



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

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Released: October 4, 2011

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Idaho Onion Production

Onion acreage harvested in Idaho is estimated at 9,200 acres, a 2 percent increase from last year and a 5 percent increase from 2009, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Yield is estimated at 750 cwt per acre, down 10 cwt from last year but up 10 cwt from 2009. Production increased 1 percent from last year to 6.90 million cwt. As of October 2, 80 percent of the state's onions had been harvested. This is slightly behind the five-year average of 83 percent. Malheur County is expected to have an onion production of 8.48 million cwt, down 1 percent from last year. The yield for Malheur County is estimated at 750 cwt per acre and acreage harvested is estimated at 11,300 acres.

Nationally, summer storage onion production is forecast at 55.9 million hundredweight (cwt), down slightly from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 101,560 acres, down 3 percent from 2010. The yield, at 551 cwt per acre, is up 15 cwt from last year. In California, harvest was behind schedule due to cool, wet weather during the growing season. Colorado growers reported some hail damage during the growing season. In Idaho, onion harvest was behind schedule due to a cool wet spring and mild summer conditions. In Oregon, harvest was delayed due to cool and wet weather during the summer season. In Washington, cold spring conditions followed by warm summer temperatures aided crop development.

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