



Tennessee Farm Facts

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

June Acreage Grain Stocks Hog Inventory Cotton Biotech Prices Received
Soybean Percent of Acreage

July 8, 2008

Tennessee Farmers Make Adjustments to Earlier Intentions

Tennessee farmers planted more corn and wheat from intentions earlier in the year, but less soybeans and cotton. Based on a recent survey conducted by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Tennessee Field Office, soybeans growers are still planning to plant significantly more acreage than 2007, but not quite the increase anticipated in March. Overall, corn acreage is down from last year, as favorable prices for other crops and high input costs caused farmers shift to alternative crops. Cotton acreage is expected to decline as well, down over 200,000 acres from 2007. This represents the largest single-year drop in cotton acreage since 1954. Crop acreages and expected changes from last year are as follows: **Cotton**, 300,000 acres, down 42 percent; **Soybeans**, 1.41 million acres, up 36 percent; **Corn**, 700,000 acres, down 20 percent; **All Tobacco**, 21,400 acres, up 7 percent; **Wheat**, 640,000 acres, up 52 percent; and **All Hay**, 1.82 million acres, up 6 percent.

Cotton Acreage Lowest in a Quarter Century

Cotton acreage for 2008 is estimated at 300,000 acres, down 215,000 from last year and the lowest in the State since 1983. Producers switched from cotton to other crops due to higher prices of competing grain and oilseed crops and increased input costs for cotton. Ninety-seven percent of the crop was planted with biotechnology varieties, with the largest percentage being stacked gene. Poor planting weather this spring resulted in the crop being planted 10 days behind the normal pace. Crop development is lagging two weeks behind normal with only a tenth of the acreage having reached the squaring stage. The crop is currently rated in mostly good-to-fair condition.

Soybean Acreage Highest in 22 Years

Tennessee's 2008 soybean acreage is estimated at 1.41 million acres, down 40,000 acres from earlier intentions in March, but 370,000 acres more than last year. Area for harvest is estimated at 1.38 million acres, up 410,000 acres from 2007. Planting progress is slightly behind the average pace in most areas with three-fourths of the acreage in the ground by mid-June. Forty percent of the crop was planted or will be planted following another harvested crop, such as wheat. As of June 22, sixty-nine percent of the crop had emerged and was rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition.

Corn Down from Last Year but Above Intentions

The State's corn acreage is estimated at 700,000 acres, down 170,000 from last year. Growers expect to harvest 640,000 acres for grain, 145,000 less than last year. Favorable prices for other crops, such as wheat and soybeans, along with crop rotation considerations and high input costs, were factors in farmers switching from corn to competing crops. Farmers, however, increased plantings 8 percent from their March intentions, as the outlook for corn prices have remained strong. Planting of this year's crop was virtually complete by the end of May. As of June 22, just under a tenth of the crop had entered the silking stage and most of the acreage was rated in good-to-excellent condition. Area planted to **sorghum** in 2008 is estimated at 25,000 acres, up 3,000 from 2007. Sorghum for grain harvest is estimated at 22,000 acres, also up 3,000 acres from last year.

Burley Acreage Holds Steady; Dark Types to Increase

For the first time in 8 years, the State's burley tobacco acreage did not decline 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 21,400 acres, up 1,420 acres from the year earlier. The dark-types are both expected to be up from a year earlier. Tobacco acreage and change from 2007 are as follows: **dark fire-cured**, 7,200 acres, up 16 percent; **dark air-cured**, 1,200 acres, up 54 percent. As of June 22, transplanting was nearing completion, slightly ahead of the five-year average.

Wheat Acreage Highest since 1984

The 2008 winter wheat planted area is estimated at 640,000 acres, up 220,000 acres from 2007 and the highest since 1984. This large increase is particularly significant since it follows on the heels of the 140,000 acre jump from 2006 to 2007. Market prices at record high levels have been the primary catalyst for this upward trend. Grain harvest is expected to reach 550,000 acres, up more than double the 2007 total of 260,000 acres, and the largest one year increase since 1981. As of June 22, two-thirds of the crop had been harvested, slightly ahead of the normal pace.

Hay Acreage up 6 Percent

Tennessee producers intend to harvest 1.82 million acres of hay in 2008, up 6 percent from a year earlier. **Alfalfa** acreage is estimated at 20,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from last year. **All other** hay is estimated at 1.80 million acres, up 100,000 acres from 2007. Tennessee's hay harvest has advanced ahead of schedule this year, as the weather turned warm and dry after a cool, wet start to spring. While quality has been a minor issue in some areas, most farmers are reporting an increase in yields from last year's dismal crop. As of June 22, the crop was rated in mostly good-to-fair condition with pastures rated similarly.

