



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Tennessee Farm Facts

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

October Crop Report Cotton Ginnings Chicken & Eggs Milk Production

October 24, 2007

TDA Release Burning Permits Monthly Cash Receipts

Yields Come Into Focus with Early Harvest

Farmers across the Volunteer State took advantage of mostly dry weather throughout the month of September to make excellent progress in harvesting the State's row crops. With harvest complete or actively underway, producers now have a much better assessment of actual crop yields. As of October 1, nearly all of the corn and tobacco acreage had been harvested, while just over a quarter of the soybeans and cotton was completed. The results of an October 1 survey of farmers conducted by the Tennessee Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service showed the following: **Corn**, 106 bushels per acre, down 19 bushels from a year earlier; **Cotton**, 756 pounds per acre, down 189 pounds from last year; **Soybeans**, 23 bushels per acre, 16 bushels below the previous year; **Burley Tobacco**, 1,600 pounds per acre, down 600 pounds from last year; and **Hay**, 1.3 tons per acre, down 1.0 tons from 2006. State Director Debra Kenerson explained, "Despite scattered showers during September, rain deficits were too great entering the month to make a positive impact on crop yields."

Tennessee's **cotton** production is forecast at 780,000 bales, down 43 percent from a year ago and the lowest output in seven years. This is due to the combination of a sharp acreage and yield decline from last year. Yields are expected to average 756 pounds per acre, down 189 pounds from a year ago and the lowest since 2002. Producers expect to harvest 495,000 acres, down 200,000 acres from 2006. Although harvest has progressed a full 2 weeks ahead of the normal pace, pickers are having a difficult time gathering the small, hard, extremely dry bolls. The intense heat and dry weather during August and into September caused plants to mature before the bolls could properly form and open.

Tennessee's **soybean** production is forecast as 22.8 million bushels, down 48 percent from 2006 and the lowest since 1966. Soybeans yields are expected to average 23 bushels per acre, down 1 bushel from last month's projection and 16 bushels from a year ago. Farmers planted an estimated 1.04 million acres this year. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 990,000 acres, down 140,000 from a year ago and the lowest since 1992. Although scattered rain fell across parts of the State during September, temperatures remained about ten degrees above normal. As a result, over half of the crop was rated in very poor to poor condition as of month's end. As of the week ending October 7, just over 40 percent of the crop had been harvested, a pace about a week ahead of normal.

Tennessee's **corn** production is forecast at 85.9 million bushels, up 37 percent from a year earlier. Corn yields are expected to average 106 bushels per acre, up 6 bushels from last month, but 19 bushels below 2006. Farmers planted an estimated 870,000 acres this year. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 810,000 acres for grain, up 62 percent from last year and the highest since 1985. Dry weather during September allowed farmers to make excellent harvest progress. As of the week ending September 30, virtually the entire crop had been shelled, over 3 weeks ahead of normal.

Tennessee's **burley** production is forecast at 19.2 million pounds, down 38 percent from a year ago, and if realized, the lowest level since 1922. Tobacco growers are expecting burley yields to average 1,600 pounds per acre, down 600 pounds from last year and the lowest since 1986. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 12,000 acres, down 2,000 from 2006. Harvest of the crop was nearly wrapped-up by October 1, on pace with normal. Curing conditions have been poor thus far. Nearly 15 percent of the burley has been stripped. Tennessee's dark-fired tobacco yields are forecast at 2,700 pounds per acre, down 500 pounds from a year ago, while dark air-cured is forecast to yield 2,200 pounds per acre, down 550 pounds from 2006.

Hay production, excluding alfalfa, is forecast at 2.42 million tons, 42 percent below 2006. Yields are expected to average 1.3 tons per acre, down a ton from last year and the lowest since 1962. Acreage is estimated at 1.86 million acres, up 60,000 acres from a year earlier. Livestock producers have endured limited grazing, as well as hay and water shortages due to an on-going drought. As of October 1, hay stocks were rated 46 percent very short, 37 percent short, and 17 percent adequate. Despite a few rain showers during September, pastures remained in mostly very poor to poor condition.

