AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY & DEMAND ESTIMATES



Approved by the World Food and Agricultural Outlook and Situation Board • USDA

#79

December 11, 1978

HIGHLIGHTS

Cotton Yields Decline Further, Grain Reserve Reaches 34 Million Metric Tons

Estimated cotton yields were reduced further during November. With yields 20 percent below 1977/78, carryover stocks next August will drop significantly but remain near the average of the past 5 years.

While grains changed only slightly from the November assessment, carryover stocks for soybeans next September were projected to edge slightly lower.

The farmer-owned feed grain reserve was closed to 1978 crop entry on November 30. As of December 6, the farmer-owned grain reserve had reached a total of 30 million metric tons, including 11 million tons of wheat and 19 million tons of feed grains. Total reserves, including CCC inventories, were at 34 million metric tons and are now projected to reach around 38 million metric tons by the end of the 1978/79 marketing year.

Favorable November Weather Patterns Prevail

November precipitation over most of the major grain producing areas was well above normal. Excellent fieldwork progress combined with good rainfall during the last half of the month helped to rebuild soil moisture profiles for next year. The outlook for the spring planting season continues bright.

In the Great Plains, rainfall in most areas occurred in time to permit considerable growth and root development before bitter cold temperatures moved into the area on December 6. Sub-zero temperatures penetrated as far south as the Kansas-Nebraska border which also corresponded to the southern extent of significant snow cover. Temperatures dropped into the teens over much of Kansas and Oklahoma. Early reports indicate little or no damage.

1978 Cotton Production Estimate Lowered

Based on December 1 conditions, the 1978/79 U.S. cotton crop is forecast at 10.7 million bales, 3 percent below the November forecast and 26 percent below last season. Average yield is forecast at 418 pounds per harvested acre, 102 pounds below last year's relatively high yield.

The cotton harvest moves toward completion; however, Oklahoma and Texas are only at 28 and 42 percent complete respectively, compared to normals of 44 and 73. Recent cold weather should provide needed defoliation and harvest should pick up in the coming weeks.

Domestic cotton mill use is forecast at 6.3 million bales in 1978/79, down from 6.5 million last season. Exports are expected to be 5.8 million bales this season, up from 5.5 million last season.

Carryover next August 1 is likely to be around 4.1 million bales, 1.2 million below the relatively high beginning 1978/79 level but near the average of the past 5 years.

Cotton prices have strengthened throughout 1978 in response to prospects of tighter cotton supplies worldwide. World production is expected to be down 6 percent from last year while consumption could increase 2 percent. The average U.S. farm price this November was 61 cents a pound, 13 cents higher than the January 1978 average.

Wheat Production, Use Revised Upward

Production of 1978-crop wheat is estimated at 1.8 billion bushels, down 12 percent from 2 billion bushels for 1977. Total wheat supplies for 1978/79 are now estimated around 3 billion bushels, down 6 percent from last year.

Use of wheat for domestic food purposes was revised upward from 565 to 585 million bushels. This change reflects significant data revisions from the Bureau of the Census suggesting that mill use has been underestimated for the past several years, with the feed residual being correspondingly overstated.

Ending stocks for 1978/79 are now estimated at just over 1 billion bushels, virtually unchanged from the November estimate. Season-average farm prices are forecast to be between \$2.80 and \$3.00 per bushel, unchanged from last month.

Barley and Oat Crop Estimates Raised Slightly

The final 1978 barley crop estimate of 447 million bushels is up slightly from October 1 and 6 percent above 1977. Oat production, estimated at 601 million bushels, was also up slightly from October, but a fifth below the 1977 crop. No changes were made in the feed grain demand and price estimates since our last report. Final estimates of the 1978 corn and sorghum crops will be released in January.

Through December 8, the farmer-owned reserve program held 19.3 million tons of feed grains which included 16.0 tons of corn (631 million bushels). Since 1977 crop feed grains under CCC loan are eligible for the reserve, the amount of grain in the reserve is expected to grow until early next year.

Rice

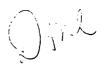
The December 1 crop estimate indicates little change in the record 1978 rice crop. The estimated range of the 1978 farm price has been increased by 25 cents to \$7.25-\$7.75 per cwt, reflecting stronger-than-expected early-season rice prices.

