

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service



California Field Crop Review

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:
Prospective Plantings 1
Farm Prices
Grain Stocks – Rice Stocks – Fall Potatoes 3
Spring Potatoes

MARCH 1, 2007 PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

California's March intentions estimates were based on a survey of nearly 2,500 California farmers. The survey was conducted March 1-15, but referred to farmers' intentions on **March 1**. Therefore, the impact of weather or market conditions since that date is not reflected in this report.

COTTON: On March 1, **California** farmers were intending to plant 210 thousand acres to <u>Upland</u> cotton in 2007. If realized, this would be 26 percent below the acreage seeded in 2006. In addition, growers were expecting to seed 250 thousand acres to <u>American-Pima</u> cotton in 2007, 9 percent below the 275 thousand acres planted last year. **Nationally**, <u>all</u> cotton plantings for 2007 are expected to total 12.1 million acres, 20 percent below last year.

CORN: California farmers were expected to plant 620 thousand acres of corn for all purposes in 2007, 19 percent above last year. **U.S.** corn growers intend to plant 90.5 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2007, 15 percent above the previous year's acreage.

OATS: On March 1, farmers in **California** had planted or expected to plant 250 thousand acres of oats, 7 percent below last year. **U.S.** producers planned to seed 4.03 million, down 3 percent from last year's planted area.

WHEAT: In California, <u>winter</u> wheat has been seeded on 550 thousand acres, 22 percent above the previous year. Another 100 thousand acres have been seeded to <u>Durum</u> wheat, 43 percent above the 70.0 thousand acres seeded for 2006. At the U.S. level, 2007's <u>all</u> wheat planted area is expected to total 60.3 million acres, 5 percent above 2006. <u>Winter</u> wheat seedings are estimated at 44.5 million acres, up 10 percent from the previous year's acreage. <u>Durum</u> wheat producers planned to seed 1.99 million acres, up 6 percent from the previous year.

RICE: **California** farmers intended to seed rice on 532 thousand acres as of March 1. This figure is 1 percent more than the 526 thousand acres seeded in 2006. The expressed intentions were to seed 460 thousand acres to medium grain varieties, 7.00 thousand to long grain, and 65.0 thousand to short grain varieties. **Nationally**, growers intended to seed 2.64 million acres this year, down 7 percent from 2006.

BARLEY: On March 1, **California** farmers had planted or intended to plant 75.0 thousand acres to barley, down 17 percent from the previous year. **U.S.** growers intended to seed 3.70 million acres for 2007, 7 percent above last year.

SORGHUM: On March 1, **California** farmers were expected to plant 25.0 thousand acres to sorghum, 22 percent below the previous year. **U.S.** sorghum area intended to be planted for all purposes in 2007 is estimated at 7.11 million acres, up 9 percent from 2006.

SUGAR BEETS: California producers had planted or intended to plant 39.9 thousand acres of sugar beets as of March 1, down 9 percent from the 2006 crop year. **Nationally,** the area planted to sugar beets for the 2007 crop year is expected to total 1.29 million acres, 5 percent below the 2006 planted acreage.

BEANS, DRY EDIBLE: On March 1, seeding of dry edible beans was planned for 70.0 thousand acres in **California**, up 4 percent from 2006. **Nationally**, farmers intend to plant 1.50 million acres of dry edible beans in 2007, 8 percent below last year.

HAY, ALL: California producers intended to harvest hay from 1.53 million acres as of March 1, 3 percent below the 1.58 million acres harvested last year. **U.S.** producers expect to harvest 63.1 million acres of hay in 2007, up 4 percent from 2006.

SWEET POTATOES: California growers intend to plant 13.3 thousand acres in 2007, up 6 percent from 2006. **U.S.** growers intend to plant 92.9 thousand acres of sweet potatoes this year, 3 percent below last year.

