

# Crop Report for Colorado

U. S. Department of Agriculture

Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
(Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates)

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**Winter Wheat.**—The Colorado crop of winter wheat held about steady in condition during the month of April, due to good rains during the forepart of the month in most districts except the east-central and southeast. The preliminary estimates of May 1 forecast a crop of 13,741,000 bushels. This estimate is based upon the May 1 condition of 65 per cent representing about 13 bushels per acre for 1,057,000 acres left for harvest from a sowing last fall of 1,578,000 acres. The abandonment, or the acreage that was sown last fall and will be plowed up and put into other crops or otherwise considered unfit for harvest as winter wheat, amounted to 33 per cent of the area sown, compared with 20 per cent last year and 9.6 per cent for the past five years. The crop harvested last year amounted to 16,406,000 bushels, an average yield of 13 bushels per acre on 1,262,000 acres. In 1919, the average yield was only 13.2 bushels per acre. Only under exceptionally favorable conditions during the remainder of the season can the yield exceed 10 or 11 bushels per acre for the acreage remaining for harvest. Approximately 93 per cent of the winter wheat of Colorado is grown upon non-irrigated land. The non-irrigated farming sections in the northern and northeastern parts have fair surface moisture conditions for the present, but the subsoil is considered deficient. The east-central and especially the southeastern counties of the state have been and are still suffering from long continued drouth, and more or less wind and other winter damage. In nearly all eastern slope sections early sown wheat suffered extremely. Much of it sprouted but lacked moisture to bring it up and sustain good growth. Of the late sown fall wheat much of it came up this spring and is unseasonably small. Winter wheat is generally in better condition in the western counties and upon farms under irrigation where only about the usual abandonment occurred.

The United States winter wheat crop improved 4.9 points in condition during the month of April and was rated on May 1, at 80.1, compared with 75.2 on April 1, 83.5 on May 1, 1922, and 87.5, the average for the past 10 years on May 1. The condition at this time indicates an average yield of approximately 14.6 bushels per acre, assuming average variations to prevail hereafter. The per cent of abandonment was 14.3, compared with 9.8, the 10-year average. The area left for harvest was estimated at 39,750,000 acres, compared with 42,127,000 acres harvested last year. The production is placed at 578,287,000 bushels, or 1.3 per cent less than in 1922, 3.7 per cent less than in 1921, 5.3 per cent less than in 1920, and 1.6 per cent less than the 589,854,000 bushel average of the past ten years.

For other and more complete state and United States figures for winter wheat, rye, hay, pastures, plowing, spring planting and livestock, see table on page 4.

**Rye.**—The condition of the 78,000 acres of fall rye of the state left for harvest as grain is 75 per cent of normal, compared with 85 last year and 91 the ten-year average. This low condition is also due to the generally adverse drouth period that effected wheat. The index of condition justifies a forecast of about 10.5 bushels per acre, or a grain production of fall rye of 819,000 bushels. In addition to the fall rye there will also

probably be some 13,000 acres more or less of spring rye cut for grain, which will add to the total rye production of the state. Besides the rye cut for grain last year, there were about 35,000 acres cut green for hay and 29,000 acres pastured or abandoned. In 1922 about 60 per cent of the rye acreage was harvested for grain. It is likely that similar conditions will prevail in this respect this year. Practically the entire acreage of rye in this state is grown upon non-irrigated land. It is a valuable and quite sure crop either for hay, pasture or grain.

**Hay.**—Based upon a condition of 90 per cent of normal, the hay crop of the state is placed at 2,580,000 tons, compared with the final estimate of 2,709,000 tons last year. According to preliminary reports there is a decrease of about 5 per cent in the acreage devoted to tame hay this year with practically no change in wild hay. The acreage of tame hay is placed at 1,178,000 acres and wild hay at 366,000 acres. There is considerable variation in the acreage devoted to tame hay on account of the grains cut green, millet and other tame grasses that make up the area devoted to this crop. On May 1, about 8 per cent of last year's hay crop or 217,000 tons, remained on the farms of the state, compared with 17 per cent or 495,000 tons of the 1921 crop on hand a year ago, and 785,000 tons (25 per cent) of the 1920 crop, on hand May 1, 1921. This is the lowest hay reserve in recent years, except in 1919 when there was only 6 per cent. Even though the winter was generally open and mild, in many localities a long feeding period was required. Due to the drouth of last season and consequent shortage of pastures, feed generally became scarce and high priced.

