

BULLETIN No. 2  
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# Colorado Cooperative Crop Reporting Service

(*State and Federal*)

U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Bureau of Crop Estimates

Leon M. Estabrook, *Chief*

W. W. Putnam, *Field Agent*

Colorado State Board of Immigration  
Division of Agricultural Statistics

Edward D. Foster, *Commissioner*

Howard D. Sullivan, *Deputy*

## WINTER WHEAT

If weather conditions remain as favorable until the wheat harvest as they have been up to the present time Colorado will make a record production of winter wheat this year. Advance estimates place the acreage of this crop left for harvest at 834,000 acres, the largest in the history of the state, and compared with 732,000 acres last year. Reports on May 1 indicated that but 1 per cent of the acreage planted would be abandoned, compared with 7 per cent last year and an average of 8.8 per cent for the preceding six years. The condition of the crop on May 1 was 102 per cent of normal, compared with 92 per cent last year and an average of 91 per cent for the preceding seven years. These figures indicate a possible production of 15,312,000 bushels, compared with a prospect and forecast a year ago of 12,122,000 bushels and an actual production of 7,095,000 bushels. With a continuation of the present soil and moisture conditions the production may even exceed the high estimate given, which is greater than the combined production of winter and spring wheat in 1917, the record wheat crop for the state. The acreage abandoned has been confined to a few restricted areas of sandy land where damage resulted from high winds. The condition of this crop has, perhaps, never been more uniformly favorable all over the state at this time of the year.

The condition of winter wheat for the United States on May 1 was placed at 100.5 per cent of normal, compared with 86.4 per cent a year ago and an average of 85.4 per cent for the preceding ten years. The abandonment apparently will be only 1.1 per cent of the acreage planted, compared with 13.7 per cent last year, 31 per cent for 1917 and an average of 10.9 per cent for the preceding five years. Upon 48,933,000 acres devoted to this crop the high condition prevailing May 1 indicated a production of 899,915,000 bushels, compared with 558,449,000 bushels last year, 418,070,000 in 1917 and 685,000,000 in 1914, the record winter wheat crop for this country. The average for the past five years has been

552,594,000 bushels. The highest condition and largest acreage for the United States in the history of the crop reporting service are indicated for the present crop.

#### RYE

Colorado shows an increase of about 3 per cent in the acreage of rye over that for 1918. The area sown to fall rye in 1918 was estimated at 78,000 acres, compared with 75,000 acres for 1917. All rye, both fall and spring, threshed for grain in 1918, as shown by reports of the threshers, was 117,000 acres. With the 3 per cent increase indicated the area devoted to the crop this year would be 120,000 acres, to be threshed for grain. Upon this estimate of acreage the production of rye for grain, if favorable conditions prevail until the harvest, should be 1,576,000 bushels, compared with a forecast of 1,460,000 bushels on May 1 last year and an actual production of 735,000 bushels. The condition of rye on May 1 compared favorably with that of winter wheat, being 101 per cent, compared with 96 per cent at this time last year and an average of 91 per cent for the past ten years.

The acreage of rye for the United States is placed at 6,667,000 acres, compared with 6,185,000 acres in 1918. The condition of the crop on May 1 was 95.3 per cent, compared with 85.8 per cent on May 1 last year and an average of 89.8 per cent for the past ten years. These figures indicate a production of 122,946,000 bushels, compared with 89,103,000 bushels in 1918 and a general average of 44,547,000 bushels.

#### SPRING WHEAT

Although no formal forecast of acreage, condition and production of spring wheat is made at this time advance reports indicate that the acreage is larger than that planted last year and that the crop is advancing in excellent shape. Weather conditions have been uniformly favorable in practically all sections of the state and apparently the spring wheat crop will be one of the largest if not the largest in the history of Colorado if conditions remain favorable until harvest.

#### OATS

No formal estimate of acreage or condition of oats is made at this time, but the crop is in excellent condition, having profited by the same favorable weather conditions that have advanced winter and spring wheat to such high condition. No heavy increase in the acreage of oats comparable to that of winter wheat is indicated.

