

Crop Report for Colorado

U. S. Department of Agriculture

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

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General Conditions—On account of the continuation of favorable weather, Colorado crop prospects changed but little during October and reached November 1 with figures about 11 points below the ten-year average for this date. The average yield per acre this year for all crops combined, duly weighted, compared with an average yield for the past ten years was 89.1, an improvement of 1.6 points during October. The amount of moisture in the soil compared with normal was 79 per cent on November 1 compared with 74 per cent on October 1, 115 per cent on November 1 last year, 48 per cent on November 1, 1922, and 78 per cent for the same date in 1921.

Corn—On November 1, the corn crop was placed at 15,650,000 bushels, compared with 37,250,000 bushels last year. Assuming that the entire 1,565,000 acres planted will be harvested for corn, the average yield is only 10 bushels per acre, the lowest average yield ever made in Colorado. The crop was generally planted late and growth was retarded by the exceedingly dry summer in which there was no rainfall during the period from June 1 to about September 10. Generally, there was a fair growth of stalk but, in many cases, the corn was injured at tasseling time and a low yield resulted. Much of the corn was late in maturing and was somewhat damaged by frost about the last of September. Comparatively, 5 per cent more land was planted this year than last, while the production is only about 42 per cent as much. The merchantable quality is rated at only 61 per cent of the entire production, compared with 89 a year ago, and 82 in 1922. This unfavorable report for corn both as to yield and quality is largely due to the fact that about 90 per cent is grown upon dry land and only 10 per cent upon the irrigated areas where the better crop could not balance the failure of the dry land plantings. Due to last year's large crop stocks carried over on farms is estimated at 1,118,000 bushels, compared with 366,000 bushels last year and 2,908,000 bushels in 1922. Corn made the best showing in northeastern part of the state in Yuma, Phillips, Logan and Sedgwick counties, where the largest part of the corn area is located. The United States corn crop is by a small margin the smallest since 1913, being estimated at 2,477,538,000 bushels. This is slightly higher than the estimate of a month ago, but 570,000,000 bushels less than a year ago and 422,000,000 bushels less than the five-year average. The favorable weather during October resulted in the quality of the crop being better than thought possible a month ago but the percentage merchantable is still the lowest in 30 years, with the exception of the 1917 crop. The merchantable quantity is placed at 63.2 per cent of the crop compared with 79.4 a year ago, and 83.4 the ten-year average. The stocks carried over on farms is estimated at 1,019,934,000 bushels, compared to 84,275,000 bushels in 1923 and 177,287,000 bushels in 1922.

Potatoes—Colorado potatoes improved about 300,000 bushels during October and was slightly above eleven million bushels. On November 1 on the basis of 97,000 acres planted the crop is placed at 11,155,000 bushels compared with 13,530,000 bushels a year ago and 18,460,000 bushels in 1922. The improvement in the crop is attributed largely to rains during the fore part of September and favorable growing weather until after the first of October. The quality of the crop on November 1 averaged 86 per cent of normal compared with a rating of 84 a year ago and 90, the ten-year average. The actual area to be harvested this year hasn't as yet been determined. There is not likely to be much abandonment, however, in the commercial or irrigated sections.

Shipments of early potatoes from Colorado have been considerably lighter this season than a year ago, amounting to 4,811 cars to November 1, compared with 5,225 cars to the same date last year. The entire shipment for Colorado, both early

and late potatoes, for 1923 amounted to 14,074 cars up to July 1, 1924, compared to 15,468 cars from the 1922 crop for the corresponding period.

Prospects for the late potato crop for the entire country improved 7 points during October, amounting to about 30,550,000 bushels. Of this gain, over 15,000,000 bushels occurred in the four eastern states, Maine, New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey; 4,300,000 bushels gain in Michigan, 640,000 in Ohio and the remainder being from Wisconsin west. The forecast for the entire country on November 1 is 454,157,000 bushels on an area of 3,753,000 acres compared with 412,392,000 bushels on 3,816,000 acres a year ago, although the area this year is about 2 per cent less than a year ago, the production is about 10 per cent more. In the northern states, the yields have run far above expectations because in some regions the crop escaped frost and continued growing far into October and the generally dry weather checked the rot that threatened the crop a month ago. The quality is reported as generally good and is rated at 89.2 or slightly higher than last year when it was 87.9. The production per capita this year is 4.08 bushels compared with an average per capita production for the past 20 years of about 3.76 bushels. Because of low prices prevailing, in some western states, some good potatoes will be fed to livestock and there are indications that some may not even be harvested. While white potatoes were improving, drought in important southern producing states greatly reduced the sweet potato crop which is estimated at 75,620,000 bushels or about 25,000,000 bushels below the average of the past five years and the smallest crop since 1916.

