



INTENDED MINNESOTA SOYBEAN ACREAGE UP 4 PERCENT FROM 2005

(NOTE: The acreage that farmers actually plant in Minnesota and the U.S. may change from those published in this report due to many factors, including availability of credit, commodity prices, changing weather conditions, and the availability of inputs at the time producers must make final planting decisions.)

SOYBEAN growers intend to plant an estimated 7.2 million acres, up 4 percent from the planted acreage in 2005, and down 1 percent from 2004, according to USDA, NASS, Minnesota Field Office.

CORN growers in Minnesota intend to plant an estimated 7.3 million acres for all purposes, unchanged from last year.

SPRING WHEAT planting intentions are estimated at 1.55 million acres, down 14 percent from last year. If realized, spring wheat acreage would be the lowest since 1972.

SUGARBEET planting intentions, of 508,000 acres, are up 17,000 acres from 2005. If realized, sugarbeet acreage would be the largest on record.

OAT planting intentions, at 290,000 acres, are down 6 percent from last year.

BARLEY planting intentions fell 32 percent from last year as farmers intend to plant 85,000 acres. If realized, barley acreage would be the lowest on record.

ALL SUNFLOWER planting intentions, of 95,000 acres, are down 30 percent from 2005. **OIL SUNFLOWER** planting intentions, of 60,000 acres, are down 15,000 acres from 2005. **NON-OIL SUNFLOWER** planting intentions, of 35,000, are down 25,000 acres from last year.

Crop	2005 Planted	2006 Intentions	% change previous year
	-1,000 acres-		Percent
Corn	7,300	7,300	0
Soybeans	6,900	7,200	+4
All Wheat 1/	1,820	1,585	-13
Spring Wheat	1,800	1,550	-14
Winter Wheat 2/	20	35	+75
Oats	310	290	-6
Barley	125	85	-32
Dry Beans	145	115	-21
Sugarbeets	491	508	+3
Flaxseed	13	10	-23
All Sunflower	135	95	-30
Oil	75	60	-20
Non-Oil	60	35	-42
Canola	55	30	-45
All Hay 3/	2,050	2,000	-2

1/ Durum Wheat acres discontinued in 2005 for MN.
 2/ Acres planted in preceding fall.
 3/ Harvested acres.

U.S. HIGHLIGHTS

**Corn Planted Acreage Down 5 Percent from 2005
 Soybean Acreage Up 7 Percent**

Corn growers intend to plant 78.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2006, down 5 percent from 2005 and 4 percent below 2004. If realized, this will be the lowest corn acreage since 2001 when 75.7 million acres were planted for all purposes. Expected acreage is down from last year in most States as producers intend to switch to other less input intensive crops due to high fertilizer and fuel costs. Dry conditions also contributed to lower corn planting intentions in the southern Great Plains.

Soybean producers intend to plant 76.9 million acres in 2006, up 7 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the largest planted area on record. Acreage increases are expected in all growing areas, except in the central and southern Atlantic Coast States and the southern Great Plains. The largest acreage increase is in North Dakota, where record high soybean yields last year and high input costs have some farmers shifting acreage from other crops to soybeans. Large increases in soybean acreage are also expected across the Corn Belt, including 600,000 more acres in Illinois and 500,000 more acres in Indiana.

All wheat planted area is expected to total 57.1 million acres, down slightly from 2005. If realized, this will be the lowest all wheat acreage since 1972. Winter wheat planted area for the 2006 crop is 41.4 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. Of the total, about 29.8 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 7.42 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 4.22 million acres are White Winter. The 2006 other spring wheat planted acreage is expected to total 13.9 million, down 1 percent from 2005. Of the total, about 13.2 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. Intended Durum wheat planted area is 1.83 million acres, down 34 percent from the previous year. If realized, this will be the lowest Durum wheat acreage since 1961.