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AG UPDATE

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price but above the 2008 price of \$10.50. The increase in cropland rental rates are the result of producers receiving strong commodity prices, while pasture cash rent is affected less by commodity prices and more by land values.

The Appalachian region had the highest percentage increase for cropland, 7.6 percent above 2009. Cropland cash rents increased \$2.50 per acre to \$71.00 in the Northern Plains region and \$3.00 per acre to \$152.00 in the Corn Belt region. The Corn Belt and Northern Plains regions account for slightly more than one half of cash rented cropland acreage in the United States.

The major corn and soybean producing states of Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa experienced increases in cropland cash rents. Illinois increased 3.7 percent to \$169.00 per acre, while Indiana and Iowa both increased approximately 1.0 percent to \$141.00 and \$176.00 per acre, respectively.

While pasture rent in the Northern Plains remained unchanged from the previous year, rents in the Southern Plains increased by 10 cents and rents in the Mountain region decreased 10 cents. The Northern Plains, Southern Plains, and Mountain regions account for nearly 83 percent of the cash rented pasture acreage in the United States. The cash rent paid for pasture in the Corn Belt region decreased \$1.50 to \$29.50 per acre, which is the highest cash rent paid for pasture in the United States.

CROP PRODUCTION

AUGUST 1, 2010

COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

Colorado's spring and summer crop prospects are improved compared with last year's results. A moist spring and summer benefited all field crops, particularly the dryland crops such as winter wheat and sorghum.

Winter wheat production is now forecast at 103.5 million bushels, up 11.5 million bushels from the July 1 forecast and up 6 percent from the 98.0 million bushels produced last year. Growers harvested an estimated 2.3 million acres this year with an average yield of 45.0 bushels per acre, 5.0 bushels above the previous year and a record high surpassing the 43.0 bushels per acre set in 1999. This is the largest winter wheat crop in Colorado since 1985. As harvest progressed, producers found higher yields than originally expected. Favorable planting conditions last fall combined with mild and moist spring growing conditions contributed to the bountiful harvest. **Barley** production is forecast at 9.1 million bushels, down 12 percent from last year's crop of 10.4 million bushels. The area for harvest in 2010, at 67,000 acres, is also down from last year by 10,000 acres. Barley yield is estimated at 136.0

LAND VALUES

The farm real estate value of all land and buildings in **Colorado** averaged \$1,080 per acre as of January 1, 2010, down 1.8 percent from the previous year. The average value of all cropland, at \$1,290 per acre, decreased 0.8 percent while the average value of pastureland decreased 3.0 percent to \$650 per acre. The average value of irrigated cropland decreased 1.6 percent to \$3,100 per acre and the value of non-irrigated land remained the same at \$840 per acre.

Farm real estate values, a measurement of the value of all land and buildings on farms in **48 States**, averaged \$2,140 per acre on January 1, 2010, up 1.4 percent from 2009. Regional changes in the average value of farm real estate ranged from a 4.9 percent increase in the Northern Plains regions to a 3.3 percent decline in the Southeast region. The highest farm real estate values remained in the Northeast region at \$4,690 per acre. The Mountain region had the lowest farm real estate value at \$911 per acre.

The **United States** cropland value increased by \$30 per acre (1.1 percent) to \$2,700 per acre. In the Northern Plains and Delta regions, the average cropland value increased 6.9 and 6.1 percent, respectively, from the previous year. However, in the Southeast and Mountain regions, cropland values decreased by 5.3 percent and 5.0 percent, respectively. Pasture value was unchanged from 2009 at \$1,070 per acre. The Southeast region had the largest percentage decrease in pasture value, 5.6 percent below 2009. The Northern Plains region had the highest percentage increase, 3.8 percent above 2009.