The carlot shipments of the late potato crop are increasing but are generally below last year, amounting to 70,632 cars to date, compared with 83,479 cars to the same date last year. The entire shipment of potatoes in the United States last year, both early and late crops, totaled 240,162 cars up to June 30 compared to 253,686 cars for the 1922 crop.

Apples—The November 1 estimate places the Colorado apple crop at 3,024,000 bushels or about the same as last year when the crop was estimated at 3,010,000 bushels compared with 4,250,000 bushels in 1922. The national crop is now estimated at 177,238,000 bushels. This is slightly above the average of the last five years but has been exceeded six times during the past ten years. Prospects differ greatly among the various states but are particularly poor in Washington, Idaho, Michigan and in the commercial sections of Pennsylvania and Maryland. The commercial apple crop is 27,188,000 barrels or about the same as the five-year average.

Flax Seed—For the first time in 11 years, Colorado has again planted considerable acreage to flax, having planted this year 23,000 acres compared with 500 acres last year and 360 acres in 1922. In 1911, 3,000 acres were reported; the next year 12,000 and in 1913, 10,000; in 1914, 2,000 acres. Since 1914, the acreage has only nominally been somewhere between 500 and 1,000 acres per year, only here and there a grower who has planted this crop until this year the 23,000 acres was contracted and planted, principally in Lincoln, Kit Carson, Elbert and Cheyenne counties. The crop is almost entirely a dry land crop and drought seriously effected it this season. The average yield is placed at 4.5 bushels per acre, making the production about 104,000 bushels. The production figures for other important states are Minnesota, 7,513,000; North Dakota, 16,362,000; South Dakota, 3,791,000; Montana, 2,201,000 bushels. The national crop amounts to 30,652,000 bushels compared to 17,429,000 bushels last year and 9,941,000 bushels, the five-year average. The entire acreage planted in the United States this year is 3,375,000 acres compared with 2,061,000 acres last year and 1,478,000 acres, the five-year average. The quality of the crop is rated at 91.6 compared with 89.3 last year and 90.4 the ten-year average.

Acreage and Production—Combining the production estimates of the 17 principal crops for the United States in proportion to the five-year average values per unit on October 15, the composite production of these crops this season is 0.2 per cent greater than last year, and 1.0 per cent greater than the average production during the five years, 1918-1922. By the same method of calculation, the per capita production of the principal crops in the United States this season is 1.1 per cent less than it was last year and 4.1 per cent less than the average per capita production during the previous five years. The average yields per acre this year for all crops combined for the United States compared with their average yields for the past 10 years is 98.1 per cent. This year the total acreage in cultivation in 20 crops is about 0.1 per cent more than last year. The average yields of important crops compared with the ten-year average expressed in order of highest percentages are estimated as follows: Potatoes 122.1, flax seed 119.7, oats 113.8, wheat 112.0, barley 106.8, grain sorghums 106.4, rye 104.8, buck wheat 101.3, broom corn 103.7, hay (all) 102.1, pears 102.0, apples 98.7, cotton 94.7, rice 93.1, sugar beets 92.4, tobacco 89.3, peanuts 86.2, corn 85.1, cherries (Calif.) 82.9, beans 82.1, grapes 81.7, sorghum for syrup 81.4, sweet potatoes 78.8, peaches 68.1.