Planted and Harvested Acreage of Principal Crops: Tennessee and U.S., 2007-2008

Crop	Planted Acres		Harvested Acres		
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2008/2007
	1,000 Acres				Percent
TENNESSEE					
Corn	870	700	785	640	82
Cotton	515	300	510	¹	-
Soybeans	1,040	1,410	970	1,380	142
Winter Wheat	420	640	260	550	212
Sorghum	22	25	19	22	116
Hay, all	-	-	1,725	1,820	106
Alfalfa	-	-	25	20	80
All Other	-	-	1,700	1,800	106
Tobacco, all	-	-	19.98	21.40	107
Dark fire-cured	-	-	6.20	7.20	116
Burley	-	-	13.0	13.0	100
Dark air-cured	-	-	.78	1.20	154
UNITED STATES					
Corn	93,600	87,327	86,542	78,940	91
Cotton ²	10,827.2	9,246.0	10,489.1	¹	-
Soybeans	63,631	74,533	62,820	72,121	115
Winter Wheat	44,987	46,605	35,952	40,252	112
Sorghum	7,718	7,271	6,805	6,405	94
Hay, all	-	-	61,625	60,439	98
Alfalfa	-	-	21,670	20,778	96
All Other	-	-	39,955	39,661	99
Tobacco, all	-	-	356.00	348.04	98
Dark fire-cured	-	-	14.60	16.60	114
Burley	-	-	106.30	96.45	91
Dark air-cured	-	-	4.98	5.70	114

¹Estimate to be released August 12, 2008. ²U.S. acreage includes American Pima cotton.

Grain Stocks: Tennessee and U.S., June 1, 2007-2008 with Comparisons

	Tennessee			United States		
	Jun 1, 2007	Mar 1, 2008	Jun 1, 2008	Jun 1, 2007	Mar 1, 2008	Jun 1, 2008
1,000 Bushels						
On-Farm Stocks ¹						
Corn				1,826,600	3,780,000	1,970,900
Wheat				73,190	91,990	25,653
Soybeans				500,000	593,000	226,600
Grain Sorghum				5,380	26,100	7,000
Oats				18,400	31,000	16,100
Off-Farm Stocks ²						
Corn	5,369	17,349	8,504	1,706,843	3,078,722	2,057,117
Wheat	3,172	5,660	³	382,963	617,280	279,983
Soybeans	2,173	1,417	563	592,185	840,982	449,491
Grain Sorghum	199	³	³	69,490	159,808	89,805
Oats	80	83	60	32,198	47,988	50,704
Total Stocks ¹						
Corn				3,533,443	6,858,722	4,028,017
Wheat				456,153	709,270	305,618
Soybeans				1,092,185	1,433,982	676,091
Grain Sorghum				74,870	185,908	96,805
Oats				50,598	78,988	66,804

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 up 6 Percent

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on June 1, 2008 was 67.7 million head. This was up 6 percent from June 1, 2007, and up 1 percent from March 1, 2008. Breeding inventory, at 6.07 million head, was down 1 percent from last year, and down 1 percent from the previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 61.6 million head, was up 7 percent from last year, and up 1 percent from last quarter. The March-May 2008 pig crop, at 29.0 million head, was up 4 percent from 2007 and up 9 percent from 2006. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 3.09 million head, up 2 percent from 2007 and up 6 percent from 2006. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 51 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.38 for the March-May 2008 period, compared to 9.20 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.70 to 9.40. U.S. hog producers intend to have 3.07 million sows farrow during the June-August 2008 quarter, down 2 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2007, but up 5 percent from 2006. Intended farrowings for September-November 2008, at 3.05 million sows, are down 4 percent from 2007 but up 3 percent from 2006. The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 41 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 39 percent last year.

Upland Cotton: Biotechnology Varieties by State and United States, Percent of Upland Cotton Planted, 2007-2008

State	Insect Resistant (Bt)		Herbicide Resistant		Stacked Gene Varieties		All Biotech Varieties	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent	
Alabama	10	18	25	15	60	65	95	98
Arkansas	32	30	16	4	47	64	95	98
California	4	7	51	45	6	8	61	60
Georgia	17	19	10	5	68	73	95	97
Louisiana	17	19	11	6	68	73	96	98
Mississippi	16	19	19	13	62	66	97	98
Missouri	13	12	63	68	23	19	99	99
North Carolina	13	19	16	14	64	62	93	95
Tennessee	10	10	17	14	71	73	98	97
Texas	16	16	36	31	28	31	80	78
Other States ¹	27	22	20	20	42	48	89	90
United States	17	18	28	23	42	45	87	86

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

Prices Received by Farmers: Tennessee & U.S., June 2008 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Tennessee			United States		
		June 2007	May ¹ 2008	June ² 2008	June 2007	May ¹ 2008	June ² 2008

Dollars Per Unit

Field Crops

Corn	bu.	3.94	6.09	6.50	3.53	5.28	6.12
Cotton Lint	lb.	.441	.585	.585 ³	.454	.605	.592 ³
Sorghum	cwt.	⁴	⁴	n/a	6.11	9.32	11.70
Soybeans	bu.	7.67	12.90	13.50	7.51	12.10	13.50
Winter Wheat	bu.	4.69	6.14	n/a	5.00	8.17	8.00

Livestock

All Beef Cattle	cwt.	76.60	78.80	81.40	88.80	91.10	91.60
Steers & Heifers	cwt.	97.00	96.00	99.00	93.20	95.90	95.90
Cows	cwt.	46.00	53.00	55.00	50.10	53.90	53.80
Calves	cwt.	106.00	104.00	103.00	124.00	119.00	120.00

¹ Entire month. ² Mid-month. ³ Based on purchases first half of month. ⁴ Price 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, 2003-2007¹**

State	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Alabama	11	8	6	10	48
Arkansas	16	4	6	23	27
Georgia	61	51	69	77	61
Kentucky	34	29	21	26	36
Mississippi	8	1	4	14	13
Missouri	10	7	11	13	12
North Carolina	31	32	30	38	47
South Carolina	38	37	29	36	52
Tennessee	32	15	20	31	40
Virginia	37	7	25	44	56
United States	6	4	5	8	9

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.