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# Crop Report for Colorado

U. S. Department of Agriculture

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**Preliminary Acreage Estimates**—The estimates of acreages for 1924 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 1923 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 this state many acres of small grains are 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 90 per cent, 4 points below May 1, but 22 points higher than June 1 last year, and 6 points above the 10-year average for June 1. This condition justifies a forecast of 26,359,000 bushels, based on an average yield of 19.2 bushels for 1,375,000 acres left for harvest. In comparison, the crop harvested last year from 1,060,000 acres amounted to 12,720,000 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 this year, with almost state-wide excellent rains during the last week of the month, were highly favorable for the development of this crop. However, it will be unusual if the present prospect for high yield is maintained as only once since 1917 has the average yield reached 17.5 bushels. The 10-year average is 13.2 bushels.

**Spring Wheat**—The acreage of spring wheat for harvest in Colorado this year is estimated at about the same as last year, the preliminary estimate amounting to 330,000 acres. The condition on June 1 was 91 per cent, compared with 93 last year and a 10-year average of 93 per cent on June 1. Based on the condition of 91 per cent or about 18.6 bushels per acre, if conditions continue favorable until harvest, the production will amount to 6,156,000 bushels, compared with 5,280,000 bushels last year, and 4,574,000 bushels produced in 1919 from 297,000 acres as reported by the census. During the latter part of July last year widespread damage from rust occurred to both winter and spring wheats and caused heavy abandonment and reduction in prospects.

**All Wheat**—The forecast of total production of all wheat for the state this year is now placed at 32,515,000 bushels, compared with a final estimate of 18,000,000 bushels last year, and 21,776,000 bushels in 1922.

**Oats-Barley**—An area of 228,000 acres has been sown to oats for grain or a marked increase of 15 per cent over last year. Based on this area and the condition of 92 per cent, the production under favorable conditions will amount to 6,913,000 bushels or 577,000 bushels more than harvested last year. In this state the area of oats harvested for grain constitutes only about 70 to 80 per cent of the total acreage planted to this crop. The barley acreage also shows a decided increase being reported as 265,000 acres or 20 per cent more than last year. Based on a condition of 90 per cent which indicates nearly 25 bushels per acre, the production would amount to 6,559,000 bushels or 150,000 bushels more than a year ago.

Figures for rye, all hay, alfalfa, pastures, cabbage, onion, cantaloupes, sugar beets and other crops are presented quite fully in the table on page 4, and due to lack of space are 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. Similar to last year Colorado has most promising prospects for large crops of all kinds of fruit. All commercial fruit growing sections, except cherries in one or two localities, are in excellent condition and far above the 10-year average. This is the third successive large crop of all fruits. The present prospect indicates that the combined fruit crops this year will slightly exceed that of last year but will not reach the record crop of 1922 which was regarded as the largest in the history of the State.

**Cherries**—The cherry crop of the state had a condition of 75 percent of normal on June 1, compared with 89 percent a year ago, 95 percent in 1922, 60 percent in 1921 and 35 per cent in 1920. The crop should amount to 150,000 to 170,000 bushels or over 4,500 tons. In 1919 the crop totaled 165,000 bushels, 4,950 tons, according to the federal census. The added growth of all trees during the past five years, together with the increase in numbers of bearing age, should make up materially for the lower condition. The principal cherry counties are Larimer, Fremont, Jefferson, Otero and Crowley.

**Small Fruits**—With moisture supplies nearly as favorable as a year ago prospects are for good crops of strawberries (94 percent) and blackberries (87 percent). These condition ratings are only slightly less than a year ago when they were 97 and 94. 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 small fruit crops are again gradually on the increase.

