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CROP REPORT FOR COLORADO

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(Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates)

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Preliminary Acreage Estimates—The estimates of acreage for the 1926 crops in Colorado given in this bulletin are preliminary estimates of acreage left for harvest and not necessarily equal to acres planted. While reasonably accurate, the acreages are established in comparison, in a percentage way, with the acreages of corresponding crops for 1925 and former years, and are subject to revision in December, when general revisions of all acreages and production figures will be made in harmony with acreages indicated by special reports and the annual findings of county assessors. In this state there are many acres of small grains harvested for hay and forage, pastured or abandoned, varying in different seasons. The amount of this acreage is not well determined this early in the season.

United States figures are not reproduced in the text for lack of space, but will be found in the table on Page 4.

General Conditions—Colorado corn cut nearly 14,000,000 bushels, to the lowest condition on record, beans reduced over a million bushels to a 50% condition, and similar reductions in grain sorghums and broom corn, with grains, hay, sugar beets, potatoes and fruits holding steady compared with a month ago, are the outstanding items of the September 1 Colorado crop report. The reductions are due to a continued and severe drought accompanied by hot winds that prevailed during a portion of August over much of the state and particularly the eastern plains section. It is probable the full extent of the damage to corn and beans is not yet fully determined, and further decreases may be recorded before the end of the season. The drought was particularly severe in the eastern and northeastern portions of the state, where very large percentages of the corn and beans are grown.

The combined condition of all Colorado crops declined materially, about 10.3 points during August, and reached September 1 with a figure of 6 per cent below the ten-year average for this date. The composite figure of all crops of the state equaled 94 per cent of the average for the past 10 years on this date, 4.3 points above the figure for last year at this time.

Corn—The September forecast shows a condition of 40 per cent, which represents a possible production of 14,021,000 bushels, compared with a forecast of 27,828,000 bushels a month ago, and a final outturn of 22,410,000 bushels last year. Much of the crop was in the blossom stage when the hot weather and dry winds occurred, stopping the setting of ears and preventing further development. The condition at this time is 40 per cent of normal, compared with 83 a month ago, 66 a year ago and 77 the ten-year average. In Colorado, about 70 to 80 per cent of the acreage of corn is usually harvested as grain, and the remainder cut for fodder or pastured. For this year, however, the percentages are almost reversed. More barren stalks and short ears are reported than usual.

Small Grains—The spring wheat crop is placed at 4,411,000 bushels, compared with 3,780,000 bushels last year and the total wheat crop of the state is estimated to be 21,309,000 bushels, compared with 14,532,000 bushels last year. The outcome of the crop, as shown by threshers' returns, may still further reduce the figures for this

year. Oats are estimated at 5,865,000 bushels, compared with 6,210,000 bushels last year, showing a reduction during August of nearly a million bushels. Barley is placed at 9,331,000 bushels, compared with 8,610,000 bushels a year ago. There was only a slight reduction in this crop, as it was well advanced when the hot weather occurred. The rye crop of the state this year is estimated at 1,024,000 bushels, compared with 850,000 bushels last year.

Potatoes—The Colorado potato crop held about steady though it was somewhat injured by the hot weather, causing the vines to mature, and thus checking further growth. The estimate is placed at 11,818,000 bushels, compared with 14,190,000 bushels last year. The condition of the crop at this time is 79 per cent, compared with 83 a year ago, when rains were occurring to improve the crop as the season advanced

