

BULLETIN NO. 24

MAY, 1921

Crop Report for Colorado

U. S. Department of Agriculture

Bureau of Crop Estimates

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Winter Wheat.—The condition of winter wheat improved about five points during April, due to heavy precipitation over a large portion of the state about the middle of the month. The preliminary estimates of May 1 place the acreage of winter wheat left for harvest in the state at 846,000, compared with 950,000 acres harvested last year. According to reports now being received from county assessors, the preliminary acreage figure is likely to be increased about 10 to 15 per cent. Reports indicate that about 8 per cent of the acreage that was sown last fall was abandoned and will not be harvested, as compared with 12 per cent last year and an average annual abandonment of about 8.8 per cent for the past 10 years. The condition of the crop on May 1 is estimated at 90 per cent of normal, compared with 85 per cent last year, 102 per cent in 1919 and a 10-year average condition on May 1 of 91 per cent. The forecast of production on the basis of the acreage and condition indicates a possible crop of 15,989,000 bushels, compared with final estimates of 17,195,000 bushels in 1920 and 11,917,000 bushels in 1919.

The condition of winter wheat for the United States on May 1 was 88.8 per cent of normal, compared with 79.1 per cent on May 1 last year, 100.5 per cent on May 1, 1919 and 86.8 per cent as the average condition on May 1 for the past 10 years. The abandonment this year is 4.6 per cent, compared with 11.9 per cent last year, 1.1 per cent in 1919, and an average annual abandonment for the past 10 years of 11.0 per cent. The area left for harvest is estimated at 38,721,000 acres, compared with 37,773,000 acres harvested last year and 49,105,000 acres harvested in 1919. The forecast of production for this year, based on the acreage and condition, is 629,287,000 bushels, compared with the final estimates of 577,763,000 bushels harvested in 1920 and 729,503,000 bushels in 1919.

Rye.—The acreage of rye for grain in Colorado is estimated at 96 per cent of the last year's acreage, or about 110,400 acres, compared with 115,000 acres harvested last year and 135,000 acres in 1919. The condition of rye on May 1 this year was 96 per cent of normal, compared with 85 per cent last year and an average condition of 93 per cent on May 1 for the past 10 years. The forecast of production for this year is 1,531,000 bushels, compared with the final estimates of 1,357,000 bushels last year and 1,188,000 bushels in 1919.

The acreage of rye for the United States is placed at 4,544,000, or 97.4 per cent of the acreage harvested last year, which was 4,653,000 acres, compared with 5,250,000 acres harvested in 1919. The condition of rye on May 1 was 92.5 per cent of normal, compared with 85.1 per cent on May 1, 1920, and an average condition of 89.9 per cent for the past 10 years. On the basis of these figures, the forecast of production

for this year is 72,007,000 bushels, compared with final estimates of 69,318,000 bushels last year, 88,909,000 bushels in 1919 and 59,933,000 bushels, the average for the pre-war 5-year period.

All Hay.—The acreage of tame hay in Colorado this year is estimated at 98 per cent of that of last year, and wild hay about the same as last year, making the acreage of all hay about 98.4 per cent of that of last year, or 1,578,280 acres (1,211,280 acres tame and 367,000 acres wild), compared with 1,603,000 acres last year and 1,560,000 acres in 1919. The condition of hay meadows this year is rated as 97 per cent of normal, compared with 95 per cent last year, 100 per cent in 1919 and an average of 95 per cent for the past 10 years. These figures indicate a production of 3,083,275 tons, compared with a final estimate of 3,392,000 tons for last year and 3,066,000 tons for 1919. The amount of hay on the farms of the state on May 1 was estimated at 25 per cent of last year's crop, or \$48,000 tons, compared with 9 per cent last year, or 248,000 tons, and 6 per cent in 1919, or 160,000 tons. The causes for so much hay being left over are partly mild winter, partly less stock throughout the country, and large supplies of food in all adjacent states.

Preliminary estimates for the United States indicate that the acreage of tame hay to be harvested this year is 101.6 per cent of that harvested last year, or 58,879,000 acres, and of wild hay 102 per cent, or 14,963,000 acres. This makes a total of 73,842,000 acres devoted to all hay, compared with 73,181,000 acres last year (57,915,000 acres tame, and 15,266,000 acres wild), and 72,200,000 acres in 1919. The condition of hay meadows on May 1 was 91.5 per cent, compared with 89.4 per cent on May 1 last year and an average condition of 89.1 per cent on May 1 for the past 10 years. These figures indicate a production of 107,784,000 tons this year, compared with 108,233,000 tons the final estimate last year and 109,152,000 tons for 1919. The amount of last year's hay still on the farms in the United States is estimated at 18 per cent of the 1920 crop, or 19,440,000 tons, compared with 10.4 per cent, or 11,345,000 tons, last year and 9.4 per cent, or 8,559,000 tons, in 1919. The average hold-over for the 5-year period has been 11.1 per cent or 11,498,000 tons.