**Livestock.**—Generally the stock on the farms and ranges of Colorado reached May 1 in fair to good condition, slightly below the 10-year average. Due to favorable weather conditions the mortality of livestock for the year ending May 1, as shown by the losses per thousand head, were a little less than last year, and quite a little under the ten-year average figures. All livestock has been healthy though frequently in thin condition.

**Dry Beans.**—Replies to special inquiries on intentions to plant indicate that, unless the farmers of the state materially revise their plans, the bean acreage in Colorado this year, will be about 32 per cent greater than that of last year, when approximately 108,000 acres were planted and 81,000 acres were harvested. This would mean from 142,000 to 150,000 acres will be planted this year. The results of this bean inquiry are issued that growers may have information regarding the trend in this crop.

**Potatoes.**—Replies to the same kind of an inquiry on the intentions of farmers to plant potatoes in Colorado this year, indicate that the acreage to be planted will be about 18 per cent less than that of last year, which would mean that approximately 125,000 acres will be planted, or about 117,000 acres for harvest, compared with 152,000 planted last year, from which about 142,000 acres were harvested. The reports show an irrigated planting of about 81 per cent, or 102,000 acres, and the non-irrigated planting compared to last year of 87 per cent, or about 23,000 acres. This inquiry on prospective potato planting was made on April 1 and also on May 1, and the results reported at this time, in order that farmers throughout the state may have some knowledge of the trend in the potato business, and if they so desire, may increase or decrease their plantings accordingly.

**Agricultural Outlook.**—The soil condition for Colorado on May 1, as indicated by the average reports, held just steady during April, and was 90 per cent as compared with 95 per cent on May 1 last year, 102 per cent May 1, 1921, 110 per cent on May 1, 1920. Except in the east-central and southeastern districts present surface soil conditions are favorable. There is generally a lack of reserve moisture in the sub-soil over most of the plains sections. Timely and ample rains will be required to mature satisfactory crops, even in the sections where moisture is now fairly good. According to the weather bureau, the snow supply in the higher elevations is well above normal for this time of year, and promises fairly good late supplies for the irrigated sections, while the snow is already pretty well gone from the lower elevation water sheds. Reservoirs are generally well filled.

# SUPPLEMENT TO COLORADO CROP BULLETIN NO. 46

## BEET SUGAR PRODUCTION, 1922 (REVISED FIGURES).

(1 ton=2,000 pounds.)