**AVERAGE YIELDS OF PRINCIPAL CROPS PER ACRE AS REPORTED BY THE
U. S. CENSUS BUREAU FOR YEARS 1919 AND 1909**

	WHEAT		CORN		OATS		BARLEY		HAY		POTATOES	
	1919 Bu.	1909 Bu.	1919 Bu.	1909 Bu.	1919 Bu.	1909 Bu.	1919 Bu.	1909 Bu.	1919 Tons	1909 Tons	1919 Bu.	1909 Bu.
Abasco	6.57	24.39	9.78	16.51	15.69	28.55	12.63	26.20	2.27	1.99	76.83	85.48
Alamosa	13.40				18.80		15.88		1.25		102.90	
Alamogordo	7.97	24.13	10.12	18.68	21.07	28.89	15.63	34.00	2.56	2.26	52.21	46.76
Alamogordo	21.00	16.90	13.26	18.70	38.00	20.80	27.60	19.30	1.66	1.58	60.06	156.97
Alamogordo	13.00	7.50	20.40	8.20	16.59	12.30	15.41		1.21	1.86	37.99	39.17
Alamo	29.87	25.20	24.21	11.20	35.42	33.40	29.14	33.60	2.13	1.85	56.07	
Alamo	18.99	31.86	18.01	22.90	24.81	33.90	21.49	33.27	1.94	2.24	80.89	103.16
Alamo	21.90	23.80			32.10	26.10	28.95	22.20	1.49	1.86	71.35	162.39
Alamo	12.50	12.10	17.60	15.90	13.61	25.30	16.00	17.10	1.11	1.35	25.27	71.66
Alamo		30.00			19.50	12.40	54.15		1.06	1.61	49.63	87.73
Alamo	17.69	19.10	13.10	13.10	10.52	25.00	22.98	26.90	1.21	1.18	77.41	113.75
Alamo	16.27	14.00	10.40	10.40	25.70	17.30	23.46		1.25	1.01	29.24	82.39
Alamo	21.59		19.30		25.23		25.98		2.47		24.29	
Alamo	18.61	13.58	12.99	13.40	23.51	21.47	19.95	17.07	1.38	1.08	42.52	107.32
Alamo	22.08	23.97	31.07	25.60	31.28	39.37	24.17	30.00	1.94	1.99	156.57	145.18
Alamo	20.95	22.97	19.12	14.31	38.39	10.60	10.95	25.00	3.18	2.52	34.72	89.50
Alamo	17.50	27.00	20.30	40.00	25.30	42.40	11.45	24.00	1.54	1.73	67.27	195.62
Alamo	9.50	16.79	11.40	19.30	17.40	15.80	13.99	13.90	1.41	1.58	30.12	54.65
Alamo	24.70	26.50	48.33	1.80	48.00	46.60	26.74	42.50	1.96	2.01	229.59	200.05
Alamo	8.50	11.10	14.00	15.90	13.35	14.80	9.77	13.80	1.11	1.23	25.44	66.18
Alamo	10.42	9.73	14.45	15.86	14.72	13.77	11.00	11.20	1.06	1.17	26.63	56.30
Alamo	15.47	12.00	22.67	17.72	31.95	27.20	20.60	29.40	1.92	2.16	46.81	78.01
Alamo	18.80	24.90	22.93	24.00	32.50	38.10	20.13	27.00	1.98	2.99	176.61	218.86
Alamo	5.31	12.50			11.60	30.00	12.67	15.00	.97	1.06	67.66	68.83
Alamo	12.40	12.20			22.00	28.50	34.20	17.90	1.18	1.22	73.81	140.36
Alamo		18.30			28.63	26.26	20.41	24.10	1.46	1.30	110.04	103.47
Alamo								20.00	1.37	1.19	73.00	91.78
Alamo	12.08	18.37	12.61	16.68	24.97	28.16	27.53	25.00	1.93	1.96	23.21	122.03
Alamo		38.30			12.50	18.54	8.89	24.80	.92	1.11	82.97	180.26
Alamo	19.89	24.12	18.56	22.60	21.07	23.65	20.10	15.90	1.95	1.90	77.53	87.00
