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PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

North Dakota Spring wheat producers intend to plant an estimated 6.80 million acres, down 500,000 acres from 2006. Area planted to durum wheat is expected to total 1.40 million acres, up 8 percent from last year. Barley producers intend to plant an estimated 1.30 million acres, up 18 percent from the record low acreage planted last year.

Corn growers intend to plant an estimated 2.60 million acres, up 54 percent from 2006. Soybean growers intend to plant 3.10 million acres, down 21 percent from last year's record high of 3.90 million acres.

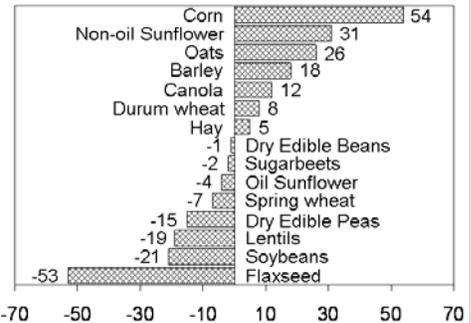
Canola planting intentions are 1.05 million acres, up 12 percent from 2006. Dry edible bean acreage intentions were estimated at 660,000 acres, down 1 percent from last year. Oil sunflower planting intentions are 740,000 acres, down 4 percent from 2006. Non-oil sunflower is expected to total 170,000 acres, up 31 percent from last year. Sugarbeet growers expect to plant an estimated 257,000 acres, down 2 percent from last year.

United States Spring wheat growers intend to plant 13.8 million acres this year, down 7 percent from 2006. Area seeded to durum wheat is expected to total 1.99 million acres, up 6 percent from 2006. Barley growers intend to plant 3.70 million acres for 2007, up 7 percent from last year.

Corn growers intend to plant 90.5 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2007, up 15 percent from 2006 and 11 percent higher than 2005. Soybean growers intend to plant an estimated 67.1 million acres in 2007, down 11 percent from the acreage planted in 2006.

Canola producers intend to plant 1.17 million acres in 2007, up 12 percent from 2006 and up less than 1 percent from 2005. Dry edible bean growers intend to plant 1.50 million acres in 2007, down 8 percent from both last year and 2005. Sunflower growers expect to plant a total of 1.80 million acres in 2007, down 8 percent from last year. Area intended for oil type varieties, at 1.47 million acres, is down 12 percent from 2006, but the non-oil varieties, estimated at 334,000 acres, are up 14 percent from last year.

Prospective Plantings: Percent Change from 2006, North Dakota, March 2007



Prospective Plantings: Area Planted North Dakota and United States, 2005-2007

Crop	North Dakota				United States			
	2005	2006	Indicated 2007	2007 as % of 2006	2005	2006	Indicated 2007	2007 as % of 2006
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley	1,200	1,100	1,300	118	3,875	3,452	3,703	107
Corn, All	1,410	1,690	2,600	154	81,779	78,327	90,454	115
Hay, All ^{1/}	3,030	2,720	2,850	105	61,729	60,807	63,056	104
Oats	490	420	530	126	4,246	4,168	4,029	97
Wheat, All	9,090	8,800	8,570	97	57,229	57,344	60,303	105
Winter	310	200	370	185	40,433	40,575	44,505	110
Durum	1,980	1,300	1,400	108	2,760	1,870	1,990	106
Spring	6,800	7,300	6,800	93	14,036	14,899	13,808	93
Canola	1,040	940	1,050	112	1,159	1,044	1,168	112
Flaxseed	890	750	350	47	983	813	390	48
Soybeans	2,950	3,900	3,100	79	72,032	75,522	67,140	89
Sunflower, All	1,140	900	910	101	2,709	1,950	1,799	92
Oil	910	770	740	96	2,104	1,658	1,465	88
Non-Oil	230	130	170	131	605	292	334	114
Sugarbeets	255	261	257	98	1,299.8	1,366.7	1,294.7	95
Dry Edible Beans, All	620.0	670.0	660.0	99	1,630.0	1,629.8	1,504.5	92
Chickpeas, All (Garbanzo)	6.1	13.0	14.0	108	89.8	136.8	125.5	92
Small	4.0	7.5	6.0	80	10.5	17.4	17.0	98
Large	2.1	5.5	8.0	145	79.3	119.4	108.5	91
Dry Edible Peas	540	610	520	85	808.0	925.5	902.0	97
Lentils	150	160	130	81	450	429	340	79

^{1/} Acreage for harvest.