#### HAY

An increase of 1 per cent in the acreage of tame hay for the state over that for 1918 is indicated, while wild hay stands at 100 per cent, or the same as for last year. According to these figures the area devoted to hay of all kinds this year is 1,412,000 acres, compared with 1,402,000 acres last year. The condition of all hay on May 1 was normal or 100 per cent, compared with 96 per cent last year and an average of 94 per cent for the past five years. These figures indicate a production of 3,318,000 tons for 1919, compared with 3,163,000 tons indicated by the forecast of May 1 last year and an actual production of 2,469,000 tons. The average production of this crop for the state is 2,512,000 tons. The amount

of last year's Colorado hay crop remaining on the farms is reported as 148,000 tons, or 6 per cent of the total, compared with 312,000 tons, or 11 per cent, at this time last year. The heavy shipments of hay and alfalfa meal early last fall, together with a hard winter in the southeastern and southern parts of the state, have largely consumed the hay crop, causing shortage of hay in several sections of the state.

The preliminary estimates for the United States indicate 71,224,000 acres of hay for this year, compared with 71,415,000 acres last year. The condition of the hay crop on May 1 was 94.3 per cent, compared with 89.6 per cent last year and an average of 88.1 per cent. The indicated production is 114,930,000 tons, compared with 107,550,000 tons indicated at this time last year and an actual production of 89,833,000 tons, and a production of 98,439,000 tons in 1917. The per cent of hay on farms in the United States May 1 was estimated at 9.4 per cent of last year's crop, or 8,493,000 tons, compared with 11,476,000 tons of May 1 last year and an average of 11,803,000 tons on May 1 for the past five years.

#### PASTURES

The condition of pastures in Colorado on May 1 was 97 per cent, compared with 92 per cent last year and an average condition of 89 per cent. Throughout the state pastures are reported in excellent condition, though a little late in some sections. The condition of pastures for the United States is placed at 90.3 per cent of normal, compared with 83.1 per cent on May 1, 1918, and a ten-year average on May 1 of 84.5 per cent.

#### DRY BEANS

Special advance reports on intentions to plant indicate that there will be a heavy falling off in the acreage devoted to dry beans this year as compared with last year. Though it is too early yet to give definite figures the special reports above referred to indicate that the acreage will be only from 30 to 40 per cent of that planted last year.

#### POTATOES

The planting of the potato crop is well advanced. It is too early to make a full forecast of the acreage that will be devoted to the crop, but special reports received indicate that there will be a considerable decrease in acreage in most commercial potato producing sections. The special reports above referred to indicate that the acreage to be planted in Colorado will be but 88 to 90 per cent of last year.

#### FRUIT

The outlook for the fruit crop is excellent. Though there have been local frosts in some districts in the past two weeks no damage to fruit has been reported. On the western slope and in the Canon City district the fruit blossom is heavy and a good crop of all varieties of tree fruits is indicated. Especially favorable reports regarding the condition and advancement of tree fruits are received from the northeastern part of the state, where the area devoted to orchards is increasing steadily.

#### PLOWING

The advancement of spring work and plowing in Colorado is about the same as a year ago, being about 70 per cent, as compared with an

average of 65 per cent for May 1. Planting shows an advancement of 63 per cent, compared with the same per cent a year ago and an average for May 1 of 57 per cent. In the United States plowing is not quite so far advanced as a year ago, being 72.7 per cent completed on May 1, compared with 77.5 per cent on May 1 last year and an average of 70.5 per cent. Planting was about 61 per cent completed on May 1, compared with 60.8 per cent on May 1 last year and a ten-year average on the same date of 58.1 per cent.