State and Year <sup>1</sup>	Sugar Made	Area Harvested	Beets Worked		Beets Paid For		Average Price Paid for Beets, <sup>2</sup> per ton	Total Amount Paid for Beets <sup>2</sup>	Number of Factories in Operation	Average Number Days in Operation	Average Extraction of Sugar <sup>3</sup>	Average Sugar in Beets <sup>4</sup>	Average Purity Coefficient <sup>5</sup>
			Amount	Average per Acre	Amount	Average per Acre							
	Tons	Acres	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Dollars	Dollars	Number	Days	Per Cent	Per Cent	Per Cent
<b>California:</b>													
1919.....	131,000	107,000	805,000	7.51	816,000	7.61	14.17	11,561,000	10	76	16.30	17.87	82.02
1920.....	168,000	123,000	1,052,000	8.56	1,074,000	8.74	13.13	14,096,000	10	90	15.97	17.66	81.44
1921.....	171,000	121,000	1,040,000	8.62	1,046,000	8.67	7.51	7,851,000	9	84	16.48	17.80	81.46
1922.....	73,000	57,000	424,000	7.38	424,000	7.40	9.24	3,921,000	7	74	17.28	18.48	82.71
<b>Colorado:</b>													
1919.....	194,000	183,000	1,656,000	9.07	1,765,000	9.65	10.85	19,143,000	15	87	11.71	13.62	83.85
1920.....	294,000	220,000	2,166,000	9.85	2,325,000	10.58	11.88	27,627,000	17	98	13.60	15.81	85.15
1921.....	295,000	200,000	2,159,000	10.79	2,279,000	11.39	6.37	14,521,000	15	95	13.66	15.66	83.28
1922.....	183,000	148,000	1,422,000	9.63	1,466,000	9.93	7.43	10,887,000	15	63	12.90	14.66	82.69
<b>Idaho:</b>													
1919.....	26,000	30,000	197,000	6.49	203,000	6.70	11.00	2,235,000	6	50	13.29	15.48	86.15
1920.....	57,000	45,000	405,000	8.97	396,000	8.77	12.10	4,787,000	8	72	13.98	16.26	86.42
1921.....	57,000	41,000	355,000	8.57	380,000	9.18	6.00	2,279,000	7	60	15.99	17.45	86.54
1922.....	40,000	24,000	258,000	10.94	273,000	11.59	6.77	1,851,000	5	55	15.44	16.58	86.21
<b>Michigan:<sup>6</sup></b>													
1919.....	130,000	123,000	1,032,000	8.36	1,211,000	9.82	12.52	15,158,000	16	84	12.63	14.57	81.78
1920.....	166,000	150,000	1,244,000	8.32	1,313,000	8.78	10.07	13,326,000	17	87	13.34	15.79	84.04
1921.....	122,000	148,000	1,117,000	7.55	1,153,000	7.80	6.10	7,041,000	17	71	10.95	13.28	81.68
1922.....	81,000	84,000	648,000	7.72	692,000	8.23	7.21	4,984,000	15	48	12.52	14.38	84.16
<b>Nebraska:</b>													
1919.....	61,000	59,000	554,000	9.37	601,000	10.16	10.90	6,546,000	4	112	10.99	13.14	82.80
1920.....	90,000	72,000	670,000	9.26	718,000	9.93	11.96	8,587,000	5	110	13.37	15.74	85.94
1921.....	105,000	72,000	730,000	10.12	773,000	10.72	6.59	5,093,000	5	106	14.43	16.60	84.55
1922.....	87,000	55,000	671,000	12.21	703,000	12.78	6.87	4,827,000	5	92	12.94	14.79	84.26
<b>Ohio:</b>													
1919.....	32,000	31,000	292,000	9.43	327,000	10.58	12.75	4,168,000	5	79	10.93	14.15	82.73
1920.....	47,000	49,000	382,000	7.77	436,000	8.86	9.89	4,313,000	5	100	12.31	15.44	82.45
1921.....	26,000	33,000	248,000	7.61	264,000	8.10	6.05	1,596,000	5	62	10.46	13.41	81.41
1922.....	25,000	26,000	206,000	7.98	220,000	8.51	6.97	1,531,000	4	60	11.94	14.65	82.81
<b>Utah:</b>													
1919.....	101,000	103,000	908,000	8.80	1,016,000	9.84	10.97	11,148,000	18	84	11.12	13.87	82.39
1920.....	163,000	113,000	1,261,000	11.20	1,390,000	12.35	12.03	16,713,000	18	102	12.89	15.62	84.27
1921.....	156,000	112,000	1,084,000	9.66	1,152,000	10.26	5.47	6,300,000	18	78	14.27	16.52	84.72
1922.....	110,000	73,000	775,000	10.69	819,000	11.29	6.25	5,115,000	16	55	14.16	16.11	85.17
<b>Wisconsin:</b>													
1919.....	11,000	12,000	106,000	8.73	117,000	9.71	12.02	1,411,000	4	60	10.07	13.16	81.73
1920.....	21,000	21,000	169,000	8.16	190,000	9.19	10.20	1,940,000	5	80	12.40	15.86	82.53
1921.....	14,000	17,000	133,000	7.96	148,000	8.82	7.00	1,034,000	5	51	10.59	13.47	82.11
1922.....	8,000	8,000	65,000	7.96	67,000	8.27	7.48	502,000	4	31	13.08	16.06	83.14
<b>Other States:<sup>7</sup></b>													
1919.....	41,000	44,000	339,000	7.77	366,000	8.39	11.08	4,050,000	11	52	11.95	14.27	83.14
1920.....	83,000	79,000	642,000	8.07	696,000	8.75	11.52	8,025,000	12	70	13.06	15.46	83.12
1921.....	74,000	71,000	548,000	7.69	587,000	8.23	6.65	3,911,000	11	60	13.50	15.41	81.89
1922.....	68,000	55,000	494,000	8.79	519,000	9.23	7.18	3,729,000	10	54	13.79	15.91	83.54
<b>United States:<sup>8</sup></b>													
1915.....	874,000	611,000	6,150,000	10.10	6,511,000	10.79	5.67	36,950,000	67	92	14.21	16.49	81.38
1916.....	821,000	665,000	5,920,000	8.90	6,228,000	9.36	6.12	38,139,000	74	80	13.86	16.30	84.74
1917.....	765,000	665,000	5,626,000	8.46	5,980,000	9.00	7.39	44,192,000	91	74	13.60	16.28	83.89
1918.....	761,000	594,000	5,578,000	9.39	5,949,000	10.01	10.00	59,494,000	89	81	13.64	16.18	84.70
1919.....	726,000	692,000	5,888,000	8.50	6,421,000	9.27	11.74	75,420,000	89	78	12.34	14.48	82.84
1920.....	1,089,000	872,000	7,991,000	9.17	8,533,000	9.79	11.63	99,324,000	97	91	13.63	15.99	83.96
1921.....	1,020,000	815,000	7,414,000	9.10	7,782,000	9.55	6.38	49,626,000	92	76	13.76	15.77	83.09
1922.....	675,000	530,000	4,963,000	9.36	5,183,000	9.77	7.21	37,347,000	81	58	13.61	15.44	83.76

<sup>1</sup> 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 Weather, Crops and Markets for December 23, 1922, page 572.

