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National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pennsylvania's September Yield Forecast

HARRISBURG, PA, Sep 13, 2007 - - Based on crop conditions as of September 1, estimates of Pennsylvania's 2007 production of Maryland-type tobacco and Pennsylvania seedleaf tobacco are expected to be above last year, while production of corn for grain, soybeans, and Burley tobacco is expected to be lower than a year ago according to the Pennsylvania field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

The corn for grain yield is estimated at 110 bushels per acre, unchanged from the August 1 forecast, but down 12 bushels from last year's average yield of 122 bushels per acre. With acreage for harvest currently estimated at 1,000,000, the resulting production is expected to be 110.0 million bushels, down 6 percent from a year ago.

The soybean yield is estimated at 39 bushels per acre, unchanged from the August 1 forecast, but down 1 bushel from last year's yield of 40 bushels per acre. With acreage for harvest currently estimated at 435,000, the resulting production is expected to be 16.97 million bushels, down just slightly from last year.

The Maryland-type tobacco yield was estimated at 2,100 pounds per acre, 200 pounds per acre more than a year ago. With acreage for harvest estimated at 1,100, the resulting production of 2.3 million pounds will be 10 percent above last year. The Pennsylvania seedleaf tobacco yield was estimated at 2,250 pounds per acre, up 250 pounds per acre from last year. With acreage for harvest estimated at 1,800 acres, the resulting production of 4.05 million pounds would be 56 percent above last year. The burley tobacco yield is estimated at 2,150 pounds per acre. With acres for harvest estimated at 5,000, the resulting production would be 10.75 million pounds which is a 7 percent decrease from the previous year.

Corn production in the United States is forecast at 13.3 billion bushels, up 2 percent from last month, and 26 percent above 2006. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 155.8 bushels per acre, up 3.0 bushels from August, and 6.7 bushels above last year. If realized, this would be the second highest yield on record, behind the 160.4 bushel yield in 2004. Production would be the largest on record as growers expect to harvest the most corn acres for grain since 1933. Expected yields are higher than last month across the northern and central Great Plains and Corn Belt where heavy rainfall during the month provided much-needed moisture for the crop. Yield forecasts in the southern Great Plains and Delta are also higher than last month as early harvest results are better than anticipated. Yields are unchanged or lower than August across much of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states.

Soybean production is forecast at 2.62 billion bushels, down slightly from the August forecast and down 18 percent from last year's record high. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 41.4 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushel from last month and down 1.3 bushels from last year. Compared with last month, yields are forecast lower across the central Corn Belt, the Tennessee Valley, and the Southeast. Hot, dry conditions contributed to most of the decline, especially in Kentucky and Tennessee, down 8 bushels and 9 bushels from last month, respectively. However, yields increased from the August 1 forecast in the northern Great Plains and northwestern Corn Belt, as beneficial rains fell during the month of August.

Tobacco production is forecast at 718 million pounds, 7 percent below the August 1 forecast and down 1 percent from 2006. Area for harvest is forecast at 355,070 acres, virtually unchanged from the previous forecast, but 5 percent above last year. Yields for 2007 are expected to average 2,023 pounds per acre, 166 pounds lower than the August forecast, and 121 pounds below a year ago.

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