



NEWS RELEASE

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

102 Governor St., Rm LL20, Richmond VA 23219 • (804) 771-2493
Ag Statistics Hotline: (800) 727-9540 • www.nass.usda.gov



Contact: Herman Ellison, Director

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VIRGINIA'S CORN, COTTON, PEANUT AND SOYBEAN YIELDS ARE UP FROM THE PREVIOUS FORECAST

Virginia's corn yield as of November 1 is estimated to be 101 bushels to the acre, up two bushels per acre from the previous month's forecast. Corn producers in the Commonwealth are expected to harvest 350,000 acres, down 55,000 acres from last year. Production is forecast at 35.4 million bushels, up 3 percent from last year.

Cotton yields are forecast to be 863 pounds per acre, up 113 pound per acre from last month and 34 pounds per acre from last year. Production is expected to total 115,000 bales. Cotton growers in the Commonwealth expect to harvest 64,000 acres in 2008.

The Commonwealth's peanut yield is forecast to be 3,400 pounds per acre, up 600 pounds per acre from the previous month's forecast. Production is estimated to be 78.2 million pounds, up 49 percent from last year. Producers are expected to harvest 23,000 acres in 2008.

Virginia's soybean producers are averaging 30 bushels per acre, up 2 bushels per acre from the October forecast and up 2.5 bushels from last year. Soybean production is expected to total 17.1 million bushels from 570,000 acres.

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U.S. Corn Production Down Slightly from October
U.S. Soybean Production Down Less Than 1 Percent
U.S. Cotton Production Down 1 Percent

U.S. **corn** production is forecast at 12.0 billion bushels, down slightly from the October forecast and 8 percent below 2007. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 153.8 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushel from October but 2.7 bushels above last year. If realized, this will be the second highest yield on record, behind 2004, and production will be the second largest, behind last year. Forecasted yields are higher than last year across the northern half of the Great Plains and northern and central Corn Belt. Yield prospects are lower than last year in the southern half of the Great Plains and Delta.

Soybean production in the U.S. is forecast at 2.92 billion bushels, down less than 1 percent from the October forecast but up 9 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the fourth largest production on record. Based on November 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 39.3 bushels per acre, down 0.2 bushel from October 1 and down 2.4 bushels from 2007. Compared with October 1, yields are forecast lower or unchanged across the Corn Belt and Great Plains, with the exception of Illinois, Indiana, and Missouri. Yields increased from the October 1 forecast in Alabama, Arkansas, Tennessee, New York, and Virginia. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 74.4 million acres, unchanged from October 1 but up 16 percent from 2007.

All U.S. **cotton** production is forecast at 13.5 million 480-pound bales, down 1 percent from last month and down 30 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 837 pounds per harvested acre, down 12 pounds from last month and down 42 pounds from the record high yield in 2007. Upland cotton production is forecast at 13.1 million 480-pound bales, down 1 percent from last month and 29 percent below 2007. Texas producers expect lower yields than last month, while producers in the Southeast are expecting increased yields. Upland growers in Alabama and New Mexico are expecting record high yields. American-Pima production is forecast at 459,000 bales, up 2 percent from last month but down 46 percent from last year.

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USDA/NASS/Virginia Field Office
P. O. Box 1659
Richmond, VA 23218-1659
Phone (804) 771-2493
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>

Address Service Requested