Slightly Larger Soybean and Product Exports In Prospect

Based on rapid early-season export movement reflecting strong protein demand, U.S. soybean exports are forecast at 750 million bushels—up 10 million from the November forecast and 50 million above 1977/78. U.S. meal exports may total nearly 5.7 million metric tons, slightly above the previous forecast and the year-ago level. Also, prospects for soybean oil exports have strengthened in recent weeks, partly reflecting the probability that the United States will supply a major share of the "optional origin" soybean oil recently purchased by the People's Republic of China.

U.S. soybean stocks next September 1 are forecast at 10 million bushels below the November forecast and slightly below carryin stocks of 159 million bushels. Estimated farm prices and the soybean crush are unchanged from a month ago.

27



COTTON: UPLAND AND EXTRA LONG STAPLE 1/

			10 de de de de de de de de de	44444		
**************************************			******* :			
Commodity :	19/0///	. 19////0			//9 Variab. 2/	
***********	****	· ******				
:		DOMESTIC !	MEASURE		•	
Area :		Million	acres			
Planted :	11.7	13.7	13.0			
Harvested: :	10.9	13.3	12.3			
Yield per harv. :		Pound				
acre :	465		418			
:		Million 480-		S		
Beginning stocks3/:		2.9				
Production :			10.7			
Supply, total 4/:	14.3		16.1			
Mill use :	6.7	6.5	6.3			
Exports :	4.8	5.5			to -0.6	
Use, total : Dif. unactd.5/ :	11.5	12.0	12.1	+0.6	to -0.6	
Dif. unactd.5/ :	0.1	6/	0.1		. 0 (
Ending stocks :	2.9	3/ 5.3 3/	4.1	+0.6	to -0.6	
Avg. farm price 7/:	64.1	51.7 8,				
A		METRIC MEA				
Area : Planted :	4.7	Million he	5.3			
	4.7	5.4	5.0			
Harvested : Yield per harv.	4.4	Metric				
hectare :	0.52	0.58	0.47			
nectare .	0.32	Million me				
Beginning stocks3/:	0.8		1.2			
Production :	2.3				6/	
Supply, total 4/:			3.5		6/	
Mill use :	1.5				to -0.1	
Exports :	1.0		1.3	+0.1	to -0.1	
Use, total :	2.5	2.6	2.7	+0.1	to -0.1	
Dif. unactd.5/ :	6/	6/	6/		6/	
Ending stocks :	0.6	3/ 1.2 3/	0.9	+0.1	to -0.1	
Avg. farm price 7/:	1.41	1.14 8,	/ 9/			

<pre>l/ Marketing year b</pre>	eginning	Aug. 1. 2/	The "pro	bable	variability"	
reflects the "root	mean squa	are error" a	nd/or "st	andard	error of	
estimate" from trend and judgment. Chances are about 2 out						
of 3 that the outcome will fall within the indicated ranges.						
3/ Based on Bureau of Census data. 4/ Includes imports.						
5/ Difference between ending stocks based on Bureau of Census						
data and preceding season's supply less distribution. 6/ Less						
than 0.05. 7/ Season average farm price, domestic measure, cents						
per pound; metric measure, dollars per kilogram. 8/ Average to April 1, 1978. 9/ USDA is prohibited from projecting cotton						
	7/ USDA 15	s promibited	Trom bro	Jeculn;	g coccon	
prices.						