**Truck Crops**—The truck crops of the State, cabbage, onions and cantaloupes, are coming on in generally good condition, though a little late. Cabbage is regarded as 95 per cent of normal compared with 90 a year ago; onions 94 compared to 90; and cantaloupes 95 compared to 90 at this time last year. No material damage is reported to truck crops thus far although the dry cool weather in May tended somewhat to retard growth. Reports indicate considerable reduction in the acreages of cantaloupes and cabbage, and a fair increase in the onion area. Cantaloupes are placed at 7,350 acres compared to 8,620 acres harvested last year. The land devoted to lettuce appears to be about 10 per cent less than a year ago when there were 6,700 acres. Planting is not complete, however. The acreage may yet exceed last year.

**Agricultural Outlook**—The soil condition on June 1, as indicated by the average of reports, gained 1 point during May, the general average of moisture conditions reaching 106 per cent of normal, compared with 102 per cent last year on June 1, 90 in 1922, and 112 at this date in 1920.

On May 1 subsoil moisture was generally plentiful, this was followed by cool windy weather for three weeks, then the general rains throughout the state the last week in May supplied the required surface moisture, which with warmer weather promoted vigorous germination and growth of all crops. Very little hail has been reported this season. Rivers are generally high though little damage from floods has occurred. Irrigation water is plentiful and reservoirs well filled. Planting of corn and other late crops, thinning of beets, cultivation and other farm operations have been somewhat delayed account of the alternate extended wet and dry periods. Temperatures were mostly below normal. Sunshine and warmer weather are well come to promote rapid growth of crops.

On June 1, Colorado had a combined condition of 102.9 per cent of the 10-year average for all crops reported upon. This is 5.9 points above the similar figure of a year ago.

**General Review of United States Crop Conditions June 1**—The composite condition of all crops of the United States on June 1 was about 7.3 per cent below the 10-year average condition on that date. Last year the June 1 condition of all crops was 4.7 per cent below the average. The condition of the various crops, expressed in percentages of 10-year averages (not the normal) on June 1 this year and last, was as follows: Winter wheat, 90.7-92.7; spring wheat, 89.5-97.7; barley, 88.1-90.9; rye, 99.1-90.9; all hay, 93.6-94.8; alfalfa hay, 93.9-100.2; cotton, 90.1-96.5; apples, 105.6-108.9; peaches, 114.8-107.2; pears, 106.6-103.9; cherries, 82.3-99.6; oranges, 99.7-106.6; prunes, 90.3-78.3; blackberries, 101.1-99.8; grapefruit, 108.4-113.7; pastures, 90.7-93.2; melons, 93.6—.

