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Crop Report for Colorado

U. S. Department of Agriculture

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 (Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates)

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Preliminary Acreage Estimates—The estimates of the acreages for 1923 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—Much improvement in most of the important crops of Colorado during July, and August 1 figures well above the ten-year average, with a composite condition figure for all crops of the state equaling 100.2 per cent of the ten-year average, an improvement from 99.5 during July, compared with a composite condition of all crops of the state of 90.8 per cent on August 1, last year, are the salient features of this month's crop report.

Corn—Due to the effect of the continued favorable moisture conditions over the important corn sections of the state, except the eastcentral and southeastern counties, corn improved 2 points during July and on August 1, had a condition of 95 per cent of normal, 19 points above the August 1 figure of last year and 12 points above the ten-year average. On the assumption that the entire acreage is to be harvested for grain, this condition indicates a production of 29,908,000 bushels, compared with a final estimate of 18,320,000 bushels last year. The results of special inquiries for a number of years indicate that only about 70 to 80 per cent of the total acreage of corn is harvested for grain. If this ratio prevails this year, the total production for grain will be reduced proportionately.

Winter Wheat—Winter wheat had a harvest time condition rating of 77 per cent of normal, compared with 74 per cent last year. Based upon an estimated average yield of 14.5 bushels per acre, the production is placed at 15,327,000 bushels, compared with a final estimate of 16,406,000 bushels in 1922. Considerable rust damage occurred in the northern and eastern parts of the state resulting in lower yields than expected.

Spring Wheat—Spring wheat held about steady in condition during July and reached August 1, 87 per cent of normal, compared with a condition of 67 a year ago, and the ten-year average for August 1 of 86. The forecast of production is 7,493,000 bushels, compared with 5,370,000 bushels last year.

Potatoes—The condition of the Colorado crop dropped 5 points in rating during July and reached August 1 with a condition of 88 per cent, compared with 81 per cent on August 1, last year, and 88 per cent the ten-year average condition for this date. Temperatures were generally favorable with ample supplies of water for irrigation available. With a reduction from the July 1 forecast of 471,000 bushels, the August 1 estimate for the Colorado crop is placed at 16,671,000 bushels (128,000 acres in the state), compared with a final estimate of 18,461,000 bushels last year.

Usually about 70 to 80 per cent of the total production in Colorado is considered as commercial. The United States crop is estimated at 379,558,000 bushels, nearly 72,000,000 bushels less than the crop 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, and three ciphers (000) are required to complete the numbers.)

State	Forecast Aug. 1, 1923	Final Estimate Dec., 1922	State	Forecast Aug. 1, 1923	Final Estimate Dec., 1922
Maine	26,045	21,600	Colorado	16,671	18,460
New York	30,365	37,400	Idaho	12,081	15,910
Pennsylvania	20,430	23,512	Washington	8,458	9,425
Michigan	29,297	37,842	Oregon	5,519	5,145
Wisconsin	27,211	40,672	California	7,921	10,260
Minnesota	37,510	43,740			
South Dakota	8,730	8,580	Total (14 states)	252,205	307,042
North Dakota	12,621	17,820			
Nebraska	9,346	11,676	Total, U. S.	379,558	451,185

Field Beans—The prospects for the Colorado bean crop remained about steady during July; an improvement of 1 point is noted. The August 1 condition was 94 per cent, compared with 75 a year ago, and a ten-year average of 88 for this date. The Colorado crop is estimated at 1,486,000 bushels, or over three times the harvested production of last year. The United States crop (8 principal states) is estimated at 15,270,000 bushels, compared with 11,893,000 bushels last year. Comparative production figures in bushels for 8 important states, forecast for 1923 and final estimates for 1922, in the order named are indicated here: New York, 1,479,000-1,302,000; Michigan, 6,825,000-4,809,000; Wisconsin, 143,000-76,000; Colorado, 1,486,000-405,000; New Mexico, 313,000-135,000; Arizona, 58,000-24,000; Idaho, 607,000-324,000; California, 4,359,000-4,778,000. Total as above.

