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Crop Report for Colorado

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

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United States figures are generally presented only in the table on page 4, as are also estimates of condition, average yields, quality and production, with comparisons for some of the important state crops. All estimates of acreage, average yields and production for 1925 are preliminary and subject to revision in December.

GENERAL CONDITIONS—No general killing frost, except in higher altitudes, occurred in Colorado agricultural sections until about October 15. Beginning about the 5th, quite general rains prevailed over most of the state, with the exception of a very few days, until the last of the month. Temperatures were mild and favorable until the 27th to the 30th when freezing temperatures caused heavy damage to potatoes in northern Colorado. Rainy weather generally delayed the harvesting of all crops, particularly potatoes and sugar beets, and the threshing of all grains and beans. However, owing to the late date at which killing frosts occurred, corn, beans and other tender crops had opportunity to fully mature and the extended growing period increased the yield of root crops.

The combined yields of all Colorado crops in proportion to their relative importance, the composite of yields per acre this season is 83.6. This indicates that crop yields were 14.4 per cent below the average of the last ten years. This composite of 83.6 is 1.6 points below the composite based on the condition of crops on October 1 and 5.5 below the composite of per acre yields last year. Similarly, the composite yields per acre this season for the United States was 99.6 or .4 of 1 per cent below the average of the last 10 years.

CORN—On November 1, the Colorado corn crop was placed at 24,645,000 bushels compared with 15,650,000 bushels last year and 37,625,000 bushels in 1923. The present estimate indicates an average of 15 bushels per acre, applied to the entire estimated acreage of 1,643,000 acres; this yield is 5 bushels greater than last year. Frosts holding off until about the middle of October permitted corn to fully mature, however, conditions were generally spotted and there were many areas in the state where moisture was deficient and corn was almost a failure, while other sections have unusualily heavy crops with high yields reported. Corn made the best showing in the east central and northeastern counties where the major portion of the corn acreage is located. The merchantability of the crop is rated at 83 per cent of the entire production compared with 61 per cent a year ago. There was only a small carry-over of stocks on farms estimated at 313,000 bushels compared with 1,129,000 bushels in 1924. In Colorado, usually only about 70 to 80 per cent of the corn acreage is harvested for grain; this year the estimate is 72 per cent; about 4 per cent is cut for silage and the remainder cut for feeding, grazed or hogged off. Of the corn cut for silage, the average yield per acre for silage is estimated at 5.3 tons. On the non-irrigated acreage the average yield is from 1.5 to 5 tons per acre, while that on the irrigated lands is much higher, ranging from 8 to 20 tons per acre. It is estimated that there are between 4,000 to 4,500 silos in the state. A larger per cent of the irrigated corn is cut for silage than the non-irrigated, however, the irrigated corn of the state constitutes only about 8 to 10 per cent of the entire acreage. The United States crop improved over the October 1 estimate about 3

per cent and passed the 3,000,000,000 mark. The bulk of the crop throughout the country matured without frost. The estimated quantity of the corn of 1924 on farms of the U. S. on November 1, the beginning of the new corn crop year, is estimated at 60,952,000 bushels, being a hold-over of only 2.5 per cent, an unusually small quantity. Last year, stocks on farms November 1 were estimated at 102,000,000 bushels. The cause of this is the relatively small corn crop of 1924, which was about 20 per cent below this year's crop. The quality of the U. S. crop is figured at 83.6 merchantable compared with 63.2 per cent last year.

