



# Tennessee Farm Facts

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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## Tennessee Farmers Express Early Plans for 2009

According to a recent survey of producers conducted by the Tennessee Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, farmers have given a preliminary snapshot of their planting intentions for this upcoming year. Soybean acreage is projected to decline slightly to 1.46 million acres, similar to last year's 1.49 million acre crop. Winter wheat acreage is projected to decrease to 380,000 acres, marking the largest one year decline since 1985. "Producers have some challenging decisions to make this spring as they adjust their crop mixes in response to commodity price outlook," State Director Debra Kenerson commented. She continued, "There seems to be more uncertainty this spring than normal due to decreases in some commodity prices compared to March a year ago. As a result, producers' intentions as of March 1 could change, as prices, weather conditions, and other factors dictate." The March 1 survey showed the following results: **corn** acreage, down 3 percent from last year to 670,000 acres; **soybeans**, down 2 percent to 1,460,000 acres; **cotton** intentions, at 310,000 acres, up 9 percent from last year's planted acreage of 285,000; **winter wheat** seedings, at 380,000 acres, down 240,000 acres or 39 percent from the previous year; and **hay** acreage for harvest, up slightly to 1.90 million acres.

### Planted Acreage, Tennessee and United States, 2007-2008 and Intended 2009

Crop	2007	2008	2009 <sup>1</sup>	2009/2008	2007	2008	2009 <sup>1</sup>	2009/2008
	Tennessee				United States			
	1,000 Acres		Percent		1,000 Acres		Percent	
Corn	860	690	670	97	93,527	85,982	84,986	99
Cotton, all	515	285	310	109	1,0827.2	9,470.0	8,811.5	93
Hay <sup>2</sup>	1,775	1,870	1,900	102	61,006	60,062	60,297	100
Soybeans	1,080	1,490	1,460	98	64,741	75,718	76,024	100
Tobacco, all <sup>2</sup>	19.98	21.80	21.60	99	356.00	354.19	353.20	100
Dark fired-cured	6.20	7.20	6.50	90	14.60	18.60	16.10	87
Burley	13.0	13.0	14.0	108	106.30	97.20	96.60	99
Dark air-cured	0.78	1.60	1.10	69	4.98	8.50	5.60	66
Winter Wheat	420	620	380	61	45,012	46,281	42,889	93

<sup>1</sup> Intended plantings for 2009. <sup>2</sup> Acres harvested.

**U.S.:** **Corn** growers intend to plant 85.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2009, down 1 percent from last year as lower corn prices and unstable input costs are discouraging some growers from planting corn. If realized, this will be the second consecutive year-over-year decrease since 2007 but will still be the third largest acreage since 1949, behind 2007 and 2008. **Soybean** producers intend to plant 76.0 million acres in 2009, up slightly from last year. If realized, the U.S. planted area would be the largest on record. Acreage increases of 100,000 acres or more are expected in Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, and Ohio. **All cotton** plantings for 2009 are expected to total 8.81 million acres, 7 percent below last year and the lowest since 1983. Upland area is expected to total 8.67 million acres, down 7 percent from last year. U.S. all **tobacco** area for harvest in 2009 is expected to be 353,200 acres, down less than 1 percent from 2008 and 1 percent below 2007. Expected decreases in burley, fire-cured, and dark air-cured tobacco are expected to offset increases in flue-cured and cigar type tobacco.

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

	Tennessee			United States		
	Mar 1, 2008	Dec 1, 2008	Mar 1, 2009	Mar 1, 2008	Dec 1, 2008	Mar 1, 2009
1,000 Bushels						
<b>On-Farm Stocks <sup>1</sup></b>						
Corn				3,780,000	6,482,000	4,085,000
Wheat				91,990	454,000	280,200
Soybeans				593,000	1,189,000	656,500
Grain Sorghum				26,100	54,400	32,200
Oats				31,000	42,600	30,000
<b>Off-Farm Stocks <sup>2</sup></b>						
Corn	17,349	17,547	11,532	3,078,722	3,595,564	2,873,397
Wheat	5,660	10,682	7,740	617,280	968,374	756,372
Soybeans	1,417	7,969	2,543	840,982	1,086,577	645,106
Grain Sorghum	<sup>3</sup>	628	483	159,808	257,646	176,593
Oats	83	<sup>3</sup>	38	47,988	72,322	65,364
<b>Total Stocks <sup>1</sup></b>						
Corn				6,858,722	10,077,564	6,958,397
Wheat				709,270	1,422,374	1,036,572
Soybeans				1,433,982	2,275,577	1,301,606
Grain Sorghum				185,908	312,046	208,793
Oats				78,988	114,922	95,364

