



Tennessee News Release

Tennessee Field Office · PO Box 41505 · Nashville, TN 37204 · (615) 781-5300 · www.nass.usda.gov
In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Winter Wheat Production Tobacco & Cotton Acreage, Yield, Production & Value

Farm Labor Cattle County Estimates Layers & Eggs Livestock Slaughter

May 26, 2009

Wheat Production Expected To Be Down Sharply

Tennessee's 2009 winter wheat production is forecast at 19.2 million bushels, down 41 percent from a year ago according to a recent survey conducted by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Tennessee Field Office. Yield is expected to average 64.0 bushels per acre, up 1 bushel from a year earlier. The greatest factor reducing potential production is a large decline from last year's acreage upswing that corresponded with good market prices.

Tennessee farmers seeded 380,000 acres last fall, down 39 percent from the previous year. Wheat producers expect to harvest 300,000 acres for grain, 220,000 less than a year ago. The remaining 80,000 acres were used as a cover crop, will be harvested for hay or silage, or were abandoned due to flooding. By the week ending May 10, nearly 90 percent of the State's acreage had headed, on pace with normal development. Currently, over 80 percent of the crop is rated in good to excellent condition.

United States: Production is forecast at 1.50 billion bushels, down 20 percent from 2008. Based on May 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 44.2 bushels per acre, 3.0 bushels below last year. Expected grain area totals 34.0 million acres, down 14 percent from last year. Hard Red Winter (HRW) harvested acreage is down about 9 percent from the previous year. Soft Red Winter (SRW) harvested acreage is estimated to be down 30 percent from last year. The portion of the winter wheat crop rated good to excellent on May 4, at 47 percent, was virtually unchanged from last year. In the southern Great Plains States, winter temperatures were moderate, with some damage resulting from winter and late spring storms. Cooler than normal spring temperatures coupled with higher than normal precipitation in the Corn Belt States of Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio has hampered crop development, but no major disease problems are reported at this time. In the Pacific Northwest, crop development was slower across parts of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho due to cooler and dryer conditions earlier this spring.

Winter Wheat: Tennessee, Surrounding States, and U.S., May 1, 2009 with Comparisons¹

State	Acreage Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 Acres		Bushels		1,000 Bushels	
Arkansas	980	430	57.0	54.0	55,860	23,220
Georgia	400	240	56.0	50.0	22,400	12,000
Kentucky	460	400	71.0	72.0	32,660	28,800
Mississippi	485	200	62.0	60.0	30,070	12,000
Missouri	1,160	750	48.0	51.0	55,680	38,250
North Carolina	720	510	60.0	55.0	43,200	28,050
TENNESSEE	520	300	63.0	64.0	32,760	19,200
Virginia	280	245	71.0	66.0	19,880	16,170
United States	39,614	33,995	47.2	44.2	1,867,903	1,502,074

¹ 2009 forecast, 2008 final.

State Hay Supplies in Good Shape

Tennessee: Hay stocks on Tennessee farms totaled 552,000 tons on May 1, up more than double from last year's drought reduced levels. During early fall, spotty showers led to pastures drying up and producers feeding early. By the end of November, pastures were in fair-to-good condition, with some operators feeding hay.

State Hay Supplies in Good Shape

Hay supplies, however, were adequate to support livestock through a moderate winter. Hay stocks are rated in mostly adequate-to-surplus supply. Disappearance of hay, which is hay fed, sold or wasted, from December 1, 2008 - May 1, 2009, totaled 2.49 million tons.

United States: All hay stored on farms May 1, 2009 totaled 22.1 million tons, up 2 percent from a year ago. Disappearance from December 1, 2008-May 1, 2009 totaled 81.6 million tons, compared with 82.5 million tons for the same period a year ago. Hay stocks decreased from last year across most of the Great Plains and Rocky Mountain States. Texas and Oklahoma had the largest decreases due in part to lower hay production in 2008. In addition, dry weather last fall and winter resulted in poor pasture conditions which increased supplemental hay feeding. Hay stocks in North Dakota and Montana were down 44 and 42 percent, respectively, due to a combination of lower production and spring snow storms that prolonged the hay feeding season. Meanwhile, in the eastern United States, higher production, milder winter weather, increased precipitation, and lower cattle inventories contributed to higher hay stocks on May 1. The largest increase was shown in Tennessee where stocks were 157 percent higher than a year earlier. Other notable increases were shown in Alabama and Kentucky, both up 150 percent from May 2008.