GRAIN STOCKS

North Dakota

All wheat stored in all positions in North Dakota on March 1, 2007 totaled 109.5 million bushels. This is down 23 percent from a year ago. All wheat stocks include durum, spring and winter wheat. Durum wheat stocks in all positions totaled 20.5 million bushels, down 49 percent from a year ago and the lowest March 1 level since stocks estimates began in 1970. On-farm stocks, at 13.0 million bushels, are down from 30.0 million bushels a year ago.

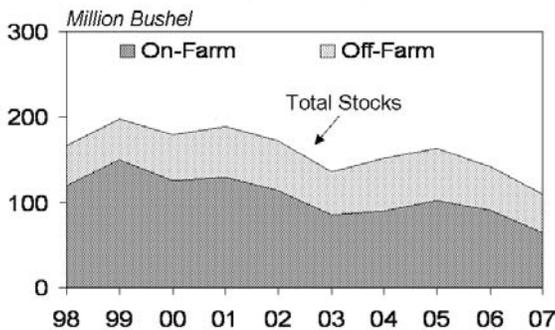
Barley stocks in all positions totaled 27.4 million bushels, down 34 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are 10.5 million bushels, down 54 percent from March 1, 2006. Corn stocks in all positions totaled 65.3 million bushels, down 20 percent from last year's record high 81.9 million bushels. Of the total stocks, 37.0 million bushels are stored on farms, down from 57.0 million bushels last year. Soybean stocks in

all positions totaled 46.1 million bushels, up 13 percent from a year ago and a March 1 record high. On-farm stocks totaled 25.0 million bushels on March 1, 2007, down from last year's record high 26.0 million bushels.

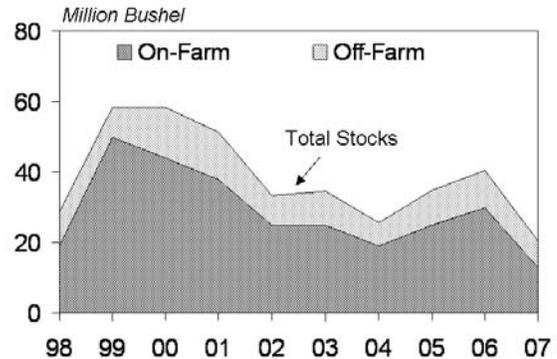
United States

All wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 856 million bushels, down 12 percent from a year ago. Durum wheat stocks in all positions on March 1 totaled 38.7 million bushels, down 41 percent from a year ago. Barley stocks in all positions totaled 117 million bushels, down 30 percent from March 1, 2006. Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 6.07 billion bushels, down 13 percent from March 1, 2006. Soybeans stored in all positions on March 1 totaled 1.78 billion bushels, up 7 percent from a year ago.

**All Wheat Stocks
North Dakota, March 1, 1998-2007**



**Durum Wheat Stocks
North Dakota, March 1, 1998-2007**



**Stocks: By Position, Current and Previous Quarter
North Dakota and United States, 2006-2007**

Crop	Date	North Dakota			United States		
		On Farm	Off Farm ^{1/}	Total All Positions	On Farm	Off Farm ^{1/}	Total All Positions
		1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels
Wheat, All ^{2/}	Mar 1, 2006	91,000	50,800	141,800	256,000	716,215	972,215
	Dec 1, 2006	130,000	49,000	179,000	403,250	911,408	1,314,658
	Mar 1, 2007	64,000	45,500	109,500	192,450	663,320	855,770
Durum Wheat	Mar 1, 2006	30,000	10,200	40,200	39,700	25,795	65,495
	Dec 1, 2006	19,000	7,000	26,000	25,900	25,438	51,338
	Mar 1, 2007	13,000	7,500	20,500	17,100	21,636	38,736
Barley	Mar 1, 2006	23,000	18,300	41,300	68,400	98,354	166,754
	Dec 1, 2006	25,000	16,700	41,700	83,650	89,171	172,821
	Mar 1, 2007	10,500	16,900	27,400	38,310	78,850	117,160
Oats	Mar 1, 2006	8,000	830	8,830	42,200	32,673	74,873
	Dec 1, 2006	8,000	840	8,840	53,000	45,889	98,889
	Mar 1, 2007	5,200	750	5,950	33,900	37,127	71,027
Corn	Mar 1, 2006	57,000	24,900	81,900	4,055,000	2,932,328	6,987,328
	Dec 1, 2006	79,000	32,000	111,000	5,627,000	3,305,707	8,932,707
	Mar 1, 2007	37,000	28,300	65,300	3,330,000	2,739,692	6,069,692
Soybeans	Mar 1, 2006	26,000	14,800	40,800	872,000	797,206	1,669,206
	Dec 1, 2006	57,000	32,800	89,800	1,461,000	1,240,366	2,701,366
	Mar 1, 2007	25,000	21,100	46,100	910,000	874,276	1,784,276
All Sunflower	Mar 1, 2006	525,000	415,800	940,800	793,429	844,236	1,637,665
	Mar 1, 2007	259,000	362,800	621,800	405,600	689,379	1,094,979
Oil Sunflower	Mar 1, 2006	415,000	324,000	739,000	626,620	619,553	1,246,173
	Mar 1, 2007	205,000	241,700	446,700	323,780	467,054	790,834
Non-oil Sunflower	Mar 1, 2006	110,000	91,800	201,800	166,809	224,683	391,492
	Mar 1, 2007	54,000	121,100	175,100	81,820	222,325	304,145