Alamo	12.77	8.52	19.84	12.69	19.66	15.10	17.36	10.50	1.18	.79	23.68	34.22
Alamo	9.38	10.55	10.28	12.12	13.24	20.80	14.13	15.56	.96	1.10	27.86	70.29
Alamo		25.00							.71	1.43		69.00
Alamo	20.85	19.47	25.86	24.10	34.40	31.45	25.90	23.60	2.02	1.86	102.24	126.11
Alamo	18.07	29.21	11.87	20.40	32.28	29.96	21.74	27.60	1.75	1.76	60.95	99.95
Alamo	15.45	15.65	15.03	14.28	25.84	21.82	23.48	13.30	1.70	1.91	33.34	98.51
Alamo	7.67	13.96	14.91	17.22	12.81	19.50	11.34	20.60	.83	1.03	22.66	82.34
Alamo	12.11	15.44	9.73	16.10	19.32	31.60	18.55	20.80	1.32	1.45	30.90	82.80
Alamo	22.44	25.86	28.94	25.43	31.79	34.17	29.00	27.30	2.41	3.16	96.63	121.12
Alamo				28.00					.94	.95	62.17	271.11
Alamo	7.50		11.06		18.80		22.37		1.19		46.23	
Alamo	16.24	26.58	19.03	25.31	33.13	32.90	27.16	22.50	2.21	2.19	99.24	179.03
Alamo	27.42	30.91	30.94	24.50	35.70	24.50	19.99	25.20	2.58	2.97	177.19	194.73
Alamo	7.48	20.98	10.42	18.47	30.31	31.50	23.96	34.40	1.93	1.80	68.00	119.45
Alamo	33.97	24.90	34.38	23.90	50.13	34.90	37.08	27.50	2.87	2.92	64.77	73.40
Alamo	23.03	27.45			30.13	37.45	18.39	18.83	1.66	1.79	125.54	208.77
Alamo		10.00	15.00	6.00	18.27	15.21	15.88	15.07	.78	.77	53.87	86.90
Alamo	15.60	14.20	18.80	18.20	15.18	20.80	16.35	19.60	.67	1.11	35.54	59.33
Alamo	31.11	33.32		51.33	39.10	39.10	32.72	20.40	1.85	2.08	223.10	210.17
Alamo	24.58	23.18	27.24	15.68	33.43	32.30	27.05	41.60	1.94	2.31	104.23	36.28
Alamo	13.27	12.88	20.86	15.65	28.62	24.34	19.85	16.40	3.61	2.18	27.03	69.00
Alamo	12.74	30.71	15.58		35.47	43.75	17.83	25.25	1.66	2.14	109.41	171.48
Alamo	24.39	23.66	16.25	20.00	29.02	25.78	19.67	18.30	1.33	1.10	200.77	180.57
Alamo	14.12	25.40	12.47	31.20	27.28	30.10	18.70	24.00	1.92	1.73	98.98	188.72
Alamo	21.10	21.10	19.48		23.70	25.30	18.60	17.70	1.07	1.02	126.58	154.04
Alamo	19.10	22.90	23.66	43.80	38.47	42.07	20.60	17.50	1.67	1.94	114.94	244.62
Alamo	15.71	17.88	15.43	19.44	20.51	28.50	23.59	23.30	.87	1.24	42.25	90.67
Alamo		28.90			21.59	38.86	10.86	15.46	1.41	1.11	84.48	111.87
Alamo					9.07	51.36	11.78	27.00	.90	1.13	48.59	85.23
Alamo	12.87	11.67	8.19	12.83	13.85	18.70	10.01	24.00	.70	.82	26.04	58.69
Alamo	12.87	29.58	9.20	16.48	24.51	32.50	20.66	34.10	1.96	1.90	94.03	151.52
Alamo	16.89	14.12	9.97	11.51	22.86	23.60	19.66	21.50	.99	1.18	24.46	51.31
Alamo	13.74	21.20	13.43	15.02	26.03	27.70	18.31	26.45	1.65	1.73	114.69	137.24

