



News Release

Media Contact: South Dakota Field Office, 605-323-6500, Email: nass-sd@nass.usda.gov

SOUTH DAKOTA'S CORN ACRES DOWN, SOYBEANS UP

SIoux FALLS, June 30, 2008 -- Corn planted acres in South Dakota for 2008 total 4.65 million, down 7 percent (350,000 ac) from last year, according to the South Dakota office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Acres for grain are forecasted at 4.2 million, down 7 percent (300,000 ac) from last year's crop. Biotechnology varieties were used on 95 percent of acres planted, compared to 93 percent a year ago. Nationally, 80 percent of the acreage was seeded with biotechnology varieties in 2008, up from 73 percent last year.

Soybean planted acres in South Dakota for 2008 total 4.1 million, up 28 percent (900,000 ac) from last year. Biotechnology varieties were planted on 97 percent of the soybean acres in South Dakota, unchanged from last year. In the United States, 92 percent of the soybean acreage was seeded with biotechnology seed, up from 91 percent last year.

Winter wheat acreage seeded last fall totaled 1.9 million, down 10 percent from last year's record of 2.1 million acres. Acres intended for harvest, based on June 1 conditions, are expected to be 1.72 million, down 30,000 acres from the May 1 estimate. This is down 13 percent from last year's harvested acreage of 1.98 million.

Other spring wheat plantings totaled 1.65 million acres, up 18 percent from last year. Acres intended for harvest at 1.55 million acres, are up 16 percent from 2007. **Durum wheat** plantings totaled 10,000 acres, up 1,000 acres from last year, with 9,000 acres intended to be harvested for grain.

All sunflower acres, at 460,000 planted, are up 11 percent from 2007 acreage levels. **Oil sunflower** acres account for 410,000 acres, up 4 percent from last year. **Non-oil sunflower** acres planted, at 50,000, are up 150 percent from last year.

Oats, at 220,000 acres planted, are down 33 percent from last year. Producers intend to harvest 110,000 acres for grain, 12 percent fewer acres than were harvested in 2007. **Sorghum**, at 170,000 acres planted, is down 19 percent from last year. **Proso millet** seedings totaled 110,000 acres, down 29 percent from last year.

Barley planted acreage totaled 70,000 acres, up 25 percent from last year. **Flaxseed** plantings, at 10,000 acres, are up 1,000 acres from last year's record low of 9,000 acres.

All hay harvested acres are expected to total 3.7 million, down 3 percent from last year. **Alfalfa hay** is expected to be harvested from 2.1 million acres, down 7 percent from last year. **Other hay** is expected to be harvested from 1.6 million acres, up 3 percent from last year.

This report is based on a statewide survey of producers conducted between May 30th and June 15th, and reflects acreage as of June 1. Updated harvested acreage and forecasted yields will be published during the growing season.

Access this complete report at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/nass/Acre//2000s/2008/Acre-06-30-2008.pdf>