

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 1922 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 1921 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 reference to some of the principal crops, reports of county assessors indicate that revisions will show material increases in the acreage for harvest of winter wheat and rye, small increases for spring wheat and oats, with a possible decrease in the acreage of barley. 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 80 percent, the same as on May 1, 9 points lower than June 1 last year and 8 points below the ten-year average for June 1, and indicated a crop of 16,188,000 bushels, based on an average yield of 15.2 bushels for 1,173,000 acres left for harvest. If conditions continue favorable through harvest time, this acreage will no doubt be increased 10 to 12 percent, while the average yield is likely to be reduced to 12 or 13 bushels. In comparison, the crop harvested last year from 1,346,000 acres amounted to 16,152,000 bushels. The crop of 1919, as shown by the federal census report, was 13,270,000 bushels harvested from 1,032,000 acres. Weather conditions during May were generally favorable for the development of this crop. However, while moisture conditions were uniformly good for this date, there was but little surplus moisture in the soil, and opportune rains will be required to mature a good crop. (From June 1 to June 15, there was but little precipitation, temperatures were above normal, and crops were generally reaching a point where moisture was needed.)

Spring Wheat—The acreage of spring wheat for harvest in Colorado this year is estimated at 110 percent of that of last year, the preliminary estimate amounting to 410,000 acres. The condition on June 1 was 92 percent, compared with the same condition last year and a ten-year average of 92 percent on June 1. Based on the condition of 92 percent or about 18 bushels per acre, if conditions continue favorable until harvest, the production will amount to 7,544,000 bushels, compared with 7,087,000 bushels last year, and 4,574,000 bushels produced in 1919 from 297,000 acres as reported by the census.

All Wheat—The forecast of total production of all wheat for the state this year is now placed at 24,732,000 bushels, compared with a final estimate of 23,239,000 bushels last year, and 17,844,000 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 quite fully in the table on page 4, and not reproduced in the text.

Fruit—Comparative figures on condition and forecast of production on apples, peaches, and other fruits are shown in the table on page 4. Not in recent years has Colorado had such promising prospects of large crops of all kinds of fruit as this year. All commercial fruit growing sections are in excellent condition and far above the ten-year average.

Apples—The condition of the apple crop of Colorado on June 1 is placed at 94 percent of normal, compared with 55 percent last year, and 75 percent the ten-year average. On the basis of these figures, a crop of 3,863,000 bushels is indicated for this year, compared with 3,200,000 bushels last year and 3,418,000 bushels harvested in 1919.

Peaches—The peach crop of Colorado leads with the highest condition figure rated at 99 percent of normal on June 1, compared with 50 percent last year and 59 percent the ten-year average. These figures indicate a production this year of about 974,000 bushels compared with 860,000 bushels last year and 722,000 bushels shown by the census in 1919. The principal commercial peach sections of the state are located in Mesa, Delta, Montrose and Garfield counties.

Pears—The condition of pears in Colorado on June 1, is placed at 93 percent, compared with 72 percent the ten-year average. A crop that will exceed 419,000 bushels is indicated, compared with 483,000 bushels produced last year and 270,000 bushels reported by the census of 1919. The commercial pear districts of the state are principally in Mesa County.

Cherries—The cherry crop of the state was rated at 95 percent of normal on June 1, as compared with 60 percent last year and 75 percent in 1919. The crop this year should amount to 200,000 bushels. In 1919 the crop totalled 165,000 bushels. The principal cherry counties are Larimer, Fremont, Jefferson, Otero and Crowley.

Small Fruits—Prospects are for large crops of strawberries and blackberries. The outcome will depend largely upon the growers obtaining sufficient water to carry the crops to maturity. In 1919 the census reported a production of 944,000 quarts of strawberries and 2,295,000 quarts for the combined production of raspberries, blackberries and loganberries. The crops this year should be much larger.

Agricultural Outlook—This is based on reports from all sections of the state showing the estimated amount of moisture in the soil as compared with normal. On June 1, this year, the moisture condition was estimated at 90 percent of normal, compared with 98.6 percent last year, and 112 percent in 1920. County estimates are found in the table on page 3. From June 1 to June 15, there has been but little precipitation and temperatures have been above normal, the moisture content of the soil has not improved and crops are generally reaching the point where rains are needed. In all streams flowing eastward water for direct irrigation is extremely short, and while reservoirs have generally been fairly well filled, it has already (30 to 60 days earlier than usual) been necessary to draw upon them in a limited way. On June 1 Colorado had a condition of 98.3 percent of the ten-year average for all crops on this date.

