

2007 Crop Production

Wisconsin reported above normal temperatures for the entire 2007 growing season. Statewide, precipitation for June and July was below normal. Late July rains in southern Wisconsin (the main corn growing area), however, led to localized flooding. Wisconsin experienced moisture levels either too dry or too wet during both pollination and grain fill. After the flooding, there was concern of plant standability, as fields were under water for extended periods, providing ideal conditions for plant disease. September and October continued the trend of above normal temperatures. Statewide moisture levels during these two months were adequate. Fall weather pushed crops to mature at above average rates, and rainfall made for muddy fields at harvest time. Spotty northern rains and surplus rains in the south caused extremely variable yields at harvest time.

Corn

Wisconsin farmers planted 4.05 million acres to corn in 2007, an 11 percent increase from last year. Of those acres planted, 3.28 million were harvested for grain with a yield of 135.0 bushels per acre. Michigan was the only neighboring state to report a lower corn grain yield than Wisconsin in 2007. This year's corn crop set a record for highest production, at 443 million bushels. The previous grain production record was set in 1994 with 437 million bushels of corn produced. Silage area harvested has declined since 2004, reaching 745,000 acres this year. Corn silage acres yielded 16.0 tons per acre for 2007, down 1.0 bushel from the previous year. Silage production was 11.9 million tons this season, compared to 14.1 million tons in 2006.

Nationally, farmers planted 93.6 million acres to corn in 2007, a 19 percent increase from 2006. Corn acres harvested for grain yielded 151.1 bushels per acre, up 2.0 bushels from last year. The 2007 yield estimate is the second highest on record, behind 2004, while production is the largest on record as producers harvested the most corn acres for grain since 1933. U.S. corn production was 13.1 billion bushels in 2007, compared to 10.5 billion bushels in 2006.

Soybeans

Soybean acres planted in Wisconsin declined to 1.35 million acres in 2007—the same acreage planted to soybeans as in 1999. Statewide yield was 39.0 bushels per acre, down 5.0 bushels from 2006. Wisconsin tied Michigan for soybean yield in 2007. All other surrounding states had higher soybean yields. The 2007 soybean crop produced 51.9 million bushels, down 28 percent from a year ago.

U.S. soybean area planted and harvested were both down 16 percent from 2006, to 63.6 million acres planted and 62.8 million acres harvested. Yield was down 1.5 bushels per acre from a year ago, reaching 41.2 bushels per acre. Production is estimated at 2.59 billion bushels of soybeans in 2007, compared to 3.19 billion bushels in 2006.

Small Grains

Winter wheat was the only small grain to show an increase in acres planted for 2007. Area seeded to winter wheat in the fall of 2006 was 290,000 acres, an increase of 40,000 acres from a year earlier. Area harvested for grain was 270,000 acres, a 17 percent increase from last year. Yield dropped 9 bushels per acre from last year to reach 69.0 bushels per acre. The increased acreage planted and harvested offset the decrease in yield for winter wheat production. As a result, production reached 18.6 million bushels, an increase of 4 percent from 2006. Nationally, winter wheat was planted to 45.0 million acres, an 11 percent increase. Area harvested was 36.0 million acres, compared to 31.1 million acres in 2006. Winter wheat yield was 42.2 bushels per acre, a slight increase. Production increased from 1.30 billion bushels in 2006 to 1.52 billion bushels in 2007.

Wisconsin producers seeded 330,000 acres of winter wheat for the 2008 crop year. This is an increase of 40,000 acres from 2007 and is the highest on record. Nationally, an estimated 46.6 million acres were seeded, up 4 percent from 2007.

Wisconsin seeded 270,000 acres to **oats** in 2007, a 100,000 acre decrease from 2006. Statewide farmers harvested 160,000 acres for grain. Yield increased 4.0 bushels per acre from a year ago to reach 67.0 bushels per acre. Overall production was 10.7 million bushels, a 26 percent decline from the previous year. U.S. acreage planted to oats was 3.76 million acres a decline from 4.17 million acres in 2006. Area harvested for grain changed slightly from 1.57 million acres in 2006 to 1.51 million acres in 2007. Yield increased by 1.1 bushels from 2006, to 60.9 bushels per acre in 2007. Nationally, oat production declined 2 percent to 91.6 million bushels.

