

Crop Report for Colorado

U. S. Department of Agriculture

Bureau of Agricultural Economics
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United States figures are generally presented only in the table on page 4, as are also estimates of condition and production with comparisons for some of the important state crops. The composite condition figures by counties for both irrigated and non-irrigated crops taken together are given in the table on page 3. All estimates of acreage and production for 1923 are preliminary and subject to revision in December.

General Conditions—The combined condition of all Colorado crops held about steady with only a slight decline of 1.1 points during August, and reached September 1 with a figure of 0.9 per cent below the ten-year average for this state. The composite figure for all crops of the state equalled 99.1 per cent of the average for the past ten years on this date, 6.2 points above the figure for last year at this time.

Corn—Due to excellent rains and generally favorable moisture conditions in most sections and especially in the northeastern counties and in some western slope districts during August, corn held steady in condition during August, and had a condition of 95 compared with 80 last year, and 80 the ten-year average. This condition indicates a crop of 31,267,000 bushels, assuming that the entire corn acreage produces grain. Usually, only about 70 to 80 per cent of the acreage planted is harvested for grain, the remainder being cut for silage, fed in the field or abandoned. This year quite a per cent of the acreage was late, but will mature if frost holds off until near the end of the month. The state crop last year amounted to 18,320,000 bushels.

Potatoes—The potato crop of the state is of great interest to all growers at this season of the year. There was a decline of 5 points during August. On September 1 the Colorado crop showed a condition of 83 per cent compared with 88 a month ago, 78 a year ago, and 83 per cent the ten-year average for September 1. Later digging reports, since September 1, indicate lower yields than expected, especially in the important commercial sections. Moisture conditions have been favorable to disease development, and a further decline may occur. The state crop is now estimated at 16,786,000 bushels (produced on approximately 128,000 acres), compared to a final estimate of 18,460,000 bushels last year, produced upon about 142,000 acres harvested. Moisture has been fair to good in the non-irrigated potato sections, and ample irrigation water in all portions of the state. Usually about 70 to 75 per cent of the state crop is considered as commercial. The United States crop suffered nearly a 4 point decline in condition during August, but due to the larger normal for September 1, the estimate advanced about 10,000,000 bushels, making the national crop about 390,000,000 bushels, or over 61,000,000 bushels less than the crop harvested in 1922. Comparative production figures (in bushels) for the September 1 forecast, and final estimate for 1922 for important potato states are listed below.

State	Final		State	Final	
	Forecast Sept. 1, 1923	Estimate Dec. 1922		Forecast Sept. 1, 1923	Estimate Dec., 1922
California	8,121,000	10,260,000	New York	29,813,000	37,400,000
Colorado	16,786,000	18,460,000	North Dakota	12,764,000	17,820,000
Idaho	11,733,000	15,910,000	Wisconsin	27,287,000	40,672,000
Maine	27,454,000	21,600,000			
Michigan	30,013,000	37,842,000	Total, 10 states	207,877,000	249,500,000
Minnesota	38,815,000	43,740,000			
Montana	5,091,000	5,796,000	Total, U. S.	389,764,000	451,185,000

Field Beans—This crop declined 3 points during August. The condition on September 1 was 91 per cent, compared with 78 a year ago, and 85 per cent the ten-year average for this date. The state production is placed at 1,470,000 bushels, compared with 405,000 bushels last year. The increase in production, this year, is due to the planting of a very much larger acreage or about 170,000 acres for harvest this year, compared with 108,000 acres planted and 81,000 acres harvested last year. The United States crop is estimated at 14,905,000 bushels, compared with 15,270,000 bushels August 1, and 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, 1,442,000-1,302,000; Michigan, 6,506,000-4,809,000; Wisconsin, 144,000-76,000; Colorado, 1,470,000-405,000; New Mexico, 293,000-135,000; Arizona, 58,000-24,000; Idaho, 621,000-324,000; California, 4,370,000-4,778,000. Total as above.

