



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](http://www.nass.usda.gov)



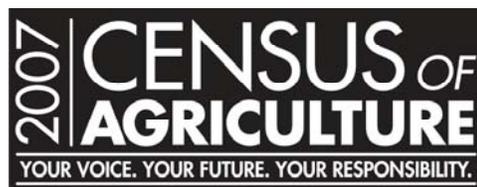
Released: October 4, 2007

Media Contact: Bill Meyer

### Idaho Onion Production

Onion production in Idaho is expected to be 6.62 million cwt, a 30 percent increase from 2006's production of 5.08 million cwt. The yield for Idaho is forecast to be 720 cwt, up 180 cwt from last year's yield. Compared to last year, there were more favorable conditions and no major disease problems reported. Onion acreage harvested in Idaho is estimated to be 9,200 acres, 200 acres less than last year. As of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 89 percent of the state's onions had been harvested, which is above the five-year average of 73 percent. Malheur County is expected to have an onion production of 8.33 million cwt, a 37 percent increase from last year. The yield for Malheur County is estimated at 700 cwt and the acreage harvested is estimated at 11,900 acres.

Nationally, summer storage onion production is forecast at 54.1 million hundredweight (cwt), up 5 percent from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 105,680 acres, down 4 percent from 2006. The yield, at 512 cwt per acre, is up 46 cwt from last year. In California, after planting, early mild temperatures and timely rainfall helped the crop to progress well initially. However, cool temperatures in the San Joaquin region slowed crop development, delaying harvest up to several weeks. In Colorado, restrictions on irrigation water and labor shortages led to lower acreage this year. Hail damage and disease outbreaks during the season further reduced acreage and negatively impacted yield. Malheur and Other Oregon producers expect higher yields this season due to less damage from thrip and the yellow spot virus. In Washington, harvest is underway and quality of the storage onion crop is reported to be very good.



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