Barley area seeded declined 10,000 acres in Wisconsin, to 40,000 acres in 2007. Acres harvested for grain was 23,000 in 2007, compared to 30,000 acres in 2006. Barley yield increased 3.0 bushels, reaching 57.0 bushels per acre. Wisconsin barley production was 1.31 million bushels. Nationwide, barley was seeded to 4.02 million acres and harvested for grain on 3.51 million acres. The U.S. barley crop yielded 60.4 bushels per acre, a less than 1.0 bushel decrease from the previous year. Barley production was 212 million bushels, up from 180 million bushels in 2006.

Other **spring wheat** area planted and harvested each decreased 2,000 acres to 9,000 acres and 8,000 acres, respectively. Yield remained the same from 2006, at 35.0 bushels per acre. Other spring wheat production decreased 20 percent from a year ago, to 280,000 bushels in 2007. Other spring wheat was planted to 13.3 million acres nationwide. U.S. farmers harvested 12.9 million acres for grain. The U.S. crop yielded 37.0 bushels per acre and produced 479 million bushels in 2007.

Hay

Wisconsin farmers harvested 1.65 million acres of alfalfa or alfalfa mixture dry hay in 2007, unchanged from 2006. Yield dropped slightly from 2.80 tons per acre in 2006, to 2.40 tons per acre in 2007, the same yield achieved in 2005. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay production was 3.96 million tons in 2007, down from 4.62 million tons a year ago. Alfalfa haylage or greenchop was harvested from 1.35 million acres in Wisconsin during 2007, down 50,000 acres from 2006. Yield (green weight) was 6.50 tons per acre, down from 6.80 tons per acre a year earlier. Alfalfa haylage or greenchop production was 8.78 million tons statewide, down 8 percent from 2006.

Nationally, farmers harvested 21.7 million acres of alfalfa or alfalfa mixture dry hay in 2007, a slight increase from the previous year. Yield was virtually unchanged from 3.36 tons per acre in 2006 to 3.35 tons per acre in 2007. U.S. alfalfa or alfalfa mixture dry hay production was 72.6 million tons, up slightly from a year ago. Nationwide alfalfa haylage or greenchop acreage harvested was 3.25 million acres. Wisconsin accounts for 42 percent of the alfalfa haylage or greenchop nationwide harvested acreage. U.S. alfalfa haylage or greenchop yield was 6.44 tons per acre in 2007 compared to 6.91 tons per acre in 2006. Nationwide alfalfa haylage or greenchop production reached 20.9 million tons in 2007, down 8 percent from last year.

All other hay harvested as dry hay accounted for 370,000 acres in Wisconsin during 2007, a 24 percent decline from 2006. Yield was 1.50 tons per acre, the same as 2005 and a tenth of an acre below 2006. Production of all other hay harvested as dry hay totaled 555,000 tons in 2007, compared to 784,000 tons a year ago. Nationally, 40.0 million acres of all other hay were harvested as dry hay, virtually unchanged from 2006. Nationwide, the all other hay dry hay crop yielded 1.95 tons per acre, up from 1.78 tons per acre in 2006. All other hay dry hay production was 77.7 million tons in 2007, compared to 70.3 million tons the previous year.

Potatoes

Wisconsin farmers planted 64,500 acres of fall potatoes, down from 66,000 acres in 2006. Area harvested in 2007 was 64,000 acres, down 2,000 acres. Potatoes yielded 440 hundredweight (cwt.) per acre statewide in 2007, compared to 445 cwt. per acre a year earlier. Potato production was 28.2 million cwt. in 2007, down 4 percent from 2006. Nationwide, farmers planted 53,700 acres to summer and 1.01 million acres to fall potatoes. Fall potato area harvested was 996,700 acres nationally. Summer potatoes yielded 335 cwt. per acre, while fall potatoes yielded 410 cwt. per acre during 2007. Total U.S. production for summer and fall potatoes was 426 million cwt. in 2007.

Dry Edible Beans

Dry beans planted in Wisconsin during 2007 totaled 6,100 acres, an increase of 500 acres from 2006. Acres for harvest also climbed 500, to reach 6,000 acres. State dry bean production in 2006 totaled 92,000 cwt. with a yield of 1,530 pounds per acre. Wisconsin produces mostly dark red kidney beans and placed second in the nation for the production of those beans.

U.S. dry bean growers planted 1.53 million acres for 2007, down 6 percent from the previous year. Acres harvested were 1.48 million, a decline of 4 percent from 2006.

