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Crop Production 2010 Summary
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Peanuts: Area Planted, Harvested, Yield, and
Production by State and United States, 2008-2010

State	Area Planted			Area Harvested		
	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010
	1,000 Acres					
AL	195.0	155.0	190.0	193.0	150.0	185.0
FL	150.0	115.0	145.0	140.0	105.0	135.0
GA	690.0	510.0	565.0	685.0	505.0	555.0
MS	22.0	21.0	19.0	21.0	18.0	18.0
NM	8.0	7.0	10.0	8.0	7.0	10.0
NC	98.0	67.0	87.0	97.0	66.0	86.0
OK	19.0	14.0	22.0	18.0	13.0	21.0
SC	71.0	50.0	67.0	68.0	48.0	64.0
TX	257.0	165.0	165.0	253.0	155.0	163.0
VA	24.0	12.0	18.0	24.0	12.0	18.0
US	1,534.0	1,116.0	1,288.0	1,507.0	1,079.0	1,255.0

	Yield			Production		
	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010
	Pounds			1,000 Pounds		
AL	3,500	3,300	2,600	675,500	495,000	481,000
FL	3,200	3,200	3,400	448,000	336,000	459,000
GA	3,400	3,560	3,560	2,329,000	1,797,800	1,975,800
MS	3,900	3,000	3,500	81,900	54,000	63,000
NM	3,200	3,100	3,200	25,600	21,700	32,000
NC	3,700	3,700	2,800	358,900	244,200	240,800
OK	3,500	3,300	3,200	63,000	42,900	67,200
SC	3,900	3,100	3,400	265,200	148,800	217,600
TX	3,300	3,270	3,600	834,900	506,850	586,800
VA	3,350	3,700	1,800	80,400	44,400	32,400
US	3,426	3,421	3,311	5,162,400	3,691,650	4,155,600

2010 Annual Weather Summary

Highlights: A rapid transition from El Niño to La Niña and a persistent blocking high-pressure system over the northern Atlantic Ocean were the driving forces behind a number of extreme weather and climate events in 2010. In particular, the North Atlantic block was largely responsible for sustained cold outbreaks in Florida in both January and December 2010. Meanwhile, El Niño played a role in a stormy winter and spring in various parts of the country. Nevertheless, fields dried quickly enough in the Midwest to promote a rapid spring planting pace.

During the spring and summer growing seasons, above-normal temperatures dominated the Nation's major crop production areas, including the central and southern Plains and the Midwest. As a result, most crops developed and matured rapidly, although heat and expanding drought in the eastern Corn Belt and parts of the South reduced yield prospects. In contrast, unfavorably wet weather conditions affected parts of the western Corn Belt, where June flooding washed out some low-lying fields.

Following a warm growing season, Midwestern harvest activities proceeded at a rapid pace. Farther north and west, however, persistently cool, damp weather led to delayed small grain development and harvesting across the northern High Plains and the Northwest. California also experienced developmental and harvest delays for crops such as rice and cotton.

During autumn, signs of a developing La Niña included drought development across the Deep South and drought relief in the eastern Corn Belt. In addition, unfavorable dryness on the central and southern Plains led to a

poorly established hard red winter wheat crop. Another late-year sign of La Niña's emerging presence was cold, stormy conditions from the Pacific Northwest to the upper Midwest.

Winter 2009-2010: With weather patterns governed by El Niño and a persistent high-pressure system over eastern Canada and the northern Atlantic Ocean, cold, stormy conditions dominated the United States. El Niño supplied the energy for an active storm track across the central and southern United States, while the high-pressure system acted as an atmospheric block that repeatedly forced cold air southeastward across the Plains, Midwest, and Southeast.

According to the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC), the Nation experienced its seventeenth coldest, fifteenth wettest winter on record. The United States winter average temperature of 31.1 degrees Fahrenheit was 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit below the 1901-2000 mean, resulting in the coldest December-February period since 1984-85. It was among the ten coldest winters in nine Southern States from Oklahoma and Texas eastward to South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Meanwhile, Maine posted its third-warmest winter since 1895-96. Winter precipitation averaged 7.35 inches (114 percent of the long-term mean) across the contiguous United States. It was among the ten driest winters on record in Wyoming and Idaho, while top-ten wetness affected South Dakota, Alabama, and seven Atlantic Coast States from Florida to New Jersey. Individual monthly highlights included a pair of December blizzards across parts of the Plains and upper Midwest, a severe, early-January freeze in Florida, and record-setting February snowfall in the Mid-Atlantic States and adjoining areas. The winter of 2009-10 will also be remembered for snow accumulations across the Deep South. In California, key watershed areas received near-normal winter snowfall, following a 3-year drought.

