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AG UPDATE

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Released: July 20, 2011 Vol. 31 No.

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ONIONS

Colorado producers expect to harvest 7,200 acres of summer storage onions in 2011, unchanged from last year. Planting was complete and on schedule by the third week of May, and was rated in good condition by the middle of July. The first production forecast for Colorado will be released on October 4, 2011.

Production of spring onions in the **United States** for 2011 is forecast at 10.1 million hundredweight, up 35 percent from last year. The crop covered 29,200 harvested acres. The average yield is 347 hundredweight per acre, 58 hundredweight above 2010. Georgia's harvest was ahead of schedule. As of May 29, harvest was 95 percent complete. In Texas, planting was on schedule with excellent plant stands being reported. Harvest in the lower Rio Grande region began in early March. Harvest in the Laredo-Winter Garden region began in May and continued through late June.

Production of non-storage onions is forecast at 9.61 million hundredweight, down 4 percent from last year. Harvested area covers 18,000 acres, down 4 percent from 2010. In California, the summer non-storage onion growing season received record rainfall. Excessive moisture increased fungal problems for the crop. In Nevada, the season started slow due to cool, wet weather. In New Mexico, the crop was reported to be in good condition. In Texas, the summer non-storage onion harvest was underway. In Washington, onion harvest was behind schedule. Growers expect to harvest 105,960 acres of storage onions this year, up 1 percent from last year. In Colorado, planting was on schedule with no major problems reported. California storage onion growers experienced a cool and wet growing season.

The final tally of 2010 storage onion production is 56.2 million hundredweight, down 2 percent from 2009. The 2010 storage crop is valued at \$574 million, a decline of 19 percent from 2009. Average price per hundredweight declined from \$13.50 in 2009 to \$11.50 in 2010. With spring and non-storage summer onions added in, total value of the 2010 harvested onions is \$1.11 billion, up 5 percent from 2009.

Onions for Fresh Market 2010-2011 Crops

_	Area Yield				-		
Crop	Harve	ested	Per Acre		Production		
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	
	Acres		Cv	vt.	1,000 Cwt.		
Spring <u>1</u> /	25,900	29,200	289	347	7,484	10,138	
Summer 1/							
Non-Storage	18,700	18,000	533	534	9,963	9,610	
Storage 2/							
CA 3/	29,000	30,500	450	2/	13,050	2/	
CO	7,200	7,200	400	2/	2,880	2/	
ID	9,000	8,800	760	2/	6,840	2/	
MI	4,000	3,900	220	2/	880	2/	
NY	9,800	9,500	315	2/	3,087	2/	
OR-Malheur	11,300	11,300	760	2/	8,588	2/	
OR-Other	8,900	9,400	700	2/	6,230	2/	
WA	22,000	22,000	610	2/	13,420	2/	
WI	1,600	1,700	200	2/	320	2/	
Other	1,870	1,660	458	2/	857	2/	
Subtotal	104,670	105,960	536	2/	56,152	2/	
Total Summer	123,370	123,960	536	2/	66,115	2/	
U.S	149,270	153,160	493	2/	73,599	2/	

1/ Primarily fresh marketing. 2/ Yield and production for 2011 will be published 10/4/11. 3/ Primarily for processing.

CROP PRODUCTION JULY 12, 2011 COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