Fruits—The fruit crops of the state still promise generally higher production than usual, perhaps as a whole only second in the history of the state. The apple crop is estimated at 3,250,000 bushels, compared with 4,250,000 bushels last year. The peach crop for the state totals 693,000 bushels, compared to 1,160,000 bushels last year, and pears are placed at 385,000 bushels, compared to 519,000 bushels last year. Reference to the comparative detailed figures on the last page shows the United States crop of apples this year to be 7.4 per cent above the 10-year average and over 11,000,000 bushels less than the crop of last year, or 189,787,000 bushels, compared to 201,000,000 bushels in 1922 and 160,000,000 bushels the five-year average. The national peach crop is 45,381,000 bushels, compared to 56,700,000 bushels last year and 42,700,000 bushels the five-year average. The U. S. pear crop is placed at 14,561,000 bushels, compared to 18,661,000 bushels last year, and 15,101,000 bushels in 1919.

Miscellaneous Crops—Estimates of condition and production of other important state crops with comparisons are presented in the table on page 4. The September 1 condition figures for 1923, 1922 and 1921 in order named for crops not mentioned in the table on page 4 are as follows: Grain sorghums, 97-85-90; field peas, 86-90-94; broom corn, 86-82-90; millet, 92-78-80; pastures, 104-75-98; tomatoes, 76-90-93; cabbage, 91-85-91; onions, 88-87-92; watermelons, 79-85-94; cantaloupes, 79-85-88. Truck crops are generally doing well, though cantaloupes are late. The output will depend upon the lateness of the first killing frost. There was a small increase in the acreage devoted this year to head lettuce and about a 30 per cent increase in the onion acreage. A small decrease occurred in the acreage of cabbage and about a 35 per cent decrease in cantaloupes. Cantaloupes are moving to market slowly, about two weeks late. Up to September 13, 1 049 cars had been forwarded this year, compared to 2,951 cars to the same date last year, and 4,420 cars the total for last year.

General Review of United States Crop Conditions, Sept. 1, 1923—The composite condition of all crops of the United States on September 1 was 1.7 per cent below their ten-year average on that date, 0.9 per cent higher than on August 1, and 1.6 per cent below their final yields last year. The total acreage in cultivation in 20 crops is about 0.6 per cent less than last year. The condition figures for Sept. 1, and the ten-year averages for United States crops not mentioned elsewhere, are: Alfalfa, hay, 87-86.4 (Aug.); broom corn, 61.1-71.4; cabbage, 75.2-79.6; cotton, 54.1-63.5; flax, 79.0-70.2; grain sorghums, 64.6-74.6; grapes, 81.8-83.1; melons, 83.8-79.6; millet, 81.8-78.5; onions, 80.9-80.9; pasture, 78.8-82.6; peanuts, 76.6-81.4; rice, 87.9-86.2; sorghum, 76.6-80.8; sugar cane (La.), 71.0-80.9; sweet potatoes, 79.1-83.0; timothy hay, 1.18-1.30; (tons-acre) tobacco, 86.6-78.2; tomatoes, 80.9-77.9; grape fruit, 88.0-78.0; oranges, 94.0-76.4.

The total production of important products this year, compared with last year, expressed in percentages, is estimated as follows: Corn, 106.4; wheat, 91.5; oats, 109.2; barley, 107.0; rye, 67.9; buckwheat, 90.0; white potatoes, 86.5; sweet potatoes, 85.4; tobacco, 117.1; flaxseed, 165.8; rice, 77.6; hay (all), 86.9; clover seed, 68.9; sugar beets, 126.0; cotton, 110.5; apples, 94.5; peaches, 80.1; pears, 78.1; kaffirs, 112.1; broom corn, 211.9; beans, 125.2; peanuts, 105.0; hops, 62.8; sorghum (syrup), 91.0.

Trend of Farm Prices—The level of prices paid producers of the United States for the principal crops increased about 0.4 per cent during August; in the past ten years the price level decreased about 2.2 per cent during August. On September 1 the index figure of prices was about 22.1 per cent higher than a year ago, 25.5 per cent higher than two years ago, and 16.8 per cent lower than the average of the past ten years on September 1.

