



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Tennessee Farm Facts

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

June Area Survey Press Release TDA News Releases US & Canadian Hogs
Prices Received Soybean County Estimates

May 6, 2009

Agricultural Survey Is an Opportunity to Provide the Facts

NASHVILLE, May 1, 2009 - How many acres will be planted to cotton and corn this year? What impact will high prices for wheat and soybeans have on acreage? To answer these and many other critical questions, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Tennessee Field Office interviewers will contact a sample of the state's farmers during late May through mid-June.

There is always speculation about each new crop season. Debra Kenerson, Director of the Tennessee Field Office said, "This survey is particularly vital because it will provide the first clear indication of the potential production and supply of major commodities in the United States for the 2009 crop year. Understanding that the information we gather is only as good as the source from which it comes, we are counting on the most reliable, frontline source of information for this survey – the producers themselves."

The up-to-date results are an unbiased snapshot of agriculture from producer reported data. "When evaluating selling and storage options, this survey will be an important source of information for producers," added Kenerson. The information gathered is widely valued and used by agriculture's supporters, producer associations, extension agents, industry analysts, and Congress.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. Ms. Kenerson reminds producers, "We safeguard the confidentiality of all survey responses." Information from individual operations is combined with other responses to provide the important regional, state, and national data."

All reports are available on the NASS website: www.nass.usda.gov. For a copy of the results of this survey or to obtain other agricultural statistics, visit the Tennessee Field Office website at www.nass.usda.gov/tn or call 1-800-626-0987.

Low-Path Avian Influenza Indicated on Middle Tennessee Farm

Nashville, Mon, May 04, 2009 - State and federal authorities are responding to an indication of low-pathogenic avian influenza on a single farm in Lincoln County in Middle Tennessee. The strain poses minimal risk to human health and is not the high-pathogenic strain associated with human and poultry outbreaks in other countries. Nor is it related to the novel H1N1 flu virus, commonly referred to as swine flu. On May 1, preliminary test results during routine industry surveillance indicated the possibility of an avian influenza virus. Subsequent testing by USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa indicates an exposure to the H7 strain of low-pathogenic avian influenza. This is the same strain identified on a poultry farm in Giles County last week. At this time, there is no apparent connection between the two farms. Surveillance for the disease in other area flocks around the Giles County farm so far has been negative according to state animal health officials. Avian influenza, commonly referred to as bird flu, is naturally occurring in the environment and circulates among wild birds, especially waterfowl. Although low-pathogenic avian influenza causes little illness and is typically not fatal to birds, it can sometime cause slight illness or a loss of production in domesticated poultry.

As part of routine procedures, animal health officials with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture have restricted movement of birds on the affected farm and are currently considering additional surveillance on backyard and commercial flocks in the area. Currently, there are no indications of exposure to other area farms. The affected farm produces breeding stock used in the poultry industry, and no birds have entered the human food supply. Avian influenza is not transmitted through poultry meat or eggs, which are safe to consume with regular proper handling and preparation. For more information on avian influenza in poultry, visit the Tennessee Department of Agriculture's Web site at <http://www.TN.gov/agriculture/regulatory/birdflu.html>.

Tennessee Receives CDC Confirmation of Novel H1N1 Virus Case

Nashville, Thurs, April 30, 2009 - The Tennessee Department of Health has received notification from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that the initial case of the novel H1N1 virus identified in the state has been confirmed positive. The initial case was identified by the department in Williamson County on April 29. Starting this week, the state public health lab will be able to confirm cases of the virus for the state with the use of flu kits provided by federal officials. "The state of Tennessee is taking the necessary level of precaution as directed by the CDC to slow the spread of this new flu virus in these identified communities," said State Health Commissioner Susan R. Cooper, MSN, RN. "This allows federal officials time to learn more about the virus, its severity and its impact on those affected." To date, a total of 9 cases of this strain of flu have been identified through state lab testing. All patients are recovering from the illness and have a good prognosis. The Tennessee Department of Health is working with local public health officials to identify and provide antiviral medication to the patients' family and close contacts. Anyone identified as a close contact of a patient will be notified by the Department.

"This CDC confirmation does not change any of the recommendations or interventions already in place. We will continue to see more cases identified in these communities because of expanded testing and surveillance," said State Epidemiologist Tim F. Jones, MD. "It is important that people continue to wash their hands at every opportunity, cover coughs and sneezes with a sleeve or tissue, and stay home if you have any cold or flu symptoms." Human cases of the H1N1 virus infection are being identified both in the U.S. and internationally. The Tennessee Department of Health is conducting active surveillance to determine how widespread the virus is in Tennessee. The Department is also collaborating with U.S. Health and Human Services to ensure the state has adequate medical supplies and necessary medications on hand should they be needed.

As of today, CDC has confirmed 226 human cases of this strain of flu infection in the U.S. and one related death. The most current information, as well as a state-by-state breakdown, can be found on the CDC Web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>. Tennessee residents who think they may be ill with the flu or flu-like illness should contact their health care provider. Symptoms of the illness are as follows: fever, body aches, runny nose, sore throat, nausea, or vomiting or diarrhea. Your health care provider will determine whether influenza testing or treatment is needed. If you become ill and experience any warning signs, seek emergency medical care. The Department of Health recommends frequent hand washing with warm soapy water, keeping hands away from your face, eyes and mouth, and covering coughs and sneezes with a sleeve or tissue. These precautions can also help prevent the spread of other illnesses including the common cold. For more information about the current flu outbreak, visit the Department of Health Web site at <http://health.state.tn.us/swineflu.htm>. Additional information is also available at the CDC's Web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>.