United States: Corn production is forecast at 13.3 billion bushels, up slightly from last month and 26 percent above 2006. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 154.7 bushels per acre, down 1.1 bushels from September but 5.6 bushels above last year. If realized, this would be the second highest yield on record, behind the 160.4 bushel yield in 2004. Production would be the largest on record as growers expect to harvest the most corn acres for grain since 1933. **Soybean** production is forecast at 2.60 billion bushels, down less than 1 percent from the September forecast and down 19 percent from last year's record high. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 41.4 bushels per acre, unchanged from last month but down 1.3 bushels from last year. All **Cotton** production is forecast at 18.2 million 480-pound bales, up 2 percent from last month but down 16 percent from last year's 21.6 million bales. Yield is expected to average 826 pounds per harvested acre, up 15 pounds from last month and up 12 pounds from 2006. If realized, the yield will be the third largest on record. Harvested area of all cotton is expected to total 10.5 million acres, unchanged from last month but down 17 percent from last year.

Crop Forecasts: Tennessee and United States, October 1, 2007, with Comparisons

Crop	Units	Harvested Acres		Yield Per Acre		Production	
			Indicated		Indicated		Indicated
		2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
		Thousand		Number of Units		Thousand	
Tennessee							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	10,000	100
Corn for grain	bu.	500	810	125	106	62,500	85,860
Cotton ¹	lb.	695	495	945	756	1,368	780
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	1,800	1,860	2.30	1.30	4,140	2,418
Peaches	ton	---	---	---	---	1.9	²
Soybeans	bu.	1,130	990	39	23	44,070	22,770
Tobacco, All	lb.	19.80	19.05	2,482	1,990	49,135	37,910
Dark fire-cured	lb.	5.30	6.40	3,200	2,700	16,960	17,280
Burley	lb.	14.00	12.00	2,200	1,600	30,800	19,200
Dark air-cured	lb.	0.50	0.65	2,750	2,200	1,375	1,430
Winter Wheat	bu.	190	260	64	41	12,160	10,660
United States							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	9,931,700	9,254,700
Corn for grain	bu.	70,648	86,071	149.1	154.7	10,534,868	13,318,102
Cotton ¹	lb.	12,731.5	10,543.0	814	826	21,587.8	18,153.5
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	39,423	40,338	1.78	1.87	70,000	75,617
Peaches	ton	---	---	---	---	1,010.1	1,026.9
Soybeans	bu.	74,602	62,818	42.7	41.4	3,188,247	2,598,046
Tobacco, All	lb.	338.9	355,070	2,144	2,000	726,644	709,965
Dark fire-cured	lb.	11.85	13.30	3,324	2,826	39,392	37,580
Burley	lb.	103.6	105.2	2,095	1,826	217,085	192,105
Dark air-cured	lb.	4.30	4.65	3,059	2,544	13,155	11,830
Winter Wheat	bu.	31,117	35,952	41.7	42.2	1,298,081	1,515,989

¹ Production in 480-lb. net weight bales. U.S. production includes American-Pima cotton. ² No significant commercial production due to freeze damage.

Cotton Ginnings: Running Bales Ginned (Excluding Linters) Prior to October 1, Crop Years 2004-2007

State	Running Bales Ginned			
	2004	2005	2006	2007
All Cotton				
AL	38,300	17,600	46,350	31,550
AZ	51,600	27,900	27,350	30,300
AR	113,500	288,700	367,750	281,950
CA	19,450	0	0	¹
GA	82,400	29,000	108,150	13,850
LA	131,200	300,400	397,050	49,100
MS	367,300	393,100	722,200	162,750
MO	28,250	56,150	5,050	234,100
NC	46,700	17,800	12,350	28,300
OK	1,850	800	500	1,200
SC	16,350	4,100	5,750	8,550
Tennessee	61,450	71,750	59,500	142,350
TX	1,265,750	1,107,000	813,600	559,300
US	2,226,500	2,314,450	2,572,150	1,560,650

¹ Not published to avoid disclosing individual gins.

**Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Selected States
and United States, During September 2006 and 2007**

Selected States	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Thousands				Number	
Alabama	1,660	1,182	8,748	9,082	1,875	1,861
Arkansas	4,489	4,241	13,964	13,900	1,905	1,928
Georgia	9,607	9,433	19,373	19,198	2,039	2,016
North Carolina	3,576	4,731	11,157	12,324	1,954	2,053
All Other States ²	261,215	255,615	289,905	285,337	2,203	2,205
United States	280,547	275,202	343,147	339,841	2,165	2,169

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

Tennessee Milk Production

Tennessee: July-September 2007 quarterly production of milk was 221 million pounds, down 5 percent from the same period in 2006. The average number of milk cows was 62,000 head, 3,000 head less than the same period a year earlier. April-June 2007 quarterly production of milk, at 272 million pounds, was down 4 percent from the April-June period in 2006. The average number of milk cows for the April-June quarter was 64,000 head, 3,000 less than a year earlier.