#### MORTALITY AND CONDITION OF LIVESTOCK

In Colorado the losses of livestock due to disease and exposure, exclusive of old age, accident and slaughter, have been slightly greater during the past year than during the year preceding. There have been especially heavy losses from exposure of range stock in certain sections of the state where exceptionally severe storms have occurred and a shortage of feed has prevailed. The reports show the deaths of horses to have been 19 head per 1,000, compared with the same number for 1918 and an average of 18 for the past ten years. Cattle losses from disease were 22 head for 1,000 compared with 28 last year and an average of 18 for the past ten years, while losses from exposure were 40 head per 1,000, compared with 10 head last year and an average of 27 for the past ten years. Losses of sheep from disease were about normal, averaging 24 head per 1,000, compared with 25 head last year and an average of 22 for the past ten years. Losses of lambs from exposure were 57 head per 1,000, compared with 36 last year and an average of 70 for the past ten years. Losses of swine from disease were much lower than the average, being 20 head per 1,000, compared with 35 last year and an average of 30 for the past ten years. The condition of horses on May 1 was 95 per cent, compared with 98 per cent last year and an average of 98 per cent for the past ten years. The condition of cattle on May 1 was 92 per cent of normal, compared with 98 per cent last year and an average of 96 per cent for the past ten years. The condition of sheep on May 1 was placed at 93 per cent of normal, compared with 99 per cent last year and a ten-year average of 97 per cent. The condition of swine on May 1 was 97 per cent, compared with 99 per cent last year and an average of 98 per cent for the past ten years. The somewhat lowered condition of all livestock is due, as above stated, to the hard winter and spring in some sections of the state and, particularly, to the shortage and high prices of all kinds of feed.

In Colorado stock are being put upon the ranges a little later than usual, and in several sections they are in poor condition when turned upon pasture, due to the shortage of feed and severe weather above referred to.

The losses of horses from disease and exposure for the United States for the past year are placed at 15.7 head per 1,000, compared with 16.5 last year and a ten-year average of 19.4. Losses of cattle from disease were 15.8 head per 1,000, compared with 18.2 last year and a ten-year average of 20. From exposure losses were 17.3 head per 1,000, compared with 7.5 last year and an average of 14.3 for the past ten years. Losses of sheep from disease were 19.7 head per 1,000 and from exposure 25.1 head, compared with 19.8 and 19.2 head last year and ten-year averages

of 14.4 and 30.2. Losses of lambs were 48.3 head per 1,000, compared with 49.3 last year and an average of 61.5 for the past ten years. The condition of horses in the United States on May 1 was 95.3 per cent, compared with 96.2 per cent last year and a ten-year average of 96.2; cattle, 94.7 per cent, compared with 95.6 last year and a ten-year average of 96.2; sheep 95.9, compared with 96.9 last year and an average of 95.4 for the past ten years; swine 94.5 per cent, compared with 96.3 per cent last year and a ten-year average of 95.7.

Summaries of the May 1 crop and livestock report for Colorado and the United States will be found on page 8 of this bulletin.

#### YIELDS PER ACRE 1918 AND NORMAL YIELDS

Believing the subject to be of much general interest to the public we are publishing in this bulletin the yields per acre by counties of certain crops as reported to the Co-operative Crop Reporting Service, the figures used as the basis for calculating normals having been obtained through a special inquiry regarding normals.

The first column contains the average of yields for all lands, both irrigated and non-irrigated, in the season of 1918 as determined from the reports of the licensed threshermen of the State to the United States Food Administration. These figures show many very low yields for some crops in certain counties. This is to be explained by the fact that over considerable areas of the State the season of 1918 was exceptionally hot and dry from May 20 until June 20, which is a most critical period for small grains. As a result the yields in many sections were far below the average, grading from a fair crop all the way down to a total failure. Owing to the urgency for grain prevailing at the time because of the war, many farmers from patriotic motives cut and threshed crops that in ordinary times would have been fed out by stock or considered as not worth harvesting. As a result of these extraordinary conditions many figures of yield were brought abnormally low.