CALIFORNIA AND U.S. FIELD CROPS

CALIFORNIA AND U.S. FIELD CROPS								
Crop	2005	2006	Indicated 2007	2007/2006				
		1,000 Acres		Percent				
Wheat, Winter 1/								
California	495.0	450.0	550.0	122				
U.S.	40,433.0	40,575.0	44,505.0	110				
Wheat, Durum 1/	10, 100.0	10,070.0	11,000.0					
California	75.0	70.0	100.0	143				
U.S.	2,760.0	1,870.0	1,990.0	106				
Oats 1/	2,700.0	1,070.0	1,330.0	100				
California	270.0	270.0	250.0	93				
U.S.	4,246.0	4,168.0	4,029.0	93 97				
	4,246.0	4,100.0	4,029.0	97				
Sorghum	20.0	22.0	25.0	70				
California	26.0	32.0	25.0	78				
United States	6,454.0	6,522.0	7,109.0	109				
Barley 1/								
California	100.0	90.0	75.0	83				
U.S.	3,875.0	3,452.0	3,703.0	107				
Corn, All								
California	560.0	520.0	620.0	119				
U.S.	81,779.0	78,327.0	90,454.0	115				
Rice								
California:								
All	528.0	526.0	532.0	101				
Long	9.0	6.0	7.0	117				
Medium	465.0	460.0	460.0	100				
Short 2/	54.0	60.0	65.0	108				
U.S.:								
All	3,384.0	2,838.0	2.644.0	93				
Long	2,751.0	2,200.0	2,016.0					
Medium	578.0	577.0	562.0	97				
Short	55.0	61.0	66.0	108				
Cotton, Upland	00.0	01.0	00.0	100				
California	430.0	285.0	210.0	74				
U.S.	13,975.0	14,948.0	11,855.0	7 4 79				
	13,975.0	14,940.0	11,000.0	19				
Cotton, AmerPima	220.0	27F 0	250.0	91				
California	230.0	275.0	250.0	-				
U.S.	270.4	326.0	292.0	90				
Beans, Dry Edible 3/	20.5	07.0	70.0	404				
California	66.0	67.0	70.0	104				
U.S.	1,630.0	1,629.8	1,504.5	92				
Sugar Beets								
California 4/	44.4	43.7	39.9	91				
U.S. <u>5</u> /	1,299.8	1,366.7	1,294.7	95				
Hay, All <u>6</u> /								
California	1,620.0	1,580.0	1,530.0	97				
U.S.	61,729.0	60,807.0	63,056.0	104				
Sweet Potatoes								
California	11.7	12.5	13.3	106				
U.S.	91.0	95.6	92.9	97				

- 1/ Includes area planted in preceding fall.
- 2/ Includes sweet rice.
- Excludes beans grown for garden seed.
- Relates to year of intended harvest for fall planted beets in central California and to year of planting for overwintered beets in central and southern California.
- Relates to year of intended harvest in all states, except California.
- 6/ Area harvested.

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - MARCH 2007

Mid-March prices received by California farmers increased from February for winter potatoes. Dry edible beans, all potatoes, and fall potatoes were below the previous month. All types of hay prices remained the same as the previous month. Mid-month prices for wheat and Upland cotton lint were not published to avoid possible disclosure of individual operations. There was insufficient data to establish a mid-March price for oats and barley. Prices were above a year earlier for winter potatoes.

U.S. MARCH FARM PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASED FIVE POINTS

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March, at 133 percent based on 1990-92=100, increased five points (3.9 percent) from February. The Crop Index is up six points (4.3 percent) and the Livestock Index increased five points (4.2 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, lettuce, oranges, and broilers. Lower prices were received for strawberries, celery, corn, and hogs. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities a producer sells. Increased average marketings of strawberries, broilers, and milk offset the decreased marketings of cattle, oranges, and corn.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 20 points (18 percent) from March 2006. The Food Commodities Index, at 134, increased six points (4.7 percent) from last month and increased 19 points (17 percent) from March 2006.

The March All Crops Index is 144, up 4.3 percent from February and 22 percent above March 2006. Index increases for potatoes & dry beans, commercial vegetables, and fruits & nuts more than offset the index decreases for cotton and feed grains & hay.

The March Food Grains Index, at 154, is unchanged from the previous month, but 24 percent above a year ago. The March all wheat price, at \$158.33 per ton, is up \$1.33 from February and \$32.00 above from March 2006.

The March Feed Grains & Hay Index is 149, down 0.7 percent from last month, but 52 percent above a year ago. The corn price, at \$120.00 per ton, is down \$2.86 from last month, but \$46.43 above March 2006. The all hay price, at \$117 per ton, is \$3.00 higher than February and \$19.50 above last March. Sorghum grain, at \$6.74 per cwt., is 24 cents below February, but \$3.20 above March last year.

The March Cotton Index, at 78, is down 1.3 percent from February and 6 percent below last year. The March price, at 47.2 cents per pound, is down 0.8 of a cent from the previous month and 2.8 cents below last March.

