



Tennessee Farm Facts

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

In Cooperation with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Tennessee Annual Crop Production Grain Stocks Cotton Ginnings
Milk Production Hay Stocks

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Outstanding Year for State's Cotton Farmers

Nashville, January 12, 2007 – Timely rains during the growing season and excellent harvest weather gave Tennessee cotton farmers the highest yielding crop on record during 2006, according to a recent survey conducted by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Tennessee Field Office. With an increase in acreage as well, cotton growers produced a record number of bales, surpassing the previous mark set just a year ago. Corn yields were down 5 bushels from last year and 3 bushels below the 5-year average. Soybean yields bested the 2005 crop by 1 bushel and the 5-year average by 2 bushels per acre. Burley tobacco acreage fell again as farmers raised less than 15,000 acres for the first time since 1921. State Director Debra Kenerson noted that, "Despite a persistent dry pattern in many areas lasting from mid-summer to early fall, most row crop farmers were able to produce yields at average or above levels in 2006."

Record Cotton Production for Third Consecutive Year

Tennessee's cotton production is estimated at a state record 1,350,000 bales, up 20 percent from the previous record set in 2005. Producers planted 700,000 and harvested 695,000 acres, both up 60,000 from 2005. The State's final yield averaged 932 pounds of lint per acre, up 84 pounds from the previous year and a new record. The crop was 93 percent harvested as of the week ending November 26, 2006, on pace with the 5-year average. The overall reasons for such an impressive crop were timely rains, an adequate supply of heat units, better varieties, and continued success of the Boll Weevil Eradication Program. As of January 1, 2007, ninety-seven percent of the State's production had been ginned, compared with ninety-nine percent normally at this time.

Corn Production Lowest Since 1999, Sorghum Also Down

Corn for grain production is estimated at 62.5 million bushels, down 19 percent from 2005 and the lowest since 1999. The final yield, at 125 bushels per acre, was down 5 bushels from the year earlier. Tennessee corn producers planted 550,000 acres during 2006, down 100,000 from a year earlier. Harvested area for grain was 500,000 acres with 47,000 acres for silage. Silage yield, at 16.0 tons per acre, was down 3.0 tons from 2005 with production totaling 752,000 tons. Planting began on schedule in March and was virtually

completed by mid-May. The rest of the season was characterized by mostly hot, dry weather with rainfall widely scattered across the State. Excellent harvest weather allowed farmers to reach completion by mid-to-late October. Grain sorghum production in 2006 is estimated at 1.05 million bushels, down 43 percent from 2005. Area harvested for grain, at 11,000 acres, was down 9,000 acres from 2005, while average yield, at 95 bushels per acre, was up 3 bushels from the year earlier.

Soybean Production up 5 Percent

The State's final soybean yield is estimated at 39 bushels per acre, up a bushel from the previous year. Soybean production, at 44.1 million bushels, was up 5 percent from a year earlier. Producers planted 1,160,000 acres and harvested 1,130,000 acres for beans, both up 30,000 from the previous year. Soybean planting began on schedule in late April and continued at a rapid pace until completion near the end of June, well ahead of normal. Development also followed this speedy pace and allowed harvest to begin well ahead of normal. Numerous showers and a mid-month freeze during October slowed double-cropped soybean growth and hindered harvest efforts. However, due to more early maturing varieties, harvest was completed ahead of normal.

Highest Burley Yield Since 1978; Lowest Acreage Since 1921

Burley tobacco growers produced 30.8 million pounds, down 9 percent from 2005 and the lowest production since 1927. Yields, however, averaged 2,200 pounds per acre, up 200 pounds from a year earlier and the highest since 1978. Growers harvested 14,000 acres, down 18 percent from the previous year and the lowest since 1921. Frequent September rains aided late season crop development and capped a good growing season. By the first week of November, growers had stripped nearly half of the burley crop. Tennessee's dark fire-cured tobacco yields are estimated at 3,200 pounds, up 200 pounds from 2005. Dark air-cured yields are estimated at 2,750 pounds per acre, up 150 pounds from a year earlier.

2007 Winter Wheat Acreage up 36 Percent

Total wheat acreage for 2007 is forecast at 380,000 acres, up 100,000 acres or 36 percent from 2006.

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Winter wheat seeding was underway by the last week of September with 6 percent of the crop seeded by October 1. By mid-month, a fourth of the expected crop had been sown with farmers waiting on rain to help germination. Precipitation at the end of October relieved moisture concerns in most major producing areas and allowed seeding to advance ahead of the 5-year average. Through November 19, over 88 percent of the winter wheat had been sown, out of which, almost three-fourths had emerged with good-to-excellent stands.

