



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

230 North 1st Avenue #303 · Phoenix, AZ 85003-1706
(602) 280-8850 · (602) 280-8897 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/az

CONTACT: Steven Manheimer, Director or nass-az@nass.usda.gov

Press Release Announcement – October 11, 2012 - For Immediate Release

Arizona Upland Cotton Forecast Down 16 Percent From 2011

Arizona's upland cotton production is forecast at 670,000 bales as of October 1, down 16 percent from last year's output. Yield is forecast at a record high 1,624 pounds per acre, an increase from last month and last year. Cotton bolls have opened on virtually all of the upland acreage as of October 7, slightly ahead of the 5-year average. Cotton condition varies from fair to excellent. Alfalfa hay growers are expecting 8.80 tons per acre from the 250,000 acres of alfalfa grown in Arizona. Total production is forecast at 2.20 million tons, an increase of 6 percent from 2011. The first forecast of Arizona lemons is 1.70 million 80-pound boxes, a significant increase from the previous season's freeze affected utilization of 750,000 boxes. Arizona's pecan producers are expecting 21.0 million pounds this season, an increase of 14 percent.

For the United States, all cotton production is forecast at 17.3 million 480-pound bales, up 1 percent from last month and up 11 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 795 pounds per acre, up 5 pounds from last year. Upland cotton production is forecast at 16.6 million 480-pound bales, up 13 percent from 2011. Pima cotton production, forecast at 657,000 bales, was carried forward from last month.