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

Subject	COLORADO			UNITED STATES		
	1924	1923	Average	1924	1923	Average
CORN—						
Acres	1,565	1,490	1,145‡	104,604	104,158	101,981*
Average yield per acre.....	10	25	16‡	22.7	29.2	27.6
Production, bushels grain.....	15,650	37,250	18,320‡	2,477,538	3,046,000	2,899,000*
Stocks old corn on farms..	1,118	366	2,908‡	101,934	84,275	.....
ALL WHEAT ACRES—						
Acres for harvest.....	1,705	1,390	1,620‡	52,818	58,308	64,406*
Production, bushels	26,209	18,000	21,776‡	856,000	786,000	881,000*
WINTER WHEAT—						
Acres for harvest.....	1,375	1,060	1,262‡	36,898	39,522	42,632*
Average yield, bushels.....	15	12.0	18.1	16.0	14.5	14.6*
Production, bushels	20,625	12,720	16,406‡	589,000	572,000	624,632*
SPRING WHEAT—						
Acres for harvest.....	330	330	358‡	16,920	18,786	21,721*
Average yield, bushels.....	16	16	15.9‡	15.7	11.4	11.8*
Production, bushels	5,280	5,280	5,370‡	266,000	213,000	259,336*
OATS—						
Acres for harvest.....	228	198	185‡	41,625	40,768	42,697*
Average yield, bushels.....	26	32	25.0‡	36.3	31.8	30.5
Production, bushels	5,928	6,336	4,625‡	1,509,000	1,300,000	1,302,516*
BARLEY—						
Acres for harvest.....	265	221	186‡	7,558	7,905	7,758*
Average yield, bushels.....	24	29.0	19.0‡	26.6	25.1	24.0*
Production, bushels	6,360	6,409	3,534‡	201,000	198,000	186,036*
RYE—						
Acres for harvest.....	68	73	97‡	4,337	5,157	5,661*
Average yield, bushels.....	10	12.0	9.0‡	15.2	12.2	13.8*
Production, bushels	630	876	873‡	65,800	63,000	78,410*
WHITE POTATOES—						
Acres for harvest.....	97	110	142‡	3,753	4,307	4,948*
Average yield, bushels.....	115	123	130	121	108.1	99.1
Production, bushels	11,155	13,530	18,460‡	454,000	412,000	391,000*
SUGAR BEETS—						
Acres planted	238	.....	.....	917	.....	.....
Acres harvested .....	.....	165	148‡	.....	657	701*
Condition, per cent.....	94	94	91	82.6	92.9	89.9
Production, tons	2,448	1,962	1,466‡	7,408	7,006	6,775*
Sugar production, tons .....	.....	240	183‡	947	881	854*
ALL HAY—						
Acres harvested	1,586	1,576	1,557‡	.....	75,884	74,095*
Production, tons	2,701	2,797	2,618‡	.....	106,626	102,172*
TAME HAY—						
Acres harvested	1,239	1,203	1,191‡	61,020	60,162	58,134*
Average yield, tons.....	1.9	2.0	1.9‡	1.56	1.48	1.38
Production, tons	2,354	2,406	2,263‡	95,100	89,098	85,800*
WILD HAY—						
Acres harvested	347	373	366‡	.....	15,722	15,961*
Average yield, tons.....	1.0	1.05	0.97‡	0.94	1.11	1.03
Production, tons	347	391	355‡	14,100	17,528	16,372
FIELD BEANS—						
Acres for harvest	306	170	81‡	1,353	1,297	1,099‡
Average yield, bushels.....	3.7	8.0	5.2‡	9.2	12.1	11.2
Production, bushels	1,132	1,360	405‡	12,782	16,030	12,375
APPLES—						
Quality	80	80	80	74.7	78.4	80.5
Agr'l production, bushels..	3,024	3,010	4,250‡	177.28	197,000	202,702*
Commercial barrels	806	803	1,034‡	27,188	34,303	31,000‡
PEACHES—						
Total production, per cent	85	88	.....	68.8	61.0	.....
Agr'l production, bushels..	765	792	900‡	51,700	45,702	55,852‡
PEARS—						
Agr'l production, bushels..	461	400	519‡	17,925	17,390	20,705‡

NOTES: The figures on acreage and production enumerate thousands and require the three ciphers (000) be added to complete the numbers. 1919 revised estimates. 1919-24 average. 1918-1922. Acreage and production figures for 1923 and 1922 are the last December final estimates and revisions. \$1919 Federal Census. †1922. Averages unless otherwise designated are 10-year averages.