



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

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Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



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CROP PRODUCTION – AUGUST 1, 2023

NEW MEXICO HIGHLIGHTS

Based on August 1 conditions, **alfalfa hay** production in New Mexico is forecast at 754,000 tons, according to the August 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is up 26 percent from the 600,000 tons produced in 2022. New Mexico farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 145,000 acres of alfalfa hay this year, up from the 125,000 acres harvested last year. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 5.20 tons per acre, compared with last year's yield of 4.80 tons per acre.

All cotton production in New Mexico is expected to total 55,000 480-lb bales, down 38 percent from 2022. **Upland cotton** harvested area is forecast at 24,000 acres, down 6,000 acres from last year. As of August 1, producers expect to harvest 42,000 480-lb bales of upland cotton, a decrease of 30 percent from last year. Upland yield is forecast at 840 pounds per acre, down 120 pounds from last year. As of July 30, the cotton crop was rated 23 percent poor, 48 percent fair, 24 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Squaring was evident across 38 percent of cotton crop, compared with 63 percent last year and the five-year average of 73 percent. **American-Pima cotton** harvested area is forecast at 9,800 acres, down 9,000 acres from last year. As of August 1, producers expect to harvest 13,000 480-lb bales of American-Pima cotton, compared with 28,000 bales last year. American-Pima yield is forecast at 637 pounds per acre, down 78 pounds from last year.

Peanut production for 2023 is forecast at 16.20 million pounds, up 1 percent from the 16.00 million pounds produced a year earlier. Yields are expected to average 2,700 pounds per acre, up from 2,500 pounds last year. Growers expect to harvest 6,000 acres this year, down 400 acres from 2022. As of July 30, the peanut crop was rated 26 percent poor, 50 percent fair, and 25 percent good. Pegging was evident across 49 percent of the peanut crop, compared with 90 percent last year and the 5-year average of 68 percent.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay** for 2023 is forecast at 48.9 million tons, up 2 percent from 2022. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.13 tons per acre, down 0.09 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 15.7 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report, but up 5 percent from 2022. Production of **other hay** is forecast at 69.9 million tons, up 8 percent from 2022. Based on August 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 1.92 tons per acre, up 0.05 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 36.3 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report, but up 5 percent from 2022.

All cotton production is forecast at 14.0 million 480-pound bales, down 3 percent from 2022. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 779 pounds per harvested acre, down 171 pounds from 2022. **Upland cotton** production is forecast at 13.7 million 480-pound bales, down 2 percent from 2022. **American-Pima** cotton production is forecast at 268,000 bales, down 43 percent from 2022. All cotton area harvested is forecast at 8.62 million acres, up 18 percent from 2022.

Peanut production is forecast at 6.22 million pounds in 2023, up 12 percent from 2022. Area harvested is expected to total 1.54 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report but up 11 percent from last year. Based on conditions as of August 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 4,047 pounds per acre, up 1 percent from 2022.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production* report, please visit www.nass.usda.gov.