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Colorado Cooperative Crop Reporting Service

(*State and Federal*)

U. S. Department of Agriculture

Bureau of Crop Estimates

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The area sown to winter wheat in Colorado last fall was approximately 978,000 acres, compared with 1,075,000 acres sown in the fall of 1918. On April 1 the condition was estimated to be 75 per cent of normal, compared with 100 per cent on April 1 last year, and an average of 92 per cent on April 1 for the past ten years. The forecast at this time, on the basis of a normal yield of 18 bushels per acre, is 13,203,000 bushels, compared with 19,350,000 bushels last year, based upon the condition of the crop at that time and the acreage found through reports of county assessors to have been devoted to the crop. The actual production last year was estimated at 11,916,800 bushels. The great difference between the forecast of production this year and that on April 1 last year is due partly to decreased acreage and partly to unfavorable soil and weather conditions which prevailed during the month of March, particularly to heavy winds and depletion of moisture.

For the United States the average condition of winter wheat on April 1 was 75.6 per cent of normal, against 99.8 per cent on April 1, 1919, 78.6 per cent on April 1, 1918, and an average condition of 84.1 per cent for the past ten years on April 1. There was a decline in condition from December 1, 1919, to April 1, 1920, of 9.6 points, as compared with an average decline in the past ten years of 5.4 points between these dates. Upon the assumption of average abandonment of acreage and average influences on the crop to harvest, condition April 1 forecasts a production of about 483,617,000 bushels, which compares with 731,636,000 bushels, the estimated production in 1919, and 565,099,000 in 1918. The great reduction is due to the large decrease in acreage sown last fall, damage from Hessian fly, the unfavorably dry condition of the soil in many sections at time of planting and to high winds in important winter wheat sections during the month of March.

Winter Rye.—The outlook for the winter rye crop is also unpromising, the same factors which operated unfavorably on winter wheat having affected the rye prospects much the same way. Condition for this crop for Colorado on April 1 was 75 per cent of normal, compared with 100 per cent a year ago and the 10-year average of 91 per cent. From this forecast the estimated production of rye in Colorado this year on 109,000 acres on a basis of a normal yield of 13 bushels per acre is 1,063,000 bushels, compared with the forecast a year ago on 120,000 acres of 1,560,000 bushels.

For the United States, the average condition of rye on April 1 was 86.8 per cent of normal, against 90.6 per cent on April 1, 1919, 85.8 per cent on April 1, 1918, and an average condition of 89 per cent for the past ten years on April 1.

Breeding Sows.—The estimated number of breeding sows in the State of Colorado at this time as shown by the average of reports is 88 per cent of the number on hand a year ago, as against 105 per cent April 1 last year compared with April 1,

1918. On the basis of these figures, the number of brood sows in Colorado April 1 was about 62,000, compared with 70,000 April 1 last year, and 67,000 April 1, 1918. The number of mature hogs assessed in the state April 1, 1919, was 195,188, compared with 194,576 assessed the preceding year. The total number of hogs in the state as estimated by the Bureau of Crop Estimates on January 1, 1920, was 382,000, compared with 406,000 January 1, 1919, and 387,000 January 1, 1918.

The number of breeding sows in the United States at this time is estimated to be 8,983,000, which is 90.1 per cent of the number on hand last year at this time, which was 9,970,000, or 100.3 per cent of the number on hand April 1, 1918. The reduction in the number of breeding sows is largely attributed to the high prices of feed and the discouraging impression that farmers might not expect adequate returns upon the markets.

