

Crop Report for Colorado

U. S. Department of Agriculture

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Preliminary Acreage Estimates.—The estimates of the acreages for 1922 crops in Colorado, given in this bulletin, are preliminary estimates of acreages left for harvest and not necessarily the same as the acreage planted, and are subject to revision later, in December.

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

General Conditions—Heavy declines in many of the important crops of Colorado during July, and August 1 figures much below the ten-year average, with a composite condition figure for all crops of the state equaling 90.8 percent of the ten-year average, a decline of 5.7 points during July, compared with a composite condition of all crops of the state of 104.4 percent on August 1, last year, are the salient features of this month's crop report.

Corn.—Due to the effect of the continued dry weather, over nearly all parts of the state, except the extreme eastern and northeastern counties, corn declined 14 points during July 1 and on August 1, had a condition of 76 percent of normal, 3 points below the August 1 figure of last year and 6 points below the ten-year average. On the assumption that the entire acreage is to be harvested for grain, this condition would indicate a production of 23,015,000 bushels, compared with a final estimate of 23,239,000 bushels last year. The results of special inquiries indicate that during the past year only about 75 to 80 percent of the total acreage of corn is harvested for grain. If this ratio prevails this year, the total production of grain will be reduced proportionately.

Winter Wheat.—Winter wheat declined 6 points during July and had a harvest-time condition of 74 percent of normal, compared with 84 percent last year. Based on this condition the production is estimated at 16,422,000 bushels, compared with a final estimate of 16,152,000 bushels in 1921. Final figures on average yield are likely to reduce this year's estimate.

Spring Wheat.—Spring wheat declined 11 points in condition during the past 9 days and reached August 1 at 67 percent of normal. A continuation of drouth conditions is likely to reduce this figure. The condition of the crop on August 1, last year was 85 and the ten-year average for August 1 is 84. The forecast of production is 6,593,000 bushels, compared with 7,087,000 bushels last year.

Potatoes.—The condition of the Colorado crop declined 5 points during July and reached August 1 with a condition of 81 percent, compared with 93 percent on August 1, last year, and 86 percent the ten-year average condition for this date. Unfavorable temperatures, deficient supplies of water for irrigation, with little rainfall in most sections, caused a reduction from the July 1 forecast of nearly a million bushels. The Colorado crop is now estimated at 17,982,000 bushels (150,000 acres in the state) compared with a final estimate of 11,070,000 bushels last year. The crop is in the balance, present indications are that the final outturn will be less than the August 1 forecast, on account of little reserve soil moisture and deficient supplies of irrigation water in some of the most important potato sections, especially in the north-central portion of the state. Usually about 70 to 75 percent of the total production in Colorado is considered as commercial. The United States crop is estimated at 440,000,000 bushels, nearly 100,000,000 bushels more than harvested last year. Comparative production figures in bushels for the leading potato states are given on page 2. (Figures are stated in thousands of bushels, 100) are required to complete the numbers:

State	Forecast	Final	State	Forecast	Final
	Aug. 1, 1922	Estimate Dec., 1921		Aug. 1, 1922	Estimate Dec., 1921
Maine	24,530	37,152	Iowa	8,291	4,128
New York	35,809	33,990	North Dakota	20,318	11,520
Pennsylvania	25,724	21,586	Nebraska	10,305	8,160
Virginia	15,214	14,688	Colorado	17,862	11,070
Ohio	10,248	6,728	Idaho	14,253	10,545
Illinois	8,242	6,413	California	11,309	10,064
Michigan	36,418	27,200			
Wisconsin	38,022	21,420	Total (15 states)	317,454	252,189
Minnesota	40,909	27,525	Total U. S.	439,900	246,823

Field Beans.—The prospects for the Colorado bean crop declined 13 points during July. The August 1 condition was only 75 percent, compared with 94 a year ago, and a ten-year average of 87 for this date. The Colorado crop is estimated at 690,000 bushels, or about twice that of last year. The United States crop, (6 principal states) is estimated at 12,814,000 bushels, compared with 9,118,000 bushels last year. Comparative production figures in bushels for 6 important states, forecast for 1922 and final estimate for 1921, in the order named, are indicated here: New York, 1,193,000—1,072,000; Michigan, 4,923,000—2,972,000; Colorado, 690,000—342,000; New Mexico, 311,000—830,000; Arizona, 71,000—68,000; Idaho, 227,000—216,000; California, 5,399,000—3,618,000. Total as above.

