



Press Release

PR-129-06

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On: TEXAS WHEAT PRODUCTION
DOWN 63 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

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For Release: IMMEDIATELY (May 12, 2006)

AUSTIN . . . The 2006 Texas winter wheat crop is forecast at 35.1 million bushels, down 63 percent from 2005, and 68 percent lower than 2004. This forecast is down 14 percent from the Texas April forecast.

According to a May 1 survey conducted by the Texas Field Office, statewide yield is expected to average 27.0 bushels per acre, down 5 bushels from last year, and down 4 bushels from two years ago. Harvested acreage for grain, at 1.3 million acres, is down 57 percent from 2005.

"Drought has devastated the wheat crop. Acres harvested for grain are at the lowest level since 1925 and grain production hasn't been this low since 1971," reported Acting State Director Bob Garino.

Production on the Northern High Plains is forecast at 13.5 million bushels, down 76 percent from last year. Winter wheat production on the Blacklands is forecast at 8.6 million bushels, up 39 percent from last year. The Low Plains' production is estimated at 7.7 million bushels, down 61 percent from last year.

United States winter wheat production for 2006 is forecast at 1.32 billion bushels, down 12 percent from 2005. Yield is expected to average 42.4 bushels per acre, 2.0 bushels lower than a year ago. Acreage to be harvested for grain is expected to total 31.2 million acres, down 8 percent from last season.

TEXAS WHEAT: ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION, 2005 AND 2006 ^{1/}

| Districts | Planted acres | | Harvested acres | | Yield per acre | | Production | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------|
| | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 | 2006 |
| | <u>1,000 acres</u> | | <u>1,000 acres</u> | | <u>Bushels</u> | | <u>1,000 bushels</u> | |
| 1-N | 2,268 | 2,200 | 1,572 | 450 | 35.8 | 30.0 | 56,246 | 13,500 |
| 1-S | 422 | 510 | 113 | 75 | 28.1 | 30.7 | 3,170 | 2,300 |
| 2-N | 647 | 560 | 330 | 190 | 28.4 | 18.9 | 9,358 | 3,600 |
| 2-S | 954 | 870 | 441 | 190 | 23.7 | 21.6 | 10,471 | 4,100 |
| 3 | 470 | 530 | 138 | 60 | 26.6 | 25.0 | 3,671 | 1,500 |
| 4 | 345 | 650 | 176 | 270 | 35.3 | 31.9 | 6,208 | 8,600 |
| 7 | 240 | 230 | 147 | 45 | 29.8 | 23.3 | 4,385 | 1,050 |
| 8-N | 74 | 60 | 50 | 13 | 29.6 | 21.5 | 1,479 | 280 |
| Other districts ^{2/} | 80 | 90 | 33 | 7 | 30.7 | 24.3 | 1,012 | 170 |
| STATE | 5,500 | 5,700 | 3,000 | 1,300 | 32.0 | 27.0 | 96,000 | 35,100 |

^{1/} Preliminary 2006. ^{2/} Districts with less than 50,000 acres planted are included in other districts.

