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PRESS RELEASE

August 12, 2009

NEWS

For Immediate Use

New Jersey's Corn and Soybean Crops Exceed Last Year's

New Jersey: Rainy spring weather that interrupted the planting of corn and soybean crops continued through the summer along with mild temperatures resulting in favorable crop projections. Farmers responding to the early August Agricultural Yield Survey anticipated that this year's corn and soybean crops will be larger than last year's crops.

- **Corn for grain** production is estimated at 8.9 million bushels, up 4 percent from last year's crop. The yield is estimated at 129 bushels per acre, 13 bushels more than the 2008 yield. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 69,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from last year.
- **Soybean** production is estimated at 3.1 million bushels, up 17 percent from a year ago. The yield is estimated at 34 bushels per acre, up 5 bushels from last year. Area harvested for soybeans is estimated at 90,000 acres, the same as a year ago.

U.S.: The largest soybean crop and a near record largest corn crop are forecast based on the early August Yield Survey of producers across the country. Although excessive spring moisture delayed planting and cool temperatures slowed emergence and development in major producing areas, the summer's mild temperatures and adequate soil moisture supplies provided very favorable growing conditions.

- **Corn for grain** production is forecast at 12.8 billion bushels, up 5 percent from last year, but down 2 percent from the 2007 record of 13.0 billion bushels. Yields are expected to average 159.5 bushels per acre, up 5.6 bushels from last year. This will be the second highest corn yield on record following the 160.3 bushels realized in 2004.
- **Soybean** production is forecast at a record high 3.2 billion bushels, up 8 percent from last year. Yields are expected to average 41.7 bushels per acre, up 2.1 bushels from last year. This will be the fourth largest soybean yield on record following the yields 43.1 (2005), 42.9 (2006), and 42.2 (2004). Harvested area at 76.8 million acres is the largest on record exceeding by 3 percent the previous record of 74.6 million acres harvested in 2008.

Acreage, Yield, and Production of Corn, Hay, and Soybeans

Crop	Unit	Acres for Harvest		Yield per Acre		Production	
		2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
NEW JERSEY		<i>Thousand Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>		<i>Thousand Bushels</i>	
Corn for Grain	Bu.	74	69	116.0	129.0	8,584	8,901
Soybeans	Bu.	90	90	29.0	34.0	2,610	3,060
UNITED STATES		<i>Thousand Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>		<i>Thousand Bushels</i>	
Corn for Grain	Bu.	78,640	80,007	153.9	159.5	12,101,238	12,760,986
Soybeans	Bu.	74,641	76,767	39.6	41.7	2,959,174	3,199,172

Source: USDA-NASS: *Crop Production*, August 2009

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