All Tobacco: Acreage, Yield, Production, and Value, Tennessee, 1999-2008

Crop Year	Area Harvested	Yield	Production	Price Per Pound	Value of Production
	Acres	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
1999	63,170	1,941	122,601	1.955	239,651
2000	46,020	2,085	95,958	2.014	193,288
2001	39,690	2,189	86,893	2.016	175,163
2002	34,900	2,044	71,331	2.066	147,383
2003	31,140	2,108	65,632	2.107	138,290
2004	30,260	2,161	65,381	2.138	139,762
2005	22,950	2,251	51,670	1.872	96,739
2006	19,800	2,482	49,135	1.893	93,009
2007	19,980	1,934	38,636	1.962	75,823
2008	21,800	2,403	52,380	2.109	110,448

Cotton: Acreage, Yield, Production, and Ginnings, Tennessee, 1999-2008

Crop Year	Acreage		Yield	Production		Ginnings ²
	Planted	Harvested		Lint ¹	Seed	
	1,000 Acres		Pounds Lint	1,000 bales	1,000 Tons	1,000 Bales
1999	570	565	505	595	223	590.5
2000	570	565	603	710	289	708.5
2001	620	615	763	978	351	973.1
2002	565	530	741	818	291	813.6
2003	560	530	806	890	311	878.8
2004	530	525	900	984	336	985.3
2005	640	635	848	1,122	386	1,111.1
2006	700	695	945	1,368	441	1,346.4
2007	515	510	565	600	203	602.1
2008	285	280	909	530	169	533.0

¹ Production in 480 lb. weight bales. ² Equivalent 480 lb. net weight bales, not adjusted for cross-state movement.

Hired Workers Down 2 Percent, Wage Rates up 3 Percent From a Year Ago

There were 903,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 12-18, 2009, down 2 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 680,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 223,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.84 per hour during the April 2009 reference week, up 27 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$9.99 per hour, up 34 cents from last April, while livestock workers earned \$10.25 per hour compared with \$10.24 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.07 per hour, was up 23 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 40.1 hours for hired workers during the survey week, down 2 percent from a year ago.