Winter wheat production in Colorado is now forecast at 72.0 million bushels. This is up 5 percent from the June 1 forecast but 32 percent below last year's production. Growers expect to harvest 2.0 million acres this year, down 350,000 acres from 2010. The state's average yield is forecast at 36.0 bushels per acre, 9.0 bushels per acre below the record high yield attained the previous year but 4.0 bushels per acre above the June forecast. Barley production is initially forecast at 8.44 million bushels, up 1.0 percent from the 2010 crop. Acreage harvested is expected to total 67,000 acres, up from 63,000 harvested last year but yield is forecast at 126.0 bushels per acre, 7.0 bushels below last year. Fall potato growers in the San Luis Valley planted 54,000 acres this year, down 3 percent from last year. Area for harvest is expected to total 53,800 acres, down 1,400 acres from 2010. The first 2011 fall potato production forecast will be released November 9, 2011. Summer potato production is expected to reach 1.58 million hundredweight for 2011 up 13 percent from the 2010 crop. Growers expect to harvest 4,400 acres this year, up 16 percent from the previous year. Average yield is initially forecast at 360 hundredweight per acre, 10 hundredweight below last year's yield. Colorado's 2011 peach crop is initially forecast at 13,000 tons, down 1,000 tons from last year.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.49 billion bushels, up 3 percent from the June 1 forecast and up slightly from 2010. Based on July 1 conditions, the United States yield is forecast at 46.2 bushels per acre, up 0.9 bushel from last month but down 0.6 bushel from last year. Expected grain area totals 32.3 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report released on June 30, 2011 but up 2 percent from last year. Harvest in the 18 major producing States was 56 percent complete by July 3, four points ahead of both last year and the 5-year average.

Other spring wheat production is forecast at 551 million bushels, down 11 percent from last year. The United States yield is forecast at 41.7 bushels per acre, down 4.4 bushels from last year. Area harvested for grain is expected to total 13.2 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report released on June 30, 2011 but down 1 percent from last year.

Oats production is forecast at 56.6 million bushels, down 30 percent from 2010. If realized, this will be the lowest production on record, surpassing the previous record low set last year. Based on conditions as of July 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 60.5 bushels per acre, down 3.8 bushels from 2010. Growers expect to harvest 934,000 acres for grain or seed, unchanged from the previous forecast but down 26 percent from last year. If realized, this will be smallest harvested area on record, also surpassing the previous record low set last year. Compared with 2010, yield decreases are expected in 13 of the 17 estimating States.

Barley production for 2011 is forecast at 173 million bushels, down 4 percent from 2010. Based on conditions as of July 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 69.6 bushels per acre, down 3.5 bushels from last year's record high. Area harvested for grain or seed, at 2.48 million acres, is unchanged from the previous forecast but up 1 percent from 2010. A record high yield is expected in Utah.

The U.S. peach production forecast is 1.13 million tons, down 2 percent from 2010. Twelve of the 23 Freestone peach estimating States expect decreases in production from last year, while eight States increased their production from the previous season, and three States showed no change. Freestone production, at 697,140 tons, is down 3 percent from last season. The California Clingstone crop is forecast at 430,000 tons, down slightly from a year ago. Crop development was slowed due to spring rains and cooler than normal April temperatures. This year's statewide full bloom date was three days later than last year. The Extra Early and Early varieties were reported to have a heavy set, while the Late and Extra Late varieties were reported to have an average set. The California Freestone crop is forecast at 385,000 tons, unchanged from 2010. California experienced an adequate number of chilling hours, thus benefiting the Freestone crop. Weather during the bloom period was very beneficial, which resulted in a good set. Growers were expecting to thin more this year due to the good set. There have been some reports of hail damage on the early varieties, but overall the crop has been reported as good. Early variety peach harvest began during May. Harvest continued during June with Brittney

Lane, Crimson Lady, Ivory Princess, and Snow Brite the major varieties harvested.

Potato growers across the United States planted an estimated 1.08 million acres of potatoes in all four seasons of the 2011 crop year, up 6 percent from the previous year. Area for harvest, forecasted at 1.07 million acres, is also up 6 percent from 2010. Area planted to fall potatoes in 2011 is estimated at 948,600 acres, up 6 percent from the 2010 crop year. Harvested area is forecast at 936,100 acres, also up 6 percent from 2010. In Idaho, growers increased acreage from last year driven by strong prices. In California, adequate water supplies led to increased potato acreage in the Klamath Basin. In Colorado producers continued to voluntarily limit acreage for water conservation. Less than optimal planting and growing conditions delayed the fall potato crop in Maine where potato development was 1-2 weeks behind schedule as of June 19. Heavy rains in mid-June reportedly led to drown outs in some low lying areas. In North Dakota, cold, wet weather caused delays in planting. In Oregon, crop development was reportedly behind due to cold, wet spring conditions.

