



Tennessee News Release

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

RAINS ARRIVE TOO LATE TO HELP FALL CROPS

NASHVILLE, November 9, 2007 – Tennessee farmers took advantage of mostly dry weather during October to make excellent harvest progress. As of November 1, corn and tobacco harvest had been completed, cotton was nearing completion, and less than a quarter of the soybeans acreage remained to be harvested. Although rainfall was abundant during the latter part of October, crops had already passed the development stage where the precipitation provided much help. The rainfall did help to green-up pastures and recharge ponds, however. The results of a November 1 survey of farmers conducted by the Tennessee Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service showed the following: **Corn**, 108 bushels per acre, down 17 bushels from a year earlier; **Cotton**, 601 pounds per acre, down 344 pounds from last year; **Soybeans**, 20 bushels per acre, 19 bushels below the previous year.

COTTON AT LOWEST LEVEL SINCE 1999

Tennessee's cotton production is forecast at 620,000 bales, less than half of the record crop from a year ago and the lowest output since 1999. Cotton yields are expected to average 601 pounds per acre, down 344 pounds from a year ago and also the lowest since 1999. Producers expect to harvest 495,000 acres, down 200,000 acres from 2006. Despite some rainy periods during October, harvest progressed at a pace 2 to 3 weeks ahead of the normal pace throughout the month. As of the week ending November 4, ninety percent of the crop had been harvested.

SOYBEAN PRODUCTION LOWEST SINCE 1965

Tennessee's soybean production is forecast as 19.8 million bushels, down 55 percent from 2006 and the lowest since 1965. Soybeans yields are expected to average 20 bushels per acre, down 3 bushel from last month's projection and 19 bushels from a year ago. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 990,000 acres, down 140,000 from a year ago and the lowest since 1992. Although the State received ample rainfall during the third week of October, it arrived too late to benefit the double-cropped soybeans. As of the week ending November 4, seventy-seven percent of the crop had been harvested, over a week ahead of the normal pace.

CORN PRODUCTION HIGHEST SINCE 1920

Tennessee's corn production is forecast at 87.5 million bushels, up 40 percent from a year earlier and the highest output in 87 years. Corn yields are expected to average 108 bushels per acre, up 2 bushels from last month but 17 bushels below 2006. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 810,000 acres for grain, up 62 percent from last year and the highest since 1985. Harvest was virtually completed by the first week of October, over 3 weeks ahead of normal.

U.S. SUMMARY

Corn production is forecast at 13.2 billion bushels, down 1 percent from last month but 25 percent above 2006. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 153.0 bushels per acre, down 1.7 bushels from October but 3.9 bushels above last year. If realized, this yield would be the second highest on record, behind 2004. Production would be the largest on record as producers expect to harvest the most corn acres for grain since 1933. Forecast yields are lower than last month across the northern and western Corn Belt and adjacent areas of the Great Plains where actual harvest results are revealing that the impact of the hot, dry conditions during pollination was worse than initially expected. Producers in the Ohio Valley, Tennessee Valley, and mid-Atlantic States reported higher yields than last month.

(over)

Soybean production is forecast at 2.59 billion bushels, down slightly from the October forecast and down 19 percent from last year's record high. Based on November 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 41.3 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushel from last month and down 1.4 bushels from last year. Compared with last month, yields are forecast higher in Indiana, Michigan, Texas, and most of the Mid-Atlantic region as producers are realizing higher yields than expected. In contrast, yield prospects decreased or were unchanged across the remainder of the Nation as harvest progressed. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 62.8 million acres, unchanged from last month but down 16 percent from 2006.

All Cotton production is forecast at 18.9 million 480-pound bales, up 4 percent from last month but down 13 percent from last year's 21.6 million bales. Yield is expected to average 859 pounds per harvested acre, up 33 pounds from last month and up 45 pounds from 2006. If realized, the yield will be the largest on record surpassing the previous record of 855 pounds per acre set in 2004. Harvested area of all cotton is expected to total 10.5 million acres, unchanged from last month but down 17 percent from last year. Upland cotton production is forecast at 18.1 million 480-pound bales, up 4 percent from last month but down 13 percent from last year. A record high yield of 845 pounds per acre is forecasted for upland cotton. Production is higher in the Southwest and lower Delta regions with growers expecting record yields in Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. In Florida, Missouri, and Tennessee, producers are expecting lower upland production than last month. American-Pima production is forecast at a record high 811,500 bales, up 5 percent from last month and up 6 percent from last year. American-Pima harvested area is expected to total 289,000 acres, unchanged from last month but down 11 percent from 2006.

CROP FORECASTS: TENNESSEE AND UNITED STATES, NOVEMBER 1, 2007, WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	Units	Harvested Acres		Yield Per Acre		Production	
		2006	Indicated 2007	2006	Indicated 2007	2006	Indicated 2007
		Thousand		Number of Units		Thousand	
TENNESSEE							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	10,000	100
Corn for grain	bu.	500	810	125	108	62,500	87,480
Cotton ¹	lb.	695	495	945	601	1,368	620
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	1,800	1,860	2.30	1.30	4,140	2,418
Peaches	ton	---	---	---	---	1.9	²
Soybeans	bu.	1,130	990	39	20	44,070	19,800
Tobacco, All	lb.	19.80	19.05	2,482	1,990	49,135	37,910
Dark fire-cured	lb.	5.30	6.40	3,200	2,700	16,960	17,280
Burley	lb.	14.00	12.00	2,200	1,600	30,800	19,200
Dark air-cured	lb.	0.50	0.65	2,750	2,200	1,375	1,430
Winter Wheat	bu.	190	260	64	41	12,160	10,660
UNITED STATES							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	9,931,700	9,254,700
Corn for grain	bu.	70,648	86,071	149.1	153.0	10,534,868	13,167,741
Cotton ¹	lb.	12,731.5	10,543.0	814	859	21,587.8	18,861.5
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	39,423	40,338	1.78	1.87	70,000	75,617
Peaches	ton	---	---	---	---	1,010.1	1,026.9
Soybeans	bu.	74,602	62,818	42.7	41.3	3,188,247	2,594,275
Tobacco, All	lb.	338.9	355,070	2,144	2,000	726,644	709,965
Dark fire-cured	lb.	11.85	13.30	3,324	2,826	39,392	37,580
Burley	lb.	103.6	105.2	2,095	1,826	217,085	192,105
Dark air-cured	lb.	4.30	4.65	3,059	2,544	13,155	11,830
Winter Wheat	bu.	31,117	35,952	41.7	42.2	1,298,081	1,515,989

¹ Production in 480-lb. net weight bales. U.S. production includes American-Pima cotton. ² No significant commercial production due to freeze damage.

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