Hay Production Down Slightly

Hay production, at 4.25 million tons, was down 3 percent from the 2005 crop. Hay acreage, at 1,830,000 acres, was also down 3 percent from a year earlier. Hay production, excluding alfalfa, at 4.14 million tons, was 3 percent lower than 2005. Hay producers harvested 1.80 million acres, 50,000 acres less than a year earlier with a final yield of 2.30 tons per acre. Alfalfa production, at 111,000 tons, was down 1 percent from 2005. Alfalfa producers harvested 30,000 acres with a yield of 3.70 tons per acre, up 0.50 tons from the previous year. Growers seeded 4,000 acres of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures during 2006, down 1,000 from the year earlier. Tennessee hay producers dealt with several adversities during the spring and early summer. First, wet spring weather caused overripe pastures which impacted quality. Second, this wet spell was followed by drought-like conditions across the State, which contributed to short pastures and hay fields. Beneficial September rainfall and moderate temperatures, however, helped to improve pasture conditions allowing some farmers to get second or even third cuttings. Stocks of all hay stored on Tennessee farms totaled 3.10 million tons on December 1, 2006, down 14 percent from 2005. Stocks represented 73 percent of this year's production, compared with 83 percent a year ago at this time.

Crop Estimates: Tennessee and United States, Final 2006, with Comparisons

Crop	Unit	Harvested Acres		Yield Per Acre		Production	
		2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
		Thousands		Number of Units		Thousands	
Tennessee							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	8,500	10,000
Corn for grain	bu.	595	500	130	125	77,350	62,500
Corn for silage	ton	50	47	19	16	950	752
Cotton ¹	lb.	635	695	848	932	1,122	1,350
Cottonseed	ton	---	---	---	---	386	466
Hay, All	ton	1,885	1,830	2.32	2.32	4,367	4,251
Other	ton	1,850	1,800	2.30	2.30	4,255	4,140
Alfalfa	ton	35	30	3.20	3.70	112	111
Peaches	ton	---	---	---	---	2.0	1.9
Sorghum for grain	bu.	20	11	92	95	1,840	1,045
Sorghum for silage	ton	1	2	15	19	15	38
Soybeans	bu.	1,100	1,130	38	39	41,800	44,070
Tobacco, All	lb.	22.95	19.80	2,251	2,482	51,670	49,135
Dark fire-cured	lb.	5.50	5.30	3,000	3,200	16,500	16,960
Burley	lb.	17.00	14.00	2,000	2,200	34,000	30,800
Dark air-cured	lb.	0.45	0.50	2,600	2,750	1,170	1,375
Winter Wheat	bu.	150	190	56.0	64.0	8,400	12,160
United States							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	9,719,900	10,072,100
Corn for grain	bu.	75,117	70,648	148.0	149.1	11,114,082	10,534,868
Corn for silage	ton	5,930	6,477	18.0	16.2	106,486	104,849
Cotton ¹	lb.	13,802.6	12,731.5	831	819	23,890.2	21,729.0
Cottonseed	ton	---	---	---	---	8,172.1	7,632.0
Hay, All	ton	61,729	60,807	2.45	2.33	151,017	141,666
Other	ton	39,290	39,423	1.91	1.78	74,868	70,000
Alfalfa	ton	22,439	21,384	3.39	3.35	76,149	71,666
Peaches	ton	---	---	---	---	1,184.6	1,010.1
Sorghum for grain	bu.	5,736	4,937	68.5	56.2	392,933	277,538
Sorghum for silage	ton	311	347	13.6	13.4	4,218	4,642
Soybeans	bu.	71,251	74,602	43.0	42.7	3,063,237	3,188,247
Tobacco, All	lb.	297,080	338,950	2,171	2,144	645,015	726,724
Dark fire-cured	lb.	11.84	11.65	3,178	3,321	37,631	38,695
Burley	lb.	100.15	103.60	2,031	2,095	203,383	217,085
Dark air-cured	lb.	4.15	4.50	2,778	3,061	11,530	13,775
Winter Wheat	bu.	33,794	31,117	44.4	41.7	1,499,129	1,298,081

¹ Production in 480-lb. net weight bales. U.S. production includes American-Pima cotton.

