



United States Department of Agriculture
News Release

National
Agricultural
Statistics Service

In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
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2008 Acreage

Iowa: Corn planted and to be planted decreased 4 percent this year for a total of 13.7 million acres. Corn harvested for grain is forecast at 12.8 million acres. Soybeans planted and to be planted is estimated at 9.40 million acres in 2008, up 850,000 from last year. Area for harvest, at 8.95 million acres, is up 430,000 from last year. The acreage estimates in this report are based on data collected from May 30 through June 16, with re-interviews of selected farmers June 23-25. NASS will conduct a more extensive acreage update survey during July, 2008. Findings from that study will be incorporated in the August *Crop Production* report.

Additionally, producers reported on the percent of seed planted to genetically modified (GM) varieties. Corn planted to GM varieties are estimated in Iowa at 16 percent insect resistant (Bt) only and 15 percent herbicide resistant only. Stacked gene varieties account for 53 percent of corn acres for a total planted to GM varieties in Iowa of 84 percent of the total crop. Ninety-five percent of Iowa's soybean acreage is planted to herbicide resistant varieties. The U.S. level is estimated at 92 percent.

United States: Corn planted area for all purposes is estimated at 87.3 million acres, down 7 percent from last year. Despite the decrease, corn planted acreage is the second highest since 1946, behind last year's total of 93.6 million acres. Growers expect to harvest 78.9 million acres for grain, down 9 percent from 2007. If realized, this would be the second highest since 1944, behind last year. Farmers increased corn plantings 1.31 million acres from their March intentions. Planting got off to a slow start across the Corn Belt, Ohio Valley, and the northern half of the Great Plains as frequent precipitation and cool temperatures during March and April prevented spring planting preparations. Corn planting was 27 percent complete on May 4, down 32 points from normal. Despite intermittent showers and below normal temperatures, producers were able to make rapid progress during May, particularly across the upper Midwest and northern Great Plains. Farmers reported that 97 percent of the intended corn acreage had been planted at the time of the survey interview compared with the average of 98 percent for the past 10 years.

Soybean planted area for 2008 is estimated at 74.5 million acres, up 17 percent from last year but 1 percent below the record high acreage in 2006. Area for harvest, at 72.1 million acres, is up 15 percent from 2007. Compared with last year, planted acreage increases are expected in all States, and the U.S. planted area for soybeans is the third largest on record. The largest increase is expected in Nebraska, up 950,000 acres from 2007, followed by Illinois and South Dakota, both up 900,000 acres. Increases of at least 800,000 acres are also expected in Indiana, Iowa, and Minnesota. If realized, the planted acreage in Kansas, New York, and Pennsylvania will be the largest on record. Nationally, farmers reported that 79 percent of the intended soybean acreage had been planted at the time of the survey interview, which is the lowest since 1996.

All wheat planted area is estimated at 63.5 million acres, up 5 percent from 2007. The 2008 winter wheat planted area, at 46.6 million acres, is 4 percent above last year but down slightly from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 31.9 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 11.0 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.7 million acres are White Winter. Area planted to other spring wheat for 2008 is estimated at 14.2 million acres, up 7 percent from 2007. Of this total, about 13.4 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. The Durum planted area for 2008 is 2.66 million acres, up 24 percent from the previous year.

2008 Crop Summary, June 1, Iowa and United States

Crop	Iowa				United States			
	Planted for All Purposes		Harvested for Grain ¹		Planted for All Purposes		Harvested for Grain ¹	
	2007	2008	2007	2008 ²	2007	2008	2007	2008 ²
	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres
Corn, all	14,200	13,700	13,850	12,800	93,600	87,327	86,542	78,940
Oats	145	170	67	75	3,760	3,467	1,505	1,443
Soybeans	8,550	9,400	8,520	8,950	63,631	74,533	62,820	72,121
Hay, all	*	*	1,480	1,450	*	*	61,625	60,439
Alfalfa	*	*	1,140	1,100	*	*	21,760	20,778
All other	*	*	340	350	*	*	39,955	39,661
Winter Wheat	35	45	28	43	44,987	46,605	35,952	40,252

¹ Harvested for principal use of each crop.

² Forecasted.

* Data not available.

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