



NEWS RELEASE

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NEBRASKA'S 2005 CORN CROP SECOND LARGEST, SOYBEANS LARGEST

Lincoln, Neb., January 12, 2006 -- **Corn** for grain production in Nebraska based on year end surveys is estimated at 1.27 billion bushels, down 4 percent from the record high set last year but still the second largest on record, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Yield of 154 bushels per acre is 12 bushels below the record high of 2004. Farmers harvested 8.25 million acres of corn for grain, up 4 percent from a year ago.

Soybean production for 2005 totaled a record high 235 million bushels, up 8 percent from last year and 6 percent above the previous high set in 2001. Yield, at 50.5 bushels per acre, is 4.5 bushels above 2004 and 3.5 bushels above the previous high of 47 bushels per acre in 1994. Area for harvest, at 4.66 million acres, is down 2 percent from 2004.

Sorghum for grain production in 2005 is estimated at 21.8 million bushels, down 33 percent from last year. Yield is estimated at 87 bushels per acre, up 9 bushels from last year. Area harvested for grain was 250,000 acres, down 40 percent from last year and the lowest since 1953.

Hay production totaled 6.95 million tons, up 8 percent from the previous year's crop. Acreage harvested is 2.85 million acres, up 50,000 acres from 2004. Yield, at 2.44 tons per acre, is a record high and up .15 ton from last year. **Alfalfa** production is up 1 percent from a year ago and **all other hay** production up 25 percent. **Hay stocks** on Nebraska farms totaled 4.6 million tons on December 1, 2005, up 5 percent from 2004.

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