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News Release

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NEW YORK SOYBEAN PRODUCTION UP

Based on conditions as of September 1, New York grain corn production is now expected to total 83.8 million bushels, down 9 percent from the 92.2 million bushels produced in 2008, according to Stephen Ropel, Director of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, New York Field Office. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 630,000 acres, 2 percent less than the 640,000 acres harvested for grain last year. Yields are expected to average 133 bushels per acre, up 2 bushels from the August forecast, but 11 bushels below last year's record high of 144 bushels. U.S. corn production is forecast at 13.0 billion bushels, up 2 percent from last month and 7 percent higher than 2008. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 161.9 bushels per acre, up 2.4 bushels from August and 8.0 bushels above last year. If realized, this will be the highest yield on record and production will be the second largest, behind 2007. Yield forecasts increased from last month across the western Corn Belt and the northern half of the Great Plains as mild temperatures and adequate soil moisture supplies provided favorable growing conditions. Yield prospects were unchanged in the eastern Corn Belt where dry conditions during August depleted soil moisture supplies.

Soybean production in the Empire State is forecast at a record high 10.8 million bushels, up 4 percent from the 10.4 million bushels produced in 2008. Acreage for harvest is also a record high 252,000 acres up 12 percent from the 226,000 acres harvested last year. Yields are expected to be 43 bushels per acre, up 2 bushel from last month, but down 3 bushels from last year. U.S. soybean production is forecast at 3.25 billion bushels, up 1 percent from the August forecast and up 10 percent from last year. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 42.3 bushels per acre, up 0.6 bushel from last month and up 2.7 bushels from 2008. If realized, this will be the third highest yield on record. Compared with last month, yields are forecast higher or unchanged in all states except Indiana, where the yield is expected to be down 2 bushels. The largest increases in yield from the August forecast are expected in Alabama and Maryland, up 5 and 6 bushels, respectively. If realized, the forecasted yield in Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi will be a record high and the forecasted yield in Nebraska, North Carolina, and Ohio will tie the previous record high. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 76.8 million acres, up slightly from June and up 3 percent from 2008.

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