



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

100 Centennial Mall North, Room 298, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508
Media Contact: Joseph L. Parsons (402) 437-5541

NEBRASKA'S 2008 CROP PRODUCTION UPDATE

LINCOLN, Neb., October 10, 2008 -- Based on October 1 conditions, Nebraska's **corn** crop is forecast at 1.39 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last month but 5 percent below last year, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Yield is forecast at 161 bushels per acre, four bushels above last month, the second highest of record but 5 bushels below the previous high set in 2004. Area to be harvested for grain was decreased 100,000 acres to 8.65 million, 6 percent below a year ago.

Soybean production is forecast at 233 million bushels, 3 percent above last month, and 18 percent above last year and third highest of record. Area for harvest, at 4.95 million acres, was increased 250,000 acres and is up 29 percent from 2007. Yield is forecast at 47 bushels per acre, down 1 bushel from last month and 4 bushels below the record high set in 2007.

Sorghum yield is forecast at 89 bushels per acre, unchanged from the previous month but down 9 bushels from last year. Due to a decrease in harvested acres, production is forecast at 19.6 million bushels, down 8 percent from last month and 17 percent below a year ago.

Sunflower production is up 44 percent due to increased acreage and yield from a year ago. **Dry edible bean** production is up 22 percent from last year due to increased acres planted and a record high yield forecast. **Sugarbeet** production is down 16 percent from 2007, a result of fewer acres for harvest. **Alfalfa hay** production is forecast to be 10 percent lower than last year and **all other hay** production is down 3 percent compared to a year ago.

Acreage updates to planted and harvested acres were made from levels published in the September Crop Production Report based on a review of administrative data.

Access the National publication for this release at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/CropProd/CropProd-10-10-2008.pdf>

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.nass.usda.gov/.

- # -