The March Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 145, is up 16 percent from last month and 7.4 percent above March 2006. The all potato price, at \$8.52 per cwt., is up \$1.29 from February and two cents above last March. The all dry bean price, at \$25.70 per cwt., is up 40 cents from the previous month and \$8.60 above March 2006.

FARM PRICES: AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

		1741111111101	O. AVENAGET NIC	DE RECEIVED DI I	7 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11			
		CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES			
Commodity	Unit	March 2006	February 2007	March 2007	March 2006	February 2007	March 2007	
				Dol	lars			
Corn <u>2</u> /	Tons				73.57	122.86	120.00	
Wheat 2/	Tons	121.00	156.67	<u>3</u> /	126.33	157.00	158.33	
Oats <u>2</u> /	Tons	<u>4</u> /	<u>4</u> /	<u>4</u> /	113.75	146.25	140.00	
Barley 2/	Tons	<u>4</u> / <u>3</u> /	<u>4</u> / <u>4</u> /	<u>4/</u> <u>4</u> /	112.50	129.17	136.25	
Sorghum Grain 2/	Cwt.				3.54	6.98	6.74	
Rice <u>2</u> /	Cwt.				8.05	10.10	9.86	
Dry Edible Beans 2/	Cwt.	44.50	47.80	44.10	17.10	25.30	25.70	
All Potatoes 5/	Cwt.	13.00	12.40	10.20	8.50	7.23	8.52	
Winter	Cwt.	21.30	18.80	25.50				
Spring	Cwt.							
Summer	Cwt.							
Fall	Cwt.	7.50	7.40	7.05				
All Hay, Baled	Tons	136.00	127.00	127.00	97.50	114.00	117.00	
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Tons	141.00	135.00	135.00	100.00	117.00	120.00	
Other Hay, Baled	Tons	106.00	97.00	97.00	90.10	105.00	108.00	
Upland Cotton Lint 2/	Lbs.	0.612	0.635	<u>3</u> /	0.500	0.480	0.472	
Cottonseed	Tons		158.00			125.00		

- 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 of operations.
- 4/ Insufficient data to establish a price.
- 5/ Monthly average.

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

		1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100			
Index	March 2006	February 2007	March 2007	March 2006	February 2007	March 2007		
Prices Received								
All Farm Products	721	814 <u>a</u> /	847	113	128 <u>a</u> /	133		
All Crops	581	683 <u>a</u> /	710	118	138 <u>a</u> /	144		
Food Grains	395	491 <u>a</u> /	491	124	154 <u>a</u> /	154		
Feed Grains and Hay	350	538 <u>a</u> /	531	98	150 <u>a</u> /	149		
Cotton	426	406 a/	399	83	79 a/	78		
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	684	634 a/	734	135	125	145		
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities,		-						
Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates b/	1,963	2,041	2,067	147	153	155		
Parity Ratio <u>c</u> /	37	40	41	77	84	86		

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

GRAIN STOCKS

On March 1, 2007, **California** wheat stocks in all positions were 37 percent below a year earlier. Off-farm stocks of sorghum grain totaled 2.30 thousand tons on March 1, 2007. Off farm corn stocks were 27 percent above March 2006. Barley off-farm stocks were 6 percent above March 2006. Oats totaled 5.47 thousand tons in California off-farm storage facilities as of March 1. **U.S.** wheat stocks in all positions were 12 percent below a year earlier as of March 1. Corn stocks were down 13 percent and barley stocks were down 30 percent. U.S. oat stocks in all positions totaled 1.14 million tons, while sorghum grain stocks totaled 3.98 million tons.

GRAIN STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS

(Includes stocks	(Includes stocks under support and government owned grain.)								
Grain and Position	Mar. 1, 2006	Dec. 1, 2006 <u>1</u> /	Mar. 1, 2007						
Grain and Position		Tons							
ALL WHEAT									
California									
On-Farm	15,000	27,000	9,000						
Off-Farm 2/	358,740	302,370	226,140						
Total	373,740	329,370	235,140						
U.S. Total	29,166,450	39,439,740	25,673,100						
BARLEY									
California									
Off-Farm <u>2</u> / <u>3</u> /	20,808	38,880	22,080						
U.S. Total	4,002,096	4,147,704	2,811,840						
OATS									
California									
Off Farm <u>2</u> / <u>3</u> /	2,000	6,352	5,472						
U.S. Total	1,197,968	1,582,224	1,136,432						
CORN									
California									
Off-Farm <u>2</u> / <u>3</u> /	186,536	314,832	237,804						
U.S. Total	195,645,184	250,115,796	169,951,376						
SORGHUM GRAIN									
California									
Off-Farm <u>2</u> / <u>3</u> /	4,340	12,236	2,296						
U.S. Total	5,407,808	5,941,432	3,981,432						

- 1/ Revised U.S. total.
- 2/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors.
- Z/ California on-farm stocks and total stocks for barley, corn, oats and sorghum are included in United States totals.

