



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
South Dakota Field Office • Sioux Falls, SD



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CORN ACRES EXPECTED TO DROP; SOYBEAN ACRES INCREASE

SIoux FALLS, March 31, 2006 -- Producers in South Dakota intend to plant 50,000 fewer acres of corn but 100,000 more acres of soybeans than last year, according to the South Dakota office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. These intentions are based on a March 1 survey. Any planting changes due to weather or other factors will be accounted for when actual plantings are obtained in early June.

Corn plantings in South Dakota for 2006 are expected to be 4.40 million acres, down 1 percent from 2005.

Soybean plantings are expected to total 4.00 million acres, up 3 percent from a year ago.

All hay harvested acreage is estimated at 4.00 million acres, unchanged from last year.

Winter wheat acres seeded last fall totaled 1.35 million acres, down 13 percent from a year earlier.

Other spring wheat seeding intentions are at 1.70 million acres, down 3 percent from 2005.

Durum wheat seeding intentions, at 15,000 acres, are unchanged from last year.

Sunflower acreage is expected to total 495,000 acres, down 10 percent from last year. **Oil sunflowers** will account for 450,000 acres, down 10 percent from 2005. **Non-oil sunflowers** account for 45,000 acres, also down 10 percent from 2005.

Sorghum planted acreage is expected to total 240,000 acres, up 33 percent from last year.

Oats to be seeded, estimated at 410,000 acres, are up 8 percent from 2005.

Barley seedings, estimated at 60,000 acres, are down 5,000 acres from 2005, and would be a record low acres seeded.

Flax seedings, estimated at 15,000 acres, are down 10,000 acres from 2005.

Dry edible bean planting intentions, estimated at 17,000 acres, are down 500 acres from last year.

Access this complete report at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/field/pcp-bbp/pspl0306.pdf>