	9.0	515	---	4,223	---
Colorado	59.1	56.7	355	---	20,981	---
Idaho	349.0	299.0	377	---	131,650	---
10 SW Co.	21.0	15.0	490	---	10,290	---
Other Co.	328.0	284.0	370	---	121,360	---
North Dakota	91.0	79.0	260	---	23,660	---
Ohio	3.0	2.1	325	---	975	---
Oregon	36.5	35.5	554	---	20,238	---
Malheur	3.5	3.0	455	---	1,593	---
Other Co.	33.0	32.5	565	---	18,645	---
Washington	165.0	155.0	620	---	102,300	---
TOTAL FALL	996.7	916.2	410	---	409,082	---
U.S. TOTAL 2/	1,129.7	1,040.4	397	---	448,407	---

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

2/ Yield and production for 2008 to be released November 10, 2008.