Dry Beans.—Replies to special inquiries on intentions to plant indicate that unless the farmers materially revise their plans the bean acreage in Colorado this year will be only about 80 per cent of that of last year. This would mean only about 50,000 acres, compared with 63,000 acres harvested last year and 69,000 acres harvested in 1919.

Potatoes.—Replies to the same kind of an inquiry on the intentions of farmers to plant potatoes this year indicate that the acreage to be planted will be about 103 per cent of that of last year, which would mean approximately 80,000 acres, compared with 78,000 acres harvested last year. There is ample time for farmers to modify their plans materially in the matter of acreage to be planted to both beans and potatoes.

Pastures.—The condition of pastures in Colorado on May 1 was 92 per cent of normal, compared with 82 per cent on May 1 last year and an average condition of 90 per cent on May 1 for the past 10 years. Owing to cold, wet weather during the last two weeks of April, pastures are reported as slow in some parts of the state. Condition of pastures for the United States is placed at 91.8 per cent of normal, compared with 79.8 per cent last year and an average condition of 84.6 per cent on May 1 for the past 10 years.

Plowing, Spring Sowing and Planting.—Spring work and plowing in Colorado on May 1 was much in advance of last year and 7 and 8 points above the 10-year average—spring plowing being 73 per cent complete, compared with 52 per cent last year and an average of 66 per cent on May 1 for the past 10 years. Spring planting was 66 per cent completed on May 1, compared with 45 per cent last year and 58 per cent the 10-year average. In the United States spring plowing was 77.8 per cent complete on May 1, compared with 60.1 per cent for May 1 last year and 69.3 per cent on May 1 the past ten years. Spring sowing and planting was 63.5 per cent complete, compared with 50.2 per cent last year and 57.5 per cent for the 10-year average.

Mortality and Condition of Livestock.—In Colorado all livestock are thrifty and in good condition and losses for the year ending April 30 were near the minimum and slightly below the 10-year averages—reflecting the results of a mild winter and plentiful supplies of feed. The estimates of losses of the different classes of livestock in numbers per thousand are: horses, from disease, 17; cattle, disease 19, exposure 18; sheep, from disease 20, from exposure 20; lambs, from both causes, 38; swine, from disease, 25. The present condition of health of all livestock is good and ranges as high as three points above the 10-year averages; horses being classed at 98 per cent of normal; cattle, 99; sheep and swine, each, 98 per cent. Similar comparatively high figures prevail with reference to the livestock conditions for the United States.

Agricultural Outlook.—Reports show that moisture conditions in Colorado on May 1 for most of the counties were regarded as very favorable to crop production. The heavy snow and rain storms about the middle to the 25th of April largely overcame any previous deficiency of moisture. The amount of moisture for the state averages 102 per cent compared with normal for this time of year, compared with 110 per cent last year at this date. Details for counties are shown in the table on page 4.

SUMMARY OF MAY 1, 1921, CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORT FOR COLORADO AND THE UNITED STATES.

Subject	Colorado			United States		
	1921	1920	10-Year Aver.	1921	1920	10-Year Aver.
WINTER WHEAT—						
Abandoned per cent	8	12	8.8	4.6	11.9	11.0
Acres for harvest.....	846	950	1,000*	38,721	37,773	49,105*
Condition, per cent....	90	85	91	88.8	79.1	86.8
Forecast—						
Production, bus.	15,989	17,195	11,917*	629,287	577,763	729,503*
RYE FOR GRAIN—						
Acres for harvest.....	110.4	115	135*	4,544	4,653	5,250*
Condition, per cent....	96	85	93	92.5	85.1	89.9
Forecast—						
Production, bus.	1,531	1,357	1,188*	72,007	69,318	59,933†
HAY—ALL KINDS—						
Acres for harvest.....	1,578	1,603	1,560*	73,842	73,181	72,260*
Condition, per cent....	97	95	95	91.5	89.4	89.1
Forecast—						
Production, tons	3,083	3,392	3,066*	107,784	108,233	109,152*
Old on hand, per cent	25	9	6*	18.0	10.4	11.1†
Old on hand, tons.....	848	248	160*	19,440	11,345	11,498†
PASTURES—						
Condition, per cent....	92	82	90	91.8	79.8	84.6
PLOWING—						
Per cent completed....	73	52	66	77.8	60.1	69.3
SPRING PLANTING—						
Per cent completed....	66	45	58	63.5	50.2	57.5
LIVESTOCK—MORTALITY OF—PER 1,000—						
Horses & Mules, dis.	17	21	18	14.7	17.6	18.9
Cattle, disease	19	20	20	17.0	19.6	19.6
Cattle, exposure	18	45	29	9.3	18.3	14.7
Sheep, disease	20	21	23	22.9	24.0	23.6
Sheep, exposure	20	45	43	14.8	33.1	28.8
Lambs, dis. & exp.	38	50	61‡	46.2	65.8	66.6
Swine, disease	25	20	31	44.2	51.5	65.7
LIVESTOCK—CONDITION—						
Horses	98	93	97	96.2	93.1	96.0
Cattle	99	89	96	95.8	91.9	95.1
Sheep	98	94	96	95.4	91.6	95.5
Swine	98	96	98	94.4	92.3	93.8

NOTES: The figures on acreage and production enumerate thousands and require that three ciphers (000) be added to complete the numbers. *1919 final estimates. †5-year average. ‡Pre-war 5-year average. §9-year average. Acreage and production figures for 1919 and 1920 are the last December final estimates.