WHEAT AND RICE 1/

*****	*****	*****	*****	******
Commodity	: 1976/77 :	1977/78	:	1978/79
·	: :		: Proj.	Prob. Variab.2/
*****	*****	*****	*****	*****
WHEAT:	:			
Area	:	Million		
Planted ~	: 80.2		66.3	
Harvested	: 70.8	66.5	56.8	
Yield per harv.	:		els	
unit	: 30.3	30.6	31.6	
	:	Million		
Beginning stocks	: 665		1,176	
Production	: 2,142	•	1,799	
Imports	: 3	2	2	
Supply, total	: 2,810	3,150	2,977	
Domestic	:			•
Food	: 588	586	5 85	
Seed	: 92	80	80	+5 to -5
Feed	: 68	184	125	
Domestic, total		850	79 0	
Exports	: 950	1,124		+100 to -100
Use, total	: 1,698		1,940	+150 to -150
Ending stocks		1,176	1,037	+150 to -150
Avg. farm price 3/	: 2.73	2.31	2.80-3.0	0
RICE (rough):		, ·		
Area	•	Millior	acres	
Allotment	: 1.80	1.80	1.80	
Planted	: 2.49	2.26	3.08	
Harvested	: 2.48	2.25	3.06	
Yield per harv.	:	Pound	ls	
unit	: 4,663	4,412	4,505	
	:	Million	n cwt.	
Beginning stocks	: 36.9	40.5	27.4	
Production	: 115.6	99.2	137.8	
Imports	: .1	.1		
Supply, total	: 152.6	139.8	165.2	
Domestic	: 42.7	37.6	44.0	+2.0 to -2.0
Exports	: 65.6	72.8	67.0	+5.0 to -5.0
	: 108.3	110.4	111.0	+6.0 to -6.0
	: 40.5	27.4	54.2	+6.0 to -6.0
	: +3.8	+2.0		
Avg. farm price 3/	: 7.02	9.43	7.25-7.75	

1/ Marketing year beginning June 1 for wheat, August 1
for rice. 2/ The "probable variability" reflects the "root mean
square error" and/or "standard error of estimate" from trend and
judgment. Chances are about 2 out of 3 that the outcome will fall within the indicated ranges. 3/ Season average farm price for wheat, dollars per bushel; for rice, dollars per hundredweight.

FEED GRAINS AND CORN 1/

******	***	*****	*****	*****	******
Commodity	:	1976/77 :	1977/78	:	1978/79
•	:	:	: Estimate	d: Proj.	: Prob. Variab. 2/
******	**				*****
	:				
FEED GRAINS:	:				
Area	:		Millio	n acres	
Planted,	:	128.7	128.1	121.4	
Harvested	:	106.3	107.2	102.2	
Yield per harv.	:		Metri	c tons	
acre	:	1.82	1.88	2.07	
	:			metric to	ons
Beginning stocks	:	17.2	29.9	40.1	
Production	:	193.4	202.0	211.4	+3 to -3
Imports	:	0.4	0.3	0.3	
Supply, total	:	211.0	232.2	251.8	
Feed	:	112.6	117.0	124.6	+7 to -7
Food, seed, &	:				
indust.	:	17.9	18.8	19.4	
Domestic, total	:	130.5	135.8	144.0	+7 to -7
Exports	:	50.6	56.3	54.9	+5 to -5
Use, total	:	181.1	192.1	198.9	+10 to -10
Ending stocks	:	29.9	40.1	52.9	+7 to -7
•	:				
CORN:	:				
Area	:		Millio	n acres	
Planted	:	84.4	82.7	78.5	
Harvested	:	71.3	70.0	68.1	
Yield per harv.	:		Bus	hels	
unit	:	87.9	91.0	101.2	
	:			bushels	
Beginning stocks	:	399	884		
Production	:	6,266	6,371		+150 to -150
Imports	:	3	3		
Supply, total	:	6,668	7,258		
Feed	:	3,587	3,698	•	+200 to -200
Food, seed, &	•	3,3 3.	3,070	•,•••	
indust.	:	513	548	570	
Domestic, total	•				+200 to -200
Exports	•	1 684	1 948	1.900	+150 to -150
Use, total	•	5 784	6,194	6.420	+300 to -300
Ending stocks		884	1 064	1 535	+200 to -200
Avg. farm price 3/	<i>'</i> .	2 15	2.03		
					, t********

^{1/} Marketing year beginning October 1 for corn and sorghum;
June 1 for barley and oats. 2/ The "probable variability" reflects
the "root mean square error" and/or "standard error of estimate"
from trend and judgment. Chances are about 2 out of 3 that
the outcome will fall within the indicated ranges. 3/ Season
average farm price, dollars per bushel.