The second and third columns give the figures that are to be regarded as normal yields for each crop on non-irrigated and irrigated lands respectively. Normal yields are understood as the average yields secured by all farmers from their usual methods of farm practice in a season wholly but not extraordinarily favorable to production. Only in the most favorable seasons will these yields be exceeded for a county as a whole, although the best practice on individual farms will often exceed them. According to our study and observation the average of the best class of farming in a favorable season may exceed these figures of normal by as much as 30 per cent, but this is to be regarded as the limit of reasonable expectancy under the best practice and most favorable conditions. Probably in the average of all seasons, good, fair, and poor, few farms will exceed the figures given as normal. Therefore, while referring to what would be obtained on the average for a county in a wholly favorable season, they may be regarded as indicating about what may be counted upon only as the result of the best farm practice on the better class of lands. These figures are believed to be substantially accurate and reliable, but are subject to revision from time to time as better information dictates:

### THRESHING REPORTS AND NORMALS.

Districts and Counties	Winter Wheat			Spring Wheat			Rye		
	Average Threshing Reports, 1918	Normal Non-Irrigated	Normal Irrigated	Average Threshing Reports, 1918	Normal Non-Irrigated	Normal Irrigated	Average Threshing Reports, 1918	Normal Non-Irrigated	Normal Irrigated
District.	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.
<b>1. Northwest.</b>									
Grand .....	....	20	40	....	....	30	....	20	30
Jackson .....	....	....	....	....	....	30	....	15	20
Moffat .....	12	23	35	15	20	30	9	20	30
Rio Blanco .....	27	23	40	24	26	40	14	20	35
Routt .....	23	31	....	17	25	....	12	25	30
<b>2. North Central.</b>									
Adams .....	8	16	35	22	11	33	5	14	25
Boulder .....	23	19	34	23	16	35	24	16	30
Denver .....	20	15	35	12	11	33	23	10	22
Larimer .....	21	20	40	28	14	40	11	18	32
Weld .....	15	17	35	19	12	32	6	13	25
<b>3. Northeast.</b>									
Logan .....	8	16	30	9	12	28	10	10	22
Morgan .....	8	15	34	11	12	30	6	12	23
Phillips .....	7	18	....	7	12	....	4	16	....
Sedgwick .....	6	18	38	8	15	29	3	12	24
Washington .....	6	15	....	4	12	....	5	11	....
Yuma .....	6	16	....	4	12	....	7	12	....
<b>4. West Central.</b>									
Delta .....	32	23	34	24	13	32	31	15	30
Eagle .....	14	15	30	31	....	38	9	15	30
Garfield .....	19	18	40	23	20	38	15	15	30
Gunnison .....	....	....	....	25	20	38	19	15	30
Mesa .....	21	10	32	21	....	29	....	....	30
Montrose .....	32	19	37	29	13	36	23	....	25
Ouray .....	13	....	40	33	....	35	18	16	25
Pitkin .....	25	....	35	34	....	35	18	....	30
<b>5. Central.</b>									
Chaffee .....	....	....	30	19	10	36	12	15	30
Clear Creek .....	....	....	....	12	....	....	....	....	....
Fremont .....	14	12	28	14	15	28	9	14	23
Gilpin .....	....	....	....	22	....	....	21	....	....
Jefferson .....	26	19	40	24	16	35	16	15	23
Lake .....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Park .....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Summit .....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	10	....
Teller .....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	10	....
<b>6. East Central.</b>									
Arapahoe .....	9	14	42	17	11	37	9	10	22
Cheyenne .....	6	14	....	4	15	....	7	15	....
Douglas .....	12	18	....	10	15	20	9	12	....
Elbert .....	11	16	30	7	13	20	8	14	....
El Paso .....	8	18	28	14	15	20	7	15	....
Kit Carson .....	7	14	30	4	11	20	5	15	30
Lincoln .....	5	14	....	4	11	....	6	15	....
<b>7. Southwest.</b>									
Archuleta .....	18	18	38	22	18	33	5	15	25
Dolores .....	12	15	25	9	15	25	6	15	25
Hinsdale .....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
La Plata .....	22	....	28	19	16	30	9	15	25
Mineral .....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Montezuma .....	10	15	28	17	13	26	10	15	27
San Juan .....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
San Miguel .....	....	18	25	....	15	25	....	15	25
<b>8. South Central.</b>									
Alamosa .....	....	....	....	22	....	25	....	....	....
Conejos .....	....	....	22	15	....	25	....	....	....
Costilla .....	18	....	25	15	....	25	7	....	22
Custer .....	19	....	25	20	20	25	17	12	22
Huerfano .....	10	16	31	15	15	28	....	10	22
Rio Grande .....	17	....	25	22	15	30	....	....	20
Saguache .....	....	....	....	21	....	23	....	....	20
<b>9. Southeast.</b>									
Baca .....	9	13	31	7	11	28	8	14	26
Bent .....	23	12	37	18	10	32	19	....	25
Crowley .....	24	12	30	17	12	30	9	15	25
Kiowa .....	4	11	....	8	10	....	9	12	....
Las Animas .....	6	13	32	12	12	28	5	13	21
Otero .....	26	13	37	32	13	32	12	13	30
Prowers .....	20	10	36	19	10	30	20	12	28
Pueblo .....	8	15	35	14	15	32	8	14	30