ACREAGE OF WINTER WHEAT AND RYE COMPARED WITH LAST YEAR, AND CONDITION OF WINTER WHEAT, RYE, ALL HAY AND PASTURES, AND PERCENTAGE OF SOIL MOISTURE, COMPARED WITH NORMAL.

District and Counties	Winter Wheat Acreage			Winter Wheat Condition				Rye		All Hay	Soil	Pastures
	Irrigated Per cent.	Non-Irrigated Per cent.	All-per cent.	Irrigated Per cent.	Non-Irrigated Per cent.	All-Per cent.	Acreage Per cent.	Condition Per cent.	Condition Per cent.	Moisture Compared with Normal-Per cent.	Condition Compared with Normal Per cent.	
1. Northwest.												
Grand	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	105	104	103	
Jackson	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	103	100	100
Moffat	86	92	92	100	100	100	90	103	99	105	97	
Rio Blanco	89	85	85	99	95	95	78	100	100	103	102	
Routt	88	80	80	99	96	96	70	86	100	108	98	
2. North Central.												
Adams	110	89	92	88	88	88	95	93	92	107	101	
Boulder	93	82	90	85	79	83	90	80	94	100	37	
Denver	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Larimer	85	72	78	79	72	75	78	72	95	93	90	
Weld	97	88	91	92	84	86	93	92	95	101	92	
3. Northeast.												
Logan	94	91	91	95	86	87	98	94	97	98	92	
Morgan	96	88	89	97	83	84	93	95	98	110	90	
Phillips	.....	83	83	.....	85	85	90	90	95	78	95
Sedgwick	86	91	91	93	88	88	100	93	96	97	97	
Washington	95	96	96	100	100	100	91	100	98	106	94	
Yuma	100	104	104	100	97	97	90	96	98	97	35	
4. West Central.												
Delta	104	100	104	99	100	99	100	100	100	109	95	
Eagle	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	112	100
Garfield	110	110	110	98	98	98	.....	.....	100	102	100
Gunnison	100	100	100	100	100	100	.....	.....	100	90	100
Mesa	96	100	97	101	95	100	75	110	102	99	195	
Montrose	86	70	83	97	100	97	.....	.....	98	91	98
Ouray	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	120	100
Pitkin	100	.....	100	100	.....	100	100	100	100	100	100
5. Central.												
Chaffee	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	103	100
Clear Creek	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	85	65	65
Fremont	92	85	87	88	63	71	.....	.....	100	118	87
Gilpin	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	90	100	80
Jefferson	101	97	100	80	93	84	97	97	97	106	90	
Lake	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	105	120	110
Park	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Summit	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Teller	.....	100	100	.....	90	90	100	100	98	102	102
6. East Central.												
Arapahoe	82	81	81	95	98	98	75	103	95	109	92	
Cheyenne	.....	180	180	.....	96	96	100	94	.....	111	97
Douglas	.....	60	60	.....	100	100	80	100	100	130	100
Elbert	.....	131	131	.....	105	105	112	105	107	105	100
El Paso	.....	87	87	110	86	86	85	93	97	107	100
Kit Carson	.....	110	110	.....	97	97	97	98	88	103	73
Lincoln	.....	102	102	.....	100	100	97	99	98	112	90
7. Southwest.												
Archuleta	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80	50	60
Dolores	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hinsdale	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
La Plata	109	100	107	97	96	97	90	95	96	87	78	
Mineral	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Montezuma	97	100	99	90	90	90	.....	.....	100	112	100
San Juan	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
San Miguel	110	102	103	95	97	97	90	95	97	105	100	
8. South Central.												
Alamosa	100	100	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	99	100	94
Conejos	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	88	96
Costilla	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	110	100	112	130	112
Custer	100	100	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80	.....	60
Huerfano	.....	.....	.....	90	100	98	85	75	103	103	109
Rio Grande	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	92	87	87
Saguache	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	96	100	91
9. Southeast.												
Baca	93	107	107	88	91	91	90	86	.....	95	77
Bent	105	170	117	97	87	95	.....	.....	90	96	100
Crowley	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kiowa	.....	137	137	.....	98	98	155	100	102	115	103
Las Animas	83	98	98	96	90	90	100	100	100	145	91	
Otero	115	110	115	96	100	96	.....	.....	96	96	96
Prowers	101	132	110	96	100	97	96	92	87	104	86	
Pueblo	100	100	100	60	50	51	90	80	100	90	70	