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DRY EDIBLE BEAN PRODUCTION

North Dakota Dry edible bean production in North Dakota is forecast at 7.62 million hundredweight (cwt) for 2006, up 15 percent from the October 1 forecast but 11 percent below last year. This is the second lowest production since the record high 2002 production of 10.6 million cwt. The lowest production since 2002 was 2004's cool and wet growing season and frost reduced crop of 4.75 million cwt. The decrease in production from last year, despite increased acreage, was due to reduced yields caused in part by the hot and dry growing season.

Total planted area, at 670,000 acres, remains the same as October but is up from 2005's 620,000 acres. Harvested area, at 635,000 acres, is up from 630,000 in October and well above last year's 565,000 acres harvested. This is the largest harvested acreage since 2002 when 690,000 acres were harvested from 790,000 acres planted. The statewide average yield for 2006 is 1,200 pounds per harvested acre, up 150 pounds from the October forecast but 320 pounds below last year, which was the highest since 2002. Pintos account for 64.4 percent of the total production, navies 20.8, blacks 6.8, pinks 3.6, all chickpeas (garbanzo) 1.8 and great northern 0.9.

United States Dry edible bean production is forecast at 23.8 million cwt for 2006, virtually unchanged from the October forecast but 11 percent below the revised 2005 production. Harvested acreage is forecast at 1.53 million acres, 2 percent below the last forecast but virtually unchanged from the previous year's revised acreage. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,558 pounds per acre, an increase of 35 pounds from the October forecast but 188 pounds below the revised 2005 yield.

Season's Greetings

As 2006 draws to a close I want to thank the many North Dakota farmers, ranchers, agribusinesses and county agents who have voluntarily supplied information. It is through their efforts that these timely, accurate statistics are available for all agricultural decision makers.

On behalf of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office, I wish you a Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

David Knopf
David Knopf, Director

**Dry Edible Beans: Area Planted, Harvested, Yield and Production
North Dakota and United States, 2005-2006**

Class	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	--- 1,000 Acres ---				-- Pounds --		-- 1,000 Cwt --	
North Dakota								
Navy	90.0	120.0	82.0	113.0	1,620	1,400	1,330	1,585
Great Northern	4.2	7.5	4.0	6.5	1,750	1,080	70	70
Pinto	475.0	453.0	432.0	430.0	1,510	1,140	6,530	4,911
Dark Red Kidney	4.0	2.0	3.8	1.9	1,240	1,630	47	31
Pink	12.0	20.0	10.8	19.0	1,510	1,430	163	271
Small Red	5.5	6.0	5.2	5.7	1,210	1,190	63	68
Black	21.0	46.0	19.5	44.0	1,300	1,180	254	520
Chickpeas, All (Garbanzo)	6.1	13.0	5.7	12.6	1,810	1,060	103	134
Small	4.0	5.5	3.7	5.2	1,700	810	63	42
Large	2.1	7.5	2.0	7.4	2,000	1,240	40	92
Other	2.2	2.5	2.0	2.3	1,400	1,300	28	30
Total	620.0	670.0	565.0	635.0	1,520	1,200	8,588	7,620
United States								
Navy	236.4	280.9	223.4	263.8	1,788	1,612	3,995	4,253
Great Northern	72.8	70.2	71.2	60.5	2,226	1,949	1,585	1,179
Pinto	784.8	692.1	726.1	651.7	1,735	1,473	12,601	9,602
Dark Red Kidney	60.7	48.8	58.0	46.4	1,805	1,769	1,047	821
Pink	37.9	45.3	35.8	43.0	1,849	1,686	662	725
Small Red	50.9	35.5	49.5	34.4	1,824	1,808	903	622
Black	111.6	167.4	107.1	159.3	1,679	1,622	1,798	2,584
Chickpeas, All (Garbanzo)	89.8	133.2	86.3	125.7	1,229	1,058	1,061	1,330
Small	10.5	14.8	9.9	14.0	1,505	907	149	127
Large	79.3	118.4	76.4	111.7	1,194	1,077	912	1,203
Other	185.1	154.8	176.2	145.4	1,771	1,876	3,120	2,727
Total	1,630.0	1,628.2	1,533.6	1,530.2	1,746	1,558	26,772	23,843