Farm Labor Supply.—Labor supply in Colorado is estimated to be 93 per cent of what it was a year ago and 80 per cent of normal, compared with 90 per cent of normal a year ago and 75 per cent of normal April 1, 1918. The present requirements of labor on the farms is estimated to be practically the same as last year and 99 per cent of normal, as compared with 103 per cent of normal a year ago and 99 per cent of normal on April 1, 1918. These figures indicate that there is either much less acreage to be farmed, or that such crops are to be grown as will require less farm labor. Farmers in many sections express discouragement on account of continued high prices of farm labor and comments are to the effect that many will plant only such acreages and crops as they can care for with their own labor. Many owners are also avoiding labor problems by leasing all or portions of their farms. The farm labor supply in the United States at present is estimated to be only 72.4 per cent of normal, compared with 84.4 per cent a year ago and 72.9 per cent April 1, 1918. The farm labor requirements are 153 per cent, compared with 101.8 per cent a year ago and 101.4 per cent April 1, 1918. According to these figures the outlook for ample farm supply for the United States is not optimistic.

Agricultural Outlook.—Special inquiry concerning the comparative condition and supply of moisture in the soil in Colorado, compared with normal, was about 86.5 per cent. As shown in the table on page 3, in a general way moisture supply in the extreme northeast, western and south-central portions of the state is normal or above.

Potato Supplies.—According to information received by the Colorado Cooperative Crop Reporting Service through the Colorado branch of the United States Bureau of Markets, there are in the state yet to be shipped only about 500 cars of potatoes from the 1919 crop, compared with about 3,000 cars at this time last year. Shippers in the northern Colorado district were receiving $5 per cwt. for potatoes about the middle of March, which is said to be the record price at that season during the history of the potato industry there. Since that time there have been further increases in prices. Records of the Bureau of Crop Estimates and the Bureau of Markets show that up to April 6 there had been 8,686 cars of potatoes shipped from points in Colorado, compared with 11,768 cars shipped to the same date last year and a total shipment from the 1918 crop of 13,647 carloads. The figures now available indicate that the total shipments from the 1919 crop will be a little more than 9,000 cars. To the same date there were shipped from the leading Late Potato Sections of the United States from the 1919 crop 112,300 cars, compared with 111,171 to the same date last year. Total shipments from the 1918 crop were 133,311 cars and total shipments, including the early crop, were 176,510 cars. Reports indicate that the condition of the southern potato crop is below normal and that early potatoes will be late this year in reaching markets, though preliminary reports indicate an increase of about 12 per cent in acreage.

Apple Supplies.—Total shipments of boxed apples from Colorado points up to April 6 this year, from the 1919 crop, amounted to 3,195 cars, according to reports received by the Colorado Cooperative Crop Reporting Service from the Colorado branch of the Bureau of Markets. On the same date last year 1,983 cars had been shipped and total shipments from the 1918 crop were 1,984 cars. Weekly cold storage reports of the Bureau of Markets March 20 show approximately 5,232,320 boxes of apples in cold storage on March 1, which is 115.2 per cent more than on March 1, 1919, and 39 per cent more than on March 1, 1918. From the same reports the holdings of barreled apples on March 1 were estimated to be 1,381,660 barrels, or 43.7 per cent more than on March 1, 1919, and 12.3 per cent less than on March 1, 1918. From these figures it may be seen that the reserve apples, boxed and barreled, is considerably greater at this time than for either of the last two years.

PER CENT OF NORMAL CONDITION OF WINTER WHEAT, RYE AND AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK AS REPRESENTED BY SOIL MOISTURE, APRIL 1.