<sup>2</sup> 1922 figures are subject to revision, after final payments for beets have been determined.

<sup>3</sup> Percentage of sucrose actually extracted by factories, based upon the weight of beets as worked (sliced). Compared with beets actually delivered (paid for) the sugar production of the United States in 1920 equaled 12.76 per cent of the beets paid for; in 1921, 13.11 per cent; and in 1922, 13.03 per cent.

<sup>4</sup> Based upon weight of beets immediately after slicing, except possibly in the case of a very few factories.

<sup>5</sup> Percentage of sucrose (pure sugar) in the total soluble solids of the beets.

<sup>6</sup> Including beets and sugar from 1,500 acres in Canada in 1920; 1,500 acres in 1921; and 1,370 acres in 1922.

**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.**

Districts and Counties	Winter Wheat						Pas-				
	Acreage			Condition			Rye	Hay		tures Soil	
	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	Condition Per cent	Moisture Compared with Normal—Per cent
<b>1. Northwest.</b>											
Grand	.....	.....	.....	100	100	100	.....	.....	100	100	130
Jackson	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
Moffat	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
Rio Blanco	100	100	100	95	85	85	100	95	95	100	113
Routt	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	101	101
<b>2. North Central.</b>											
Adams	75	87	86	85	83	83	100	90	90	83	103
Boulder	87	82	86	77	68	76	.....	.....	100	96	88
Denver	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Larimer	79	57	64	75	63	69	95	85	103	90	107
Weld	79	73	74	78	67	70	82	72	93	78	106
<b>3. Northeast.</b>											
Logan	94	79	80	89	67	69	101	86	95	92	104
Morgan	89	76	77	87	65	69	90	90	86	88	98
Phillips	.....	50	50	.....	65	65	87	88	100	.....	88
St. George	66	46	50	82	44	45	70	65	82	82	98
Washington	.....	58	58	.....	59	60	100	65	.....	88	83
Yuma	.....	54	54	.....	44	44	45	54	75	60	73
<b>4. West Central.</b>											
Delta	85	.....	85	93	.....	93	.....	.....	87	82	85
Eagle	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Garnold	102	100	102	93	95	94	75	75	91	71	98
Gunnison	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	65	102
Meade	88	100	90	97	100	97	100	90	95	97	102
Montrose	102	100	102	95	100	95	.....	100	93	89	80
Ouray	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pitkin	100	.....	100	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100	100
<b>5. Central.</b>											
Chaffee	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	95	50
Clear Creek	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fremont	70	.....	70	80	.....	80	.....	.....	75	75	100
Gilpin	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100	100
Jackson	103	80	99	80	68	77	90	.....	97	90	85
Lake	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	100
Park	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	115
Summit	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Teller	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	98	100
<b>6. East Central.</b>											
Arapahoe	95	72	72	90	40	41	40	50	90	85	97
Cheyenne	.....	40	40	.....	50	50	25	30	20	20	35
Logan	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Elbert	.....	93	93	.....	75	75	58	58	93	65	104
El Paso	80	83	80	75	72	72	60	80	83	95	85
Kit Carson	.....	57	57	.....	63	63	70	70	83	65	73
Lincoln	.....	67	67	.....	73	73	77	74	77	80	57
<b>7. Southwest.</b>											
Archuleta	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
DeBevoise	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hinsdale	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
La Plata	90	87	88	92	95	93	100	90	98	89	98
Mineral	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Montezuma	100	97	97	90	87	87	75	95	93	83	91
San Juan	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
San Miguel	95	87	87	95	88	88	95	95	95	60	83
<b>8. South Central.</b>											
Atamosa	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50
Conchos	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100	100
Costilla	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100	90	80	78
Custer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Huerfano	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
Rio Grande	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	97	80	86
Saguche	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	93	93	87
<b>9. Southwest.</b>											
Baca	90	10	10	50	25	25	.....	.....	50	50	32
Bent	90	60	80	70	25	59	.....	.....	78	50	53
Crowley	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kiowa	.....	45	45	.....	50	50	.....	.....	.....	80	65
Las Animas	100	75	75	85	65	65	.....	.....	85	87	85
Otero	82	.....	82	76	30	76	.....	.....	91	54	64
Dwight	89	28	48	82	16	49	.....	.....	80	41	67
Pueblo	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	50
State Total	.....	.....	85	85	64	65	80	75	90	78	91