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WHEAT OUTLOOK

Projected U.S. Exports Down This Month

Projected U.S. wheat ending stocks for 2006/07 are raised 20 million bushels this month. Exports are lowered 25 million bushels. A 5 million bushel increase in food use based on the most recent mill grind data from the U.S. Census Bureau partly offsets lowered exports. The price range is lowered 10 cents on the top end of the range to \$4.15 to \$4.45 per bushel.

U.S. wheat export prospects were reduced because of increased competing supplies and the slow pace of sales. Wheat production increased 1 million tons for Canada and almost 1 million tons for Argentina, boosting potential competition for U.S. exports during the latter half of 2006/07. Increased foreign production led to an increase in projected global ending stocks.

Changes in Food Use and Exports This Month

Projected total and by class wheat food use and exports are changed from last month. Projected total food use of wheat in 2006/07 is up 5 million bushels from last month based on the milling pace to date provided in the November Census mill grind report. By class food use is adjusted based on relative prices. Hard red winter (HRW) food use is lowered 8 million bushels as hard red spring (HRS) is raised by the same amount. Soft red winter (SRW) food use is raised 5 million bushels.

Compared with 2005/06, wheat food use is up 10 million bushels in 2006/07. Projected food use of SRW, HRS, and durum for 2006/07 is up 10 million bushels, 8 million bushels, and 1 million bushels, respectively. Projected food use of HRW is down 9 million bushels from 2005/06.

Projected U.S. exports for 2006/07 are down 25 million bushels from last month based on the export pace to date and expected increased competition from higher world production and supplies. Projected by class exports are also changed, exports of HRW are down 25 million bushels and HRS and SRW are each down 5 million bushels. White wheat exports are up 10 million bushels.

Compared to 2005/06, total U.S. wheat exports are down 109 million bushels. Projected exports of HRW, HRS, and durum are down 155 million bushels, 22 million bushels, and 17 million bushels, respectively, in 2006/07. Projected exports of SRW and white wheat are up 59 million bushels and 25 million bushels, respectively, in 2006/07.

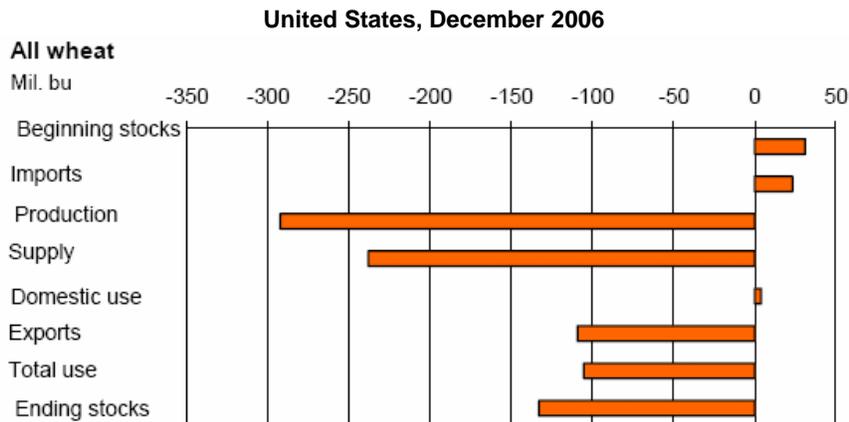
Projected all wheat ending stocks for 2006/07 are 438 million bushels, 133 million bushels less than for 2005/06. Projected ending stocks for every class of wheat are lower in 2006/07 than for 2005/06. Ending stocks of HRW and white are down the most, 57 million bushels and 33 million bushels, respectively. Durum, HRS, and SRW ending stocks are down 21 million bushels, 14 million bushels, and 9 million bushels, respectively. The white wheat ending stocks are the lowest in recent years.