	Winter Wheat			Rye	Moisture
	Irrig.	Non-irrig.	All		
1 N. W.—					
Grand	.....	.....	.....	.....	110
Jackson	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Moffat	100	98	98	98	115
Rio Blanco	.....	.....	.....	100	106
Routt	100	91	91	100	117
2 N. Cent.—					
Adams	82	51	76	110	58
Boulder	83	69	81	86	79
Denver	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Larimer	85	69	79	90	75
Weld	82	56	67	65	84
3 N. E.—					
Logan	80	73	74	75	87
Morgan	81	50	54	66	79
Phillips	.....	100	100	100	100
Sedgwick	88	90	90	92	115
Washington	80	84	84	90	87
Yuma	80	71	71	66	80
4 W. Cent.—					
Delta	93	.....	93	.....	110
Eagle	.....	.....	.....	.....	110
Garfield	96	92	95	98	120
Gunnison	.....	.....	.....	.....	107
Mesa	100	100	100	.....	116
Montrose	101	100	100	.....	113
Ouray	.....	.....	.....	.....	113
Pitkin	.....	.....	.....	.....	115
5 Central—					
Chaffee	.....	.....	.....	.....	75
Clear Creek	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
Fremont	83	90	88	75	60
Gilpin	.....	.....	.....	.....	95
Jefferson	98	98	98	99	98
Lake	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
Park	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Summit	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Teller	.....	.....	.....	.....	110
6 E. Cent.—					
Arapahoe	90	82	84	85	89
Cheyenne	.....	56	56	80	63
Douglas	85	60	62	70	50
Elbert	.....	58	58	58	60
El Paso	85	69	69	75	77
Kit Carson	80	52	53	59	68
Lincoln	.....	68	68	75	69
7 S. W.—					
Archuleta	.....	.....	.....	.....	105
Dolores	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hinsdale	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
La Plata	95	97	95	100	107
Mineral	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Montezuma	95	95	95	90	119
San Juan	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
San Miguel	95	95	95	.....	105
8 S. Cent.—					
Alamosa	.....	.....	.....	.....	88
Conejos	.....	.....	.....	.....	88
Costilla	.....	.....	.....	100	125
Custer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Huerfano	100	77	80	.....	79
Rio Grande	100	.....	100	90	105
Saguache	90	80	87	.....	80
9 S. E.—					
Baca	90	61	61	58	78
Bent	80	50	80	80	89
Crowley	82	67	80	80	85
Kiowa	80	60	62	60	80
Las Animas	76	57	60	68	76
Otero	68	33	68	75	84
Prowers	79	57	78	85	69
Pueblo	91	80	82	100	61

COMPARATIVE AGRICULTURAL STATISTICAL DATA FOR APRIL 1.

	COLORADO			UNITED STATES		
	1920	1919	10-Yr. Avg.	1920	1919	10-Yr. Avg.
Winter Wheat—						
Acreage	978,000	1,075,000	.....	49,905,000	37,130,000	*34,196,000
Condition	75%	100%	92%	75.6%	99.8%	84.1%
Production (Bus.)	13,203,000	19,350,000	.....	483,617,000	731,636,000	**565,099,000
Winter Rye—						
Acreage	109,000	120,000	.....	5,530,000	.....	.....
Condition	75%	100%	90%	86.8%	90.6%	89%
Production (Bus.)	1,063,000	1,056,000	.....	75,841,000	88,478,000	**91,041,000
Breeding Sows—						
Compared with last year	88%	†105%	.....	90.1%	†100.3%	.....
Number of all swine, January 1	382,000	406,000	**387,000	72,909,000	74,584,000	**70,978,000
Brood sows (No.)	62,000	70,000	**67,000	8,983,000	9,970,000	**9,937,000
Farm Labor Supply— Compared with normal	80%	90%	**75%	72.4%	84.4%	**72.9%
Farm Labor Requirements— Compared with normal	99%	103%	**99%	153%	101.8%	**101.4%

Note—*Represents 1913-17 average. **1918. †Compared with 1918.

[1 ton = 2,000 pounds]