The prices of meat animals—hogs, cattle, sheep and chickens—to producers of the United States decreased 0.2 per cent from July 15 to August 15; in the past ten years prices increased in like period 0.5 per cent. On August 15 the index figure of prices for these meat animals was about 9.3 per cent lower than a year ago, 10.1 per cent lower than two years ago, and 28.0 per cent lower than the average of the past ten years on August 15.

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

Districts and Counties	Corn	Spring Wheat	Oats	Barley	Pota- toes	Alfalfa	Field Beans	Pasture	Agr'l Outlook
1. Northwest—									
Grand				90		100		110	120
Jackson									
Moffat	92	78	86	74	82	93		93	93
Rio Blanco	89	89	83	91	88	100		93	100
Routt	100	91	101	101	100	100		110	108
2. North Central—									
Adams	96	59	96	100	65	80	100	100	110
Boulder	114	63	86	85	80	82	100	93	93
Denver									
Larimer	104	73	97	94	70	85	89	103	109
Weid	95	68	85	86	77	86	85	97	107
3. Northeast—									
Loga	103	92	95	103	100	100	100	105	125
Morgan	94	84	91	94	77	96	96	97	97
Phillips	100	50	100	100	75	75		100	110
Sedgwick	115	54	126	112	85	100		123	125
Washington	100	70	80	90	25	100		100	100
Yuma	100	55	89	97	69	92	89	96	89
4. West Central—									
Delta	104	99	98	100	85	84	80	105	93
Eagle		90	86	90	87	75		130	135
Garfield		93	96	94	93	100		110	100
Gunnison		100	91	86	87	62		100	112
Mesa	100	98	98	100	91	90		100	100
Montrose	90	91	94	100	88	80	90	93	100
Ouray		100	100		102	100		110	125
Pitkin		100	100		100	70		100	100
5. Central—									
Chaffee									
Clear Creek									
Fremont	96	93	92	94	93	120	85	125	112
Gilpin		100	100		100			100	100
Jefferson	108	96	105	115	90	105	113	130	121
Lake								100	100
Park		100	90	95	90	80		105	101
Summit									102
Teller			102	100	98			102	
6. East Central—									
Arapahoe	94	78	85	78	58	70	95	93	93
Cheyenne	108		105	100	100	110	80	113	110
Douglas									
Elbert	95	80	95	85	65		90	100	99
El Paso	90	72	89	89	77	84	87	106	113
Kit Carson	102	57	91	95	98	98	98	98	93
Lincoln	92	80	90	100	40	100	90	100	100
7. Southwest—									
Archuleta									
Dolores									
Hinsdale									
La Plata	92	91	90	87	98	99			120
Mineral				91	90	82	91	90	99
Montezuma	90	75	90	80	90		80	90	90
San Juan									
San Miguel		94	94	95	95	80	90	98	140
8. South Central—									
Alamosa		102	100	100	83	65		90	120
Conejos		100	100	100	100	100	105	110	100
Costilla		98	103	107	100	100		105	110
Custer	80	85	100		100	70		100	150
Huerfano	105		100						
Rio Grande		87	87	90	87	105	95	102	114
Saguache		90	85	95	90	100		105	125
9. Southeast—									
Baca	78	45	80	91		80	95	97	70
Bent	85	60	85	66		75	81	105	100
Crowley									
Kiowa	110			100					
Los Animas	99	68	69	61	112	67	99	119	137
Otero	94	69	48	81		71	74	127	99
Powers	83	43	67	69		92	94	105	130
Pueblo									
State Total	95	65	92	92	83	90	91	104	108

**SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 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	80	80	83.3	78.6	76.1
Production, bus. grain.....	31,267	18,320	15,979‡	3,076,000	2,890,712	2,931,271†
ALL WHEAT—						
Acres	1,419	1,620	1,719‡	58,253	61,230	61,143†
Production, bushels	20,974	21,176	23,239‡	789,227	862,191	824,801†
WINTER WHEAT—						
Acres	1,057	1,262	1,346‡	39,750	42,127	40,016†
Production, bushels	15,327	16,406	16,152‡	568,386	586,204	589,858†
SPRING WHEAT—						
Acres	362	358	373‡	18,503	19,103	21,127†
Condition, per cent.....	65	70	82	65.1	80.1	69.5
Production, bushels	5,647	5,370	7,087‡	220,841	275,887	244,943†
OATS—						
Acres	191	185	217‡	40,768	40,693	45,495†
Condition, per cent.....	92	70	86	80.3	74.9	79.1
Production, bushels	6,677	4,625	6,727‡	1,311,687	1,201,436	1,377,903†
BARLEY—						
Acres	182	186	202‡	7,980	7,390	7,414†
Condition, per cent.....	92	92	93	79.5	81.2	78.4
Production, bushels	5,609	3,534	4,444‡	199,337	186,118	191,974†
RYE—						
Production, bushels	936	873	1,058‡	64,774	95,497	70,300†
WHITE POTATOES—						
Acres	128	142	113‡	3,892	4,331	3,941†
Condition, per cent.....	83	78	83	77.7	79.9	75.0
Production, bushels	16,786	18,460	14,916‡	389,764	451,185	361,659†
TAME HAY—						
Acres	1,178	1,239	1,195‡	60,253	61,208	58,769†
Condition, per cent.....	92	89	89	81.5	81.5	81.5
Production, tons	2,393	2,354	2,510‡	81,871	96,687	83,300†
WILD HAY—						
Acres	366	366	407‡	15,776	15,842	15,632†
Condition, per cent.....	97	.....	.....	84.6	.....	.....
Production, tons	375	355	407‡	16,135	16,104	16,200†
ALL HAY—						
Acres	1,544	1,605	1,602‡	76,031	77,050	74,401†
Condition, per cent.....	93	.....	.....	82	.....	.....
Production, tons	2,768	2,709	2,917‡	98,006	112,800	97,770†
GRAIN SORGHUMS (6 States)—						
Acres	324	247	237‡	5,541	5,051	4,635†
Condition, per cent.....	97	85	86	64.6	65.5	74.6
Production, bushels	6,600	3,705	3,318‡	101,333	90,400	103,000†
PASTURES—						
Condition, per cent.....	104	75	90	78.8	81.3	82.6
FIELD BEANS—						
Acres	170	81	39‡	1,255	1,043	777†
Condition, per cent.....	91	78	85	80.6	77.5	76.3
Production, bushels	1,470	405	312‡	14,905	11,893	9,150†
APPLES—						
Condition, per cent.....	78	84	65	63.6	68.2	56.2
Agr'l prod'n, bushels.....	3,250	4,250	2,830§	189,787	201,000	160,000†
Commercial, barrels	867	1,133	754§	33,390	31,000	25,700†
PEACHES—						
Per cent of full crop.....	88	90	70†	61.0	78.1	59.6
Agr'l prod'n, bushels.....	693	1,160	670§	45,381	56,700	42,700†
PEARS—						
Per cent of full crop.....	80	90	70	64.0	77.4	64.6
Agr'l prod'n, bushels.....	385	519	386§	14,561	18,661	11,297†
SUGAR BEETS—						
Acres	182	148	220§	732	530	815†
Condition, per cent.....	95	90	91	91	88.6	89.0
Production, tons	1,890	1,466	2,279§	6,532	5,183	7,782†

Notes—Figures on acreage and production merely enumerate thousands and require the addition of three ciphers (000) to complete them. °Estimates on acreage and production for 1923 in the table above are preliminary and subject to revision in December as indicated in the first paragraph.

Symbols: *Figures with the (*) are for the 1919 final estimates. †Represents the 1917-1921 five-year average. ‡1913-1917 average. §1920. †1921. †1919-1920 U. S. Census.

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