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News Release

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SOUTH CAROLINA EXPECTED PECAN PRODUCTION UP

Based on October 1, 2008 conditions, South Carolina's **PECAN** crop is expected to total 2,500,000 pounds, up from 2,000,000 pounds last year according to the USDA NASS, South Carolina Field Office. Growers expect to harvest 1,800,000 pounds of Improved varieties and 700,000 pounds of the Native and Seedling varieties. Harvest and production are up due to traditional alternate bearing patterns.

FORECAST OF U.S. PECAN PRODUCTION DOWN

The October 1, 2008 forecast of pecan production is 204 million pounds (in-shell basis), down 47 percent from last year's crop and 2 percent below 2006. Improved varieties are expected to produce 171 million pounds or 84 percent of the total, while native and seedling varieties, at 32.8 million pounds, make up the remaining 16 percent. The 2008 crop is expected to be smaller than last year's in most producing States mainly because it is an off year in the alternate bearing pattern typical of pecans. However, production is forecast higher than last year in Kansas and Missouri because trees have recovered from the severe Easter 2007 freeze, while North Carolina and South Carolina weather conditions have been much more favorable than last season.