

IDAHO NEWS RELEASE



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U.S. Corn Production at Record Levels; Sugarbeet Production Down from Last Year

Based on conditions as of September 1, Idaho's sugarbeet yield is forecast at 27.1 tons per acre, 0.5 ton above the August forecast, but 2.1 tons less than 2003 according to the Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service. Production is forecast at 5.20 million tons, 14 percent less than last year's production. Area expected for harvest is estimated at 192,000 acres, down 7 percent from a year ago.

Nationally, sugarbeet production is forecast at 28.5 million tons, 1 percent above the August forecast, but 7 percent below last year's production. Growers in the 12 sugarbeet-producing States expect to harvest 1.33 million acres, down fractionally from last month and 2 percent below last year. The yield is forecast at 21.5 tons per acre, 0.1 ton above the August forecast, but 1.2 tons below 2003. Corn production is forecast at 11.0 billion bushels, up fractionally from last month and 8 percent above 2003. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 149.4 bushels per acre, up 0.5 bushel from August and 7.2 bushels above last year. If realized, both production and yield would be the largest on record.

For More Information Call: (208) 334-1507