Fruits.—Prospects for good crops of all kinds of fruits are still regarded as very good, perhaps generally the best in the history of the state. Detailed figures, except for cherries, will be found on the last page.

Cherries.—The cherry crop of the state is almost uniformly in good condition and the production rated at 90 percent of the normal crop compared with 50 percent a year ago. The crop this year should amount to approximately 200,000 bushels. In 1919, the federal census reported 165,000 bushels harvested. The principal cherry counties of the state are Larimer, Fremont, Jefferson, Otero and Crowley.

Miscellaneous Crops.—Estimates of condition and production of other important state crops with comparisons are presented in the table on page 4. The August 1 condition figures for 1922, 1921, 1920 and 1919 in the order named for crops not mentioned in the table on page 4, are as follows: Alfalfa, 80-92-97-90; grain sorghums, 78-87-90-84; field peas, 90-96-95-92; broom corn, 75-89-93-78; millet, 76-82-92-82; pastures, 70-96-92-88; tomatoes, 85-93-86-80; cabbage, 85-94-87-86; onions, 85-94-93-88; watermelons, 80-85-80-79; cantaloups, 80-87-80-80; grapes, 86-93-75-76; blackberries (production) 85-86-83-81.

Agricultural Outlook is based upon reports from all sections of the state, indicating the estimated amount of moisture in the soil as compared with normal. On August 1, moisture supply is only 74, compared with 76 on July 1, 97.5 for last year on August 1, and 96.1 for August 1, 1920. Moisture was generally needed in all parts of the state, except in the extreme eastern and northeastern counties, for crops and pastures. In the north-central part of the state irrigation water was extremely limited and being reserved for the important late truck and field crops including potatoes and beans.

Condition figures for the irrigated and non-irrigated crops are not given separately, only the composite condition figures by counties and for the state are used as shown in the table on page 3 and elsewhere.

General Review of United States Crop Conditions, August 1, 1922.—The composite condition of all crops of the United States on August 1 was about 1.2 percent above their ten-year average on that date, 3.3 per cent higher than on July 1, and 10.4 per cent higher than final per acre yield last year. This year's total acreage in 20 cultivated crops is about 0.3 percent less than last year. The production of important crops this year, compared with last year, expressed in percentages, is estimated as follows: Corn, 98.0; wheat, 101.3; oats, 117.9; barley, 127.2; rye, 137.5; buckwheat, 97.9; white potatoes, 127.2; sweet potatoes, 113.6; tobacco, 132.5; flax seed, 141.1; rice, 106.0; hay (all), 114.0; sugar beets, 65.3; cotton, 143.9; apples, 205.6; peaches, 171.2; pears, 153.7; grain sorghums, 98.9; broom corn, 141.3; beans, 140.7; peanuts, 83.2; hops, 110.3; sorghum for syrup, 88.5.

Trend of Farm Prices.—The level of prices paid producers of the United States for the principal crops decreased about 0.3 percent during July; in the past ten years the price level decreased about 0.2 percent during July. On August 1 the index figure of prices was about 8.8 percent higher than a year ago, 55.9 percent lower than two years ago, and 30.0 percent lower than the average of the past ten years on August 1.