CASH RENTS

Cash rent for **Colorado** cropland in 2010 was unchanged from last year at \$62.50 per acre. The average cash rent for irrigated cropland, remained at \$110.00 per acre from last year. Cash rent for non-irrigated cropland, at \$23.00, per acre was down \$1.00 from a year ago. Pastureland rented for cash averaged \$5.00 per acre in 2010, down 50 cents from the previous year.

Cash rents per acre paid to landlords for cropland in **48 States** rose \$3.00, a 3.0 percent increase, while pasture rents remained unchanged. Cropland cash rents averaged \$102.00 per acre, compared with \$99.00 per acre for 2009. Pasture cash rents averaged \$11.00 per acre, consistent with the 2009

bushels per acre, one bushel above last year but down 4.0 bushels from the July 1 forecast.

Corn production is forecasted at 169.4 million bushels, up 12 percent from last year's 151.5 million bushels. The 1.2 million acres expected to be harvested for grain this year is 22 percent greater than a year ago. Average yield is expected to decrease 13.0 bushels per acre from last year to 140.0, due mostly to a greater proportion of dryland acreage expected to be harvested for grain. **Sorghum** production in 2010 is forecast at 5.2 million bushels, down 23 percent from the 6.8 million bushel crop harvested a year earlier. Growers expect to harvest 140,000 acres this year, down from 150,000 acres harvested last year. Yield prospects are 8.0 bushels below a year ago as producers expect to average 37.0 bushels per acre this year.

Dry bean production for 2010 is forecast at 1,159,000 hundredweight, up 37 percent from the 848,000 hundredweight produced a year earlier. Growers expect to harvest 61,000 acres this year, up 10,000 acres from the June Acreage report and up from 53,000 acres last year. **Sugarbeet** production is forecast at 778,000 tons, down 19 percent from 963,000 tons produced in 2009. Growers expect to harvest 27,800 acres this year compared with 35,000 a year ago. Yields are expected to average 28.0 tons per acre, up from 27.5 a year ago and, if realized, a record high for Colorado.

Colorado farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 840,000 acres of **alfalfa hay** this year, down from 850,000 acres harvested in 2009. They also expect to harvest 780,000 acres of **other hay** in 2010, up 30,000 acres from last year. Alfalfa production is forecast at 2.94 million tons compared with 3.32 million tons produced in 2009 and other hay is estimated at 1.40 million tons, down 4 percent from 1.46 million tons a year ago. Yields are expected to average 3.5 tons per acre for alfalfa and 1.8 tons per acre for other hay.

Colorado's **apple** production for this year is forecast at 16.0 million pounds, equal to last year's production, once again due to late frosts and hail storms that occurred in the major growing areas.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

All wheat production, at 2.26 billion bushels, is up 2 percent from the July forecast and up 2 percent from 2009. Based on August 1 conditions, the United States yield is forecast at 46.9 bushels per acre, up 1.0 bushel from last month and 2.5 bushels above last year. If realized, this will be the highest yield on record, 2.0 bushels above 2008. **Winter wheat** production is forecast at 1.52 billion bushels, up 1 percent from the July 1 forecast and up slightly from 2009. Based on August 1 conditions, the United States yield is forecast at 47.5 bushels per acre, up 0.6 bushel from last month and 3.3 bushels above last year. If realized, this will be the second highest yield on record, trailing only 1999. Expected grain area totals 32.1 million acres, down 7 percent from last year but unchanged from last month. Harvest in the 18 major producing States was 83 percent complete by August 1, equal to last year but 5 points behind the 5-year average. Yield forecasts were up from last month in Colorado, Montana, and

Washington; down in Nebraska; and unchanged in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. If realized, yields in Colorado and Montana will be record highs. State yields in Kansas, Nebraska, and Texas all rank in the top five on record. **Other spring wheat** production is forecast at 633 million bushels, up 4 percent from July and up 8 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the third largest production on record, trailing only 1992 and 1996. The United States yield is forecast at 46.6 bushels per acre, up 2.0 bushels from last month and 1.5 bushels above last year. If realized, this will be the highest yield on record, 1.5 bushels above the record set last year. Area harvested for grain is expected to total 13.6 million acres, unchanged from last month but up 5 percent from last year.

