



Tennessee Farm Facts

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

June Acreage Grain Stocks Hog Inventory Cotton Biotech Acreage
Prices Received Soybeans Double Cropped Percentages

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Wet Conditions, Changing Market Outlooks, Lead Farmers to Alter Original Planting Intentions

Persistent April and May rainfall led to one of the most difficult planting seasons in recent years. Pounding rainfall flooded-out many fields and caused poor germination in others. It was not uncommon for growers to re-plant acreage to the same crop as many as three times or call it quits and switch to alternate crops. Also, the instability of the markets was another factor that determined Tennessee farmers' mix of crops for 2009 and greater than normal crop abandonment.

Based on a recent survey to evaluate crop acreages conducted by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Tennessee Field Office, the largest impact of the weather was to encourage more soybean acreage. Growers plan to increase acreage by 10 percent from the earlier March forecast. Overall, corn acreage is down from last year, but to a larger degree than forecasted earlier. Cotton acreage is expected to increase, up 55,000 acres from 2008. Crop acreages and expected changes from last year are as follows: **Cotton**, 340,000 acres, up 19 percent; **Soybeans**, 1.60 million acres, up 7 percent; **Corn**, 650,000 acres, down 6 percent; **Tobacco**, 20,600 acres, down 6 percent; **Wheat**, 430,000 acres, down 31 percent; and **Hay**, 1.92 million acres, up 3 percent.

Cotton Acreage to Reverse Two Year Decline

Cotton acreage for 2009 is estimated at 340,000 acres, up 55,000 from last year. Many growers, who intended to plant corn, saw the pendulum swing to cotton around April 1 as cotton prices, although low, were stable, especially when compared to the rapidly dropping and erratic corn and soybean prices. A large number of cotton acres had to be re-planted this season due to the effects of severe storms that blanketed the State causing flooding and seed rot.

Soybean Acreage to be Highest in a Quarter Century

Tennessee's 2009 soybean acreage is estimated at 1.60 million acres, up 140,000 acres from earlier March intentions, and the highest since 1984. Area for harvest is estimated at 1.56 million acres, up 100,000 acres from 2008. Some of this additional acreage is attributable to corn acreage either abandoned or shifted to soybeans as producers missed their planting window. Since March, soybean producers have struggled mightily. Persistent rains delayed planting of full-season beans, and have caused many to have to re-plant after poor stands. In addition, the wheat crop was late, delaying double-cropped beans.

Corn Down from Earlier Intentions

The State's corn acreage is estimated at 650,000 acres, down 20,000 from March intentions, and down 40,000 acres from last year. Growers expect to harvest 590,000 acres for grain, 40,000 less than last year. Planting delays and costly re-plants were factors in farmers switching from corn to competing crops. Planting of this year's crop was virtually complete by the end of May but much later than desired.

Wheat Acreage Down Sharply

The 2009 winter wheat planted area is estimated at 430,000 acres, down 190,000 acres from 2008's massive crop. A decline in market prices from last year's record high levels and crop rotation practices are the primary catalysts for this plunge. Grain harvest is expected to reach 340,000 acres, down 180,000 acres from 2008.

Burley Acreage Same as a Year Ago; Dark Types to Decrease

The State's burley tobacco acreage appears to be holding steady from the previous year, as acreage is expected to remain unchanged at 13,000 acres. Total tobacco acreage, which includes burley, dark fire-cured and dark air-cured, is set at a total of 20,600 acres, down 1,200 acres from the year earlier. The dark-types are both expected to be down from a year earlier. Tobacco acreage and change from 2008 are as follows: dark fire-cured, 6,500 acres, down 10 percent; dark air-cured, 1,100 acres, down 31 percent. As of June 28, 95 percent of the crop was transplanted, slightly behind the five-year average.

Hay Acreage up 3 Percent

Tennessee producers intend to harvest 1.92 million acres of hay in 2009, up 3 percent from a year earlier. Alfalfa acreage is estimated at 20,000 acres, unchanged from last year. All other hay is estimated at 1.90 million acres, up 50,000 acres from 2008. Tennessee's hay harvest got off to a slow start due to an abnormally wet spring. Frequent showers and flooding in some areas continued into May, which delayed harvest and caused progress to lag behind normal. As of June 28, virtually all of the State's first cuttings were completed. Hay acreage has remained in mostly good condition throughout the growing season.

Planted and Harvested Acreage of Principal Crops: Tennessee and U.S., 2008-2009

Crop	Planted Acres		Harvested Acres		
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2009/2008
	1,000 Acres			Percent	
Tennessee					
Corn	690	650	630	590	94
Cotton	285	340	280	¹	-
Soybeans	1,490	1,600	1,460	1,560	107
Winter Wheat	620	430	520	340	65
Hay, all	-	-	1,870	1,920	103
Alfalfa	-	-	20	20	100
All Other	-	-	1,850	1,900	103
Tobacco, all	-	-	21.80	20.60	94
Dark fire-cured	-	-	7.20	6.50	90
Burley	-	-	13.00	13.00	100
Dark air-cured	-	-	1.60	1.10	69
United States					
Corn	85,982	87,035	78,640	80,107	102
Cotton ²	9,471.0	9,054.4	7,568.7	¹	-
Soybeans	75,718	77,483	74,641	76,547	103
Winter Wheat	46,281	43,448	39,614	34,787	88
Hay, all	-	-	60,062	60,177	100
Alfalfa	-	-	20,980	20,982	100
All Other	-	-	39,082	39,195	100
Tobacco, all	-	-	354.49	343.65	97
Dark fire-cured	-	-	18.60	16.55	89
Burley	-	-	97.50	98.80	101
Dark air-cured	-	-	8.50	6.10	72

¹Estimate to be released August 12, 2009. ²U.S. acreage includes American Pima cotton.

