



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Louisiana Farm Reporter
Volume 07 Number 24
December 18, 2007

Cooperating with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture
Louisiana Field Office · 5825 Florida Blvd · Baton Rouge, LA 70806
(225) 922-1362 · (225)922-0744 FAX www.nass.usda.gov/la

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

December 1 Cotton & Sugarcane Crop Prospects
Pecan Production

Cotton & Sugarcane Crop Prospects

Louisiana cotton production is forecast at 700,000 bales, unchanged from last month but down 44 percent from 2006. Cotton acreage for harvest is forecast at 325,000 acres. Yield per acre, at 1,034 pounds, is up 88 pounds from last year.

U.S. Cotton production is forecast at 19.0 million 480-pound bales, up 1 percent from last month but down 12 percent from last year's 21.6 million bales. Yield is expected to average 864 pounds per harvested acre, up 5 pounds from last month and up 50 pounds from 2006. If realized, the yield will be the largest on record surpassing the previous record of 855 pounds per acre set in 2004. Harvested area of all cotton is expected to total 10.5 million acres, unchanged from last month but down 17 percent from last year. **Upland cotton production** is forecast at 18.2 million 480-pound bales, up 1 percent from last month but down 13 percent from last year. A record high yield of 850 pounds per acre is forecast for upland cotton. Record yields are expected in Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. **American-Pima production** is forecast at a record high 831,500 bales, up 2 percent from last month and up 9 percent from last year. American-Pima harvested area is expected to total 289,000 acres, unchanged from last month but down 11 percent from 2006.

In the Delta, good weather conditions throughout the fall allowed for excellent harvest conditions, with all states progressing ahead of normal. In Missouri, Mississippi and Louisiana harvest was complete by early November while in Arkansas and Tennessee producers finished harvest by the middle of the month. The objective yield survey boll counts for Louisiana and Arkansas are the highest on record. In Mississippi, boll counts and weights are slightly lower than the 5-year average.

Louisiana sugarcane production is estimated at 12.18 million net tons, unchanged from last month but up 3 percent from last year. Acreage expected for harvest (sugar and seed) is 420,000 acres. Yield is estimated at 29 net tons per acre, up 1.7 net tons from last year.

U.S. Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2007 is forecast at 30.4 million tons, of which 28.7 million tons are expected to be for sugar and 1.70 million tons for seed. Total production for sugar and seed is up fractionally from the November forecast and 3 percent above the revised 2006 production. Sugarcane growers intend to harvest 883,500 acres for sugar and seed during the 2007 crop year, unchanged from November but 2 percent less than last year. If realized, this will be the lowest area harvested for sugar and seed since 1990. Yield is forecast at 34.4 tons per acre, the same as last month but up 1.5 tons from last year.

Expected harvested area is down in all states except Texas but yields are up in all states compared with last year. By December 2, sugarcane growers in Louisiana had harvested 71 percent of their acreage compared with 66 percent for the five-year average. In Florida, the weather remained mostly dry, allowing the harvest of the sugarcane crop to progress normally during November.

Sugarcane: Area Harvested, Yield and Production by State and United States

State	Area Harvested	Yield	Production	
	2007 ¹	2007	Final 2006	Ind 2007
	1,000 Acres	Net Tons	1,000 Net Tons	
Florida	396.0	36.9	14,346	14,616
Hawaii	22.5	79.0	1,665	1,778
Louisiana	420.0	29.0	11,876	12,180
Texas	45.0	40.9	1,677	1,840
United States	883.5	34.4	29,564	30,414

¹For sugar and seed.