POTATOES—The Colorado potato crop on November 1 was estimated at 12,610,000 bushels, or 582,000 bushels less than a month ago and compared to 11,640,000 bushels last year. This decline is largely due to losses in the northern Colorado section where unfavorable weather conditions delayed the harvest until the excessively low temperatures of about the 27th to the 30th caught about 50 per cent of the crop in that section still in the ground and caused a 50 per cent or more loss to that section. In most other sections of the state the harvest had been completed and potatoes were shipped or stored in excellent condition, showing higher average yields and better quality than usual. Account of the generally short crop throughout the U. S., prices have advanced far above expectation and afford a material compensating factor against the losses incurred. The U. S. crop is placed at 346,503,000 bushels compared with 454,784,000 bushels a year ago. The production is still somewhat uncertain because part of the crop was still in the ground on November 1 and losses from freezing could not be accurately estimated. In New York, losses have been heavy from rotting and in some of the late potato states there has been considerable loss from freezing. Maine, New York, North Dakota, South Dakota and Oregon, together with Colorado suffered material declines from the figures of a month ago, on the other hand, however, a number of states such as Pennsylvania, Ohio and Idaho show surprisingly heavy yields per acre so that for the country as a whole the average yield per acre is nearly up to the average of the last ten years. Comparative figures for leading potato states are indicated below:

POTATOES: Late Crop, Colorado and Other States

STATE	Quality November 1, 1925 (Percent)	Acreage 1925 (1000 Acres)	Acreage 1924 (1000 Acres)	Production Forecast Nov. 1, 1925 (1000 Bus.)	Production Final Estimate 1924 (1000 Bus.)	Carlot Shipments Total This Season to Nov. 7	Carlot Shipments Total Last Season to Nov. 1	Total 1924 Crop
Maine	94	128	135	30,976	41,175	12,627	10,471	43,127
New York	77	313	333	27,231	46,620	6,330	5,612	20,150
New Jersey	..	60	74	6,360	11,544	3,291	8,441	8,637
Pennsylvania	91	234	244	28,314	28,792	3,152	1,300	3,948
Michigan	90	263	292	26,300	38,252	5,644	4,513	17,436
Wisconsin	89	211	242	23,632	31,460	6,556	3,561	16,020
Minnesota	88	272	336	26,384	44,352	12,001	13,609	31,682
North Dakota	99	110	130	7,920	11,960	3,141	2,561	6,086
South Dakota	..	61	71	3,843	5,822	890	1,548	1,881
Nebraska	84	86	89	6,192	7,743	2,065	971	2,918
Colorado	91	97	97	12,610	11,640	7,424	5,174	12,441
Idaho	92	68	65	12,920	10,725	5,101	4,250	11,942
Washington	81	51	49	7,344	6,615	3,512	2,432	6,684
California	91	48	50	7,248	7,750	4,111	4,212	6,588
Total above states		2,064	2,388	227,274	325,394	75,845	68,655	189,540
Total United States		3,453	3,662	346,503	454,784	....	....	....

SUGAR BEETS—The sugar beet crop for Colorado on November 1 was placed at 1,387,000 tons based on an estimate of 186,000 acres planted, compared to 2,546,000 tons on 225,000 acres harvested a year ago. The condition of the crop for the acreage left for harvest is only a little below the usual but the condition of the crop based on the entire acreage planted was rated at 68 per cent of normal. Conditions were adverse for germination account of the dry seed beds and resulted in a large acreage being replanted to other crops. Though conditions were unfavorable during the early part of the season, the crop that was left for harvest upon which good stands were obtained came to the end of the season in much better condition than was anticipated, and a higher yield than was thought possible under the circumstances.

FIELD BEANS—Due to unfavorable moisture conditions for other crops early in the season, a larger acreage of beans was planted than at first planned, beans having been planted in place of some beets and other crops. The bean crop did well during most of the season but met with excessive moisture conditions during October, delaying harvesting and threshing, and some damage occurred. Very little threshing was done during the month. The estimated production for the state remains the same as on

October 1, or 2,534,000 bushels compared with 986,000 bushels a year ago. The October 1 estimate for the national crop is 18,504,000 bushels compared with 13,600,000 bushels a year ago.