Production of **summer potatoes** is forecast at 12.1 million hundredweight, up 4 percent from 2010. Harvested area is estimated at 38,700 acres, 3 percent above last year. Average yield is forecast at 313 hundredweight per acre, up 3 hundredweight from 2010. In New Jersey, weather conditions delayed planting but fields were reportedly in good condition. In Virginia, nearly ideal conditions persisted with timely rains and hot weather allowing good growth. In Kansas, hot, dry and windy conditions reportedly slowed crop progress. Excessive April and May rains in Missouri caused crop losses in some areas and negatively impacted yields. In Texas, growers were experiencing dry conditions.

Acres, yield, and production, Colorado and United States, 2010-2011

			auction, Co		u Oilit	1			
Area and Crop	Planted	Acres 2011	Harvested		Unit	Yield Pe		Product	
Сюр	2010 1,000 a		2010 1,000 ac	2011	Offic	2010 Units pe	2011 r acre	2010 1,000 u	2011 nits
Colorado	1,000 a	OI CO	1,000 ac	.103		Omits pc	1 4010	1,000 u	111.5
Colorado:	1 000	1 100	4.040	4.050	D.	454	- /	100 710	F./
All Corn <u>1</u> /	1,330	1,400	1,210	1,250	Bu.	151	5/ 5/	182,710	5/
All Sorghum 1/	210	190	160	130	Bu.	47.0	5/	7,520	5/
All Wheat	2,478	2,380	2,377	2,029	Bu.	45.5	6/	108,234	6/
Winter Wheat	2,450	2,350	2,350	2,000	Bu.	45.0	36.0	105,750	72,000
Spring Wheat	28	30	27	6/	Bu.	92.0	6/	2,484	6/
Oats	55	55	9	6/	Bu.	65	6/	585	6/
Barley	64	68	63	67	Bu.	133.0	126.0	8,379	8,442
Proso Millet	220	190	215	4/	Bu.	33	4/	7,095	4/
All Hay		•••	1,600	1,640	Tons	2.53	5/	4,040	5/
Alfalfa Hay		•••	820	820	Tons	3.5	5/	2,870	5/
Other Hay			780	820	Tons	1.5	5/	1,170	5/
Sugarbeets	28.9	29.3	27.9	27.3	Tons	29.5	5/	823	5/
Dry edible beans	70	40	66	38	Cwt.	1,900	5/	1,254	5/
Sunflowers, All	132	138	127	126	Lbs.	1,322	7/	167,950	7/
Sunflowers, Oil	95	115	92	105	Lbs.	1,350	7/	124,200	7/
Sunflowers, Non-Oil	37	23	35	21	Lbs.	1,250	7/	43,750	7/
All potatoes	59.6	8/	59.2	8/	Cwt.	390	8/	23,088	8/
Summer potatoes	4.0	4.5	3.8	4.4	Cwt.	370	360	1,406	1,584
Fall potatoes	55.5	54.0	55.2	53.8	Cwt.	390	8/	21,528	8/
Apples					Lbs.				5/
Peaches		•••			Tons			14,000	13,000
United States:									
All Corn <u>1</u> /	88,192	92,282	81,446	84,888	Bu.	152.8	5/	12,446,865	5/
All Sorghum 1/	5,404	5,345	4,808	4,588	Bu.	71.8	5/	345,395	5/
All Wheat <u>2</u> /	53,603	56,433	47,637	47,174	Bu.	46.4	44.6	2,208,391	2,106,119
Winter Wheat	37,335	41,108	31,749	32,307	Bu.	46.8	46.2	1,485,236	1,491,739
Spring Wheat	13,698	13,627	13,359	13,220	Bu.	46.1	41.7	615,975	550,660
Oats	3,138	2,587	1,263	934	Bu.	64.3	60.5	81,190	56,551
Rye	1,211	1,252	265	242	Bu.	28.0	6/	7,431	6/
Barley	2,872	2,815	2,465	2,480	Bu.	73.1	69.6	180,268	172,658
Proso Millet		320	363	4/	Bu.	31.8	4/	11,535	4/
All Hay			59,862	57,605	Tons	2.43	5/	145,556	5/
Alfalfa Hay			19,956	19,329	Tons	3.40	5/	67,903	5/
Other Hay			39,906	38,276	Tons	1.95	5/	77,653	5/
Sugarbeets	. 1,171.4	1,237.5	1,155.7	1,196.9	Tons	27.6	5/	31,901	5/
Dry edible beans	. 1,911.4	1,258.0	1,842.7	1,207.2	Cwt.	1,726	5/	31,801	5/
Sunflowers, All	. 1,951.5	1,856.0	1,873.8	1,770.5	Lbs.	1,460	7/	2,735,570	7/
Sunflowers, Oil	. 1,463.0	1,540.0	1,422.5	1,477.0	Lbs.	1,458	7/	2,074,500	7/
Sunflowers, Non-Oil	. 488.5	316.0	451.3	293.5	Lbs.	1,465	7/	661,070	7/
All potatoes 3/	. 1,021.5	1,082.6	1,004.7	1,065.3	Cwt.	395	8/	397,189	8/
Summer potatoes	. 39.0	40.9	37.5	38.7	Cwt.	310	313	11,642	12,112
Fall potatoes		948.6	881.3	936.1	Cwt.	409	8/	360,727	8/
Soybeans		75,208	76,616	74,258	Bu.	43.5	5/	3,329,341	5/
Apples	,	,	,	,	Lbs.			9,301,600	5/
Peaches					Tons			1,150.3	1,127.1
Pears					Tons			813.6	5/
1/ Planted for all purposes: ha			udes Durum Wh			Vinter and Spi		4/ Jan. 2012.	