11 . 1-

GRAINS--UNITED STATES

Item	:	Wheat	: Rice :	Corn	: Feed	:Total
	:	:	(Rough):		:Grains4/	:Grains
******	**	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****
	:		(Millio	n metr	ic tons)	
1976/77	:					
Beginning stocks	:	18.1	1.7	10.0	17.2	37.0
Production	:	58.3	5.2	159.2	193.4	256.9
Supply, Total 1/	:	76.5	6.9	169.4	211.0	294.4
	:					
Feed use	:	1.8		91.1	112.6	114.4
Food & other use	:	18.6	1.9	13.0	17.9	38.4
Exports	:	25.8	3.0	42.8	50.6	79.4
Use, Total	:	46.2	4.9	146.9		232.2
Ending stocks	:	30.3	1.8	22.5	29.9	62.0
Average farm price 2/	:	100	155	85		
1977/78 (preliminary)	:					40.0
Beginning stocks	:	30.3	1.8	22.5		62.0
Production	:	55.4	4.5	161.8	202.0	261.9
Supply, Total 1/	:	85.7	6.3	184.3	232.2	324.2
<u>-</u>	:	5 0		02.0	117.0	122 0
Feed use	:	5.0		93.9	117.0	122.0
Food & other use	:	18.1	1.7	13.9	18.8	38.6
Exports	:	30.6	3.3	49.5	56.3	90.2
Use, Total	:	53.7	5.0	157.3	192.1	250.8
Ending stocks	:	32.0	1.2	27.0	40.1	73.3
Average farm price 2/	:	85	208	80		
1070/70 / 1) 2/	:					
1978/79 (projected) 3/	:	32.0	1.2	27.0	40.1	73.3
Beginning stocks	:	49.0	6.3	175.0	211.4	266.7
Production	:		7.5	202.1	251.8	340.3
Supply, Total 1/	:	81.0	7.5	100.3	124.6	128.0
Feed use	:	3.4 18.1	2.0	14.5	124.6	39.5
Food & other use	:		3.0	48.3	19.4 54.9	89.2
Exports	:	52.8	5.0	163.1	198.9	256.7
Use, Total	:		2.5	39.0		83.6
Ending stocks	:	28.2	2.5 160-171	79 - 85	J4•J	
Average farm price 2/		103-110 *****			- , *******	****
*********	^ ^					

1/ Including imports. 2/ Dollars per metric ton. 3/ Probable variability of supply-use projections are shown on the individual grains tables. 4/ Including corn.

GRAIN CARRYOVER STOCKS, FARMER-OWNED CCC RESERVES AND PRICES

******************* Preliminary Projected : 1976/77 1977/78 1/ 1978/79 Crop ****************** : Million metric tons WHEAT Ending stocks, total : 30.3 32.0 28.2 Farmer-owned reserve : ---9.3 11.3 CCC reserve : ___ 1.3 1.4 Average farm price 2/ 100 85 103-110 : CORN 22.5 27.0 Ending stocks, total 39.0 Farmer-owned reserve 8.0 18.0 : CCC reserve •3 1.7 : Average farm price 2/ 85 80 79-85 : : TOTAL FEED GRAINS : : 29.9 40.1 Ending stocks, total 52.9 Farmer-owned reserve 10.5 : 21.4 CCC reserve : .7 2.6 RICE Ending stocks, total 2.5 1.8 1.2 Farmer-owned reserve ___ ___ .4 : CCC reserve : .8 •5 1.0 Average farm price 2/ 208 160-171 : 155 : TOTAL GRAINS Ending stocks, total 62.0 73.3 83.6 Farmer-owned reserve 19.8 : 33.1 CCC reserve .8 2.5

1/ Farmer-owned reserves and CCC inventory are as of June 1 for wheat, Oct. 1 for feed grains, and August 1 for rice. 2/ Dollars per metric ton.