Omission of figures indicates that the crop is not grown extensively and not reported.

**THRESHING RETURNS, NORMALS, ACREAGES AND CONDITION.**

Districts and Counties	Barley, Yield per acre.			Winter Wheat		Rye		Hay Pasture	
	Average Threshing Reports, 1918	Normal Non-irrigated	Normal Irrigated	Acreage Compared With 1918	Condition Compared With Normal	Acreage Compared With 1918	Condition Compared With Normal	Condition Compared With Normal	Condition Compared With Normal
District.	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>1. Northwest.</b>									
Grand	25	50	.....	100	100	100	97	97	97
Jackson	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100	100
Moffat	18	30	40	103	95	95	98	88	95
Rio Blanco	25	50	95	110	100	100	100	100	95
Routt	31	38	40	116	98	105	100	99	102
<b>2. North Central.</b>									
Adams	16	20	35	103	96	100	95	100	90
Boulder	27	23	42	101	95	.....	.....	96	80
Denver	33	18	30	101	95	100	97	102	94
Larimer	29	19	51	107	100	98	95	95	85
Weid	27	18	43	110	97	104	100	96	91
<b>3. Northeast.</b>									
Logan	17	19	39	112	104	95	100	98	96
Morgan	24	17	43	115	101	101	102	100	96
Phillips	15	.....	.....	120	100	104	96	98	94
Sedgwick	18	20	39	135	110	105	101	96	92
Washington	5	23	.....	120	100	99	102	100	100
Yuma	6	22	.....	115	104	107	104	101	95
<b>4. West Central.</b>									
Delta	29	20	40	101	99	100	100	100	94
Eagle	.....	20	36	90	100	.....	.....	100	94
Garfield	.....	25	45	120	100	.....	.....	100	100
Gunnison	21	23	35	.....	.....	.....	.....	101	97
Mesa	29	.....	36	102	100	100	100	100	95
Montrose	31	15	40	107	97	.....	.....	98	97
Ouray	28	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100
Pitkin	28	.....	40	120	100	.....	.....	100	95
<b>5. Central.</b>									
Chaffee	29	12	42	.....	.....	.....	.....	103	103
Clear Creek	20	18	32	.....	.....	.....	.....	99	100
Fremont	21	18	34	110	107	.....	.....	100	97
Gilpin	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	98	100
Jefferson	24	23	50	100	100	100	100	100	102
Lake	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100
Park	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	102	103
Summit	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	101
Teller	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	90	90
<b>6. East Central.</b>									
Arapahoe	21	23	50	110	95	103	99	100	98
Cheyenne	9	23	.....	115	98	103	100	100	101
Douglas	9	23	.....	100	95	105	95	100	90
Elbert	11	20	.....	100	99	100	100	100	100
El Paso	18	23	35	111	110	104	104	105	105
Kit Carson	8	20	35	118	109	105	104	105	101
Lincoln	9	20	35	110	106	108	104	95	95
<b>7. Southwest.</b>									
Archuleta	23	25	40	100	100	.....	.....	100	100
Dolores	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100
Hinsdale	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100
La Plata	18	18	37	107	100	.....	.....	102	100
Mineral	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100
Montezuma	24	15	41	95	98	.....	.....	100	98
San Juan	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100
San Miguel	.....	20	35	105	95	.....	.....	100	100
<b>8. South Central.</b>									
Alamosa	12	.....	32	.....	.....	.....	.....	102	103
Conejos	26	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	110	110
Costilla	26	20	40	.....	.....	100	100	115	110
Custer	23	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100
Huerfano	26	28	43	110	102	100	99	103	103
Rio Grande	10	20	39	.....	.....	100	100	105	100
Saguache	24	.....	31	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100
<b>9. Southeast.</b>									
Baca	9	13	38	125	110	105	110	115	110
Bent	29	16	39	115	110	.....	.....	115	110
Crowley	20	20	39	100	106	.....	110	105	100
Kiowa	10	16	.....	110	97	.....	.....	100	100
Las Animas	22	18	36	115	100	100	100	99	105
Otero	.....	.....	46	120	106	90	99	100	100
Prowers	22	16	32	125	110	105	102	103	101
Pueblo	23	10	41	100	108	100	110	108	105