OFF-FARM RICE STOCKS

Stocks of milled rice stored in **California** mills and warehouses on March 1, 2007 totaled 1.67 million cwt. This was 40 percent above the 1.20 million cwt. stored a year earlier. Whole kernels accounted for 45 percent of the total milled rice in storage. **Nationally**, milled rice stocks in all positions on March 1 totaled 4.56 million cwt., down less than 1 percent from a year ago.

California rough rice stocks in all positions totaled 24.1 million cwt. on March 1, 2007. This was 14 percent above the 21.2 million cwt. on hand a year earlier. **Nationally,** rough rice in all positions on March 1 totaled 104 million cwt., down 6 percent from the total on March 1, 2006.

ROUGH AND MILLED RICE STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS

	CALIF	ORNIA	UNITED STATES		
Type of Rice	Mar. 1,	Mar. 1,	Mar. 1,	Mar. 1,	
Type of Rice	2006	2007	2006	2007	
		1,000	Cwt.		
ROUGH RICE TOTAL	21,195	24,129	111,281	104,160	
Long Grain 1/	426		86,108	76,127	
Medium Grain	18,896	21,699	23,299	25,857	
Short Grain 1/	1,873		1,874	2,176	
MILLED RICE TOTAL	1,196	1,671	4,572	4,560	
Whole Kernels Total	1,009	754	3,741	3,344	
Long Grain <u>1</u> /	9		2,552	2,454	
Medium Grain	952	653	1,136	792	
Short Grain 1/	48		53	98	
Broken Kernels Total	187	917	831	1,216	
Second Heads 1/2/	136		370	562	
Screenings 1/			162		
Brewers 1/	51		299		

- 1/ Data not published to avoid disclosure of individual reports.
- Z/ California figure includes screenings.

CALIFORNIA ROUGH RICE STOCKS

	Season							
Month	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07					
	1,000 Cwt.							
December 1	44,111	30,395	35,672					
March 1	31,434	21,195	24,129					
August 1	10,480	7,924						
October 1 a/	5,055	3,676						

a/ Small amount of on-farm stocks included in off-farm total.

U.S. APRIL POTATO STOCKS DOWN 2 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

California fall potato stocks were estimated at 800 thousand cwt. as of April 1, 2007, 14 percent above last year's holdings. Stocks represented 21 percent of the 2006 fall production, unchanged from the previous year.

The 13 major potato States held 114 million cwt. of potatoes in storage April 1, 2007, down 2 percent from last year and 12 percent below April 1, 2005 for comparable States. Ohio and Pennsylvania were dropped from the potato stocks program starting with the 2005 storage season. Potatoes in storage account for 30 percent of the 2006 fall storage States' production, down 1 percent from last year. Klamath Basin stocks were added to the potato stocks program starting with December 2006 and totaled 1.40 million cwt. on April 1, 2007. Klamath Basin includes California and Klamath County, Oregon potato stocks.

Disappearance of 269 million cwt. from the start of harvest to April 1, is up 4 percent from last year. Shrink and loss, at 21.9 million cwt., is up 8 percent from the previous year.

Processors have used 144 million cwt. of 2006 crop potatoes so far this season, up 9 percent from a year ago and 6 percent above two years ago. Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon total processing increased 9 percent from a year ago, Maine's total processing was 10 percent above the same date in 2006, and Washington and the rest of Oregon's total processing was up 2 percent from last season. Dehydrating usage accounts for 30.2 million cwt. of the total processing, up 13 percent from last year and 1 percent above the same date in 2005.