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

	COLORADO				UNITED STATES			
	1922	1921	1920	Average	1922	1921	1920	Average
Corn—								
Acres planted	1,135	1,102	1,182	1,021*	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acres for grain	908	888	887	752*	103,234	103,850	101,699	97,176*
Condition, percent	76	84	90	82	85.6	84.3	86.7	79.5
Prod'n, bus. grain.....	20,702	15,979	24,231	15,315*	3,016,950	3,080,372	3,208,584	2,811,361*
All Wheat Acres—								
Acres for harvest.....	1,583	1,719	1,405	1,329*	56,770	62,408	61,143	75,694*
Prod'n, bus.	23,015	23,239	25,273	18,196*	804,852	794,893	833,027	967,979*
Winter Wheat—								
Acres for harvest.....	1,173	1,346	1,044	1,032§	38,131	42,702	40,016	50,454*
Average yield, bus.....	14	12	17.5	13.2	14.2	13.7	15.3	*15.1
Prod'n, bus.	16,422	16,152	18,272	13,622*	541,460	587,032	610,597	760,377*
Spring Wheat—								
Acres for harvest.....	410	373	361	297*	18,639	19,706	21,127	25,200*
Condition, percent	67	85	90	84	80.4	66.6	73.4	73.9
Prod'n, bus.	6,593	7,087	7,003	4,574*	263,392	207,861	222,430	297,612*
Oats—								
Acres for harvest.....	238	217	204	174*	41,822	44,826	42,401	40,359*
Condition, percent	70	91	90	87	75.6	64.5	87.2	81.5
Prod'n, bus.	7,862	6,722	6,426	4,559*	1,251,156	1,060,737	1,496,281	1,412,602†
Barley—								
Acres for harvest.....	202	202	216	153*	7,550	7,240	7,600	6,720*
Condition, percent	70	94	90	86	82.0	71.4	84.9	81.3
Prod'n, bus.	4,737	4,444	5,292	2,907*	191,507	151,181	189,332	147,608*
Rye—								
Acres for harvest.....	90	92	100	124*	5,148	4,228	4,409	6,307*
Average yield, bus.....	9	11.5	11.8	8.8	15.5	13.7	13.7	12.0
Prod'n, bus.	810	1,058	1,180	1,088*	79,600	57,918	60,490	75,483*
White Potatoes—								
Acres for harvest	150	90	73	77*	4,228	3,815	3,657	3,512*
Condition, percent	81	93	91	86	84.3	65.8	87.0	81.3
Prod'n, bus.	17,982	11,070	9,490	8,855*	439,900	347,000	403,296	322,867*
Sugar Beets—								
Acres planted	165	214	252	205†	606	882	979	826†
Acres harvested .....	.....	200	220	183*	.....	815	872	693†
Condition, percent	80	96	89	88	85.0	89.9	91.9	83.5
Prod'n, tons	1,467	2,159	2,166	1,656*	5,080	7,782	8,538	6,421*
All Hay—								
Acres harvested	1,453	1,601	1,675	1,638*	76,780	.....	.....	.....
Condition, percent	80	93	97	91	90.8	.....	82.5	90.5
Prod'n, tons	2,261	2,914	3,140	2,831§	110,378	96,802	105,315	104,760†
Field Beans—								
Acres for harvest.....	92	38	52	66*	.....	771	838	1,060*
Condition, percent	75	94	86	87	80.2	81.7	82.5	83.4
Prod'n, bus.	690	342	416	429*	12,814	9,118	9,077	13,349*
Apples—								
Condition, percent	83	65	60	65	67.4	34.8	70.4	57.2
Agr'l. Prod'n, bus.....	3,772	3,200	2,830	3,418§	201,726	96,881	223,667	142,086*
Commercial bbls. ....	.....	812	736	855*	33,402	20,098	33,905	26,159*
Peaches—								
Condition, percent	85	60	50	58	74.7	42.6	60.7	55.9
Agr'l. Prod'n, bus.....	850	860	670	722§	55,976	32,733	45,620	53,178*
Pears—								
Condition, percent	85	65	80	69	73.0	41.7	71	59.4
Agr'l. prod'n, bus.....	379	483	386	270§	16,452	10,705	16,805	15,101*

Notes—Figures on acreage and production merely enumerate thousands and require the addition of three ciphers (000) to complete them. * Figures with the star (*) are for the 1919 final estimates. † represents the 1916-1920 five-year average. Estimates on acreage and production in the table above are preliminary and subject to revision in December as indicated in the first paragraph. § indicates census figures for 1919.

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