WHITE POTATOES: COLORADO AND OTHER IMPORTANT STATES

PRINCIPAL PRODUCING STATES	Condition September 1		PRODUCTION IN THOUSANDS OF BUSHELS			
	1926	10-yr. av. P. Ct.	Indicated by Condition		Harvested	
			September 1 1926	August 1 1926	1925	5-year Average 1921-1925
	P. Ct.	P. Ct.				
Maine	84	82	33,869	34,133	34,170	34,790
New York	80	78	29,973	30,078	23,994	35,703
New Jersey	84	72	7,560	7,740	6,042	9,868
Pennsylvania	78	76	23,801	24,578	25,461	25,199
Ohio	78	71	10,822	10,523	11,978	10,401
Michigan	82	74	28,585	27,564	24,411	31,810
Wisconsin	86	75	28,332	26,643	23,632	28,659
Minnesota	75	73	27,135	25,187	26,772	37,668
North Dakota	68	73	6,944	6,472	7,280	12,540
Nebraska	70	73	6,233	6,169	6,300	8,552
Virginia	68	79	11,934	12,740	11,340	15,299
Idaho	78	86	15,261	15,288	14,381	12,863
Colorado	79	82	11,818	11,827	14,190	14,859
Washington	75	78	9,548	9,668	8,120	8,271
California	85	86	6,031	5,958	6,510	8,382
U. S. Total	77.5	75.7	351,558	345,569	325,902	396,469

Field Beans—The Colorado bean crop came through a most unfavorably hot, dry period during August to September 1 showing a 50 per cent condition and showing a possible production of 1,637,000 bushels, compared with 2,240,000 bushels last year. Moisture and temperature conditions were generally unfavorable to the crop account of the dry weather in most sections, and some little moisture and excessive heat in others, causing blight and rust. The hot weather caused the blossoms to fall and permitted comparatively fewer pods to set, though some fields are exceptionally good and making high yields. Some fields are still green and the final outcome of the crop depends upon an extended growing season with the first frost later than usual. Much of the crop is already being cut while still other portions of the acreage will be a complete failure and will not be harvested.

BEANS: Colorado and Other States

	Condition Sept. 1		Acres, Thousands Add (000)		Production, Thousands Bushels Add (000)		
	1926	1925	1925	1926	Sept. 1, 1926	Final Estimate	Aug. 1, 1926
					Forecast	1925	Forecast
New York	71	73	139	132	1,629	1,426	1,594
Michigan	71	82	614	614	6,321	8,289	6,134
Montana	70	80	46	40	483	500	518
Idaho	85	92	66	72	1,234	1,584	1,278
Colorado	50	75	352	320	1,637	2,240	2,725
New Mexico	50	31	182	114	774	399	1,231
California	81	72	305	240	4,595	4,570	4,941
United States	70.3	77.6	1,754	1,579	17,253	19,534	18,987

The Colorado tame hay crop declined slightly in prospective production, resulting in a forecast of 2,501,000 tons, compared with 2,676,000 tons last year. The wild hay crop is about the same as a year ago. Reports indicate an average yield of about 1 ton per acre, cut from approximately 360,000 acres of wild hay meadow in Colorado. Wild hay meadows and pastures started off well early in the season and generally made good growth, but are maturing early.

Sugar Beets—The sugar beet crop is placed at 2,272,000 tons, compared with 1,717,000 tons last year. The sugar produced from Colorado beets last year is reported as 211,000 tons. The condition figure continued high at 96 per cent, compared with 60 per cent a year ago and 90, the ten-year average. The United States crop is estimated at 6,525,000 tons, compared with 7,423,000 tons last year. The condition of the crop is 84.4, compared with 79.2 a year ago and 88, the ten-year average. The forecast of beet sugar produced from the United States beet crop this year is 848,000 tons, compared with 913,000 tons last year.

Grain sorghum prospects in Colorado decreased heavily during August account of the hot, dry weather in the eastern and southeastern portions of the state. The condition on September 1 was 60 per cent, compared with 75 a year ago and 82 the ten-year average. The estimated production of grain sorghums for grain is 547,000 bushels, compared to 600,000 bushels last year.

The fruit crops of the state continued to maintain their high condition of earlier in the season, only affected by the seasonal causes of decline. For details of condition and forecasts see table on page 4 for apples, peaches, pears, and grapes.