^{1/} Planted for all purposes; harvested for grain. 2/ Includes Durum Wheat. 3/ Includes Winter and Spring Crops. 4/ Jan. 2012.

 $[\]underline{5}$ / August 11, 2011. $\underline{6}$ / September 30, 2011. $\underline{7}$ / October 12, 2011. $\underline{8}$ / November 9, 2011.

MILK PRODUCTION JUNE 2010

Milk production in Colorado during June 2011 totaled 253 million pounds, up 16 million pounds from the same period a year earlier. The average number of milk cows for June of this year was 127,000 head, up 9,000 head from June 2010. Production per cow averaged 1,990 pounds for June, down from 2,010 pounds produced a year ago.

Milk production in the **23 major States** during June totaled 15.4 billion pounds, up 1.4 percent from June 2010. May revised production at 16.1 billion pounds, was up 1.6 percent from May 2010. The May revision represented an increase of 20 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,819 pounds for June, 2 pounds above June 2010. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.46 million head, 106,000 head more than June 2010, and 11,000 head more than May 2011. Milk production in the United States during the April – June quarter totaled 50.4 billion pounds, up 1.3 percent from the April – June quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.20 million head, 79,000 head more than the same period last year.

Milk Production, June, 2010-2011

	- , ,		
Item	Unit	2010	2011
Colorado:			
Milk Cows 1/	1,000 head	118	127
Milk Per Cow <u>2</u> /	Lbs.	2,010	1,990
Production 2/	Mil. lbs.	237	253
United States:			
Milk Cows <u>1</u> /	1,000 head	8,356	8,462
Milk Per Cow 2/	Lbs.	1,817	1,819
Production 2/	Mil. lbs.	15,186	15,394

^{1/} Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

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.usda.gov/nass/

July 22 - Cattle

July 22 - Cattle on Feed

July 22 - Livestock Slaughter

July 29 - Agricultural Prices Aug. 2 - Farm Production

Aug. 4 - Land Values and Cash Rents

William Meyer Director Rodger Ott Deputy Director

^{2/} Excludes milk sucked by calves.