All Cotton: Area Harvested, Yield and Production by State and United States

State	Area Harvested		Yield		Production ¹	
	Final 2006	Ind 2007	Final 2006	Ind 2007	Final 2006	Ind 2007
	-----1,000 Acres-----		-----Pounds-----		-----1,000 Bales ² -----	
Alabama	560.0	390.0	579	492	675.0	400.0
Arizona	195.0	181.0	1,402	1,420	569.4	535.5
Arkansas	1,160.0	850.0	1,045	1,062	2,525.0	1,880.0
California	557.0	451.0	1,263	1,479	1,466.0	1,390.0
Florida	101.0	82.0	789	644	166.0	110.0
Georgia	1,370.0	1,010.0	818	784	2,334.0	1,650.0
Kansas	110.0	45.0	511	533	117.0	50.0
Louisiana	630.0	325.0	946	1,034	1,241.0	700.0
Mississippi	1,220.0	655.0	829	975	2,107.0	1,330.0
Missouri	496.0	389.0	953	950	985.0	770.0
New Mexico	60.5	49.0	897	1,117	113.0	114.0
North Carolina	865.0	495.0	713	718	1,285.0	740.0
Oklahoma	180.0	165.0	541	873	203.0	300.0
South Carolina	298.0	178.0	697	418	433.0	155.0
Tennessee	695.0	495.0	945	596	1,368.0	615.0
Texas	4,130.0	4,724.0	679	828	5,845.0	8,145.0
Virginia	104.0	59.0	717	830	155.4	102.0
U.S. All	12,731.5	10,543.0	814	864	21,587.8	18,986.5

¹Production ginned and to be ginned.

²480-lb. net weight bale.

All Pecan Production

State	Utilized		Ind 2007
	Final 2005	Final 2006	
	-----1,000 Pounds-----		
Alabama	4,000	6,000	15,000
Arizona	22,000	14,000	23,000
Arkansas ¹	2,300	2,200	1,600
California ¹	3,950	3,400	4,200
Florida ¹	1,000	500	1,000
Georgia	80,000	42,000	110,000
Kansas ¹	3,200	2,000	200
Louisiana	5,000	21,000	12,000
Mississippi ¹	1,000	2,500	3,000
Missouri ¹	2,600	1,100	5
New Mexico	65,000	46,000	71,000
North Carolina ¹	2,000	500	600
Oklahoma	21,000	17,000	20,000
South Carolina ¹	2,200	1,100	2,000
Texas	65,000	47,000	70,000
United States	280,250	206,300	333,605

¹Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.



United States Pecan Production

Louisiana's pecan production is forecast at 12.0 million pounds compared to 21.0 million pounds last year.

U.S. Pecan production is forecast at 334 million pounds utilized (in-shell basis), up 4 percent from the October 1 forecast and 62 percent more than last year's crop. Only Georgia and Alabama have changed total production expectations since October, increasing their forecasts by 10.0 million and 4.00 million pounds, respectively. Nationally, improved varieties are expected to produce 270 million pounds or 81 percent of the total, while native and seedling varieties, at 63.2 million pounds, make up the remaining 19 percent of production. The 2007 crop is expected to be larger than last year's mainly due to the alternate bearing pattern typical of pecans. Exceptions to the up-cycle are in Arkansas, Kansas and Missouri where a severe Easter freeze limited production and Louisiana, which is in a down-cycle production season.

The Louisiana Farm Reporter is published twice a month by the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, USDA-NASS Louisiana Field Office 5825 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, La 70806. Subscription is free to respondents and cooperators, \$10.00 annually to all others, and is available from the above address. Postmaster: send changes of address to Louisiana Farm Reporter, P. O. Box 65038, Baton Rouge, LA 70896-5038

Internet Access:

*For free automatic e-mail subscriptions to this publication, go to our homepage at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/la> and click on "Subscribe to LA reports" on the right hand side of the page. Choose the reports you want to receive, and complete the form.

***Please complete and mail your
Census form. Your Voice, Your
Future, Your Responsibility.***

PRST STD
US POSTAGE PAID
MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 39205
PERMIT NO. G-38

Louisiana
Agricultural
Statistics
Service



Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service
(225) 922-1362
5825 Florida Blvd., PO Box 65038
Baton Rouge, LA 70896-5038