Spring: Cool weather in the West and record-setting warmth from Michigan to Maine highlighted the spring season. A wet spring eased the effects of a dry winter in the Northwest, while a gradual drying trend affected much of the Nation's southern tier. Drought persisted through the end of May in parts of the Great Lakes region and developed in parts of the Gulf Coast States.

According to NCDC, the Nation experienced its twentieth warmest, sixtieth driest spring on record. The United States spring average temperature of 53.2 degrees Fahrenheit was 1.4 degrees Fahrenheit above the 1901-2000 mean. It was the warmest spring on record in Michigan, New Jersey, New York and all six New England States, and among the ten warmest in ten other Midwestern and Northeastern States. In contrast, California experienced its fourteenth coolest spring. Spring precipitation averaged 7.58 inches (98 percent of the long-term mean) across the contiguous United States. State rankings ranged from the fifth driest spring in Louisiana to the second wettest spring in Rhode Island. Individual monthly highlights included March flooding in the Northeast, rapid Midwestern planting progress in April, and Southern rainfall extremes during May. For the latter highlight, May opened with historic rains in parts of Kentucky and Tennessee, while drought developed and expanded during the month from eastern Texas into the lower Mississippi Valley.

Summer: Consistent warmth across the majority of the Nation fueled rapid crop development. In fact, record-setting summer warmth affected numerous locations from the Southeast into New England. A major exception to the warm pattern was the Northwest (as far east as Montana), where persistently cool conditions delayed both winter and spring wheat maturation and harvesting. Meanwhile, pockets of drought developed or expanded during the summer months from the Mid-South into the East. Drought development was also noted in the lower Midwest as far north as the Ohio Valley. In contrast, wet conditions plagued portions of the western Corn Belt.

According to NCDC, the Nation experienced its fifth hottest, ninth wettest summer on record. The United States summer average temperature of 74.0 degrees Fahrenheit was 1.9 degrees Fahrenheit above the 1901-2000 mean. Only the summers of 1934, 1936, 2002, and 2006 were hotter. It was the hottest summer on record in ten Eastern States from Alabama to Rhode Island. In contrast, it was the twentieth coolest summer in Oregon. Meanwhile, June-August precipitation averaged 9.34 inches, 113 percent of the mean. It was the Nation's wettest summer since 2004. State rankings ranged from the twelfth driest June-August period in New Jersey to the wettest summer on record in Wisconsin. Individual monthly highlights included June flooding in parts of the Midwest, along with early-summer heat and dryness from the Delta into the Mid-Atlantic States. Hurricane Alex, which made landfall in northeastern Mexico, contributed to late-June and early-July downpours and flooding in southern Texas. During July, widespread rain maintained generally favorable conditions for Midwestern summer crops, except in areas of excessive wetness. By the end of July, heat began to creep northward into the southern Corn Belt. During August, a broad area of unfavorable dryness stretched from the south-central United States into the Ohio Valley and the lower Great Lakes region. The late-summer dryness, along with a continuation of hot weather, trimmed yield prospects for some rain-fed summer crops.

Autumn: The United States escaped a busy Atlantic tropical season with no hurricane landfalls and minimal overall impacts. Midwestern harvest activities proceeded at a near-record to record-setting pace, with corn and soybean fieldwork nearly complete by the end of October. Meanwhile, portions of the central and southern Plains did not receive enough moisture to allow for proper establishment of winter wheat. Dry conditions also plagued parts of the eastern Corn Belt, although November precipitation provided drought relief. By the end of autumn, signs of the evolving La Niña included Northwestern wetness and dry conditions in the southern Atlantic region and much of the south-central and southwestern United States.

According to NCDC, the Nation experienced its fourteenth warmest, fifty-third driest autumn on record. The United States autumn average temperature of 55.7 degrees Fahrenheit was 1.5 degrees Fahrenheit above the 1901-2000 mean. State rankings ranged from the fifty-third coolest autumn in Washington to the fifth-warmest autumn in Rhode Island. Meanwhile, autumn precipitation averaged 6.70 inches (virtually equal to the long-term mean) across the contiguous United States. It was the second driest September-November period in Florida, but among the ten wettest autumns on record in Maine, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Nevada.