^{1/} Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors. ^{2/} Includes durum, other spring and winter.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

North Dakota

The Index of Prices Received for All Farm Products in March is 129 percent of the 1990-1992 base. This is up 16 percent from last year and 15 percent above two years ago. The All Crops Index, at 133 percent of the base, is up 23 percent from March 2006 while the All Livestock and Products Index, at 118 percent, is down 6 percent from last year.

United States

The March All Farm Products Index is 133 percent of its 1990-92 base, up 4 percent from the February index and 18 percent above the March 2006 index. The All Crops Index is 144, up 4 percent from February and 22 percent above March 2006. The Livestock and Products Index, at 125, is 4 percent above last month and up 14 percent from March 2006.

Index Numbers of Farm Prices North Dakota and United States, March 2007

Indexes and Ratios	North Dakota			United States		
	Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007
Prices Received	(1990-92 = 100)					
All Farm Products	111	127	129	113	128	133
Crops	106	132	133	118	138	144
Food Grains	117	150	153	124	154	154
Feed Grains & Hay	94	138	143	98	150	149
Oil Bearing Crops ^{1/}	99	124	125	100	123	123
Potatoes & Dry Beans ^{2/}	112	110	106	135	125	145
Livestock and Products	125	114	118	110	120	125
Meat Animals	127	114	118	115	115	118
Dairy Products	132	130	132	96	114	119
Other Livestock Products ^{3/}	101	100	101	113	139	146
Prices Paid	NA	NA	NA	147	153	155
Ratio ^{4/}	NA	NA	NA	77	84	86

1/ Includes non-oil sunflower. 2/ North Dakota includes sugarbeets. 3/ United States excludes wool. 4/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received to Index of Prices Paid. NA=Not applicable.

Prices Received by Farmers North Dakota and United States, March 2007

Item	Unit	North Dakota			United States			Effective U.S. Parity Price Mar 2007
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary	
		Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Mar 2006	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	
		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	
Wheat, All	Bu	3.67	4.71	4.77	3.79	4.71	4.75	10.70
Durum	Bu	3.37	5.22	5.30	3.39	5.16	5.33	NA
Spring	Bu	3.81	4.64	4.65	3.85	4.73	4.78	NA
Winter	Bu	3.27	4.39	4.40	3.82	4.67	4.66	NA
Corn	Bu	1.84	3.07	3.15	2.06	3.44	3.36	7.94
Oats	Bu	1.78	2.17	2.00	1.82	2.34	2.24	4.44
Barley, All	Bu	2.20	2.89	3.15	2.70	3.10	3.27	7.48
Feed	Bu	1.63	2.85	3.00	1.80	3.17	3.21	NA
Malting	Bu	2.40	2.90	3.20	2.92	3.08	3.29	NA
Sunflower, All	Cwt	11.60	14.70	15.30	11.50	14.90	15.40	34.30
Oil	Cwt	10.40	14.40	14.80	NA	NA	NA	NA
Non-oil	Cwt	18.10	16.70	17.90	NA	NA	NA	NA
Baled Hay, All ^{1/}	Ton	48.00	67.00	66.00	97.50	114.00	117.00	NA
Alfalfa ^{1/}	Ton	51.00	70.00	70.00	100.00	117.00	120.00	NA
Other ^{1/}	Ton	36.00	49.00	52.00	90.10	105.00	108.00	NA
Canola	Cwt	9.79	13.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	28.30
Flaxseed	Bu	5.31	6.40	6.45	5.31	6.40	6.45	17.40
Soybeans	Bu	5.21	6.40	6.50	5.57	6.87	6.85	17.60
Dry Edible Beans, All	Cwt	14.60	22.60	23.70	17.10	25.30	25.70	56.20
Navy	Cwt	17.40	19.30	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pinto	Cwt	14.20	22.90	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Potatoes, All	Cwt	7.75	6.15	6.15	8.50	7.23	8.52	16.90
Fresh ^{2/}	Cwt	13.90	6.80	NA	13.78	9.20	NA	NA
Processing	Cwt	6.25	5.75	NA	5.74	6.16	NA	NA
Beef Cattle	Cwt	98.40	88.40	92.00	87.90	86.60	91.40	210.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	106.00	95.40	100.00	92.80	91.50	97.20	NA
Cows	Cwt	52.00	48.50	50.00	49.50	47.00	46.90	NA
Calves	Cwt	132.00	107.00	115.00	139.00	117.00	123.00	302.00
Sheep	Cwt	36.00	35.00	NA	40.10	36.50	NA	101.00
Lambs	Cwt	99.00	96.00	NA	92.10	95.40	NA	246.00
Hogs	Cwt	44.70	47.40	NA	42.80	47.30	45.40	121.00