The cherry crop of Colorado is generally in good condition and a large crop has been produced in each section. The state crop is rated at 99 per cent of normal, compared with 62 per cent last year and 20 per cent in 1924. The crop this year should amount to over 5,500 tons, compared with 3,500 last year. The federal census reported a crop of 5,500 tons in 1919. The principal cherry counties are Larimer, Fremont, Jefferson, Otero and Crowley.

The truck crops of the state have generally declined from the figure of a month ago. The condition of each of the principal truck crops is as follows: Cabbage, 92%; onions, 75%; lettuce, 50%; cantaloupes, 89%; celery, 80%; tomatoes, 85%. Lettuce and celery were both adversely affected by the hot, showery weather, causing considerable rust and seeders in the celery, and causing much of the early lettuce to tipburn and go to seed. The late crop of lettuce, however, is promising better than the early crop. On September 1, the condition figures for other crops of Colorado were alfalfa, 86; field peas, 92; watermelons and cantaloupes, 89. One of the largest and best cantaloupe crops in recent years is being harvested.

Broomcorn showed a heavy decrease, caused by the dry, hot weather and had a condition on September 1 of 50 per cent, compared with 80 a month ago and 70 last year. The production is estimated at 3,100 tons, compared with 5,000 tons on August 1 and 1,200 tons for last year.

Pastures are still regarded as fair to good though materially lower than a month ago, being 80 per cent, compared to 89 last year and 87, the ten-year average.

APPLES: Colorado and Other States

PRINCIPAL PRODUCING STATES	Condition September 1		TOTAL CROP			COMMERCIAL CROP		
			PRODUCTION IN THOUSANDS OF BUSHEL'S			PRODUCTION IN THOUSANDS OF BARRELS		
	1926 P. Ct.	10-Yr. Av. P. Ct.	Indicated by Condition Sept. 1, 1926	Harvested		Indicated by Condition Sept. 1, 1926	Harvested	
				1925	5-Yr. Av. 1921-25		1925	5-Yr. Av. 1921-25
Maine.....	52	58	2,640	3,305	2,871	528	645	535
Massachusetts.....	81	64	4,355	3,160	2,791	929	655	513
New York.....	76	56	41,876	32,500	25,800	7,294	6,250	4,698
Pennsylvania.....	80	54	15,855	6,970	7,767	1,850	1,011	899
Ohio.....	73	46	9,554	6,300	7,147	860	678	675
Illinois.....	66	50	8,085	7,000	6,600	1,348	1,164	1,102
Michigan.....	66	57	9,379	9,000	9,265	1,626	1,700	1,545
Missouri.....	56	47	4,760	4,100	5,070	666	646	673
Virginia.....	83	50	18,472	7,844	8,375	3,325	1,440	1,478
West Virginia.....	73	48	9,315	4,185	5,110	1,397	749	792
North Carolina.....	79	56	5,458	3,192	3,767	273	160	166
Arkansas.....	64	54	3,748	4,070	2,699	812	691	521
Idaho.....	76	66	4,906	6,029	4,441	1,423	1,700	1,282
Colorado.....	85	67	3,329	3,200	3,337	966	860	863
Washington.....	85	79	35,291	29,550	27,377	9,578	8,570	8,017
Oregon.....	93	74	8,737	5,400	6,573	2,097	1,296	1,505
California.....	83	75	10,255	6,016	7,954	2,051	1,097	1,438
U. S. Total.....	77.4	56.5	242,114	171,706	169,500	42,051	33,044	30,109

**SUMMARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 1, 1926, CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORT FOR
COLORADO AND THE UNITED STATES**