2010 Annual Crop Summary

April: Unseasonably warm temperatures blanketed much of the country east of the Rocky Mountains during the month, allowing spring fieldwork in numerous States to advance at a pace well ahead of normal. Rainfall was plentiful in the western half of the United States, helping to alleviate prolonged drought conditions in areas and boosting small grain growth. In Texas, wet fields and cool temperatures delayed the start of sorghum planting to one week behind normal, while sunny skies allowed for rapid mid-month planting in the Delta. Elsewhere, with warm, mostly dry weather conditions prevailing throughout much of the major corn-producing regions, planting progress exploded during the latter half of April as producers rushed to get as much seed in the ground as possible ahead of approaching late-month thunderstorms. By April 25, half of the 2010 corn crop had been planted, the earliest date on record that progress had reached the midpoint.

May: While cooler than normal temperatures dominated much of the western United States, slowing the emergence of recently planted row crops and hindering head development in small grains, above average temperatures afforded producers throughout the eastern half of the country ample time for completing fieldwork. Early-May thunderstorms delivered a deluge of rainfall to portions of Kentucky and Tennessee causing severe flooding, limiting fieldwork, and damaging some crops in low-lying areas near creeks and rivers. Similarly, spring storm systems inundated California's rice-producing region with above average rainfall, leaving producers seeding fields as conditions allowed. By May 2, ninety-six percent of the Nation's sugarbeet crop was planted, well ahead of both last year and the 5-year average, with producers in Idaho replanting some fields due to poor emergence, frost damage, and seedling disease. Mid-month cold spells damaged some soybean fields in the northernmost areas of Indiana, causing producers to replant a portion of the crop. Barley seeding remained active throughout the month despite fluctuating weather conditions; however, unusually cool late-month temperatures in Idaho and Montana slowed crop emergence.

June: Warmer than normal temperatures prevailed across much of the country during the month, promoting rapid summer crop development in some areas, while negatively impacting crop conditions in others. Conversely, cool temperatures in the Pacific Northwest, northern Rocky Mountains, and portions of the northern Great Plains hampered small grain maturation. As the month began, cotton producers across the country had planted 91 percent of their intended acreage, with planting complete in Arizona, Arkansas, California, Louisiana, and Missouri. Corn condition ratings declined during June, as mid-month storms delivered above average rainfall and hail that caused flooding and damaged corn plants in some fields in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska, the five largest corn-producing States. Warm, mostly dry weather was the norm for much of the major winter wheat-producing regions during mid-June, boosting heading progress and providing ideal harvest conditions. Peanut producers had planted 96 percent of the 2010 crop by June 13, ahead of both last year and the average pace. Hot late-month temperatures in the Delta caused a decline in rice condition ratings, but promoted rapid phenological development.

July: Above average precipitation fell on much of the Great Plains and Midwest during the month, helping to improve dry soil moisture conditions in some areas while adding to already soggy fields in others. Conversely, many areas east of the Mississippi River and west of the Rocky Mountains were abnormally dry. Hot temperatures lingered month-long east of the Mississippi River, hampering the phenological development of summer row crops in some Southeastern States. Warm temperatures on the Plains as the month began helped to jumpstart the heading of Kansas' sorghum crop, the earliest start of heading since 2006. Following a rapid planting pace during the spring and nearly ideal growing conditions throughout much of the major corn-producing areas in May and June, the Nation's crop continued to develop at a faster than normal pace during July. Oat harvest was underway in some States by July 11 and neared the halfway point toward month's end. Head development of the Nation's rice crop gained momentum as the month progressed, with heading in Arkansas, the largest rice-producing State, over three weeks ahead of normal by month's end. Warm temperatures coupled with adequate soil moisture levels across the major soybean-producing regions provided ideal growing conditions and promoted rapid crop development throughout July.

August: While near-normal temperatures prevailed from the Rocky Mountains westward, unseasonably warm temperatures reigned from the Great Plains to the Atlantic Coast during August, promoting the rapid phenological development of many row crops as well as small grain harvest. Rainfall in excess of 12 inches left many low-lying corn fields in Iowa, the largest corn-producing State, completely saturated, stunting growth and yellowing portions of the crop. Despite mostly ideal weather that provided ample time for fieldwork during the first half of the month, barley harvest remained behind normal in Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, and Washington, four of the six largest producing States, due to early-season developmental delays. In Kansas, triple-digit temperatures combined with persistently dry weather mid-month depleted soil moisture levels and stressed portions of the sorghum crop. Similarly, above average temperatures and a lack of available soil moisture stressed cotton fields in areas of Texas, leading to a decline in crop condition ratings. Hot, humid conditions blanketed much of the major soybean-producing regions during mid-August, maintaining a rapid pod setting pace, while timely late-month rainfall aided pod filling in portions of the Corn Belt. By August 29, sorghum harvest was underway and well ahead of normal in the Delta but 19 percentage points behind last year in Texas.

