

BULLETIN NO. 25

JUNE, 1921

Crop Report for Colorado

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Crop Estimates

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Preliminary Acreage Estimates—The estimates of acreages for 1921 crops in Colorado, given in this Bulletin, are preliminary estimates of acreage left for harvest and not necessarily equal to acreage planted. While reasonably accurate, the acreages are established in comparison in a percentage way with the acreages of corresponding crops for 1920 and former years, and are subject to revision later, probably in December, when there will be general revisions of all acreage and production figures in harmony with the 1919 Federal census and the acreages indicated by the annual findings of the county assessors. In reference to some of the principal crops, present information indicates that revisions will show a material increase in the acreage for harvest of winter wheat, small increases for spring wheat and barley, with a possible decrease in the acreage of oats harvested for grain. In this state there are many acres of small grains harvested for hay and forage, pastured or abandoned, varying in different seasons. The amount of this acreage is not very well determined as yet from the data available.

United States Figures are not reproduced in the text on account of lack of space, but will be found in the table on page 4.

Winter Wheat—Colorado winter wheat reached June 1 with a condition of 89 percent—one point lower than last month, 2 points higher than last year and 3 points above the ten-year average for June 1—and indicated a crop of 16,188,000 bushels. The preliminary estimate of the area for harvest this year is 846,000 acres. Apparently general revisions in December will increase this estimate materially. In comparison the crop harvested last year from 950,000 acres amounted to 17,195,000 bushels. The crop of 1919, as shown by the Federal census report, was 13,674,834 bushels, harvested from 1,031,576 acres. Weather conditions during May were generally favorable for the development of this crop, but portions of the state were becoming dry. The rains June 1-5 caused considerable loss to crops near the rivers on account of floods, but the general agricultural conditions of the state were greatly improved and deficiencies of moisture supplied in practically all sections.

Spring Wheat—The acreage of spring wheat for harvest in Colorado this year is estimated at 105 percent of last year and the preliminary estimate is 304,000 acres. The condition on June 1 was 92 percent, compared with 95 percent a year ago and an average condition of 92 percent on June 1 for the past 10 years. If conditions continue favorable until harvest the production should be about 6,293,000 bushels, compared with 5,626,000 bushels last year, and 4,586,000 bushels, harvested from 297,000 acres, as shown by the census for 1919.

All Wheat—The forecast of the total production of all wheat for the state this year is now placed at 22,481,000 bushels, compared with a final estimate of 22,821,000 bushels last year and 18,261,000 bushels reported by the census for 1919.

Figures for Oats, Barley, Rye, All Hay, Alfalfa, Pastures, Cabbage, Onions, Cantaloupes, Sugar Beets, and other crops are presented in the table on page 4 and not reproduced in the text.

Fruit—Comparative figures on the condition and forecasted production of apples, peaches and pears are shown in the table on page 4 and give complete information on present prospects.

Apples—The condition of the apple crop of Colorado on June 1 is placed at 55 percent of normal, compared with 85 percent last year and 72 percent the ten-year average. On the basis of these figures, a crop of 2,237,000 bushels is indicated this year, compared with 2,760,000 bushels last year and 3,418,000 bushels harvested in 1919. Reports indicate that the crop is seriously injured in the fruit sections east of the mountains and in the southwest counties of the state with about 65 to 70 percent of a crop indicated for the principal fruit sections in Mesa, Delta, Montrose and Garfield Counties.

Peaches—The condition of the peaches of Colorado on June 1 was estimated at 60 percent of normal, compared with 50 percent last year and 56 percent the average condition for the past ten years on June 1. These figures indicate a production this year of about 740,000 bushels, compared with an estimated production of 585,000 bushels last year and 840,000 bushels in 1919. The low temperatures of April seriously affected this crop and caused practically a failure in most sections except the heaviest producing portions of Mesa and Delta counties where reports indicate that about 70 to 75 percent of a crop may be expected.

Pears—The condition of pears in Colorado on June 1 is placed at 55 percent, compared with 92 percent last year and 68 percent the ten-year average. On the basis of this condition the forecasted crop is 254,000 bushels, compared with 338,000 bushels last year and 290,000 bushels in 1919. Reports indicate that Mesa county, which is the heaviest producer of this crop, will have about 83 percent of a crop.

Agricultural Outlook is based on reports from all sections of the state showing the estimated amount of moisture in the soil compared with normal. On June 1 the figure was 98.6 percent of normal, compared with 112 percent last year and 102 percent on May 1 this year. County estimates are found in the table on page 3. It is believed that the rains of June 1-5 supplied any deficiencies in moisture content and raised the figure above normal.

GENERAL REVIEW OF UNITED STATES CROP CONDITIONS JUNE 1, 1921.

Trend of Farm Prices—The level of prices paid producers of the United States for the principal crops increased about 4.6 percent during May; in the past ten years the price level increased about 2.3 percent during May. On June 1 the index figure of prices was about 64.6 percent lower than a year ago, 56.2 percent lower than two years ago, and 35.9 percent lower than the average of the past ten years on June 1.

The composite condition of all crops of the United States on June 1 was about 6.8 percent below their ten-year average condition on that date. Last year the June 1 condition of all crops was 5.2 percent below the ten-year average.

The Prices of Meat Animals—hogs, cattle, sheep and chickens—to producers of the United States increased 2.9 percent from April 15 to May 15; in the past ten years prices increased in like period 0.2 percent. On May 15 the index figure of prices for these meat animals was about 38.3 percent lower than a year ago, 50.0 percent lower than two years ago, and 18.9 percent lower than the average of the past ten years on May 15.

**CONDITION OF CROPS AND AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK ON JUNE 1,
PERCENT, COMPARED WITH NORMAL.**

1 Northwest—

	Winter Wheat	Spring Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	All Hay	Alfalfa	Past- ture	Agr'l Out- look
Grand	101	100	101	101	98	99	100	100	103
Jackson .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	110	.....	110	115
Moffat	101	97	100	99	103	95	101	102	115
Rio Blanco	100	96	102	105	120	102	105	108	110
Routt,	89	100	99	101	93	102	101	104	106

2 North Cent.—

Adams	88	84	95	91	94	95	95	96	95
Boulder	84	85	94	94	.....	95	96	93	96
Denver .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Larimer	76	91	96	94	98	98	97	97	95
Weld	89	99	99	100	95	97	94	99	102

3 Northeast—

Logan	82	89	93	92	87	98	97	88	82
Morgan	86	88	94	91	91	95	96	95	97
Phillips	85	83	85	.....	90	85	85	80	80
Sedgwick	88	85	85	86	85	91	90	89	90
Washington	80	85	87	91	82	87	85	88	82
Yuma	85	84	85	84	93	89	86	81	90

4 West Cent.—

Delta	105	98	99	.....	.....	96	98	95	103
Eagle	100	102	102	102	.....	99	100	101	103
Garfield	95	95	96	100	80	96	94	83	99
Gunnison	80	.....	85	100	.....	95	85	100	100
Mesa	98	98	98	80	90	89	89	100	87
Montrose	97	87	96	100	100	91	92	92	92
Ouray .....	.....	100	.....	.....	.....	100	100	.....	110
Pitkin	90	90	90	90	.....	100	100	100	.....

5 Central—

Chaffee .....	.....	98	97	93	.....	95	97	100	109
Clear Creek .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fremont	101	100	101	.....	101	95	103	105	105
Gilpin .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	110	110	110	115
Jefferson	97	93	97	94	100	100	100	96	91
Lake .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100	100	.....
Park .....	.....	.....	.....	120	.....	105	.....	98	115
Summit .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Teller	90	90	100	100	100	102	.....	100	104

6 East Cent.—

Arapahoe	86	89	92	91	93	92	91	97	91
Cheyenne	92	103	.....	.....	.....	100	100	100	100
Douglas	100	100	100	.....	100	95	100	90	75
Elbert	98	97	102	97	99	105	103	102	98
El Paso	86	95	99	98	96	99	99	97	100
Kit Carson	98	88	90	91	94	92	98	105	101
Lincoln	87	88	90	85	91	95	95	99	108

7 Southwest—

Archuleta	100	100	100	100	85	117	105	120	125
Dolores .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hinsdale .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	95	.....	.....	.....
La Plata	97	98	93	98	.....	89	89	85	100
Mineral .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Montezuma	96	101	101	100	100	85	88	95	133
San Juan .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
San Miguel	94	95	93	95	90	95	90	100	95

8 South Cent.—

Alamosa .....	.....	102	100	100	100	102	100	100	101
Conejos .....	.....	79	95	70	.....	96	80	110	90
Costilla	120	128	115	110	100	110	110	110	120
Custer .....	.....	80	60	60	.....	90	90	.....	.....
Huerfano	91	89	98	100	100	103	100	103	100
Rio Grande .....	.....	90	91	95	100	93	94	88	94
Saguache .....	.....	102	99	99	.....	101	102	98	105

9 Southeast—

Baca	91	89	85	88	72	63	85	98	85
Bent	94	90	95	94	100	72	65	97	95
Crowley	100	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kiowa	90	.....	.....	85	.....	90	.....	100	100
Las Animas	90	85	86	92	85	88	92	98	104
Otero	106	79	89	91	95	89	82	93	91
Prowers	87	86	91	86	88	86	83	97	92
Pueblo	76	89	85	79	65	84	82	77	87

State Av.	89	94	95	91	94	95	94	94	98.6
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SUMMARY OF JUNE 1, 1921, CROP REPORT FOR COLORADO AND THE UNITED STATES.