Grain Stocks: Tennessee and U.S., December 1, 2005-2006 with Comparisons

	Tennessee			United States		
	Dec 1, 2005	Sept 1, 2006	Dec 1, 2006	Dec 1, 2005	Sept 1, 2006	Dec 1, 2006
	1,000 Bushels					
On-Farm Stocks ¹						
Corn				6,325,000	749,500	5,627,000
Wheat				513,010	572,020	403,250
Soybeans				1,345,000	176,300	1,461,000
Grain Sorghum				55,000	5,250	38,100
Oats				60,100	60,800	53,000
Off-Farm Stocks ²						
Corn	16,101	2,244	14,331	3,489,957	1,217,661	3,302,820
Wheat	9,230	10,367	8,248	916,414	1,178,524	911,364
Soybeans	6,815	522	10,104	1,156,426	273,026	1,236,498
Grain Sorghum	703	³	³	235,376	60,413	168,570
Oats	³	48	86	35,617	39,284	43,244
Total Stocks ¹						
Corn				9,814,957	1,967,161	8,929,820
Wheat				1,429,424	1,750,544	1,314,614
Soybeans				2,501,426	449,326	2,697,498
Grain Sorghum				290,376	65,663	206,670
Oats				95,717	100,084	96,244

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.

**Cotton Ginnings: Running Bales Ginned (Excluding Linters) Prior to January 1, 2007
Crop Years 2003-2006**

	Running Bales Ginned			
	2003	2004	2005	2006
All Cotton				
AL	781,100	769,300	802,000	633,650
AZ	438,550	534,600	462,000	391,850
AR	1,734,150	2,006,500	2,098,650	2,410,000
CA	1,666,300	2,059,750	1,401,250	1,180,450
FL	119,350	91,700	111,200	139,650
GA	1,957,100	1,711,700	1,976,450	2,072,300
KS	39,600	18,300	70,400	78,400
LA	1,028,300	888,200	1,105,650	1,255,500
MS	2,055,900	2,263,700	2,089,000	2,029,100
MO	674,200	806,800	864,400	966,600
NM	52,700	55,050	60,350	46,800
NC	989,850	1,304,050	1,310,950	1,234,700
OK	185,750	219,950	267,500	165,900
SC	299,050	356,000	372,300	369,800
TN	843,600	947,150	1,082,400	1,266,150
TX	3,913,400	4,751,600	5,871,450	4,837,550
VA	103,650	140,400	161,600	140,150
US	16,882,550	18,924,750	20,107,550	19,218,550

Milk Production

Milk production in **Tennessee** during the October-December quarter was 248 million pounds, down 9 million pounds from the October-December period the year earlier. The average number of milk cows in Tennessee during the quarter was 66,000 head, 3,000 head less than the same period in 2005.

Milk production in the U.S. during the October-December quarter totaled 44.6 billion pounds, up 2.2 percent from the October-December quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.12 million head, 56,000 head more than the same period last year.

Quarterly Milk Production: Tennessee and United States, October-December 2005-2006

Item	Unit	Tennessee		United States	
		2005	2006	2005	2006
Milk cows on farms ¹	1,000 hd.	69	66	9,060	9,116
Milk production ²	Mil. lbs.	257	248	43,674	44,639

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. ² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Tennessee Hay Stocks

Stocks of all hay stored on Tennessee farms totaled 3.10 million tons on December 1, 2006, down 14 percent from 2005's total. Stocks represented 73 percent of this year's production, and are the lowest total since 1999. Spring rains caused may fields to over-ripen, which caused quality concerns. Early summer drought conditions resulted in some producers having to feed hay to cover pasture condition shortages. Beneficial September rains improved pasture conditions and allowed for a second or third cutting building stocks going into fall, but by December 1 stocks were about 500,000 tons less than the previous year.

Hay: Stocks on Farms by Selected States and United States, December 1 and May 1, 2004-2006

State	December 1, 2004	May 1, 2005	December 1, 2005 ¹	May 1, 2006 ¹	December 1, 2006 ¹
	1,000 Tons		1,000 Tons		1,000 Tons
AL	1,965	356	1,575	264	1,065
AR	3,200	660	2,000	210	2,140
GA	1,345	292	1,350	198	878
KY	4,742	1,186	4,390	635	4,550
MS	1,159	199	1,567	210	1,186
MO	8,101	2,166	6,315	873	5,415
NC	1,545	350	1,245	282	1,280
TN	4,199	1,025	3,625	742	3,103
US	114,516	27,758	105,205	21,345	96,397

¹ Revised.