**CONDITION OF CROPS AND SOIL MOISTURE ON JUNE 1,  
PER CENT, COMPARED WITH NORMAL.**

Counties	Winter Wheat	Spring Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	All Hay	Alfalfa	Pas- ture	Soil Moist- ure
<b>1. Northwest—</b>									
Grand .....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	94	---
Jackson .....	---	---	106	110	---	98	---	100	95
Moffat .....	81	83	76	76	87	83	80	90	82
Rio Blanco .....	90	90	90	92	92	100	102	94	95
Routt .....	90	97	95	99	90	94	94	87	97
<b>2. North Central—</b>									
Adams .....	97	99	99	97	97	92	91	90	99
Boulder .....	97	94	95	95	95	92	90	95	107
Denver .....	---	---	---	---	---	---	100	100	---
Larimer .....	95	92	88	89	95	87	93	94	91
Weld .....	91	94	92	94	95	92	91	88	93
<b>3. Northeast—</b>									
Logan .....	78	86	90	90	83	98	97	81	62
Morgan .....	83	84	92	91	95	89	85	90	95
Phillips .....	88	85	95	87	83	90	82	87	90
Sedgwick .....	91	88	90	89	95	95	94	93	102
Washington .....	87	80	73	79	95	90	85	77	87
Yuma .....	91	85	84	80	83	89	80	71	84
<b>4. West Central—</b>									
Delta .....	97	86	87	100	100	95	91	93	88
Eagle .....	---	95	99	96	110	95	95	88	87
Garfield .....	93	97	94	84	---	98	99	98	94
Gunnison .....	---	---	95	100	---	96	85	90	97
Mesa .....	98	98	100	95	---	97	100	92	95
Montrose .....	95	97	97	98	100	97	99	95	96
Ouray .....	---	97	97	100	---	---	98	95	---
Pitkin .....	100	100	100	98	---	100	100	100	100
<b>5. Central—</b>									
Chaffee .....	---	90	90	90	---	95	84	85	80
Clear Creek .....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	87	---
Fremont .....	98	93	94	90	90	93	78	95	103
Gilpin .....	---	---	100	98	---	100	---	80	90
Jefferson .....	93	95	95	98	98	85	96	98	100
Lake .....	---	100	100	101	---	80	---	85	90
Park .....	---	110	105	104	100	102	100	95	112
Summit .....	---	---	100	96	85	100	100	95	95
Teller .....	---	100	105	92	---	92	95	85	96
<b>6. East Central—</b>									
Arapahoe .....	92	95	104	94	97	97	91	88	93
Cheyenne .....	83	90	87	95	90	90	80	87	80
Douglas .....	103	101	102	104	---	---	---	98	---
Elbert .....	110	103	105	106	100	95	100	92	95
El Paso .....	95	97	97	100	99	104	102	99	105
Kit Carson .....	84	82	90	89	83	88	92	91	97
Lincoln .....	94	87	86	83	94	99	102	93	95
<b>7. Southwest—</b>									
Archuleta .....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	99	---
Poiores .....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	97	---
Hinsdale .....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	98	---
La Plata .....	90	100	100	96	100	98	98	99	103
Mineral .....	---	---	---	---	---	100	---	---	---
Montezuma .....	92	102	101	100	---	95	103	105	92
Sau Juan .....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
San Miguel .....	94	88	90	94	95	95	95	97	97
<b>8. South Central—</b>									
Alamosa .....	---	105	103	100	---	99	100	98	101
Conejos .....	---	---	---	---	---	98	---	105	---
Costilla .....	100	95	90	90	---	110	110	110	---
Custer .....	90	100	100	100	---	100	100	100	100
Huerfano .....	100	---	80	---	100	100	---	94	100
Rio Grande .....	---	95	93	96	---	98	94	98	94
Saguache .....	---	95	95	90	95	100	95	97	105
<b>9. Southeast—</b>									
Baca .....	80	76	---	80	---	87	---	90	100
Bent .....	100	100	95	94	---	95	100	100	100
Crowley .....	92	90	95	94	---	85	---	98	---
Kiowa .....	83	90	87	93	---	87	---	90	---
Las Animas .....	85	73	83	83	95	88	89	77	89
Otero .....	99	90	95	98	---	85	90	106	106
Prowers .....	98	99	99	98	---	95	89	98	97
Pueblo .....	---	---	---	---	---	85	85	90	90
State Total .....	90	91	92	90	90	93	92	91	106

**SUMMARY OF JUNE 1, 1924, CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORT FOR COLORADO AND THE UNITED STATES**

