



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

Cooperating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture
Idaho Field Office • PO Box 1699 • Boise, Idaho 83701

(800) 691-9987 • (208) 334-1507 • (208) 334-1114 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov



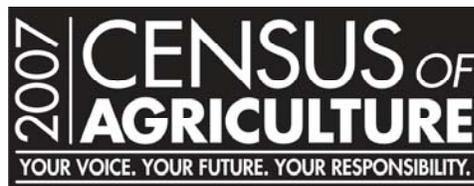
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Media Contact: Bill Meyer

Idaho Onion Acreage Intentions for 2008

Onion acreage planted in Idaho is expected to be 8,600 acres, down 8 percent from the 2007 acreage of 9,300 and down 11 percent from the 2006 acreage of 9,700, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Producers in Malheur County, Oregon are expected to plant 9,900 acres, down 14 percent from last year. Combined onion acreage for Idaho and Malheur County decreased 11 percent from last year to 18,500 acres. Total storage acreage in Washington is estimated to be 19,000 acres, down 10 percent from last year.

Nationally, summer storage planted acres are down 6 percent from last year to 104,050 acres. California acreage, which is primarily dehydrated or otherwise processed, is down 1 percent from 2007. Despite some minor problems with rain during planting, good growing conditions are currently being reported. In Colorado, although mountain snow pack is currently 126 percent of average Statewide, mandated well restrictions, labor shortages, low prices, and disease problems are a major concern. In Idaho, snow pack supplies are near normal and water availability is not a concern. In Oregon, spring conditions have been favorable throughout the State. In Washington, thrips remains a major concern for some producers in the Columbia Basin. Irrigation supplies look promising.



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