Barley production for 2010 is forecast at 184 million bushels, up 1 percent from the previous forecast but down 19 percent from 2009. Based on conditions as of August 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 72.3 bushels per acre, up 0.7 bushel from the July 1 forecast but down 0.7 bushel from a year ago. While the forecasted yield per acre is down 1 percent from a year ago, the expected decline in production is more a reflection of the lowest planted acreage on record and the lowest expected harvested acreage since 1883. Area harvested for grain or seed, at 2.55 million acres, is unchanged from the previous forecast but down 18 percent from 2009. Record high yields are expected in Arizona, Colorado, and Utah, while a record tying yield is forecast for Idaho.

Corn production is forecast at a record high 13.4 billion bushels, up 2 percent from the previous record set in 2009. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average a record high 165.0 bushels per acre, up 0.3 bushel from last year's record of 164.7. Forecasted yields are higher than last year across the upper Mississippi Valley and upper Great Lakes region where moderate temperatures and adequate soil moisture provided favorable growing conditions. Expected yields were also higher compared with last year across the southern Great Plains and lower Mississippi Valley. Yield prospects are lower in both the Atlantic Coast region and Tennessee Valley due to above normal temperatures and dry conditions. **Sorghum** production is forecast at 383 million bushels, up slightly from last year. Expected area for harvest as grain is forecast at 5.18 million acres, down 6 percent from 2009. Based on August 1 conditions, yield is forecast at 74.1 bushels per acre, up 4.7 bushels from last year. In Kansas, the top producing State, yields are expected to decrease by 6.0 bushels from last year, while in Texas, the second leading State in sorghum production, record yields are expected at 70.0 bushels per acre.

U.S. **dry edible bean production** is forecast at 30.7 million cwt for 2010, up 21 percent from last year. Planted area is forecast at 1.78 million acres, up 2 percent from the June *Acreage* report and 16 percent above the previous year. Harvested area is forecast at 1.71 million acres, up 2 percent from the June *Acreage* report and 17 percent above the previous year's harvested acreage.

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Acres, yield, and production, Colorado and United States, 2009-2010