Fruits—Prospects in the state for good crops of all kinds of fruits are still regarded as excellent, perhaps generally, only second to the crop of last year. 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 94 per cent of the normal crop, compared with 90 per cent a year ago. The crop this year should total approximately 180,000 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 1923, 1922, 1921, 1920 in the order named for crops not mentioned in the table on page 4, are as follows: Alfalfa, 90-80-92-97; grain sorghums, 95-78-87-90; field peas, 92-90-96-95; broom corn, 90-75-89-93; millet, 92-76-82-92; pastures, 93,70-96-92; tomatoes, 92-85-93-86; cabbage, 90-85-94-87; onions, 92-85-94-93; watermelons, 89-80-85-80; cantaloupes, 88-80-87-80; grapes, 95-86-93-75; blackberries (production), 88-85-86-83

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 rated as 101, compared with 98 on July 1, only 74 for last year on August 1 and 96.1 for August 1, 1920. Moisture was generally excellent for most parts of the state, except in the eastcentral and southeastern counties. In general irrigation water has been ample and seasonable.

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, 1923—The composite condition of all crops of the United States on August 1 was about 2.6 per cent below their ten-year average on that date, 1.0 per cent higher than on July 1, and 0.7 per cent higher than final per acre yields last year. This year's total acreage in 20 cultivated crops is about 0.6 per cent less than last year.

The condition figures for August 1, and the ten-year averages for United States crops not mentioned elsewhere, are: alfalfa hay, 87.6-86.4; broom corn, 75.3-74.1; cabbage, 80.0-83.7; cotton, 67.2-72.4; flax, 82.4-75.3; grain sorghums, 74.7-78.9; grapes, 87.0-83.8; melons, 71.8-77.0; millet, 82.6-79.4; onions, 83.0-84.8; pasture, 77.6-82.6; peanuts, 82.1-83.1; rice, 84.8-88.2; sorghum, for syrup, 76.8-81.1; sugar cane (La.), 77.0-81.0; sweet potatoes, 80.0-84.1; timothy hay, 77.2-85.6; tobacco, 83.1-78.7; tomatoes, 81.5-81.6; grape fruit, 91.0-77.8; oranges, 92.0-75.8.

The total production of important crops this year, compared with last year, expressed in percentages, is estimated as follows: Corn, 103.1; wheat, 92.0; oats, 109.5; barley, 108.6; rye, 67.9; buckwheat, 90.0; white potatoes, 84.3; sweet potatoes, 85.0; tobacco, 111.2; flax seed, 163.2; rice, 78.3; hay (all), 86.3; sugar beets, 126.0; cotton, 118.0; apples, 93.5; peaches, 83.4; pears, 79.7; grain sorghums, 125.0; broom corn, 254.4; beans, 128.6; peanuts, 109.6; hops, 62.5; sorghum, for syrup, 90.7.

Trend of Farm Prices—The level of prices paid producers of the United States for the principal crops decreased about 1.4 per cent during July; in the past ten years the price level increased about 0.4 per cent during July. On August 1, the index figure of prices was about 15.5 per cent higher than a year ago, 25.6 per cent higher than two years ago, and 27.5 per cent lower than the average of the past ten years on August 1.

