



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**VIRGINIA FIELD OFFICE**

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## **VIRGINIA'S CORN AND PEANUT YIELDS UNCHANGED COTTON, SOYBEAN AND BURLEY TOBACCO YIELDS DOWN FROM THE PREVIOUS FORECAST**

Dry conditions for most of August have lowered Virginia's row crop yield prospects. Based on conditions as of September 1<sup>st</sup>, Virginia producers expected lower yields for cotton, soybean, and *burley* tobacco according to the Virginia Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Virginia corn yields are expected to average 104 bushels per acre, unchanged from the previous forecast on August 1. Production is expected to total 37 million bushels, which is up 9 percent from the previous year.

The state's peanut yield is forecast to be 2,900 pounds per acre. This is unchanged from the August forecast. Production is expected to total 66.7 million pounds, which is up 18 percent from last year. Peanut producers will harvest 23,000 acres in 2008 which is an increase of 2,000 acres from the previous year.

Based on September 1 conditions, cotton yields are forecast to be 788 pounds per acre, down 45 pounds per acre from August 1. Production is expected to total 105 thousand bales.

Soybean producers expect to harvest an average of 27 bushels per acre from 530,000 acres, a decrease of 2 bushels per acre from the previous forecast of 29 bushels per acre on August 1. Production is expected to total 14.3 million bushels.

Burley tobacco yield is forecast to be 1,700 pounds per acre, bringing total production to 3.6 million pounds from 2,100 acres. This is down from last years average yield of 1,970 pounds per acre and a total production of 4.3 million pounds harvested from 2,200 acres.

Flue tobacco yield remains unchanged from the previous forecast of 2,300 pounds per acre. Production is expected to total 41.4 million pounds from 18,000 acres.

Fire tobacco yield is forecast to be 2,000 pounds per acre. Production is forecast at 1 million pounds from 500 acres.

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Cooperating with Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

**Corn Production Down 2 Percent from August Forecast**  
**Soybean Production Down 1 Percent**  
**Cotton Production Up 1 Percent**

U.S. **corn** production is forecast at 12.1 billion bushels, down 2 percent from last month and 8 percent below 2007. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 152.3 bushels per acre, down 2.7 bushels from August but 1.2 bushels above last year. If realized, yield will be the second highest on record, behind 2004, while production will be the second largest, behind last year.

**Soybean** production in the U.S. is forecast at 2.93 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the August forecast but up 13 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the fourth largest production on record. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 40.0 bushels per acre, down 0.5 bushel from last month and down 1.2 bushels from 2007. Compared with last month, yields are forecast lower or unchanged in the mid-Atlantic States, the central and eastern Corn Belt, Louisiana, Nebraska, and South Dakota. Yields increased or are unchanged from the August 1 forecast across the Southeast and the remainder of the Great Plains. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 73.3 million acres, unchanged from last month but up 17 percent from 2007.

All U.S. **cotton** production is forecast at 13.8 million 480-pound bales, up 1 percent from last month but down 28 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 849 pounds per harvested acre, up 7 pounds from last month but down 30 pounds from the record yield in 2007. Upland cotton production is forecast at 13.4 million 480-pound bales, up 1 percent from last month but 27 percent below 2007.

U.S. all **tobacco** production for 2008 is forecast at 815 million pounds, 2 percent above last month and up 4 percent from 2007. Area harvested is forecast at 356,040 acres, up 2 percent from August 1 but virtually unchanged from a year ago. Yields for 2008 are expected to average 2,289 pounds per acre, up 18 pounds from the previous forecast and 98 pounds greater than 2007. U.S. **flue-cured tobacco** production is expected to total 520 million pounds, 3 percent above both the previous forecast and last year. Growers plan to harvest 226,500 acres in 2008, up 2 percent from both the August 1 forecast and a year ago. Yields are forecast to average 2,295 pounds per acre, 27 pounds above the last forecast and up 36 pounds from 2007.



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