September: Tropical Storms Hermine and Nicole bookended the month, delivering substantial amounts of precipitation to much of the south-central and eastern portions of the country. Most notably, coastal locations in both North Carolina and Texas received rainfall totaling 13 inches or more, slowing fieldwork and causing localized flooding in low-lying areas. Elsewhere, unusually dry conditions allowed for the quick harvest of row crops and small grains. By September 5, corn harvesting was underway in 11 of the 18 major corn-producing States, while soybean harvesting had begun in all major estimating States except North Carolina and Wisconsin by September 19. Nationally, sorghum harvesting inched forward during the first half of the month but gained speed as fields in portions of Texas began to dry out. Winter wheat producers were busy seeding their 2011 crop by

mid-September. Toward month's end, peanut producers in the Southern Low Plains of Texas were rushing to dig their fields before feral hogs ruined the crop.

October: Above average temperatures and relatively dry conditions across much of the United States promoted the quickest harvest pace in over 19 years for the 2010 corn and soybean crops. Elsewhere, timely late-month storm systems dumped much-needed precipitation on areas of the Great Plains, aiding the establishment of recently seeded small grains. Winter wheat seeding gained momentum as October progressed and warm, mostly sunny weather provided nearly ideal fieldwork conditions; however, crop establishment in portions of the central and southern Great Plains was negatively impacted by generally dry conditions. Despite improved weather conditions in California mid-month that allowed rice producers to harvest their crop at a quicker pace, overall progress remained substantially behind both last year and the 5-year average. While double-digit harvest progress was evident throughout much of the major peanut-producing regions during the latter half of the month, some fields in portions in the Southeast needed additional moisture before producers could continue digging their crop. Warm, sunny weather across the major cotton-producing regions allowed for the quickest harvest of the Nation's crop since 2001. By October 31, cotton producers had harvested 61 percent of the 2010 crop, 34 percentage points ahead of last year and 17 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

November: Near-normal temperatures and mostly dry conditions blanketed much of the country during the month, affording producers ample time to finish harvesting their summer row crops and seeding their over-wintered small grains. As the month began, sugarbeet producers in the Red River Valley had finished harvesting this year's crop, while growers in Idaho and Michigan were busy digging the last of their fields. By November 7, corn producers had harvested 96 percent of the Nation's crop, 61 percentage points, or 43 days, ahead of last year and 23 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. With the exception of Alabama, where progress typically trails the other peanut-producing States, harvest was complete or nearly complete by November 21. By November 28, cotton producers had harvested 91 percent of the 2010 crop, 11 percentage points ahead of last year and 10 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

Crop Comments

Peanuts: Production is estimated at 4.16 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the previous forecast and up 13 percent from 2009. Planted area is estimated at 1.29 million acres, up 15 percent from 2009. Area harvested is estimated at 1.26 million acres, up 16 percent from the previous crop year. Average yield is estimated at 3,311 pounds per acre, up 169 pounds from the previous forecast but down 110 pounds from 2009.

Production in the Southeast States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina) is estimated at 3.20 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous forecast and up 13 percent from 2009. Planted area is estimated at 986,000 acres, up 16 percent from 2009. Harvested area is estimated at 957,000 acres, up 16 percent from the previous crop year. Average yield in

the region is estimated at 3,340 pounds per acre, up 140 pounds from the previous forecast but 88 pounds lower than the 2009 average yield. Yields are up from the previous crop year in Florida, Mississippi, and South Carolina but yield is down from last year in Alabama. In Georgia, the leading peanut-producing State, the yield of 3,560 pounds per acre ties the record high yield achieved in 2009. The excellent yields in Georgia can be attributed to intensive irrigation and new drought resistant varieties.

Virginia-North Carolina production is estimated at 273 million pounds, up 5 percent from the previous forecast but down 5 percent from 2009. Planted area is estimated at 105,000 acres, up 33 percent from the previous crop year. Area for harvest, which is estimated at 104,000 acres, is up 33 percent from 2009. The average yield is estimated at 2,627 pounds per acre, up 163 pounds from the previous forecast but down 1,073 pounds from 2009. Hot, dry weather conditions during the growing season stressed the crop in the region and resulted in poor yields.

Southwest peanut production (New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) is estimated at 686 million pounds, up 12 percent from the previous forecast and up 20 percent from 2009. Planted area is estimated at 197,000 acres, up 6 percent from the previous crop year. Area for harvest is estimated at 194,000 acres, up 11 percent from 2009. The average yield for the region is estimated at 3,536 pounds per acre, up 310 pounds from the previous forecast and up 271 pounds from the previous crop year. Yield is down from last season in Oklahoma, up from last year in Texas, and unchanged from last year in New Mexico.

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