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

### U.S. Hog Inventory Down 3 Percent

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2009 was 65.4 million head. This was down 3 percent from March 1, 2008 and down 2 percent from December 1, 2008. Breeding inventory, at 6.01 million head, was down 3 percent from last year and down 1 percent from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 59.4 million head, was down 3 percent from last year and down 2 percent from last quarter. The December 2008-February 2009 pig crop, at 28.2 million head, was down 1 percent from 2008 but up 7 percent from 2007. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.98 million head, down 3 percent from 2008 but up 3 percent from 2007. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 50 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.48 for the December 2008-February 2009 period, compared to 9.24 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.30 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.50 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

**Livestock Slaughter:** Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.83 billion pounds in February, down 4 percent from the 3.97 billion pounds produced in February 2008. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.53 million head, down 4 percent from February 2008. The average live weight was up 25 pounds from the previous year, at 1,310 pounds. Calf slaughter totaled 74,100 head, up 7 percent from February 2008. The average live weight was down 15 pounds from last year, at 257 pounds. Hog kill totaled 8.91 million head, down 5 percent from February 2008. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 272 pounds. Sheep slaughter totaled 180,100 head, 15 percent below last year. The average live weight was 142 pounds, unchanged from February a year ago.

### Livestock Slaughter<sup>1</sup>: Tennessee & United States, March 2008 and 2009

Species	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
<b>Tennessee</b>						
Cattle	2.3	2.8	2,035	2,404	920	886
Calves	0.1	0.1	31	36	397	460
Hogs	48.9	49.9	23,268	22,776	476	459
Sheep & lambs	0.9	1.0	73	73	78	76
<b>United States</b>						
Cattle	2,642.7	2,527.3	3,382,701	3,299,293	1,285	1,310
Calves	69.1	74.1	18,616	18,749	272	257
Hogs	9,377.4	8,913.2	2,534,860	2,418,807	271	272
Sheep & lambs	211.6	180.1	30,084	25,527	142	142

<sup>1</sup> Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter (excludes farm slaughter).

## U.S. Dairy Products

**February 2009 Highlights:** Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) was 769 million pounds, 2.1 percent below February 2008 and 6.7 percent below January 2009. Italian type cheese production totaled 320 million pounds, 4.4 percent below February 2008 and 7.9 percent below January 2009. American type cheese production totaled 319 million pounds, slightly above February 2008 but 9.6 percent below January 2009. Butter production was 145 million pounds, 1 percent below February 2008 and 16.7 percent below January 2009.

**Dry Milk Powders:** (comparisons with February 2008) Nonfat dry milk, human --- 123 million pounds, up 4.0 percent. Skim milk powders --- 22.7 million pounds, down 32.9 percent. **Whey products:** (comparisons with February 2008) Dry whey, total --- 82.7 million pounds, down 6.0 percent. Lactose, human and animal --- 51.3 million pounds, down 14.9 percent. Whey protein concentrate, total --- 31.2 million pounds, down 6.6 percent. **Frozen products:** (comparisons with February 2008) Ice cream, Regular (hard) --- 63.1 million gallons, down 3.3 percent. Ice cream, Lowfat (total) --- 25.8 million gallons, down 8.0 percent. Sherbet (hard) --- 3.94 million gallons, down 6.9 percent. Frozen Yogurt (total) --- 3.85 million gallons, down 6.9 percent.

**Chicken & Eggs:** U.S. egg production totaled 6.89 billion during February 2009, down 3 percent from last year. Production included 5.91 billion table eggs, and 985 million hatching eggs, of which 917 million were broiler-type and 68 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during February 2009 averaged 341 million, down 1 percent from last year. February egg production per 100 layers was 2,023 eggs, down 2 percent from February 2008.

### Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Selected States and United States, During February 2008 and 2009

Selected States	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 or more		All Layers <sup>1</sup>		Eggs per 100 for All Layers <sup>1</sup>	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	Thousands				Number	
Alabama	1,332	1,415	9,537	9,332	1,804	1,725
Arkansas	3,796	3,495	14,000	12,863	1,779	1,765
Georgia	9,513	9,360	19,163	18,214	1,946	1,905
North Carolina	4,830	5,279	12,717	12,454	1,942	1,951
All Other States <sup>2</sup>	258,550	259,327	287,882	287,889	2,110	2,055
United States	278,021	278,876	343,299	340,752	2,072	2,023

<sup>1</sup> Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size. <sup>2</sup> Tennessee is included in all other states total.

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

Commodity	Unit	Tennessee			United States		
		March 2008	February <sup>1</sup> 2009	March <sup>2</sup> 2009	March 2008	February <sup>1</sup> 2009	March <sup>2</sup> 2009
Dollars Per Unit							

#### Field Crops

Corn	bu.	5.09	3.87	4.15	4.70	3.87	3.96
Cotton Lint	lb.	.587	.434	.399 <sup>3</sup>	.630	.416	.409 <sup>3</sup>
Sorghum	cwt.	<sup>4</sup>	4.57	n/a	9.04	5.05	5.54
Soybeans	bu.	12.60	9.63	9.50	11.40	9.55	9.13
Winter Wheat	bu.	9.61	4.40	n/a	9.96	5.26	5.27

#### Livestock

All Beef Cattle	cwt.	74.60	67.60	66.20	87.80	78.80	78.50
Steers & Heifers	cwt.	91.00	84.00	83.00	92.90	83.80	83.50
Cows	cwt.	50.00	43.00	41.00	51.50	43.90	44.00
Calves	cwt.	105.00	93.00	92.00	118.00	105.00	104.00

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

## Price Reactions After USDA Reports

Marketing Year	Number of and Average Price Change							
	Week Prior to Release				Week After Release			
	Increases		Decreases		Increases		Decreases	
	Number	Average	Number	Average	Number	Average	Number	Average
	Dollars		Dollars		Dollars		Dollars	
<b>Cattle Price</b> <sup>1</sup>								
2004	9	1.73	3	1.85	5	4.07	7	1.83
2005	2	1.65	10	1.43	5	1.01	7	1.28
2006	9	0.96	3	1.26	7	1.76	5	1.61
2007	5	0.78	7	1.36	8	1.67	4	1.51
2008	6	0.95	6	1.81	9	1.57	3	1.03
<b>Hog Price</b> <sup>2</sup>								
2004	3	2.13	1	0.28	1	0.12	3	2.33
2005	3	0.38	1	1.85	1	6.56	3	1.05
2006	0	0.00	4	2.52	1	3.15	3	1.10
2007	2	1.85	2	2.87	1	1.45	3	2.78
2008	3	1.78	1	1.28	1	0.90	3	1.33
<b>Butter Price</b> <sup>3</sup>								
2004	8	0.0895	4	0.1170	4	0.0119	7	0.0837
2005	6	0.0408	5	0.0260	4	0.0340	8	0.0319
2006	7	0.0105	5	0.0139	3	0.0348	8	0.0292
2007	5	0.2200	7	0.0171	7	0.0228	5	0.0135
2008	9	0.1787	3	0.0185	5	0.0226	6	0.0307

<sup>1</sup>Based on the weekly weighted average prices per cwt. for live steers and heifers from feedlots in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Iowa, and Minnesota. Total increases and decreases may not add to twelve for a year when the week-to-week price does not change. Source: Market News, Agricultural Marketing Service. Marketing year represents the January-December calendar year. <sup>2</sup>Barrows and Gilts, 5 markets combined. Slaughter Hogs, Iowa, and Southern Minnesota starting in December 1998 to April 2001. Source: Market News, Agricultural Marketing Service. Slaughter Hogs, Iowa, and Southern Minnesota base lean prices, converted to live price starting April 2001. Source: Market News, Agricultural Marketing Service. Marketing year represents December of the previous year through November of current year. <sup>3</sup>Prices based on the simple average on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange daily closing cash butter prices during the week. Total increases and decreases may not add to twelve for a year when the week-to-week price is unchanged. Marketing year represents the January-December calendar year.