FRUITS—The fruit crops held about steady during the month. The pear crop is estimated at 510,000 bushels compared to 550,000 bushels last year. The total apple crop of the state is estimated at 2,952,000 bushels compared to 3,024,000 bushels a year ago. The carlot apple shipments from Colorado to November 7 this year amounted to 1,751 cars compared with 1,603 cars to the same date last year and a total of 2,404 cars from the 1924 crop. The Western states have shipped 31,666 cars to November 7 compared to 25,969 cars last year to the same date, and a total from the Western states of 41,575 cars. The estimated apple production for the principal states is as indicated below:

APPLES: Colorado and Other States

STATE	Quality Nov. 1, 1925 (Per Cent)	PRODUCTION Entire Crop Forecast Nov. 1, 1925 (1,000 Bus.)	Entire Crop Final Estimate 1924 (1,000 Bus.)	Commercial Crop Forecast Nov. 1, 1925 (1,000 Bbls.)	Commercial Crop Final Estimate 1924 (1,000 Bbls.)
Maine	82	3,334	3,241	667	651
Masachusetts	82	2,990	3,346	598	660
New York	81	28,520	23,800	5,397	3,738
New Jersey	77	2,070	2,300	448	474
Pennsylvania	72	6,970	7,267	1,011	780
Virginia	67	7,844	15,184	1,386	2,520
West Virginia	64	4,185	7,000	749	800
North Carolina	64	3,192	6,500	160	307
Ohio	75	8,140	8,325	678	694
Illinois	75	7,000	6,200	1,166	925
Michigan	80	11,050	7,333	1,916	1,222
Iowa	76	2,400	3,000	80	150
Missouri	67	5,200	5,300	658	588
Kansas	70	1,716	2,812	286	471
Kentucky	65	2,625	6,075	70	162
Tennessee	57	1,881	4,500	44	106
Arkansas	60	4,070	3,630	691	787
Colorado	80	2,952	3,024	846	806
Idaho	88	5,160	2,520	1,496	600
Washington	80	28,700	23,000	8,132	6,650
Oregon	82	5,000	6,500	1,296	1,750
California	76	6,016	7,370	1,203	1,474
Total (22 States)		150,916	158,227	28,978	26,315
Total United States	76.6	171,264	179,443	31,312	28,587

BROOM CORN—On the basis of an average of 200 pounds per acre the forecast of broom corn for Colorado on November 1 was 1,000 tons compared with a final estimate of 2,890 tons last year. The preliminary estimate of acreage this year is 10,000 acres, compared to 34,000 acres a year ago. The preliminary estimate of broom corn acreage this season for the U. S. is 191,000 acres compared with the final estimate of 442,000 acres last year, 536,000 acres in 1923, and 350,000 acres the five-year average. The forecast of production for the U. S. crop dropped from 76,000 tons in 1924 to 28,000 in the preliminary estimate for November 1 and compared to 81,000 tons in 1923 and 54,000 tons, the five-year average.

ONIONS—Based on November 1 condition figures and revised estimates of commercial production in late states, Colorado has a crop of 1,144,000 bushels compared with 848,000 bushels last year. The acreage this year is placed at 3,520, compared with 3,140 a year ago. The carlot movement of Colorado onions to November 7 was 747 cars compared to 386 cars to the same date last year and a total of 1,064 cars from the 1924 crop. The carlot movement from 24 principal late states is 19,831 cars to November 7 compared to 19,956 to the same date last year and 30,796 cars for 1924. The estimated production of 14 late states is 12,797,000 bushels compared with 12,556,000 bushels last year. The acreage is 37,440 acres compared with 38,970 acres a year ago.

CABBAGE—Colorado carlot shipments of cabbage to November 7 amounted to 1,011 cars compared to 1,331 cars to the same date last year and a total of 1,473 cars for the 1924 crop. The carlot movement from 22 principal states amounts to 28,867 cars to November 7 compared to 30,736 cars to the same date last year and a total of 41,945 cars for the 1924 crop.

SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER 1, 1925, CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORT FOR COLORADO AND THE UNITED STATES

Subject	Colorado 1925	Colorado 1924	Colorado Average	United States 1925	United States 1924	United States Average
CORN						
Acres	1,643	1,565	1,505‡	106,621	105,102	103,524†
Average yield per acre	15	10.0	25.0‡	28.3	23.2	28.3†
Production, bushels grain	24,645	15,650	37,625‡	3,013,390	2,436,513	2,934,649†
Stocks old corn on farms	2.0	3.0	...	2.5	3.39	...
ALL WHEAT ACRES—						
Acres for harvest	1,532	1,457	1,407‡	53,994	54,209	60,205†
Production, bushels	19,380	21,030	18,272‡	697,272	872,673	837,117†
WINTER WHEAT—						
Acres for harvest	1,200	1,141	1,060‡	32,813	36,438	39,518‡
Average yield, bushels	12	14.0	12.0‡	12.7	16.2	14.7†
Production, bushels	14,400	15,974	15,904†	416,000	590,000	592,000†
SPRING WHEAT—						
Acres for harvest	332	316	347‡	21,181	17,771	20,141‡
Average yield, bushels	15	16.0	16.0‡	13.3	15.9	12.3†
Production, bushels	4,980	5,056	5,552‡	282,000	283,000	245,000†
OATS—						
Acres for harvest	260	260	226‡	44,467	42,452	42,442†
Average yield, bushels	27	25	32.0‡	33.1	36.3	31.3†
Production, bushels	7,020	6,500	7,232‡	1,470,384	1,542,000	1,328,000†
BARLEY—						
Acres for harvest	425	340	300‡	8,826	7,086	7,450†
Average yield, bushels	21	24	29.0‡	25.7	26.5	24.5†
Production, bushels	8,925	8,160	6,026†	227,000	188,000	182,000†
RYE—						
Acres for harvest	85	74	77‡	4,184	4,173	4,991†
Average yield, bushels	9	10.0	12.0	12.4	15.2	14.1†
Production, bushels	765	740	924‡	52,000	63,400	70,400†
WHITE POTATOES—						
Acres for harvest	97	97	142‡	3,453	3,662	2,877†
Average yield, bushels	130	120	123‡	103.4	124.2	107.8†
Production, bushels	12,610	11,640	13,607†	346,503	454,784	417,848‡
SUGAR BEETS—						
Acres planted	186	238	211†	776	925	825†
Acres harvested	....	225	164‡	.....	814	657†
Condition, per cent	68	..	..	84.1	..	..
Production, tons	1,387	2,546	2,122†	6,657	7,513	7,006‡
ALL HAY—						
Acres harvested	1,568	1,588	1,576‡	74,796	76,385	75,426†
Production, tons	2,734	2,924	2,855‡	98,100	112,000	107,000†
TAME HAY—						
Acres harvested	1,228	1,248	1,203‡	60,745	61,454	59,868‡
Average yield, tons	1.95	2.07	2.05‡	1.41	1.59	†1.52
Production, tons	2,394	2,584	2,463‡	85,700	98,000	91,000†
WILD HAY—						
Acres harvested	340	340	373‡	14,051	14,931	15,556‡
Average yield, tons	1.0	1.0	1.05‡	.88	.97	†1.04
Production, tons	340	340	373‡	12,400	14,500	16,200†
FIELD BEANS—						
Acres for harvest	363	290	170‡	1,584	1,400	1,092†
Average yield, bushels	7.0	3.4	8.0‡	11.7	9.7	11.2†
Production, bushels	2,534	986	1,360‡	18,504	13,600	12,200†
APPLES—						
Quality	80	80	79	76.6	74.7	79.6
Agr'l production	2,952	3,024	3,263†	171,264	179,101	181,465†
Commercial barrels	846	806	838†	31,312	28,600	30,400†
PEACHES—						
Total production, per cent	40	85	88‡	60.2	68.8	..
Agr'l production, bushels	447	920	750‡	47,700	53,137	46,519†
PEARS—						
Quality	90	94	88	85.7	86.5	87.3
Agr'l production, bushels	510	550	471†	18,200	18,600	17,100†

Notes: The figures on acreage and production enumerate thousands and require that three ciphers (000) be added to complete the numbers. †5-year average, 1920-1924. Acreage and production figures for 1924 and 1923 are the last December final estimates and revisions. §1919 Federal Census. ‡1923. Averages unless otherwise designated are 10-year averages.

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