Subject	COLORADO				UNITED STATES			
	1924	1923	1922	Average	1924	1923	1922	Average
<b>WINTER WHEAT—</b>								
Acres for harvest..	1,375	1,060	1,262	1,346‡	36,898	39,522	42,358	42,682‡
Condition, percent....	90	68	80	84	74.0	76.3	81.9	81.6
Production, bus.....	26,359	12,720	16,406	16,152‡	509,319	572,340	586,873	624,653‡
<b>SPRING WHEAT—</b>								
Acres for harvest..	330	330	358	373‡	16,920	18,786	19,959	21,72‡
Condition, percent....	91	93	92	93	82.3	90.2	90.7	92.0
Production, bus.....	6,156	5,280	5,370	7,087‡	183,831	213,401	280,720	236,336‡
<b>ALL WHEAT—</b>								
Acres for harvest..	1,705	1,390	1,620	1,719‡	53,818	58,308	62,317	64,246‡
Production, bus.....	32,515	18,000	21,776	23,239‡	693,150	785,741	867,593	881,000‡
<b>OATS—</b>								
Acres for harvest..	228	198	185	217‡	41,625	40,768	40,693	42,697‡
Condition, percent..	92	93	94	96	83.0	85.6	85.5	83.3
Production, bus.....	6,913	6,336	4,625	6,727‡	1,231,728	1,299,823	1,215,803	1,302,516‡
<b>BARLEY—</b>								
Acres for harvest..	265	221	186	202‡	7,552	7,905	7,317	7,75‡
Condition, percent..	90	93	92	93	79.5	89.0	90.1	90.2
Production, bus.....	6,559	6,409	3,534	4,444‡	159,893	198,185	182,068	186,036‡
<b>RYE—</b>								
Acres for harvest..	68	73	97	92‡	4,337	5,157	6,672	5,661‡
Condition, percent..	90	81	92	92	87.4	81.1	92.5	88.2
Production, bus.....	857	876	873	1,058‡	62,461	63,023	103,362	78,410‡
<b>TAME HAY—</b>								
Acres for harvest..	1,239	1,203	1,191	1,195‡	.....	60,162	61,159	58,769‡
Condition, percent..	94	95	94	94	83.0	84.4	91.1	88.7
Production, tons.....	2,742	2,406	2,263	2,510‡	.....	89,098	95,882	82,379‡
<b>WILD HAY—</b>								
Acres for harvest....	373	373	366	407‡	.....	15,722	15,871	15,632‡
Condition, percent..	93	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Production, tons.....	385	392	355	407‡	.....	17,528	16,131	15,391‡
<b>ALFALFA—</b>								
Acres .....	853	780	765	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Condition, percent..	92	97	93	94	86.7	92.5	.....	.....
<b>PASTURES—</b>								
Condition, percent..	91	92	92	93	82.2	84.8	93.8	90.6
<b>CABBAGE—</b>								
Condition, percent..	95	90	95	91	.....	.....	.....	.....
<b>ONIONS—</b>								
Condition, percent..	94	90	93	91	.....	.....	.....	.....
<b>APPLES—</b>								
Condition, percent..	88	88	94	75	74.0	75.5	72.8	70.1
Production, bus.....	3,171	3,010	4,250	3,200‡	.....	192,000	203,000	160,000‡
<b>PEACHES—</b>								
Condition, percent..	91	86	99	63	72.7	66.7	77.1	63.3
Production, bus.....	.....	732	960	81.‡	52,514	45,700	55,852	44,000‡
<b>PEARS—</b>								
Condition, percent..	94	90	98	75	71.3	68.6	72.8	66.9
Production, bus.....	.....	400	519	50.‡	.....	17,390	20,705	.....
<b>BLACKBERRIES—</b>								
Condition, percent..	87	94	85	84	89.4	88.2	92.6	88.4
<b>CHERRIES—</b>								
Condition, percent..	75	89	95	60	62.0	75.0	.....	76.3
<b>WATERMELONS—</b>								
Condition, percent..	92	90	96	94	76.0	79.2	83.0	81.2
<b>CANTALOUPE—</b>								
Condition, percent..	92	90	97	86	76.0	79.2	84.0	81.2
<b>SUGAR BEETS—</b>								
Acres for harvest....	.....	164	148	200‡	.....	657	530	815‡
Condition, percent..	83	92	87	92	.....	.....	.....	.....
Production, tons.....	.....	1,996	1,466	2,279‡	.....	7,006	5,183	7,782‡
<b>AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK—</b>								
Percent normal moisture in soil for this time.....	106	102	90	99‡	.....	.....	.....	.....

NOTES: The figures on acreage and production enumerate thousands and require that three ciphers (000) be added to complete the numbers. \*1919 revised estimates. ‡5-year average. Acreage and production figures for 1923 and 1922 are the last December final estimates and revisions. §1919 Federal Census. †1921. Averages unless otherwise designated are 10-year averages.