



HAWAII SUGARCANE ACREAGE & PRODUCTION

FREQUENCY: Monthly, August through December

RELEASED: November 30, 1998



HAWAII AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

Fact finding for agriculture

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U.S. SUGARCANE

U.S. sugarcane production for sugar and seed in 1998 is expected to total 31.2 million tons, down nearly 2 percent from 1997 and slightly below the October 1 estimate. The area for harvest dropped to 933,500 acres, 500 acres below the previous estimate, but more than 2 percent above last year. The forecasted yield was virtually unchanged from the October 1 estimate, at 33.4 tons per acre, but 1.3 tons below 1997.

Increased abandonment in Texas due to the summer drought accounted for the decrease in harvested acres. As a result of the reduction in harvested acres, the production estimate fell by more than 1 percent. However, the impact on production was partially offset by slightly higher yields on the remaining acres. In Louisiana, insect

damage was minimal, but yields were expected to be below 1997, as the summer drought shortened the crop. Hawaii growers expected yields to equal last year's. In Florida, mills opened in mid-October and the milling season was expected to run through mid-March.

U.S. SUGARCANE FOR SUGAR AND SEED

State	Area harvested		Yield ¹		Production ¹		
	1997	Indication 1998	1997	Indication 1998	1996	1997	Indication 1998
	----- 1,000 acres -----		----- Tons -----		----- 1,000 tons -----		
Florida	440.0	448.0	36.9	36.0	14,498	16,236	16,129
Hawaii	34.2	34.0	88.0	82.0	3,639	3,009	2,788
Louisiana	410.0	420.0	28.2	27.0	10,323	11,546	11,340
Texas	29.8	31.5	30.3	29.9	1,002	902	942
U.S.	914.0	933.5	34.7	33.4	29,462	31,693	31,199

¹ Net tons.

U.S. SUGARBEETS

Production is forecast at 32.4 million tons, 9 percent above the 1997 final production estimate, and 3 percent above the October 1 estimate. If realized, production would be the largest on record, exceeding the previous record of 31.9 million tons set in 1994. Acres to be harvested in the 12 sugarbeet-producing states was estimated at slightly less than 1.46 million acres, 2 percent above 1997 but 1,000 acres below the October estimate. Yield is estimated at 22.3 tons per acre, nearly 1.0 ton above October 1 and just 0.1 ton below the record set in 1981 and tied in 1987.

Warm late-season weather extended the growing season in most of the Great Plains States and accounted for the extra tonnage. Higher yields in most of the sugarbeet-producing states pushed U.S. production into record territory. The largest increases were in the Red River Valley of the northern Plains. North Dakota and Minnesota yields and production would be new record highs, if realized. In Minnesota, the production estimate rose despite an increase in abandonment. Idaho production also took a sizable jump due to higher yield expectations. Other states raising yield and production estimates were Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, Ohio, Oregon, and Wyoming. In California, where cold, wet weather delayed planting and a hot, dry summer hindered development, yields were lower than earlier estimates. Hot, dry weather reduced yields in Michigan compared to a year ago, but accelerated the harvest, which was completed in less than 2 weeks.

U.S. SUGARBEETS¹

State	Area Harvested		Yield		Production		
	1997	Indication 1998	1997	Indication 1998	1996	1997	Indication 1998
	----- 1,000 acres -----		----- Tons -----		----- 1,000 tons -----		
California	99.0	101.0	30.0	27.5	2,419	2,970	2,778
Colorado	66.4	59.8	19.7	22.2	1,032	1,308	1,328
Idaho	197.0	203.0	26.4	26.4	4,563	5,210	5,359
Michigan	160.0	174.0	19.0	16.5	1,963	3,040	2,871
Minnesota	446.0	461.0	18.5	21.1	7,971	8,251	9,727
Montana	58.3	63.0	21.0	22.3	1,300	1,224	1,405
Nebraska	60.3	45.9	16.8	19.9	913	1,013	913
New Mexico	1.6		30.6		27	49	
North Dakota	227.5	240.0	18.5	22.0	4,213	4,205	5,280
Ohio	0.9	1.0	19.0	18.0	86	17	18
Oregon	17.4	17.5	28.4	25.1	416	494	439
Texas	15.0		18.0		242	270	
Washington	18.0	36.5	33.1	33.5	461	595	1,223
Wyoming	60.9	53.5	20.4	20.5	1,074	1,240	1,097
U.S.	1,428.3	1,456.2	20.9	22.3	26,680	29,886	32,438

¹ Relates to year of intended harvest except for overwintered spring planted beets in California.