Grain Stocks: Tennessee and U.S., June 1, 2008-2009 with Comparisons

	Tennessee			United States		
	Jun 1, 2008	Mar 1, 2009	Jun 1, 2009	Jun 1, 2008	Mar 1, 2009	Jun 1, 2009
1,000 Bushels						
On-Farm Stocks ¹						
Corn				1,970,900	4,085,000	2,205,400
Wheat				25,635	280,400	140,745
Soybeans				226,600	656,500	226,300
Grain Sorghum				7,000	32,200	11,800
Oats				16,100	30,200	17,480
Off-Farm Stocks ²						
Corn	8,504	11,965	8,303	2,057,117	2,872,298	2,060,153
Wheat	³	10,086	9,110	280,183	759,949	526,299
Soybeans	563	2,543	1,143	449,543	645,378	370,744
Grain Sorghum	³	483	³	94,019	176,295	89,064
Oats	60	38	29	50,674	65,250	66,656
Total Stocks ¹						
Corn				4,028,017	6,957,298	4,265,553
Wheat				305,818	1,040,349	667,044
Soybeans				676,143	1,301,878	597,044
Grain Sorghum				101,019	208,495	100,864
Oats				66,774	95,450	84,136

¹ Estimates for Tennessee on-farm stocks are not published. ² Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors. ³ Not published to avoid disclosures of individual operations.

U.S. Hog Inventory down 2 Percent

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on June 1, 2009 was 66.1 million head. This was down 2 percent from June 1, 2008 but up 1 percent from March 1, 2009. Breeding inventory, at 5.97 million head, was down 3 percent from last year and down slightly from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 60.1 million head, was down 2 percent from last year but up 1 percent from last quarter. The March-May 2009 pig crop, at 28.5 million head, was down slightly from 2008 but up 2 percent from 2007. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.97 million head, down 3 percent from 2008 and down 2 percent from 2007. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 50 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 9.61 for the March-May 2009 period, compared to 9.38 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.70 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs. U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.97 million sows farrow during the June-August 2009 quarter, down 3 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2008 and down 5 percent from 2007. Intended farrowings for September-November 2009, at 2.96 million sows, are down 2 percent from 2008 and down 7 percent from 2007. The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 46 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 41 percent last year.

Upland Cotton: Biotechnology Varieties by State and United States, Percent of Upland Cotton Planted, 2008-2009

State	Insect Resistant (Bt)		Herbicide Resistant		Stacked Gene Varieties		All Biotech Varieties	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent	
Alabama	18	13	15	18	65	60	98	91
Arkansas	30	28	4	5	64	64	98	97
California	7	8	45	54	8	11	60	73
Georgia	19	20	5	7	73	70	97	97
Louisiana	19	20	6	10	73	63	98	93
Mississippi	19	14	13	16	66	63	98	93
Missouri	12	18	68	29	19	51	99	98
North Carolina	19	15	14	13	62	68	95	96
Tennessee	10	7	14	10	73	80	97	97
Texas	16	15	31	31	31	35	78	81
Other States ¹	22	24	20	17	48	49	90	90
United States	18	17	23	23	45	48	86	88

¹ Other States includes all other States in the upland cotton estimating program.

Prices Received by Farmers: Tennessee & U.S., June 2009 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Tennessee			United States		
		June 2008	May ¹ 2009	June ² 2009	June 2008	May ¹ 2009	June ² 2009

Dollars Per Unit

Field Crops

Corn	bu.	6.57	4.12	4.10	5.47	3.97	3.93
Cotton Lint	lb.	.567	.458	.452 ³	.640	.464	.444 ³
Sorghum	cwt.	⁴	⁴	n/a	10.10	5.98	6.08
Soybeans	bu.	14.50	10.90	11.50	13.10	10.70	11.60
Winter Wheat	bu.	6.23	5.08	n/a	7.51	5.52	5.54

Livestock

All Beef Cattle	cwt.	80.20	73.80	71.40	91.90	83.20	80.80
Steers & Heifers	cwt.	97.00	91.00	89.00	96.50	87.80	85.40
Cows	cwt.	55.00	48.00	45.00	54.40	49.10	45.50
Calves	cwt.	100.00	100.00	98.00	118.00	112.00	111.00

¹Entire month. ²Mid-month. ³Based on purchases first half of month. ⁴Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual farms. n/a = not available.

**Soybeans: Percent of Acreage Planted Following Another Harvested Crop,
Selected States and United States, 2005-2009¹**

State	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Alabama	8	6	10	48	32
Arkansas	4	6	23	27	10
Georgia	51	69	77	61	54
Kentucky	29	21	26	36	30
Mississippi	1	4	14	13	4
Missouri	7	11	13	12	10
North Carolina	32	30	38	47	33
South Carolina	37	29	36	52	30
Tennessee	15	20	31	40	25
Virginia	7	25	44	56	30
United States	4	5	8	9	6

¹Data as obtained from Area Frame samples. These data do not represent official estimates of the Agricultural Statistics Board but provide raw data as obtained from survey respondents. The purpose of this data is to portray trends in soybean production practices.