Area and Crop	Planted Acres		Harvested Acres		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2009	2010	2009	2010		2009	2010	2009	2010
	1,000 acres		1,000 acres			Units per acre		1,000 units	
Colorado:									
All Corn <u>1/</u>	1,100	1,350	990	1,210	Bu.	153.0	140.0	151,470	169,400
All Sorghum <u>1/</u>	180	210	150	140	Bu.	45.0	37.0	6,750	5,180
All Wheat.....	2,630	2,478	2,479	2,327	Bu.	40.6	5/	100,610	5/
Winter Wheat.....	2,600	2,450	2,450	2,300	Bu.	40.0	45.0	98,000	103,500
Spring Wheat.....	30	28	29	27	Bu.	90	5/	2,610	5/
Oats.....	60	47	9	5	Bu.	65.0	5/	585	5/
Barley	78	70	77	67	Bu.	135.0	136.0	10,395	9,112
Proso Millet	170	190	150	4/	Bu.	35.0	4/	5,250	4/
All Hay .....	...	...	1,600	1,620	Tons	2.99	4/	4,778	4/
Alfalfa Hay .....	...	...	850	840	Tons	3.9	3.5	3,315	2,940
Other Hay .....	...	...	750	780	Tons	1.95	1.8	1,463	1,404
Sugarbeets.....	35.1	29.0	35.0	27.8	Tons	27.5	28.0	963	778
Dry edible beans	57	65.0	53.0	61.0	Cwt.	16.0	19.0	848	1,159
Sunflowers, All	91	115	87	106	Lbs.	1,403	6/	122,060	6/
Sunflowers, Oil.....	70	80	68	75	Lbs.	1,320	6/	89,760	6/
Sunflowers, Non-Oil....	21	35	19	31	Lbs.	1,700	6/	32,300	6/
All potatoes.....	60.0	59.6	59.1	59.2	Cwt.	400.0	7/	23,640	7/
Summer potatoes	4.0	4.1	3.9	4.0	Cwt.	400.0	410.0	1,560	1,640
Fall potatoes.....	56.0	55.5	52.5	52.5	Cwt.	400.0	7/	22,080	7/
Apples.....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	16,000,000	16,000,000
Peaches .....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	13000	14000
United States:									
All Corn <u>1/</u>	86,482	87,872	79,590	81,005	Bu.	164.7	165.0	13,110,062	13,365,225
All Sorghum <u>1/</u>	6,633	6,000	5,520	5,176	Bu.	69.4	74.1	382,983	383,435
All Wheat <u>2/</u>	59,133	54,305	49,868	48,263	Bu.	44.4	46.9	2,216,171	2,264,928
Winter Wheat.....	43,311	37,723	34,485	32,085	Bu.	44.2	47.5	1,522,718	1,522,902
Spring Wheat.....	13,268	13,907	12,955	13,590	Bu.	45.1	46.6	584,411	633,245
Oats.....	3,404	3,176	1,379	1,315	Bu.	67.5	66.3	93,081	87,239
Barley	3,567	2,972	3,113	2,546	Bu.	73.0	72.3	227,323	184,032
Rye.....	1,241	1,186	252	250	Bu.	27.8	5/	6,993	5/
Proso Millet	350	385	293	4/	Bu.	33.7	4/	9,865	4/
All Hay .....	...	...	59,755	59,656	Tons	2.47	2.58	147,442	153,894
Alfalfa Hay .....	...	...	21,227	20,732	Tons	3.35	3.49	71,030	72,455
Other Hay .....	...	...	38,528	38,924	Tons	1.98	2.09	76,412	81,439
Sugarbeets.....	1,185.8	1,186.5	1,148.6	1,146	Tons	25.7	28.3	29,563	32,425
Dry edible beans	1,537.5	1,778.0	1,463.0	1,707.8	Cwt.	17.3	18.0	25,360	30,700
Sunflowers, All	2,030	2,093	1,953.5	2,011.3	Lbs.	1,554	6/	3,036,460	6/
Sunflowers, Oil.....	1,698	1,652	1,653.0	1,596.5	Lbs.	1,563	6/	2,584,010	6/
Sunflowers, Non-Oil....	332	441	300.5	414.8	Lbs.	1,506	6/	452,450	6/
All potatoes <u>3/</u>	1,069.5	1,027.6	1,044.7	1,010.4	Cwt.	413	7/	431,478	7/
Summer potatoes	44.2	39.6	42.7	38.5	Cwt.	340	339	14,522	13,061
Fall potatoes.....	937.1	836.1	919.6	882.3	Cwt.	428	7/	393,503	7/
Soybeans.....	77,451	78,868	76,372	77,986	Bu.	44.0	44.0	3,359,011	3,433,370
Apples.....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	9,917,900,000	9,476,100,000
Peaches .....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	1,103,800	1,126,000

1/ Planted for all purposes; harvested for grain. 2/ Includes Durum Wheat. 3/ Includes Winter and Spring Crops.

4/ January 2011. 5/ September 30, 2010. 6/ October 8, 2010. 7/ November 9, 2010.

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The average United States yield is forecast at 1,798 pounds per acre, an increase of 65 pounds from 2009.

Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures production is forecast at 72.5 million tons, up 2 percent from last year. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.49 tons per acre, up 0.14 ton from last year. If realized, this will be the second highest yield on record, trailing only the 3.51 tons per acre in 1999. Harvested area is forecast at 20.7 million acres, unchanged from June but down 2 percent from the previous year's acreage. Weather conditions have been mostly favorable in many of the alfalfa hay growing regions. Heavier than normal precipitation levels this year have led to greater yield expectations in most States. The largest yield increase is forecast in Indiana where a record high yield of 4.20 tons is expected. Arizona and Nebraska are also forecasting record alfalfa hay yields. Other States with notable yield increases include Minnesota, New York, and North Dakota. States that forecast lower yields than 2009 include Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Wyoming.

Other hay production is forecast at 81.4 million tons, up 7 percent from last year, and if realized will be the second highest production level on record. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 2.09 tons per acre, up 0.11 ton from last year. If realized, this will be a record high yield, surpassing the 2.06 tons per acre in 2004. Harvested area is forecast at 38.9 million acres, unchanged from June but up 1 percent from 2009. Abundant moisture has led to increased yields compared with last year in the northern and southern Great Plains, the upper Great Lakes States, and most of the Pacific Coast States. Producers in California, Nebraska, Louisiana, Montana North Dakota, and South Dakota are expecting record high yields. The largest expected yield increase occurred in Texas, up 0.90 ton, where producers are trying to replenish their hay stocks after low production levels the last two years. The largest yield reduction from last year occurred in Virginia, down 0.40 ton as hot and dry weather has reduced hay growth.

Production of **sugarbeets** for the 2010 crop year is forecast at 32.4 million tons, up 10 percent from last year and 21 percent above 2008. Planted area is estimated at 1.19 million acres, up fractionally from both the June *Acreage* report and last year. Producers expect to harvest 1.15 million acres, down 400 acres from the June forecast and down 2,600 acres from 2009. Expected yield is forecast at 28.3 tons per acre, an increase of 2.6 tons from last year. If realized, this will be a record high yield for the United States. Record high yields are also expected in Colorado, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wyoming.

The **U.S. apple** forecast for the 2010 crop year is 9.48 billion pounds, down 4 percent from last year. Poor weather conditions for apple production were reported by growers in the apple estimating States. Production in the Western States (Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, Utah, and Washington) is forecast at 6.20 billion pounds, up 6 percent

from last year. Washington production, which makes up 60 percent of the United States total, is forecast at 5.65 billion pounds, up 5 percent from last year.

MILK PRODUCTION JULY 2010

Milk production in **Colorado** during July 2010 totaled 244 million pounds, unchanged from the previous year. The average number of milk cows for July of this year was 119,000 head, down 5,000 head from July 2009. Production per cow averaged 2,050 pounds for July, up 80 pounds from last year.

Milk production in the 23 major States during July totaled 15.3 billion pounds, up 3.0 percent from July 2009. June revised production at 15.2 billion pounds, was up 2.9 percent from June 2009. The June revision represented an increase of 23 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,830 pounds for July, 59 pounds above July 2009. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.37 million head, 26,000 head less than July 2009, but 19,000 head more than June 2010.

Milk Cows and Milk Production, 23 States

Item	Unit	2009	2010
Colorado:			
Milk Cows <u>1</u> /.....	1,000 hd.	124	119
Milk Per Cow <u>2</u> /.....	Lbs.	1,970	2,050
Production <u>2</u> /.....	Mil. lbs.	244	244
23 State Total:			
Milk Cows <u>1</u> /.....	1,000 hd.	8,397	8,371
Milk Per Cow <u>2</u> /.....	Lbs.	1,771	1,830
Production <u>2</u> /.....	Mil. Lbs.	14,867	15,316

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- Aug. 19 - US and Canadian Cattle
- Aug. 19 - Mushrooms
- Aug. 19 - Farm Labor
- Aug. 20 - Cattle on Feed
- Aug. 23 - Chicken and Eggs
- Aug. 20 - Cold Storage
- Aug. 20 - Livestock Slaughter
- Aug. 31 - Agricultural Prices

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