Subject	COLORADO			UNITED STATES		
	1921	1920	Ave.	1921	1920	Ave.
Winter Wheat—						
Acres for harvest..	846	950	1,032§	38,721	37,773	49,105*
Condition, per cent	80	87	86	77.9	78.2	81.8
Production, bus.	16,188	17,195	13,675§	578,196	578,000	572,000†
Spring Wheat—						
Acres for harvest..	304	290	297§	18,023	19,419	23,203*
Condition, per cent	92	95	92	93.4	89.1	93.0
Production, bus.	6,293	5,626	4,586§	251,289	209,000	258,000†
All Wheat—						
Acres for harvest..	1,150	1,240	1,329§	56,744	57,192	72,308*
Condition, per cent	90	89	87.5	82.0	81.7	85.5
Production, bus.	22,481	22,821	18,261§	829,485	787,000	934,265*
Oats—						
Acres for harvest..	242	255	249*	44,829	43,323	41,835*
Condition, per cent	95	95	93	85.7	87.8	89.5
Production, bus.	8,440	8,058	6,524*	1,404,922	1,526,000	1,432,000†
Barley—						
Acres for harvest..	186	190	171	7,713	8,083	7,198*
Condition, per cent	91	96	92	87.1	87.6	90.4
Production, bus.	5,416	4,674	4,405†	190,661	202,000	208,000†
Rye—						
Acres for harvest..	110	115	135*	4,544	4,653	5,250*
Condition, per cent	94	91	92	90.3	84.4	83.6
Production, bus.	1,499	1,357	1,188*	70,977	69,300	69,200†
Hay—						
Acres for harvest..	1,578	1,603	1,560*	73,842	73,181	72,260*
Condition, per cent	95	98	93	85.0	83.9	83.3
Production, tons ..	3,145	3,392	3,066*	101,000	108,000	103,000
Alfalfa—						
Acres for harvest..	774	791	782§	9,465	9,390	9,170*
Condition, per cent	94	99	93	87.8	92.4	88.8
Production, tons ..	1,928	2,072	1,779§	24,931	25,717	23,853*
Pastures—						
Condition, per cent	94	96	92	90.1	88.8	90.2
Field Peas—						
Condition, per cent	94	94	94	.....	85.4	92.8
Field Beans—						
Condition, per cent	93	92	96	.....	86.4	87.4
Cabbage—						
Condition, per cent	81	95	91	.....	86.8	87.3
Onions—						
Condition, per cent	92	93	92	.....	89.3	89.7
Apples—						
Condition, per cent	55	85	72	41.8	79.3	71.8
Production, bus.	2,237	2,760	3,413§	107,693	240,000	183,000†
Peaches—						
Condition, per cent	60	50	56	45.5	64.0	61.5
Production, bus.	740	585	840*	31,769	43,700	46,600†
Pears—						
Condition, per cent	55	92	68	43.8	73.4	66.3*
Production, bus.	254	338	290*	8,899	17,279	15,472*
Blackberries—						
Condition, per cent	87	80	83	.....	81.8	93.9*
Strawberries—						
Condition, per cent	88	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cherries—						
Condition, per cent	60	35	75*	.....	.....	.....
Watermelons—						
Condition, per cent	94	92	83	.....	77.4	80.2
Cantaloupes—						
Condition, per cent	94	94	84	.....	79.8	81.3
Sugar Beets—						
Condition, per cent	94	94	91	.....	.....	.....
Agricultural Outlook—						
Per cent	98.6	112	.....	.....	.....	.....

Notes—* 1919 final estimates; † 1915-19 five-year averages; § 1919 Federal Census; averages, unless otherwise designated, are ten-year averages; estimates on acreage in the above table, are preliminary and subject to revision as indicated in the first paragraph, page 1.

The figures on acreage and production merely enumerate thousands and require the addition of three ciphers (000) to complete them.

Abbreviations—Agricultural, Agr'l; Condition, Cond'n; Commercial, Com'l; Percent, Pct.; Production, Prod'n.