Western States held 81.3 million cwt. of potatoes in storage on April 1, down 8 percent from last year. Idaho's potato stocks are down 6 percent from last year, Washington's potato sheds held 16 percent less than last year, and Oregon's stocks declined 11 percent from last season. Colorado potato sheds held 2 percent more stocks than last year and California's potato stocks increased 14 percent from last season. Montana's potato stocks are unchanged from last year.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND APRIL 1 STOCKS BY STATE 1/

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND APRIL 1 STOCKS BY STATE 1/								
	Crop of 2005				Crop of 2006			
State	Production	Total Stocks Apr. 1, 2006	Percent of Production	Production	Total Stocks Apr. 1, 2007	Percent of Production		
	1,00	00 Cwt.	Percent	1,000	Cwt.	Percent		
California	3,306	700	21	3,783	800	21		
Colorado	22,910	8,800	38	22,686	9,000	40		
Idaho	118,288	43,500	37	121,820	41,000	34		
Maine	15,455	6,500	42	18,270	7,900	43		
Michigan	13,910	1,700	12	14,190	2,000	14		
Minnesota	17,630	4,500	26	20,400	5,600	27		
Montana	3,445	1,900	55	3,518	1,900	54		
Nebraska	8,245	2,200	27	8,633	2,200	25		
New York	5,226	500	10	5,700	400	7		
North Dakota	20,500	5,300	26	25,480	7,200	28		
Oregon	22,023	8,500	39	18,533	7,600	41		
Washington	95,480	25,000	26	89,900	21,000	23		
Wisconsin	27,880	6,600	24	29,370	7,000	24		
13-STATE TOTAL	374,298	115,700	31	382,283	113,600	30		
Klamath Basin 2/					1,400			

- 1/ Stocks include processor holdings and most seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2006 totaled 25.6 million cwt.
- 2/ Estimates began in December 2006. Includes potato stocks in California and Klamath County, Oregon.

POTATO ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

California's 2007 <u>winter</u> potato production forecast is 2.47 million cwt., 21 percent below a year ago. The area for harvest at 11.5 thousand acres, is 4 percent below last year. The average yield of 215 cwt. per acre is down 45 cwt. below a year ago. Freezing temperatures in January damaged the crop, resulting in lower yield potential. <u>Spring</u> production, at 6.12 million cwt., is 1 percent above last year. Area for harvest is up 1 percent, but the yield remained unchanged from 2006. Freezing temperatures in January caused some delays in planting, slowed growth, and caused some crop damage. However, growers rate the overall crop condition better than the 2006 crop. California's <u>summer</u> potato planted and harvested acreage for the 2006 crop year is estimated at 6.30 thousand acres.

Nationally, the winter potato production for 2007 is forecast at 2.47 million cwt., 14 percent below the January forecast and 45 percent below last year. Florida winter potatoes were combined with their spring potatoes for the 2007 crop. Spring production in 2007 is forecast at 20.8 million cwt., up 5 percent from last year. Area for harvest is forecast at 69.8 thousand acres, 3 percent above 2006. The average yield is forecast at 298 cwt. per acre, up 5 cwt. from a year ago. The final production estimate for the 2006 U.S. summer potato crop is 18.4 million cwt., down 1 percent from the preliminary estimate in the January Crop Production 2006 Summary, but up 4 percent from the 2005 crop. Harvested area covered 54.3 thousand acres, unchanged from the January estimate, but up 6 percent from 2005. The average yield of 338 cwt. per acre is down 2 cwt. from the January preliminary estimate and 4 cwt. below the 2005 crop.

POTATO ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

				E, TIELD, AND PRI				
	Planted Acres		Harvested Acres		Yield		Produ	
State	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
		1,000	Acres		Cw	rt.	1,000	Cwt.
WINTER		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						
California	12.0	11.5	12.0	11.5	260	215	3,120	2,473
Florida 1/	5.7		5.5		250		1,375	
U.S. Total	17.7	11.5	17.5	11.5	257	215	4,495	2,473
SPRING								
Arizona	3.9	3.5	3.9	3.5	300	300	1,170	1,050
California	15.3	15.5	15.3	15.5	395	395	6,044	6,123
Florida 1/	23.1	27.8	22.6	27.2	285	290	6,441	7,888
Hastings	17.0	16.5	16.6	16.2	285	290	4,731	4,698
Other	6.1	11.3	6.0	11.0	285	290	1,710	3,190
No. Carolina	17.7	16.0	15.5	14.5	210	200	3,255	2,900
Texas	10.7	9.6	10.2	9.1	280	315	2,856	2,867
U.S. Total	70.7	72.4	67.5	69.8	293	298	19,766	20,828
SUMMER 2/								
California	6.3		6.3		335		2,111	
Colorado	4.1		4.0		370		1,480	
Texas	10.5		9.7		440		4,268	
U.S. Total	58.4		54.3		338		18,350	

^{1/} Winter potatoes were combined with spring potatoes in 2007.

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^{2/} Revised data for 2006.