United States and Canadian Hog Inventory Down 4 Percent

U.S. and Canadian inventory of all hogs and pigs for March 2009 was 77.3 million head. This was down 4 percent from March 2008 but up 1 percent from March 2007. The breeding inventory, at 7.39 million head, was down 4 percent from a year ago and down 1 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 69.9 million head, was down 4 percent from last year and down 2 percent from last quarter. The pig crop, at 35.6 million head, was down 2 percent from 2008 but up 3 percent from 2007. Sows farrowed during this period totaled 3.73 million head, down 4 percent from last year.

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. The 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 pig crop, at 28.2 million head, was down 1 percent from 2008 but up 7 percent from 2007. Sows farrowed during this period totaled 2.98 million head, down 3 percent from last year.

Canadian inventory of all hogs and pigs on April 1, 2009 was 11.9 million head. This was down 9 percent from April 1, 2008 and down 19 percent from April 1, 2007. The breeding inventory, at 1.38 million head, was down 6 percent from last year and down 1 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 10.5 million head, was down 9 percent from last year and down 3 percent from last quarter. The pig crop, at 7.37 million head, was down 7 percent from 2008 and down 8 percent from 2007. Sows farrowed during this period totaled 750,400 head, down 7 percent from last year.

U.S. Prices Received: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April, at 131 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 5 points (4.0 percent) from March. The Crop Index is up 9 points (6.2 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 3 points (2.8 percent). Producers received higher prices for lettuce, cattle, soybeans, and onions and lower prices for strawberries, snap beans, apples, and cauliflower. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of strawberries, sweet corn, cattle, and lettuce offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, wheat, and hogs.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 15 points (10 percent) from April 2008. The Food Commodities Index, at 129, increased 7 points (5.7 percent) from last month but decreased 13 points (9.2 percent) from April 2008.

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

Commodity	Unit	Tennessee		United States			
		April 2008 ¹	March 2009 ¹	April 2009 ²	April 2008 ¹	March 2009 ¹	April 2009 ²
Dollars Per Unit							
Crops							
Corn	bu.	5.78	3.82	3.90	5.14	3.86	3.87
Cotton Lint	lb.	.560	.396	.435 ³	.655	.410	.428 ³
Sorghum	cwt.	⁴	⁴	n/a	9.30	5.34	5.57
Soybeans	bu.	12.20	9.19	10.00	12.00	9.12	9.89
Winter Wheat	bu	⁴	4.60	n/a	9.62	5.26	5.16
Livestock							
All beef cattle	cwt.	74.00	67.20	70.80	86.80	79.00	82.80
Steers/heifers	cwt.	90.00	84.00	88.00	91.80	84.00	87.70
Cows	cwt	50.00	42.00	45.00	50.70	44.60	47.50
Calves	cwt.	101.00	94.00	99.00	116.00	107.00	109.00

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

Soybeans: Acreage, Yield, and Production, by County, 2008---Corrected 5/5/09

District and County	Planted for All Purposes	Harvested For Grain	Yield Per Acre	Production For Grain	District and County	Planted for All Purposes	Harvested For Grain	Yield Per Acre	Production For Grain
	Acres		Bushels	1,000 Bushels		Acres		Bushels	1,000 Bushels
Dyer	139,000	138,000	41	5,650	Bedford	11,000	10,800	30	325
Lauderdale	93,000	92,000	37	3,420	Cannon	8,000	7,800	37	288
Obion	117,000	116,000	40	4,640	De Kalb	4,500	4,200	39	163
Tipton	77,000	76,500	35	2,660	Giles	9,500	9,400	34	321
Other ¹	101,000	98,500	37	3,580	Lincoln	17,200	17,000	38	641
District 10	527,000	521,000	39	19,950	Macon	1,800	1,700	30	51
Carroll	35,000	34,500	31	1,075	Maury	9,500	9,100	28	251
Chester	11,000	10,700	33	350	Rutherford	8,500	8,400	31	255
Crockett	62,000	61,500	31	1,865	Williamson	5,900	5,800	33	190
Decatur	4,600	4,500	40	180	Other ¹	21,100	19,800	28	555
Fayette	55,000	53,000	40	2,110	District 40	97,000	94,000	33	3,040
Gibson	118,000	117,000	31	3,570	Coffee	25,000	23,500	26	615
Hardeman	28,000	27,100	39	1,060	Franklin	25,000	24,000	22	525
Hardin	26,000	25,000	33	830	Grundy	2,700	2,600	24	62
Haywood	94,000	93,000	35	3,235	Marion	4,300	4,200	30	125
Henry	45,000	43,000	22	915	Other ¹	15,000	13,700	23	313
Madison	45,000	44,500	36	1,570	District 50	72,000	68,000	24	1,640
Weakley	86,000	85,500	28	2,350	Cocke	1,900	1,700	33	56
Other ¹	55,400	54,700	34	1,840	Greene	1,200	1,000	21	21
District 20	665,000	654,000	32	20,950	Loudon	2,500	2,300	23	53
Dickson	800	700	43	30	Meigs	900	800	23	18
Humphreys	6,500	6,300	38	235	Other ¹	22,500	19,200	27	512
Lawrence	16,700	16,500	33	545	District 60	29,000	25,000	27	660
Robertson	43,000	42,700	35	1,500	State Total	1,490,000	1,460,000	34	49,640
Stewart	2,100	2,000	33	65					
Wayne	1,700	1,600	28	45					
Other ¹	29,200	28,200	35	980					
District 30	100,000	98,000	35	3,400					

¹ Unlisted counties combined with "Other".