Crop Conditions for the Winter Wheat Crop

National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) *Crop Production* December issue reported that winter wheat planting progressed at a normal pace this year, reaching 96 percent complete by November 12. Progress was at or ahead of normal in most areas but trailed behind in the eastern Corn Belt due to wet field conditions. Emergence also progressed at a near-normal pace. By November 26, 94 percent of the crop had emerged, the same as last year but 1 percentage point ahead of normal. Though progress was at or ahead of normal in most States, Ohio's crop trailed the normal pace by over 2 weeks, while Michigan's crop was over 4 weeks behind.

NASS' November 27 *Crop Progress* reported that condition of the current winter wheat crop is in slightly better condition than for the previous year's crop at this time of the year. Fifty-three percent of the crop is rated good to excellent, slightly higher than last year's 52 percent. Eleven percent of this year's crop is rated poor to very poor, lower than last year's 15 percent. Three States had 20 percent or more of their winter wheat crop rated poor to very poor: Oklahoma (24 percent), Michigan (22 percent), and Ohio (20 percent). Fall crop conditions are not a very reliable indication of next year's production as there is only a weak correlation between final yields and fall crop conditions.

Source: *Wheat Outlook*, USDA-ERS, December 13, 2006



Source: WASDE, World Agricultural Outlook Board, USDA.

POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS

North Dakota

Potato production is estimated at 25.5 million hundredweight (cwt) for 2006, down 2 percent from last month, but up 24 percent from last year. Total planted area is 100,000 acres, up 9 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 98,000 acres, is up 20 percent from last year. The average yield is forecast at 260 cwt per harvested acre, down 5 cwt per acre from last month, but up 10 cwt per acre from last year. This is the second highest yield on record.

Russet potatoes account for 46,000 acres or 46.9 percent of the total harvested acres, up from last year's 37,000 acres. Whites increased to 30,000 acres harvested, 30.6 percent of the total harvested acres. Reds increased to 22,000 acres harvested, 22.5 percent of the total harvested acres. Last year whites totaled 26,000 acres and reds were 19,000 acres.

Of the total production, russet potatoes account for 63.2 percent, whites 21.8 percent and reds 15.0 percent. Last year russets accounted for 62.3 percent of the total production, while whites accounted for 22.2 percent and reds accounted for 15.5 percent.

United States

Production of fall potatoes for 2006 is forecast at 392 million cwt, up less than 1 percent from last month and 2 percent above last year. Area harvested, at 976,400 acres, is virtually unchanged from November but increased 3 percent from last year. The average yield is forecast at 401 cwt per acre, up 1 cwt from last month but 2 cwt below the record high set last year.

**Fall Potatoes: Acreage, Production and Stocks By Type
North Dakota, 2005-2006**

Item	Planted	Harvested	Yield	Production	Dec 1 Stocks
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
2005					
Reds	23,500	19,000	168	3,185	1,820
Whites	29,500	26,000	175	4,550	3,080
Russets	39,000	37,000	345	12,765	9,100
Total	92,000	82,000	250	20,500	14,000
2006					
Reds	22,500	22,000	174	3,830	2,590
Whites	30,500	30,000	185	5,550	3,290
Russets	47,000	46,000	350	16,100	11,420
Total	100,000	98,000	260	25,480	17,300