SORGHUM, BARLEY, AND OATS 1/

*****	*****	*****	*****	****	*****
Commodity	1976/77	1977/78	:	1978,	/79
•	:				. Variab.2/
*****	*****			****	*****
SORGHUM:	:	Bush			
Yield/harv. unit	48.9	56.2	52.4		
	•	Million	bushels		
Beginning stocks	: 51	91	191		
Production	: 720	791	704	+25	to -25
Imports	•				
Supply, total	: 771	882	895		
Feed	428	471	505	+30	to -30
Food, seed,& indt.	: 6	7	6		
Domestic, total	434	478	511	+30	to - 30
Exports	246	213	220	+30	to - 30
Use, total	: 680	691	731	+45	to -45
Ending stocks	91	191	164	+40	to -40
Avg. farm price 3/:	2.03	1.73	1.90-2.	05	
BARLEY:	:	Bush	els		-
	44.9	43.9	48.4		
	•	Million	bushels		
Beginning stocks	128	126	171		
Production	372	420	447		
Imports	11	9	10		
Supply, total	511	555	628		
Feed	161	167	185	+25	to -25
Food, seed, & indt.		160	162	. 23	20 23
		327	347	±25	to - 25
Domestic, total	: 66	57	40		to -10
Exports	: 385	384	387		to -30
Use, total	: 126	171	241		to -20
Ending stocks		1.80	1.80-1.9		10 -20
Avg. farm price 3/	2.25			U	
OATS:		Bush			
Yield/harv. unit	45.7	55.8	52.2		
	305	Million			
Beginning stocks	: 205	165	310		
	: 546	751	601		
Imports	: 1	2	1		
Supply, total	: 752	918	912		2.2
Feed	: 489	513	510	+30	to -30
Food, seed,& indt.		84	85		2.0
Domestic total	: 577	597	595		to -30
Exports	: 10	11	10		to -2
Use, total	: 587	608	605		to -30
Ending stocks	: 165	310	307		to -30
Avg. farm price 3/	1.56	1.14	1.05-1.1		
*****	*****	*****	****	****	*****

1/ Marketing year beginning October 1 for sorghum, June 1
for barley and oats. 2/ The "probable variability" reflects the
"root mean square error" and/or "standard error of estimate"
from trend and judgment. Chances are about 2 out of 3 that the
outcome will fall within the indicated ranges. 3/ Season average
farm price, dollars per bushel.

; SOYBEANS AND PRODUCTS (Domestic Measure) 1/ Gr. e

**************************************	* * *
Commodity : 1976/77 : 1977/78 : 1978/79	
: : Prelim. : Proj. : Prob. Variab.	2/

SOYBEANS: :	
Area : Million acres	
Planted : 50.2 58.8 64.4	
Harvested : 49.4 57.6 63.3	
Yield per harv. : Bushels/acre	
unit : 26.1 30.6 28.6	
: Million bushels	
Beginning stocks: 245 103 159	
Production : 1,288 1,762 1,810 +50 to -50)
Supply, total : 1,533 1,865 1,969 +50 to -50)
Crushings : 790 927 980 +40 to -40	
Exports : 564 700 750 +40 to -40)
Seed and feed : 62 69 70	
Residual : 14 10 14	
Use, total : 1,430 1,706 1,814 +60 to -60)
Ending stocks : 103 159 155 +50 to -50)
Avg. farm price : 6.81 5.80 6.50 +.50 to50)
SOYBEAN OIL: : Million pounds	
Beginning stocks : 1,251 767 729	
Production : 8,578 10,288 10,631 +400 to -400)
Supply, total : 9,829 11,055 11,360 +400 to -400	
Domestic : 7,515 8,269 8,600 +400 to -400)
Exports : 1,547 2,057 1,800 +300 to -300	
Use, total : 9,062 10,326 10,400 +400 to -400)
Ending stocks : 767 729 960 +200 to -200	
Avg. price $3/$: 24 24.5 25 +3 to -3	
SOYBEAN MEAL: : Thousand short tons	
Beginning stocks: 355 228 243	
Production : 18,488 22,371 23,277 +1000 to -1000	
Supply, total : 18,843 22,599 23,520 +1000 to -1000	
Domestic : 14,056 16,276 17,000 +800 to -800	
Exports : 4,559 6,080 6,250 +400 to -400	
Use, total : 18,615 22,356 23,250 +1000 to -1000	
Ending stocks : 228 243 270 +75 to -75	
Avg. price 4/ : 199.80 164.20 180.00 +20 to -20	
*******************	*

^{1/} Marketing year beginning September 1 for soybeans,
October 1 for soybean oil and meal. 2/ The "probable variability"
reflects the "root mean square error" and/or "standard error of
estimate" from trend and judgment. Chances are about 2 out
of 3 that outcomes will fall within the indicated ranges.
3/ Simple season average of crude soybean oil, Decatur,
cents per pound. 4/ Simple season average of 44% protein,
Decatur, dollars per short ton.