**CONDITION OF CROPS AND AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK ON AUGUST 1, 1923,
PER CENT, COMPARED WITH NORMAL.**

Districts and Counties	Corn	Winter Wheat	Spring Wheat	Oats	Barley	Field Beans	Pota-toes	All Hay	Alfalfa	Pas-ture	Agr'l Out-look
1. Northwest—											
Grand	.....	.....	.....	90	100	.....	.....	95	.....	95	105
Jackson	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100	.....	110	.....
Moffat	88	50	75	55	50	90	87	75	88	90	.....
Rio Blanco	85	.....	90	86	90	.....	100	.....	100	100	100
Routt	.....	93	95	100	96	.....	97	100	103	103	109
2. North Central—											
Adams	95	80	82	90	99	102	50	83	85	98	106
Boulder	84	84	90	90	91	90	80	82	79	101	103
Denver	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	90
Larimer	98	92	99	83	91	95	90	92	86	109	110
Weld	91	82	84	93	90	94	92	94	84	100	102
3. Northeast—											
Logan	95	85	101	97	89	99	97	100	99	100	102
Morgan	100	96	90	93	93	101	102	110	100	93	103
Phillips	90	.....	.....	100	90	.....	.....	100	90	100	100
Sedgwick	107	.....	.....	100	98	90	70	106	100	110	90
Washington	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Yuma	93	56	85	80	89	.....	100	.....	99	110	110
4. West Central—											
Delta	95	100	90	95	.....	90	88	90	90	80	78
Eagle	.....	.....	100	100	100	.....	80	100	100	100	100
Garfield	96	100	93	96	97	.....	88	92	89	90	92
Gunnison	.....	.....	.....	87	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mesa	110	98	.....	.....	75	100	.....	.....	90	.....	100
Montrose	85	100	100	83	90	98	80	100	100	100	93
Ouray	.....	90	88	90	90	.....	96	85	.....	90	.....
Pitkin	.....	.....	100	100	.....	.....	100	85	85	100	105
5. Central—											
Chaffee	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clear Creek	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fremont	95	90	83	88	.....	.....	.....	90	.....	.....	.....
Gilpin	.....	.....	100	93	80	.....	.....	95	95	100	100
Jefferson	93	101	99	100	98	.....	88	70	.....	85	90
Lake	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	101	90	105	103
Park	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	100	.....
Summit	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Teller	.....	.....	.....	100	100	.....	100	100	.....	110	105
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	100	.....	100	.....
6. East Central—											
Arapahoe	95	80	83	90	97	93	.....	90	99	110	83
Cheyenne	100	.....	.....	.....	80	.....	90	100	.....	100	120
Douglas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Elbert	100	70	95	85	80	100	100	.....	.....	.....	.....
El Paso	85	70	74	88	85	96	79	82	90	88	97
Kit Carson	95	69	80	100	89	100	100	105	100	105	100
Lincoln	100	70	105	93	105	103	80	105	110	107	102
7. Southwest—											
Archuleta	.....	.....	75	75	80	.....	85	70	80	70	50
Dolores	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hinsdale	.....	.....	.....	85	87	.....	98	96	98	99	120
La Plata	87	87	89	91	91	88	86	80	80	73	93
Mineral	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	90	90	.....	85	.....
Montezuma	90	90	97	98	96	100	100	100	108	105	100
San Juan	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
San Miguel	.....	80	94	94	91	.....	95	90	90	95	98
8. South Central—											
Alamosa	.....	.....	95	95	100	.....	93	75	80	75	90
Bonewells	.....	.....	90	97	102	.....	80	.....	.....	.....	.....
Costilla	.....	.....	75	80	90	100	80	90	110	80	.....
Custer	.....	.....	80	70	80	.....	90	70	80	100	100
Huerfano	100	100	.....	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rio Grande	.....	.....	90	87	94	95	83	95	98	93	96
Saguache	.....	.....	.....	90	100	.....	95	87	91	80	75
9. Southeast—											
Asa	100	100	100	100	100	100	.....	.....	90	100	105
Beaver	100	100	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	.....	100	110	100
Browley	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clowa	.....	.....	.....	.....	80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Las Animas	95	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	110
LeFlore	88	40	61	63	50	83	90	95	98	85	86
Logansport	93	86	77	75	79	97	.....	100	98	105	109
Logansport	93	79	75	77	76	97	.....	87	92	99	103
Webb	93	79	68	97	85	90	.....	85	90	95	90
State Total	95	75	87	92	92	94	88	92	90	93	101