**Fall Potatoes: Acreage, Production and Stocks ^{1/}
13 Major States and United States, December 1, 2005-2006**

State	Acres Planted		Acres Harvested		Yield per Harvested Acre		Production		Total Stocks	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>	<i>1,000 Cwt</i>
North Dakota	92.0	100.0	82.0	98.0	250	260	20,500	25,480	14,000	17,300
California	7.6	7.8	7.6	7.8	435	485	3,306	3,783	1,600	1,800
Colorado	58.2	59.9	58.0	59.7	395	380	22,910	22,686	17,200	17,200
Idaho	325.0	330.0	323.0	328.0	366	371	118,288	121,820	85,000	84,000
Maine	57.5	58.5	56.2	58.0	275	315	15,455	18,270	12,500	14,700
Michigan	43.0	43.5	42.8	43.0	325	330	13,910	14,190	7,900	8,200
Minnesota	46.0	51.0	43.0	48.0	410	425	17,630	20,400	13,500	12,000
Montana	10.7	10.6	10.6	10.5	325	325	3,445	3,413	3,400	3,400
Nebraska	19.5	19.5	19.4	19.3	425	445	8,245	8,589	5,600	5,800
New York	20.5	20.6	20.1	19.0	260	300	5,226	5,700	2,900	2,800
Oregon	37.3	35.0	37.1	35.0	594	530	22,023	18,533	19,000	16,000
Washington	154.0	156.0	154.0	155.0	620	580	95,480	89,900	52,500	49,000
Wisconsin	68.0	66.0	68.0	66.0	410	445	27,880	29,370	18,700	20,100
13 State Total							374,298	382,134	253,800	252,300
United States	967.7	987.9	949.0	976.4	403	401	382,743	391,902		

^{1/} Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2006 totaled 25.6 million cwt.

POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS (Continued)

North Dakota

Growers, dealers and processors held 17.3 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2006, up 24 percent from a year ago, but 12 percent below 2004. Current stocks represent 68 percent of the production, almost the same as a year ago, but down from 73 percent in 2004. Total stocks are defined as all potatoes on hand, regardless of use, including those that will be lost through future shrinkage and dumping.

United States

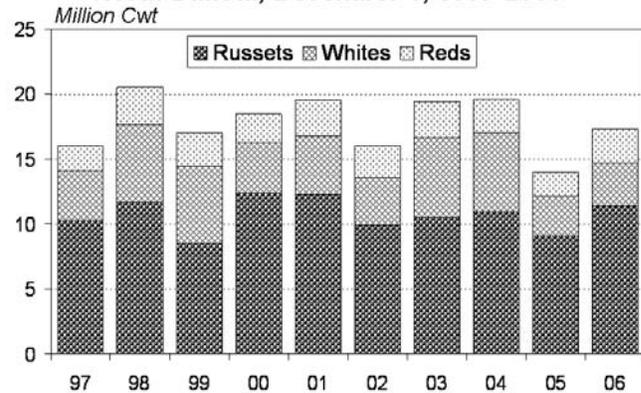
The 13 major potato states held 252 million cwt of potatoes in storage December 1, 2006, down 1 percent from last year and 6 percent below December 1, 2004, for comparable states. Potatoes in storage account for 66 percent of the 2006 fall storage states' production, down 2 percent from last year. Klamath Basin stocks have been added to the potato stocks program starting with December 2006. Klamath Basin includes California and Klamath County, Oregon. Stocks by type were 4 percent reds, 10 percent round whites, 2 percent long whites (Shepody) and 84 percent russet, with more reds and russets than a year ago for comparable states.

**Fall Potatoes: Stocks by Type as Percent of Total Stocks
10 Selected States, December 1, 2005-2006**

State	Potato Types							
	Reds		Round Whites		Long Whites		Russets	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>	<i>Pct</i>
North Dakota	13	15	18	17	4	2	65	66
Colorado	4	3	11	13			85	84
Idaho	3	2			2	2	95	96
Maine	2	3	42	37	3		53	60
Michigan	1	1	87	87			12	12
Minnesota	7	12	6	4		2	87	82
New York	5	5	90	90			5	5
Oregon	1	1	1	2	2	2	96	95
Washington	1	2	1	1	5	5	93	92
Wisconsin	4	4	38	14			58	82
10 State Avg	3	4	12	10	2	2	83	84



**Fall Potatoes: Stocks by Type
North Dakota, December 1, 1997-2006**



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