SOYBEANS AND PRODUCTS (Metric Measure) 1/

Commodity	:	1976/77	: 1977/7	78 :	1978/79
	:			•	: Prob. Variab. 2/
******	***	*****	*****	*****	*****
SOYBEANS:	:				
Area	:		Million	n hectares	
Planted	:	20.3	23.8	26.1	
Harvested'	:	20.0	23.3	25.6	
Yield per harv.	:		Metric (tons/hectare	
unit	:	1.76	2.06	1.92	
	:		Million	metric tons	
Beginning stocks	:	6.7	2.8	4.3	
Production	:	35.1	48.0	49.3	+1.4 to -1.4
Supply, total	:	41.7	50.8	53.6	+1.4 to -1.4
Crushings	:	21.5	25.2	26.7	+1.1 to -1.1
Exports	:	15.3	19.1	20.4	+1.1 to -1.1
Seed and feed	:	1.7	1.9	1.9	
Residual	:	0.4	.3	•4	
Use, total	:	38.9	46.4	49.4	+1.6 to -1.6
Ending stocks	:	2.8	4.3	4.2	+1.4 to -1.4
Avg. farm price	:	250	213	239	+18 to -18
SOYBEAN OIL:	:		Thousand	metric tons	
Beginning stocks	:	567	348	331	
Production	:	3,891	4,667	4,822	+180 to -180
Supply, total	:	4,458	5,015	5,153	+180 to -180
Domestic	:	3,409	3,751	3,901	+180 to -180
Exports	:	702	933	816	+140 to -140
Use, total	:	4,111	4,684	4,717	+180 to -180
Ending stocks	:	348	331	435	+90 to -90
Avg. price 3/	:	529	540	551	+65 to - 65
SOYBEAN MEAL:	:		Thousand	metric tons	
Beginning stocks	:	322	207	220	+45 to -45
Production	:	16,772	20,295	21,117	+900 to −900
Supply, total	:	17,094	20,501	21,337	+900 to −900
Domestic	:	12,751	14,765	15,422	+725 to - 725
Exports	:	4,136	5,516	5,670	+365 to - 365
Use, total		•		21,092	+900 to - 900
Ending stocks		-			+70 to -70
Avg. price 4/	:	220	181	198	+20 to -20
*****	**	*****	*****	*****	****

^{1/} Marketing year beginning September 1 for soybeans, October 1 for soybean oil and meal. 2/ The "probable variability" reflects the "root mean square error" and/or "standard error of estimate" from trend and judgment. Chances are about 2 out of 3 that outcomes will fall within the indicated ranges. 3/ Simple season average of crude soybean oil, Decatur, dollars per metric ton. 4/ Simple season average of 44% protein, Decatur, dollars per metric ton.

The Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates Tables were prepared by the Interagency Commodity Estimates Committee for:

WHEAT: Paul Meyers, Chairman; Frank Gomme, OGSM; Randell Weber, ASCS; Tom Elam, ESCS; Donald J. Novotny, FAS; David Spalding, AMS.

FEED GRAINS: Paul Meyers, Chairman; Frank Gomme, OGSM; Orville I. Overboe, ASCS: Tom Elam, ESCS; Donald J. Novotny, FAS; Ralph Tapp, AMS.

SOYBEANS, COTTONSEED AND OILS: James R. Donald, Acting Chairman, WFAOSB; Harry Sullivan, ASCS; George W. Kromer, ESCS; Alan E. Holz, FAS; Clarence Goldsborough, OGSM; David Spalding, AMS.

COTTON: Russell G. Barlowe, Chairman, WFAOSB; Charles V. Cunningham, ASCS; R. Samuel Evans, ESCS; Gordon H. Lloyd, FAS; Geron E. Rathell, OGSM; Donald Bratton, AMS.

Conversion Factors

Bushels to metric tons

Area

1 hectare = 2.4710 acres

l acre

= .404694 hectares

Wheat & soybeans = bushels x .027216

Barley = bushels $x \cdot 021772$

Corn, sorghum,

rye = bushels \times .025400 Oats = bushels \times .014515

480 lb. bales to metric tons

Cotton = bales \times .217700

Cwt. to metric tons

Rice = $cwt. \times .453597$

Kilograms to pounds

Kilogram = 2.2046 pounds