



USDA,
National Agricultural Statistics Service,
New Jersey Field Office
P.O. Box 330
Trenton, NJ 08625
Phone: 1(800)328-0179
Fax: 1(800)625-7581
www.nass.usda.gov/nj/

PRESS RELEASE

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NEWS

For Immediate Use

New Jersey's March 1, 2008 Prospective Plantings

As of March 1, 2008, New Jersey farmers expect to plant less acreage of corn, barley, and hay. Soybean growers intend to plant more acreage than 2007.

Corn planted acreage is expected to total 90,000, down 5,000 acres from 2007.

Barley planted acreage is expected to total 2,000, down 1,000 acres from 2007.

All hay acreage intended for harvest is expected to total 110,000, down 5,000 acres from a year ago.

Soybeans planted acreage is expected to total 87,000, up 6,000 acres from last year.

Sweet potato acreage is expected to total 1,200 acres, unchanged from 2007, 2006 and 2005.

Winter wheat seeding for the 2008 season totaled 34,000, the same as December and up 3,000 acres from a year ago.

Prospective Plantings Compared to 2007 Acreage: New Jersey and United States, March 1, 2008

	New Jersey			US		
	2007	2008 ^{1/}	% Change	2007	2008 ^{1/}	% Change
--- 1,000 acres ---			--- 1,000 acres ---			
Barley	3	2	-33	4,020	4,147	3
Corn	95	90	-5	93,600	86,014	-8
Hay, All ^{2/}	115	110	-4	61,625	60,583	-2
Soybeans	81	87	7	63,631	74,793	18
Sweet Potato	1.2	1.2	NC	100.6	103.8	3
Winter Wheat ^{3/}	31	34	10	44,987	46,840	4

^{1/} Intended plantings in 2008 as indicated by reports from farmers.

^{2/} Intended area harvested for 2008 as indicated by reports from farmers.

^{3/} Winter wheat was planted last fall.

NC = No change.