State[1] and year.	Sugar made.	Area harvested.	Beets worked.		Beets paid for.		Average price paid for beets, per ton.	Total amount paid for beets.	Number of factories in operation.	Days in operation.	Average extraction based upon weight of beets.[2]	Average sugar in beets.[3]	Average purity coefficient.[4]
			Amount.	Average per acre.	Amount.	Average per acre.							
California:	*Tons.*	*Acres.*	*Tons.*	*Tons*	*Tons.*	*Tons.*	*Dollars.*	*Dollars.*	*Number.*	*Days.*	*Per Cent.*	*Per Cent.*	*Per Cent.*
1919	131,172	107,174	804,642	7.51	815,896	7.61	14.17	11,561,000	10	76	16.30	17.87	82.02
1918	122,795	100,684	845,728	8.40	858,028	8.52	9.95	8,534,000	13	81	14.52	17.03	81.50
Colorado:													
1919	193,890	182,616	1,656,113	9.07	1,764,772	9.66	10.85	19,143,000	15	87	11.71	13.62	83.85
1918	191,880	125,882	1,363,277	10.83	1,443,846	11.47	10.02	14,474,000	14	76	14.07	16.10	85.96
Idaho:													
1919	26,159	30,331	196,847	6.49	203,168	6.70	11.00	2,235,000	6	50	13.29	15.48	86.15
1918	44,682	32,306	326,979	10.12	344,334	10.66	10.00	3,443,000	7	87	13.66	16.57	86.46
Michigan:													
1919[5]	130,385	123,375	1,032,018	8.36	1,211,018	9.82	12.52	15,158,000	16	84	12.63	14.57	81.78
1918	127,979	114,976	890,238	7.74	966,676	8.40	10.08	9,741,000	16	75	14.37	16.61	85.49
Nebraska:													
1919	60,870	59,113	554,100	9.37	600,730	10.16	10.90	6,546,000	4	112	10.99	13.14	82.80
1918	63,494	42,746	453,266	10.6	485,070	11.35	9.96	4,833,000	4	99	14.01	16.05	86.14
Ohio:													
1919	31,864	30,909	291,583	9.43	326,962	10.58	12.75	4,168,000	5	79	10.93	14.15	82.73
1918	35,476	32,547	291,064	8.94	315,371	9.69	10.03	3,162,000	5	91	12.19	15.74	84.23
Utah:													
1919	101,025	103,247	908,122	8.80	1,015,873	9.84	10.97	11,148,000	18	84	11.12	13.87	82.39
1918	105,794	81,717	905,064	11.08	1,003,013	12.27	10.01	10,041,000	16	98	11.69	15.29	84.21
Wisconsin:													
1919	10,636	12,100	105,578	8.73	117,443	9.71	12.02	1,411,000	4	60	10.07	13.16	81.73
1918	13,358	12,400	93,467	7.54	99,777	8.05	10.00	998,000	4	61	14.29	16.29	82.40
Other:													
1919	40,450	43,590	338,554	7.77	365,616	8.39	11.08	4,050,000	11	52	11.95	14.27	83.14
1918	55,492	50,752	408,423	8.05	432,683	8.53	9.86	4,268,000	10	64	13.59	15.95	84.31
United States:													
1919[6]	726,451	692,455	5,887,557	8.50	6,421,478	9.27	11.74	75,420,000	89	78	12.34	14.48	82.84
1918	760,950	594,010	5,577,506	9.39	5,948,798	10.01	10.00	59,494,000	89	81	13.64	16.18	84.70
1917	765,207	664,797	5,625,545	8.46	5,980,377	9.00	7.39	44,192,000	91	74	13.60	16.28	83.89
1916	820,657	665,308	5,919,673	8.90	6,228,256	9.36	6.12	38,139,000	74	80	13.86	16.30	84.74
1915	874,220	611,301	6,150,293	10.1	6,511,274	10.7	5.67	36,950,000	67	92	14.21	16.49	84.38
1914	722,054	483,400	5,288,500	10.9	5,585,000	11.6	5.45	30,438,000	60	85	13.65	16.38	83.89

[1] Acreage and production of beets are credited, as in former reports, to the State in which the beets were made into sugar. For preliminary report of acreage and beet tonnage by States where grown, see Monthly Crop Reporter for December, 1919, page 123.

[2] Percentage of sucrose actually extracted by factories.

[3] Based upon weight of beets.

[4] Percentage of sucrose (pure sugar) in the total soluble solids of the beets.

[5] Including beets and sugar from 850 acres in Ontario, Canada.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.
BUREAU OF CROP ESTIMATES.