	COLORADO			UNITED STATES		
	1926	1925	Average	1926	1925	Average
CORN						
Acres planted	1,524	1,494	1,450‡	101,074	101,639	.....
Condition, per cent.....	40	66	77	73.8	75.5	77.1
Production, bus. grain...	14,021	22,410	14,500‡	2,697,872	2,905,053	2,849,188‡
ALL WHEAT—						
Acres for harvest.....	1,472	1,148	1,360‡	57,584	52,200	.....
Production, bushels	21,309	14,532	18,182‡	.....	666,000	802,000‡
WINTER WHEAT—						
Acres for harvest.....	1,207	896	1,120‡	36,700	31,269	.....
Average yield, bus.	14	12	14.7	17.1	12.8	14.3‡
Production, bushels	16,898	10,752	14,342‡	626	396,000	549,000‡
SPRING WHEAT—						
Acres for harvest.....	265	252	240‡	20,884	20,931	.....
Condition, per cent.....	73	71	76	58.4	75.0	68.0
Production, bushels	4,411	3,780	3,840‡	212,109	270,875	252,959‡
OATS—						
Acres for harvest.....	230	230	232‡	45,945	45,160	.....
Condition, per cent.....	75	72	83	67.9	82.1	80.2
Production, bushels	5,865	6,210	5,800‡	1,263,619	1,511,888	1,326,916‡
BARLEY—						
Acres for harvest.....	430	410	327‡	8,842	8,243	.....
Condition, per cent.....	70	67	80	68.7	80.3	77.6
Production, bushels	9,331	8,610	6,366‡	195,204	217,497	186,105‡
RYE—						
Acres for harvest.....	89	85	74‡	3,601	4,088	.....
Average yield, bus.	11.5	10	.....	11.6	11.9	13.9‡
Production, bushels	1,024	850	666‡	41,870	48,600	68,200‡
WHITE POTATOES—						
Acres for harvest.....	88	86	88‡	3,202	3,113	3,348
Condition, per cent.....	79	83	82	77.5	73.1	75.7
Production, bushels	11,818	14,190	14,859‡	351,558	325,902	396,469‡
SUGAR BEETS—						
Acres planted	219	186	197	764	780	785
Acres for harvest.....	.....	130	225‡	.....	653	694
Condition, per cent.....	96	60	90	84.4	79.2	88.0‡
Production, tons	2,272	1,717	2,001	6,525	7,423	6,981
TAME HAY—						
Acres	1,201	1,245	1,263‡	59,080	59,398	.....
Condition, per cent.....	85.0	79	74	75.4	76.1	80.6
Production, tons	2,501	2,676	2,660‡	78,928	86,700	90,500‡
WILD HAY—						
Acres harvested .....	.....	360	360‡	.....	14,746	15,080‡
Condition, per cent.....	1.0	1.0	1.0	.....	.88	.98‡
Production, tons .....	.....	360	360	.....	13,049	14,731‡
FIELD BEANS—						
Acres for harvest.....	352	320	280‡	1,754	1,579	.....
Condition, per cent.....	50	75	79	70.3	77.6	74.4
Production, bushels	1,637	2,240	952‡	17,253	19,534	14,600‡
APPLES—						
Condition, per cent.....	85	72	67	77.4	52.5	56.5
Agr'l prod'n, bushels....	3,329	3,200	3,337‡	242,114	171,706	169,509‡
Commercial, barrels	966	860	863‡	42,051	33,044	30,109‡
PEACHES—						
Total prod'n, per cent...	92	32	.....	77.9	60.1	.....
Agr'l prod'n, bushels....	966	450	920‡	65,636	46,565	46,904‡
PEARS—						
Condition, per cent.....	92	85	78	78.6	63.9	64.5
Agr'l prod'n, bushels....	587	510	496‡	25,113	19,820	17,707‡
GRAPES—						
Condition, per cent.....	90	75	79	78.1	72.6	80.8
Production, tons.....	307	260	280‡	2,399	1,970	2,010

NOTES: The figures on acreage and production enumerate thousands and require that three ciphers (000) be added to complete the numbers. †5-year average. Acreage and production figures for 1925 are the last December final estimates and revisions. ‡1924. Averages unless otherwise designated are 10-year averages.