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PRESS RELEASE

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NEWS

For Immediate Use

New Jersey's March 1, 2009 Prospective Plantings

As of March 1, 2009, New Jersey farmers expect to plant more acreage of hay, while corn, soybean, and sweet potato acreage remained unchanged from the previous year.

Corn planted acreage is expected to total 85,000, unchanged from 2008.

All hay acreage intended for harvest is expected to total 120,000, up 5,000 acres from a year ago.

Soybeans planted acreage is expected to total 92,000, unchanged acres from last year.

Sweet potato acreage is expected to total 1,200 acres, unchanged from 2008, 2007 and 2006.

Winter wheat seeding for the 2009 season totaled 32,000, the same as December and down 3,000 acres from a year ago.

Prospective Plantings Compared to 2008 Acreage: New Jersey and United States, March 1, 2009

	New Jersey			US		
	2008	2009 ¹	% Change	2008	2009 ^{1/}	% Change
--- 1,000 acres ---			--- 1,000 acres ---			
Barley ²	3			4,234	3,953	-7
Corn	85	85	NC	85,982	84,986	-1
Hay, All ³	115	120	4	60,062	60,297	NC
Soybeans	92	92	NC	75,718	76,024	NC
Sweet Potato	1.2	1.2	NC	102.9	101.9	-1
Winter Wheat ⁴	35	32	-9	46,281	42,889	-7

^{1/} Intended plantings in 2009 as indicated by reports from farmers.

^{2/} Estimates discontinued in 2009.

^{3/} Intended area harvested for 2009 as indicated by reports from farmers.

^{4/} Winter wheat was planted last fall.

NC = No change.