General Review of United State Crop Conditions June 1, 1922—The composite condition of all crops of the United States on June 1 was about 0.8 percent below their ten-year average condition on that date. Last year the June 1 condition of all crops was 6.8 percent below the average. The condition of the various crops on June 1, expressed in percentages of ten-year averages (not the normal), on June 1, was as follows: Winter wheat, 100.5; spring wheat, 97.7; oats, 95.5; barley, 100.0; rye, 104.3; all hay, 102.5; alfalfa hay, 100.9; field beans, 100.9; sugar beets, 96.0; apples, 105.1; peaches, 126.5; pears, 110.6; cherries, 92.1, oranges, 88.5; prunes, 97.4; blackberries, 105.9; grapefruit, 105.3; pastures, 103.1; cotton, 93.3.

Trend of farm prices—The level of prices paid producers of the United States for the principal crops increased about 2.7 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 10.3 percent higher than a year ago, 61.0 percent lower than two years ago, and 29.6 percent lower than the average of the past ten years on June 1.

The prices of meat animals—Hogs, cattle, sheep and chickens—to producers of the United States increased 2.3 percent from April 15 to May 15; in the past ten years prices increased in like period 0.3 percent. On May 15 the index figure of prices for these meat animals was about 8.1 percent higher than a year ago, 33.2 percent lower than two years ago, and 14.3 percent lower than the average of the past ten years on May 15.

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

Counties	Winter Wheat	Spring Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Hay (All)	Alfalfa	Pas- ture	Agr'l Out- look
1. Northwest—									
Grand	100	.....	100	100	90	90	101	90	.....
Jackson	80	.....	90	90	.....	.....	.....	.....	95
Moffat	91	98	86	92	100	101	101	105	103
Rio Blanco	100	100	100	93	100	100	100	100	100
Routt	86	97	99	99	100	100	100	92	92
2. North Central—									
Adams	70	93	90	88	90	85	85	88	65
Boulder	61	73	80	76	80	64	76	62	52
Denver .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Larimer	71	85	85	83	85	87	85	80	69
Weld	69	88	90	87	88	89	85	78	72
3. Northeast—									
Logan	79	92	94	98	93	97	98	96	114
Morgan	72	91	97	95	91	97	95	97	86
Phillips	78	81	93	95	87	82	98	98	112
Sedgwick	53	94	100	100	100	100	105	100	105
Washington	87	92	100	98	97	100	105	97	112
Yuma	83	82	89	95	89	100	98	92	93
4. West Central—									
Delta	90	100	100	100	.....	95	90	.....	100
Eagle	100	96	100	98	.....	97	95	95	61
Garfield	87	97	98	90	.....	94	118	91	95
Gunnison	93	80	84	90	.....	94	80	89	92
Mesa	98	95	94	98	.....	96	94	95	95
Montrose	95	97	97	94	.....	96	92	86	98
Ouray	93	93	95	94	.....	82	88	90	100
Pitkin	100	102	102	104	100	100	100	100	100
5. Central—									
Chaffee .....	.....	95	95	100	.....	95	100	100	95
Clear Creek .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	90	.....
Fremont	90	70	90	100	.....	90	90	70	85
Gilpin .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jefferson	92	95	95	91	99	96	97	92	84
Lake .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Park .....	.....	90	100	100	100	100	100	98	100
Summit .....	.....	.....	100	100	.....	95	.....	95	85
Teller .....	.....	.....	100	100	100	99	.....	67	73
6. East Central—									
Arapahoe	72	91	91	90	85	81	84	68	72
Cheyenne	100	100	.....	95	.....	.....	100	.....	.....
Douglas	99	95	.....	95	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
E'bert	97	94	91	90	98	110	98	100	96
El Paso	90	90	96	97	95	97	98	97	94
Kit Carson	94	92	87	93	92	85	100	95	91
Lincoln	88	89	85	95	95	100	102	97	93
7. Southwest—									
Archuleta	90	90	85	82	.....	100	100	100	100
Dolores	91	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hinsdale .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100	.....	85
La Plata	101	94	96	87	.....	88	94	83	94
Mineral .....	.....	.....	100	95	.....	98	.....	98	.....
Montezuma	93	98	96	97	95	62	84	92	99
San Juan .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
San Miguel	91	91	90	91	95	90	90	90	90
8. South Central—									
Alamosa	90	105	100	100	.....	105	100	100	102
Conejos	90	95	94	95	.....	96	97	98	68
Costilla	75	100	100	100	80	92	95	95	80
Custer	90	85	90	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Huerfano	90	100	100	.....	.....	100	100	65	.....
Rio Grande .....	.....	94	93	96	.....	92	98	93	100
Saguache .....	.....	93	90	94	.....	93	97	88	80
9. Southeast—									
Baca	70	87	.....	92	75	.....	100	97	80
Bent	90	84	91	89	95	98	97	95	81
Crowley	78	76	90	80	.....	.....	.....	90	90
Kiowa	102	75	100	100	105	95	80	100	108
Las Animas	74	76	83	92	75	74	68	76	57
Oltero	93	83	92	89	100	97	94	93	94
Frowers	94	94	94	96	93	102	104	102	100
Pueblo	85	99	96	94	90	94	95	97	90

