



# News Release

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## **RECORD CORN PRODUCTION IN 2007**

**SIOUX FALLS, January 11, 2008** – Final 2007 soybean production was up from the November forecast while the corn production estimate decreased slightly from the November forecast but is still a record, according to the year-end estimates compiled and released by the South Dakota Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

**Corn for grain** production totaled a record 544.5 million bushels in South Dakota, down 2 percent from the November forecast but up 74 percent from 2006. This compares to the previous record of 540 million bushels in 2004. Yield, at 121 bushels per acre, is down 4 bushels from November but up 24 bushels from last year. Producers harvested 4.5 million acres of grain for 2007, up 40 percent from 2006.

**Soybean** production in 2007 totaled 133.56 million bushels in South Dakota, up 6 percent from the November forecast and up 2 percent from last year's production. The average yield was 42 bushels per acre, up 8 bushels from last year. The yield is a record high. Harvested acres, at 3.18 million, were down 17 percent from 2006. Planted acres were down 19 percent from 2006, at 3.2 million.

**All hay** production is estimated at 7.54 million tons, up 80 percent from 2006. The average yield at 1.99 tons per acre is up 0.64 tons from 2006. Acres harvested were up 700,000 from 2006 to 3.8 million. **Alfalfa hay** production, at 5.06 million tons, was up 76 percent from 2006. Alfalfa hay had an average yield of 2.25 tons per acre, compared to 1.6 tons per acre in 2006. Harvested acres were up 450,000 from last year, to 2.25 million. **All other hay** production totaled 2.48 million tons, up 91 percent from last year, and had an average yield of 1.6 ton per acre. Harvested acres, at 1.55 million, were up 250,000 acres from last year. New seedings of alfalfa in 2007 totaled 150,000 acres in South Dakota, down 21 percent from 2006. Newly seeded acres are normally harvested for dry hay for the first time the following year.

**Sorghum for grain** production in 2007 totaled 8.06 million bushels, up 7 percent from the November forecast and up 180 percent from 2006. Average yield, at 62.0 bushels per acre, was 26 bushels above last year. Harvested acres, at 130,000, were up 63 percent from 2006. Planted acres, at 210,000, were down 5 percent from last year.

**All sunflower** production in 2007 totaled 640.84 million pounds, up 46 percent from last year. Average yield, at 1,567 pounds per acre, was 590 pounds higher than last year. Planted and harvested acres totaled 415,000 and 409,000, respectively. **Oil sunflower** production, at 606.84 million pounds, represented 95 percent of the total. Oil sunflowers had a yield of 1,560 pounds per acre, with 389,000 acres harvested. **Non-oil sunflower** production totaled 34.0 million pounds and had a yield of 1,700 pounds per acre from 20,000 acres harvested.

**Proso millet** grain production in 2007 totaled 3.88 million bushels, up 60 percent from 2006. The average yield of 31.0 bushels per acre was up 9 bushels from a year earlier. Harvested acres, at 125,000, were up 14 percent from 2006, while acres planted, at 155,000, were unchanged from 2006.

Total forage production from alfalfa and other hay acres was 7.69 million tons in 2007. Dry hay production in South Dakota of 7.54 million tons represents 98 percent of the total forage produced. Two percent (or .14 million ton) was haylage and greenchop.

*Access this complete report at:*

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/CropProdSu/CropProdSu-01-11-2008.pdf>