U.S.: Milk production in the U.S. during the July - September quarter totaled 46.1 billion pounds, up 3.1 percent from the July - September quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.16 million head, 44,000 head more than the same period last year.

Quarterly Milk Production: Tennessee and United States, July-September, 2006-2007

Item	Unit	Tennessee		United States	
		2006	2007	2006	2007
Milk cows on farms ¹	1,000 hd.	65	62	9,113	9,157
Milk production ²	Mil. lbs.	233	221	44,710	46,114

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

Fire Season, Dry Conditions Prompt Fire Safety Reminder

Officials with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry are reminding citizens of permit requirements and fire safety precautions for outdoor burning. "Because of the extremely dry conditions going into what is normally our driest time of the year and the traditional start of fire season, it's important that citizens call for a burning permit and follow fire safety recommendations for outdoor burning," said state forester Steve Scott. "Many areas of the state are still too dry to allow burning, and the permit system helps us communicate to the public when and where it is safe to burn."

According to state Forestry officials, burning permits are not likely to be issued in many areas of the state until substantial rainfall is received. When conditions improve, citizens should inquire about burning permits by calling their local Division of Forestry office listed in the phone directory under state government between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. A directory of state Forestry Division offices by county and fire safety tips also can be found on the Web at www.burnsafetn.org.

Activities requiring a burning permit include, but are not limited to unconfined, outdoor burning of brush and leaves, untreated wood waste, and burning to clear land. Burning permits are required in most areas unless superseded by local ordinance, so citizens are encouraged to check for any restrictions by municipalities.

Since Jan. 1, more than 2,900 fires have burned an estimated 40,900 acres in Tennessee, well above average for what is normally seen in a 12-month period. Escaped debris burns are the leading cause of wildfire. However, 36 percent of the wildfires this year have been due to arson, which is a class C felony punishable by three to 15 years in prison and up to \$10,000 fines. Anyone with information about suspected arson activity should call the state Fire Marshal's Arson Hotline toll-free at 1-800-762-3017. Burning without a permit is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by up to 30 days in jail and/or a fine not to exceed \$50. For more information, visit the Forestry Division's wildfire safety Web site at www.burnsafetn.org.

Final Monthly Cash Receipts, Tennessee, 2001-2006, All Commodities

Month	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
	Thousand Dollars					
January	225,200	195,497	208,658	243,577	276,286	219,906
February	164,765	124,589	180,031	160,729	191,212	159,667
March	150,744	139,980	194,798	189,050	192,723	164,293
April	153,948	133,067	160,710	167,513	172,816	161,147
May	142,224	132,044	142,119	165,114	170,739	176,629
June	174,522	169,010	159,777	161,068	157,120	183,471
July	152,691	142,913	136,585	165,213	152,596	172,409
August	157,841	183,088	183,425	260,393	211,125	223,604
September	214,633	221,573	256,420	279,103	230,869	249,048
October	236,709	191,842	299,314	244,679	308,580	326,855
November	242,336	228,314	359,464	270,970	280,454	308,043
December	198,503	193,376	297,632	244,978	220,308	219,857
Total	2,214,116	2,055,293	2,578,933	2,552,387	2,564,828	2,564,929

Source: Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, September 2007.

National Agricultural Summary, October 7 - 14, 2007: Cooler than average temperatures were evident along the Pacific Coast and into the Intermountain region, while rain accumulations were significant in northern California and the Pacific Northwest. The Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota were also cooler than average throughout the week, and heavy rain showers stretching from the eastern central Great Plains into the upper Midwest, delayed fieldwork. Elsewhere, warmer than average temperatures set records in the Midwest, South and East, early in the week, as the latter half of the week brought more seasonable temperatures, while rains in the Northeast provided drought relief. Corn harvested acreage, at 53 percent, was ahead of last year and normal by 14 and 12 points, respectively. The crop was reaped well ahead of the normal pace by 20 or more points in the central Corn Belt. Ninety-seven percent of soybean acreage was at or beyond the leaf-dropping stage, the same as last year, but 1 point ahead of normal. Producers planted 73 percent of the winter wheat acreage, 4 and 3 points behind last year and normal, respectively. Ninety-three percent of the cotton acreage was at or beyond the boll-opening stage, ahead of last year and the 5-year average pace by 2 and 5 points, respectively.