SUMMARY OF JUNE 1, 1922, CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORT FOR COLORADO AND THE UNITED STATES

Subject	Colorado				1922	United States		
	1922	1921	1920	Average		1921	1920	Average
WINTER WHEAT—								
Acres for harvest.....	1,173	1,346	1,044	1,032§	38,131	47,702	40,016	36,789
Condition, percent.....	80	89	87	88	81.9	77.9	78.2	81.5
Production, bus.	16,188	16,152	18,270	13,270§	607,333	587,032	610,597	616,597*
SPRING WHEAT—								
Acres for harvest.....	410	373	361	297§	18,639	19,706	21,127	25,200*
Condition, percent.....	92	92	95	92	90.7	93.4	89.1	92.8
Production, bus.	7,544	7,087	7,003	4,574	247,175	207,861	222,430	207,602*
ALL WHEAT—								
Acres for harvest.....	1,583	1,719	1,405	1,329	56,770	62,408	61,143	61,989
Production, bus.	24,732	23,239	25,273	17,844	854,508	794,893	833,027	967,979*
OATS—								
Acres for harvest.....	228	217	204	174§	41,822	44,826	42,491	40,359*
Condition, percent.....	93	93	95	93	85.5	85.7	87.8	89.5
Production, bus.	7,752	6,727	6,426	4,559*	1,304,664	1,060,737	1,496,291	1,184,030*
BARLEY—								
Acres for harvest.....	202	202	216	153§	7,550	7,240	7,600	6,720*
Condition, percent.....	92	91	96	92	90.1	87.1	87.6	90.1
Production, bus.	5,575	4,444	5,292	2,802§	191,246	151,181	189,332	147,608*
RYE—								
Acres for harvest.....	90	92	100	124*	5,148	4,228	4,409	6,307*
Condition, percent.....	92	94	91	92	92.5	90.3	84.4	88.7
Production, bus.	1,118	1,058	1,180	1,088*	80,815	57,918	60,490	75,482*
HAY—								
Acres for harvest.....	1,605	1,601	1,675	1,638*	74,345	74,225	73,888	74,038*
Condition, percent.....	94	95	98	93	91.1	85.0	88.9	90.1
Production, tons	2,995	2,914	3,140	2,881§	106,099	96,802	105,315	104,769*
ALFALFA—								
Acres for harvest.....	797	773	828	782§	.....	.....	.....	.....
Condition, percent.....	93	94	99	93	.....	93.2	87.9	92.7
Production, tons	2,465	2,164	2,484	1,779§	.....	.....	.....	.....
PASTURES—								
Condition, percent.....	92	94	96	92	93.8	90.1	88.8	91.0
FIELD PEAS—								
Condition, percent.....	95	94	96	95	87.8	85.8	83.0	85.2
FIELD BEANS—								
Condition, percent.....	92	93	90	91	88.6	84.6	86.4	87.4
CABBAGE—								
Condition, percent.....	95	81	95	91	.....	87.4	86.8	87.1
ONIONS—								
Condition, percent.....	93	92	93	91	.....	88.8	89.3	89.5
APPLES—								
Condition, percent.....	94	55	85	75	72.7	42.2	79.3	59.2
Production, bus.	3,863	3,200	3,830	3,418§	179,810	98,097	223,677	142,086*
PEACHES—								
Condition, percent.....	99	60	50	59	77.1	45.6	64.9	60.8
Production, bus.	974	860	670	722§	53,629	32,733	45,620	53,178*
PEARS—								
Condition, percent.....	98	75	92	72	72.8	43.8	73.4	65.8
Production, bus.	419	483	386	270§	15,021	10,705	16,805	15,101*
BLACKBERRIES—								
Condition, percent.....	85	87	80	83	92.6	86.8	88.1	87.4
CHERRIES—								
Condition, percent.....	95	60	35	75*	92.1**	.....	.....	.....
WATERMELONS—								
Condition, percent.....	96	94	92	94	.....	79.5	77.4	80.2
CANTALOUPE—								
Condition, percent.....	97	94	94	85	.....	83.1	79.8	81.5
SUGAR BEETS—								
Acres	160	200	220	183*	.....	815	872	693*
Condition, percent.....	87	94	94	91	86.6	92.2	92.8	90.2
Production, tons	1,600	2,159	2,166	1,656*	.....	7,414	7,991	5,838*
AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK—								
Percent normal moisture in soil for this time	90	98.6	112	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

NOTES: * 1919 final estimates; § 1919 Federal Census; averages, unless otherwise designated, are ten-year averages; estimates on acreage and production for 1922 in the above table, are preliminary and forecasts 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.