**SUMMARY OF MAY 1, 1923, CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORT FOR COLORADO AND THE UNITED STATES**

Subject	Colorado				United States			
	1923	1922	1921	Average	1923	1922	1921	Average
<b>WINTER WHEAT—</b>								
Abandoned per cent....	33	20	8	9.6	14.3	14.5	4.6	9.8
Acres for harvest.....	1,057	1,262	1,346	1,032*	39,750	42,127	43,414	38,416
Condition, per cent....	65	80	90	91	80.1	83.5	83.8	87.5
Average yields .....	13	13	12	13.2§	14.5	13.9	13.8	15.1*
Forecast—								
Production, bus.....	13,741	16,406	16,152	13,622*	578,287	586,204	600,316	589,854
<b>RYE FOR GRAIN—</b>								
Acres for harvest.....	78	97	92	124*	5,234	6,210	4,528	3,151‡
Condition, per cent....	75	85	75	91	85.1	91.7	92.5	90.6
Average yields .....	10.5	9	11.5	8.8	13.5	15.4	13.6	12.0*
Forecast—								
Production, bus.....	819	873	1,058	1,088*	74,510	95,497	61,675	63,419
<b>HAY—ALL KINDS—</b>								
Acres for harvest—								
Tame .....	1,178	1,239	1,195	1,082	60,253	61,208	58,769	56,888*
Wild .....	366	366	407	411	15,778	15,842	15,632	17,150*
Condition, per cent....	90	93	97	96	87	90.1	91.5	90.2
Forecast—								
Production, tons.....	2,580	2,709	2,914	2,881	100,853	112,791	97,770	99,633
Old on hand, per cent..	8	17	25	6*	12.0	11.2	17.8	12.0
Old on hand, tons.....	217	495	735	160*	13,480	10,919	18,771	12,069‡
<b>PASTURES—</b>								
Condition, per cent....	78	86	92	90	77.0	84.5	91.8	85.9
<b>PLOWING—</b>								
Per cent completed....	60	63	73	65	68.9	63.5	77.8	71.1
<b>SPRING PLANTING—</b>								
Per cent completed....	55	55	66	57	55.4	53.6	63.5	58.3
<b>LIVESTOCK—MORTALITY OF—PER 1,000—</b>								
Horses & Mules, dis.	14	19	17	18	15	15.7	14.7	18.0
Cattle, disease .....	15	18	19	21	16.7	17.8	17.0	19.1
Cattle, exposure .....	14	15	18	30	12.7	13.1	9.2	14.2
Sheep, disease .....	20	18	20	22	22.4	21.5	22.9	22.4
Sheep, exposure .....	16	20	20	42	23.4	26.4	14.8	26.8
Lambs, dis. and exp..	31	45	38	60	49.7	62.3	45.4	56.8
Swine, disease .....	23	30	25	33	50.5	54.4	43.0	66.4
<b>LIVESTOCK—CONDITION—</b>								
Horses .....	95	96	98	97	94.3	94.2	96.2	95.7
Cattle .....	93	96	99	96	93.2	93.2	95.8	95.0
Sheep .....	96	96	98	97	94.6	92.8	95.4	95.2
Swine .....	96	96	98	97	92.5	92.9	94.6	93.6

NOTES: The figures on acreage and production enumerate thousands and require the three ciphers (000) be added to complete the numbers. \*1919 revised estimates. †5-year average. Acreage and production figures for 1922 and 1921 are the last December estimates and revisions. §1919 Federal Census. †1913-17 average.

Mortality of Livestock.—Based upon the numbers of livestock in the state on Jan. 1, 1923, the losses of each class total as follows: Horses and mules, from disease, 6,411; cattle, from disease, 24,210, from exposure, 22,600; swine, from disease, 12,030; sheep, from disease and exposure, 45,756. For the United States: Horses and mules, from disease, 365,026; cattle, from disease and exposure, 1,950,273; sheep, from disease and exposure, 1,284,866; swine, from disease, 3,206,046.