1/ Alfalfa, other and all hay are preliminary prices only. 2/ Fresh market prices only, includes table stock. NA=Not applicable.

RURAL AMERICA AT A GLANCE

From 2000 to 2005, the nonmetro population in the United States grew by 2.2 percent. International migration supplied nearly a third of the growth in nonmetro areas, and accounted for all nonmetro population growth in the Midwest. Growth was concentrated in nonmetro counties adjacent to metro areas.

The nonmetro population is aging, like the U.S. population as a whole, with implications for health care, housing, and transportation. Between 2000 and 2005, the nonmetro population 40-59 years old grew by 8 percent, while the nonmetro population under 20 years of age declined by 5 percent.

Following a short recession between March and November 2001, and a subsequent period of economic growth without employment growth, the United States has undergone a broad-based economic expansion since 2003, with employment growth occurring in sectors representing more than 80 percent of total U.S. employment. As a result, U.S. employment grew between 2004 and 2005, particularly in the West and the metro South, and unemployment rates were the lowest since the 2001 recession. However, 46 percent of nonmetro counties were still below their 2000 employment levels in 2005. After a decline of more than 15 percent between 2000 and 2003 in both metro and nonmetro areas, manufacturing employment in early 2006 remained relatively stable for the third year in a row.

International Migration Contributes to Recent Population Growth in Nonmetro Areas

Between 2000 and 2005, nonmetro America added 1.1 million residents to its population, a 2.2 percent increase, yielding a 2005 population of 49.9 million. This growth rate is about a third lower than the growth rate of the previous 5 years and much lower than the metro rate for the same period (6.0 percent).

- Half of all nonmetro counties declined in population from 2000 to 2005. However, declining counties are usually sparsely settled and, as a result, contain only 34 percent of

the nonmetro population. These counties are prevalent in farming-dependent areas of the Great Plains and western Corn Belt, but also in areas dependent on industrial work.

- Nonmetro population growth since 2000 has been evenly divided between natural increase—an excess of births over deaths (541,000)—and net immigration (545,000). Three-fifths of the immigration (322,000) is accounted for by immigrants from abroad. The rest (223,000) originated from metro areas, as more people have moved to rural and small-town places than away from them.
- Between 2000 and 2005, population growth in the Midwest resulted entirely from international migration, because population growth from natural increase (births minus deaths) was completely offset by domestic outmigration of mostly young adults. In addition, international migration contributed between 18 and 28 percent of total nonmetro population growth for the West, South, and Northeast.
- Indiana, Oklahoma, Alabama, and New Mexico had the largest percentage gains in nonmetro population from international migration between 2000 and 2005.
- The largest nonmetro population increases between 2000 and 2005 occurred in North Carolina, Florida, Georgia, and Texas. The fastest growth rates were in Delaware, Nevada, Florida, and Hawaii.
- The largest nonmetro population losses between 2000 and 2005 occurred in Kansas, Iowa, Illinois, and North Dakota.
- Population increases in the 1990s produced so many new metro areas and new suburban commuting counties attached to existing metro areas that more than half of the 2,051 current nonmetro counties now adjoin a metro area. Metro adjacency is highly associated with growth—89 percent of the total 2000-05 nonmetro population increase occurred in counties adjacent to metro areas.

Nonmetro Population Change, 2000-2005

Largest Growth		Fastest Growth Rate (Percent)		Largest Loss	
North Carolina	111,308	Delaware	12.7	Kansas	-28,392
Florida	110,471	Nevada	11.9	Iowa	-21,697
Georgia	84,336	Florida	10.9	Illinois	-18,673
Texas	77,724	Hawaii	10.3	North Dakota	-17,866

Source: Calculated by ERS using Census Bureau 2005 population estimates.

Source: Rural America At A Glance, USDA-ERS, August 2006
www.ers.usda.gov/publications/eib18/eib18.pdf

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