Cattle: Number on Farms by County, January 1, 2009

District and County	All Cattle and Calves	Beef Cows	Milk Cows	District and County	All Cattle and Calves	Beef Cows	Milk Cows
		Head				Head	
Dyer	8,200	4,600	1	Bledsoe	31,000	14,000	750
Lauderdale	6,600	3,600	1	Coffee	25,000	11,000	1,750
Obion	15,300	7,100	1	Cumberland	22,500	11,000	850
Tipton	7,100	4,000	1	Fentress	22,000	9,300	1
Other ¹	5,800	3,700	1	Franklin	29,000	12,000	950
District 10	43,000	23,000	2	Grundy	6,500	3,200	1
Benton	10,000	5,100	1	Marion	8,000	4,600	1
Carroll	11,500	6,200	1	Morgan	10,000	5,000	1
Chester	7,500	3,700	1	Overton	33,000	17,000	800
Decatur	12,700	6,700	1	Pickett	13,000	6,600	1
Fayette	19,000	10,000	1	Putnam	27,000	13,500	800
Gibson	13,500	6,900	1	Scott	5,200	2,900	1
Hardeman	10,500	6,000	1	Sequatchie	6,400	2,500	1
Hardin	10,900	6,100	1	Van Buren	8,400	4,400	1
Henderson	23,000	12,000	1	Warren	39,000	18,000	1,200
Henry	19,500	9,500	1	White	44,000	19,000	2,200
McNairy	8,500	5,000	1	Other ¹	---	---	1,200
Madison	13,000	6,200	1	District 50	330,000	154,000	10,500
Weakley	17,500	6,800	1	Anderson	8,200	4,300	1
Other ¹	9,900	5,800	1	Blount	33,000	15,500	875
District 20	187,000	96,000	2	Bradley	25,000	9,900	1,400
Cheatham	11,000	6,100	1	Campbell	9,000	4,700	1
Dickson	24,000	12,500	1	Carter	10,500	5,600	1
Hickman	21,500	10,500	1	Claiborne	32,000	16,500	1
Houston	11,500	5,600	1	Cocke	14,000	7,100	850
Humphreys	16,500	8,200	1	Grainger	20,000	10,500	750
Lawrence	47,000	24,000	1,350	Greene	73,000	33,000	4,300
Lewis	5,500	2,800	1	Hamblen	19,000	9,600	600
Montgomery	26,000	14,000	1	Hamilton	11,500	5,100	1
Perry	6,000	3,200	1	Hancock	12,000	6,000	1
Robertson	38,000	18,000	1	Hawkins	34,000	19,000	1
Stewart	7,000	3,600	1	Jefferson	30,000	15,000	1
Wayne	21,000	10,500	1	Johnson	11,000	5,500	1
Other ¹	--	---	3,950	Knox	20,000	10,500	1
District 30	235,000	119,000	5,300	Loudon	25,000	9,700	2,900
Bedford	56,000	25,000	1,100	McMinn	39,000	16,000	4,200
Cannon	21,500	7,300	600	Meigs	12,000	6,500	1
Clay	17,500	8,200	1	Monroe	33,000	10,500	3,700
Davidson	6,000	3,500	1	Polk	7,300	2,600	1,400
De Kalb	20,000	10,800	1	Rhea	11,000	5,400	1
Giles	57,000	26,000	1	Roane	12,000	6,700	1
Jackson	14,000	7,900	1	Sevier	17,000	9,000	1
Lincoln	57,000	27,000	1,100	Sullivan	29,000	13,000	1
Macon	24,000	13,400	1	Unicoi	1,500	700	1
Marshall	31,000	15,000	3,000	Union	9,000	5,100	1
Maury	57,000	27,000	1	Washington	47,000	20,000	2,300
Moore	15,000	5,400	1	Other ¹	---	---	5,225
Rutherford	41,000	20,000	925	District 60	605,000	283,000	28,500
Smith	27,000	13,000	1	Other ²	---	---	3,200
Sumner	43,000	21,000	1	State Total	1,980,000	951,000	59,000
Trousdale	9,000	5,000	1				
Williamson	36,000	15,500	1				
Wilson	48,000	25,000	1				
Other ¹	---	---	4,775				
District 40	580,000	276,000	11,500				

¹ Combined with "Other" counties to avoid disclosure of individual operations. ² Districts 10 and 20 combined into "Other."

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Selected States
and United States, During April 2008 and 2009**

Selected States	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 or more		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	Number	Number
Alabama	1,256	1,398	9,438	9,260	1,865	1,890
Arkansas	3,572	3,422	13,590	12,467	1,898	1,957
Georgia	9,106	9,042	18,673	17,779	2,008	2,081
North Carolina	5,000	5,533	12,660	12,784	2,022	2,042
All Other States ²	256,809	258,590	286,477	287,350	2,202	2,230
United States	275,743	277,985	340,838	339,640	2,163	2,196

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size. ² Tennessee included in other states.

Livestock Slaughter¹: Tennessee & United States, April 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	
Tennessee						
Cattle	2.5	3.1	2,120	2,673	874	877
Calves	0.1	0.1	33	39	442	475
Hogs	48.4	46.5	23,309	21,195	482	458
Sheep & lambs	1.1	1.1	84	74	76	69
United States						
Cattle	2,961.1	2,772.1	3,716,023	3,525,518	1,259	1,276
Calves	73.3	68.0	20,133	18,883	278	281
Hogs	9,996.0	9,431.1	2,690,357	2,564,114	269	272
Sheep & lambs	221.2	229.1	30,572	30,822	138	135

¹ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter (excludes farm slaughter).