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

Subject	Colorado			United States		
	1923	1922	Average	1923	1922	Average
CORN—						
Acres planted	1,431	1,145	1,102†	103,112	102,428	101,500†
Condition, per cent.....	95	76	83	84.0	85	80.1
Production, bus. grain.....	29,908	18,320	15,979‡	2,981,752	2,890,712	2,931,271‡
ALL WHEAT ACRES—						
Acres for harvest.....	1,419	1,620	1,719‡	58,253	61,236	61,143‡
Production, bushels.....	22,820	21,776	23,239‡	793,376	862,191	834,801‡
WINTER WHEAT—						
Acres for harvest.....	1,057	1,262	1,346‡	39,750	42,127	40,016‡
Average yield, bushels..	14.5	13	12‡	14.3	13.9	13.9
Production, bushels.....	15,327	16,406	16,152‡	568,386	586,204	589,858‡
SPRING WHEAT—						
Acres for harvest.....	362	358	373‡	18,503	19,103	21,127‡
Condition, per cent.....	87	67	86‡	69.6	80.4	72.9
Production, bushels.....	7,493	5,370	7,087‡	224,990	275,887	244,943‡
OATS—						
Acres for harvest.....	191	185	217‡	40,768	40,693	45,495‡
Condition, per cent.....	92	70	88	81.9	75.6	80.0
Production, bushels.....	6,677	4,625	6,727‡	1,315,853	1,201,436	1,377,903‡
BARLEY—						
Acres for harvest.....	182	186	202‡	7,980	7,390	7,414‡
Condition, per cent.....	92	70	87	82.6	82.0	80.6
Production, bushels.....	5,526	3,534	4,444‡	202,032	186,118	191,974‡
RYE—						
Acres for harvest.....	78	97	92‡	5,234	6,210	4,528‡
Average yield, bushels..	12	9	11.5	12.4	15.4	13.5
Production, bushels.....	936	873	1,058‡	64,774	95,497	70,300‡
WHITE POTATOES—						
Acres for harvest.....	128	142	113‡	3,892	4,331	3,941‡
Condition, per cent.....	88	81	88	80.5	84.3	81.0
Production, bushels.....	16,671	18,460	14,916‡	379,558	451,185	361,659‡
SUGAR BEETS—						
Acres planted	182	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acres harvested .....	.....	148	220§	732	530	815§
Condition, per cent.....	94	80	89	90.4	85.0	88.2
Production, tons	1,916	1,466	2,279§	6,533	5,183	7,782§
ALL HAY—						
Acres harvested	1	1,239	1,195‡	76,031	77,050	74,401‡
Condition, per cent.....	91	80	92	81.5	80.8	87.6
Production, tons .....	.....	2,354	2,510‡	97,300	112,800	97,770‡
FIELD BEANS—						
Acres for harvest.....	170	81	39‡	1,255	1,043	777‡
Condition, per cent.....	94	75	88	87.3	83.2	83.3
Production, bushels.....	.....	405	312‡	15,270	11,893	9,150‡
APPLES—						
Condition, per cent.....	78	83	66	63.8	67.4	57.3
Agr'l prod'n, bushels....	3,151	4,250	2,830§	187,501	201,000	160,000‡
Commercial barrels.....	840	1,133	754§	32,877	31,000	25,700‡
PEACHES—						
Condition, per cent.....	75	85	60	61.3	74.7	66.8
Agr'l Prod'n, bushels....	590	1,160	670§	47,300	56,700	42,700‡
PEARS—						
Condition, per cent.....	80	86	78	61.8	73.0	60.2
Agr'l Prod'n, bushels....	309	519	386§	14,942	18,661	11,297‡

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 1917-1921 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. ‡ 1913-1917 average. § 1920. † 1921.

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