Mint

Wisconsin harvested 4,300 acres of peppermint and 900 acres of spearmint in 2007. Peppermint yielded 57 pounds per acre, compared to 40 pounds per acre for spearmint. Peppermint acres harvested produced 245,000 pounds, compared to spearmint production of 36,000 pounds in 2007. Yield and production were down for both crops compared to 2006.

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CROP SUMMARY, 2006-2007

Crop	2006					2007				
	Planted	Harvested	Unit	Yield	Production (thousands)	Planted	Harvested	Unit	Yield	Production (thousands)
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)				(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)			
WISCONSIN										
Corn for grain	3,650	2,800	Bu.	143.0	400,400	4,050	3,280	Bu.	135.0	442,800
Corn for silage	-	830	Tons	17.0	14,110	-	745	Tons	16.0	11,920
Soybeans for beans	1,650	1,640	Bu.	44.0	72,160	1,350	1,330	Bu.	39.0	51,870
Forage, (all) 1/	-	3,000	Tons	3.5	10,458	-	2,850	Tons	3.2	9,035
Alfalfa forage, (all) 1/	-	2,400	Tons	3.9	9,326	-	2,400	Tons	3.5	8,297
Hay, all (dry only)	-	2,140	Tons	2.5	2,115	-	2,020	Tons	2.2	2,387
Alfalfa, (dry only)	-	1,650	Tons	2.8	4,620	-	1,650	Tons	2.4	3,960
All other, (dry only)	-	490	Tons	1.6	784	-	370	Tons	1.5	555
Oats	370	230	Bu.	63.0	14,490	270	160	Bu.	67.0	10,720
Barley	50	30	Bu.	54.0	1,620	40	23	Bu.	57.0	1,311
Winter wheat	250	230	Bu.	78.0	17,940	290	270	Bu.	69.0	18,630
Spring wheat 2/	11	10	Bu.	35.0	350	9	8	Bu.	35.0	280
Potatoes (fall)	66	66	Cwt.	445.0	29,370	65	64	Cwt.	440.0	28,160
Dry edible beans	6	6	Cwt.	19.6	108	6	6	Cwt.	15.3	92
Peppermint	-	5	Lbs.	60.0	300	-	4	Lbs.	57.0	245
Spearmint	-	1	Lbs.	50.0	50	-	1	Lbs.	40.0	36
UNITED STATES										
Corn for grain	78,327	70,648	Bu.	149.1	10,534,868	93,600	86,542	Bu.	151.1	13,073,893
Corn for silage	-	6,477	Tons	16.2	105,129	-	6,071	Tons	17.5	106,328
Soybeans for beans	75,522	74,602	Bu.	42.7	3,188,247	63,631	62,820	Bu.	41.2	2,585,207
Forage, (all) 1/	-	37,486	Tons	2.7	101,305	-	37,434	Tons	2.9	107,124
Alfalfa forage, (all) 1/	-	16,129	Tons	3.9	62,020	-	16,030	Tons	3.8	60,294
Hay, all (dry only)	-	60,927	Tons	2.3	142,336	-	61,625	Tons	2.4	150,304
Alfalfa, (dry only)	-	21,434	Tons	3.4	72,006	-	21,670	Tons	3.4	72,575
All other, (dry only)	-	39,493	Tons	1.8	70,330	-	39,955	Tons	2.0	77,729
Oats	4,168	1,566	Bu.	59.8	93,638	3,760	1,505	Bu.	60.9	91,599
Barley	3,452	2,951	Bu.	61.1	180,165	4,020	3,508	Bu.	60.4	211,825
Winter wheat	40,575	31,117	Bu.	41.7	1,298,081	44,987	35,952	Bu.	42.2	1,515,989
Spring wheat 2/	14,899	13,878	Bu.	33.2	460,480	13,297	12,947	Bu.	37.0	479,047
Potatoes (fall)	994	983	Cwt.	406.0	398,921	1,011	997	Cwt.	410.0	409,082
Dry edible beans	1,630	1,538	Cwt.	15.8	24,247	1,527	1,479	Cwt.	17.2	25,371
Peppermint	-	79	Lbs.	92.0	7,248	-	73	Lbs.	93.0	6,794
Spearmint	-	19	Lbs.	110.0	2,038	-	20	Lbs.	121.0	2,379

1/Includes all acreage harvested for dry hay and/or haylage and all production from those acres on a dry equivalent basis.

2/Spring wheat other than durum. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO