

CROPS

GENERAL

Corn for grain yields were down from normal due to less than optimal growing conditions during 2005. The average yield was down 22 bushels per acre from the record yield in 2004. Hay yields were normal for the year. Soybean yields were below normal, but wheat yields were up. Tobacco yields were above normal. Due to decreased acreage in the State, tobacco estimates for West Virginia will be discontinued after the 2005 crop year.

ALL HAY

All hay harvested area in 2005 totaled 575,000 acres, unchanged from 2004. The average yield in 2005 was 1.86 tons per acre compared to 1.85 tons per acre in 2004. Production totaled 1.070 million tons, up from 1.062 million tons in 2004. Value of production totaled \$65.5 million, slightly above the revised \$65.2 million in 2004. Price per ton averaged \$61.00, compared to \$61.50 for 2004.

ALFALFA & ALFALFA MIXTURES

Alfalfa hay area harvested totaled 35,000 acres in 2005, down 10,000 acres from 2004. Yields in 2005 averaged 2.8 tons per acre, up 0.4 of a ton from 2004. Production totaled 98,000 tons, down 10,000 tons from 2004. Value of production totaled \$10.1 million, down 7 percent from 2004. Average price per ton was \$103.00, up \$3.00 from the revised average price for 2004. New seedings of alfalfa in 2005 were estimated at 7,000 acres, up 4,000 acres from 2004 seedings.

OTHER HAY

All other hay area harvested totaled 540,000 acres in 2005, up 10,000 acres from 2004. Yields averaged 1.8 tons per acre, the same as 2004. Production totaled 972,000 tons, up 18,000 tons from 2004. Value of production totaled \$55.4 million, up 2 percent from the revised value for 2004. Price per ton averaged \$57.00, unchanged from the revised average in 2004.

CORN

Area planted to corn for all purposes in 2005 totaled 45,000 acres, down 3,000 acres from 2004. Harvested area for grain totaled 28,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from 2004. The average yield of 109.0 bushels per acre was down 22 bushels from the previous year's record

high of 131.0 bushels. Production was 3.1 million bushels, down 20 percent from 2004. Value of production totaled \$6.1 million, down 27 percent from the revised value for 2004. Average price per bushel was \$2.00, down \$0.20 from the revised average for 2004. Corn for silage area harvested was 16,000 acres in 2005, down 2,000 acres from 2004. Yields averaged 15.5 tons per acre which was down 1.5 tons from the previous year's yield. Silage production was estimated at 248,000 tons, down 19 percent from 2004.

SOYBEANS

Area planted to soybeans totaled 18,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from 2004. Area harvested for beans totaled 17,000 acres, also down 1,000 acres from 2004. The yield for soybeans in 2005 averaged 35.0 bushels per acre, down 11 bushels from 2004. Production was estimated at 595,000 bushels, down 28 percent from 2004. Value of production totaled \$3.2 million, down 27 percent from the revised value for 2004. Price per bushel averaged \$5.45, up \$0.11 from the revised average for 2004.

WHEAT

Wheat planted acres totaled 7,000 in 2005, down 1,000 acres from 2004. Area harvested for grain totaled 5,000 acres, unchanged from 2004. The average yield for 2005 was estimated to be 60.0 bushels per acre. This was up 8 bushels from the previous year. Production was estimated at 300,000 bushels, up 15 percent, or 40,000 bushels from 2004. Value of production totaled \$915 thousand, up 16 percent from the revised value for 2004. Price per bushel averaged \$3.05, up \$0.01 from the revised average for 2004.

TOBACCO

Burley tobacco area harvested totaled 400 acres in 2005, down 900 acres from the previous year. This was a record low for acres harvested. Yields averaged 1,700 pounds per acre, up 400 pounds from 2004. Production for burley tobacco totaled 680,000 pounds in 2005, down 60 percent from last year. Value of production totaled \$1.05 million, down 68 percent from the revised value in 2004. Average price per pound was \$1.55, down \$0.42 from the revised average for 2004.