Omission of figures indicates that the crop is not grown extensively and not reported.

**Summary of the May 1, 1919, Crop and Livestock Report for Colorado and the United States.**

Subject.	Colorado			United States		
	1919	1918	Average	1919	1918	Average
<b>WINTER WHEAT—</b>						
Abandoned, per cent. ....	1	7	8.8	1.1	13.7	10.9
*Acres for harvest..	834	732	....	48,933	36,704	34,059
Condition, per cent.	102	92	91	100.5	86.4	85.4
*Production, bus. ..	15,312	7,095	6,392	899,915	558,449	552,594
<b>RYE—</b>						
*Acres threshed ....	120†	117	....	....	....	....
Acres (winter rye)..	78	75	....	6,667	6,185	2,711
Condition, per cent.	101	96	91	95.3	85.8	89.8
*Production, bus. ..	1,576	735	423	122,946	89,103	44,547
<b>HAY—ALL KINDS—</b>						
*Acres .....	1,412	1,402	1,384	71,224	71,415	67,682
Condition, per cent.	100	96	94	94.3	89.6	88.1
*Production, tons ..	3,318	2,469	2,512	114,930	89,833	95,371
*Old on hand, tons.	148	312	....	8,493	11,476	11,803
<b>PASTURES, per cent.</b>	97	92	89	90.3	83.1	84.5
<b>PLOWING, per cent.</b>	70	70	65	72.7	77.5	70.5
<b>PLANTING, per cent.</b>	63	63	57	61	60.8	58.1
<b>LIVE STOCK—MORTALITY OF—PER 1,000—</b>						
Horses and Mules..	19	19	18	15.7	16.5	19.4
Cattle, disease .....	22	28	18	15.8	18.2	20.0
Cattle, exposure ...	40	10	27	17.3	7.51	14.3
Sheep, disease .....	24	25	22	19.7	19.8	24.4
Sheep, exposure ...	59	20	42	25.1	19.2	30.2
Lambs .....	57	36	70	48.3	49.3	58.8
Swine, disease .....	20	33	30	41.4	42.1	67.5
<b>LIVE STOCK CONDITION—</b>						
Horses .....	95	98	98	95.3	96.2	96.2
Cattle .....	92	98	96	94.7	95.6	95.2
Sheep .....	93	99	97	95.9	96.9	95.4
Swine .....	97	99	98	94.5	96.3	93.7

\*The figures on acreage and production merely enumerate thousands and require that three ciphers (000) be added to complete them.

†Forecast.

**COOPERATION INVITED.**

The Colorado Cooperative Crop Reporting Service desires to make this monthly bulletin of the greatest possible value to all those interested in the production, movement and marketing of farm products, and urges the cooperation of all who are in position to report agricultural conditions. It solicits helpful suggestions and comments from reporters and others interested in this service. Those desiring to keep permanent files of this bulletin may obtain extra copies or missing copies by writing to the Colorado Cooperative Crop Reporting Service, at Denver, Colo.