



KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS

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FEATURING : **i CROP PRODUCTION** **i DAIRY PRODUCTS**
 i TOBACCO OUTLOOK **i CORN FERTILIZER USE**

NOVEMBER CROP PRODUCTION

U.S. HIGHLIGHTS

Corn production was forecast at 9.54 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last month but down 2 percent from last year. If realized this would be the third largest production on record.

Corn yields were expected to average 134.5 bushels per acre. This would be the second highest yield on record. Yield prospects increased for Indiana and Minnesota, decreased for Iowa and held steady for Illinois and Nebraska.

Soybean production was forecast at 2.67 billion bushels, down 1 percent from October 1 and down 2 percent from last year's record of 2.74 billion bushels.

Soybean yield forecast at 36.7 bushels per acre, decreased 0.3 bushels from last month and 2.2 bushels from the 1998 final yield. Yield prospects increased for Illinois, while were down for Indiana, Iowa and Minnesota.

Eight-State Burley Belt production was forecast at 534.8 million pounds, virtually unchanged from last month but down 8 percent from a year ago.

KENTUCKY

The hot dry conditions experienced by farmers earlier this summer have persisted into the fall with above normal weekly temperatures and below normal precipitation. The continuation of the dry weather has allowed for an early harvest of the row crops in the State, but have hampered stripping of tobacco as humidity levels have remained relatively low. The final effects of the summer drought can be seen in the crop yields.

Burley production for November 1 was forecast at 376.3 million pounds, unchanged from last month's forecast but 10 percent below 1998. The estimated production would

be the smallest crop in the last three years. Yield forecast at 1,750 pounds per acre was unchanged from October. Harvested acreage at 215,000 acres remained the same as last month and 1998. Burley cutting progressed quicker than in 1998, and by October 3, 96 percent of the crop had been cut as compared to 94 percent in 1998. Stripping also exceeded 1998 with 33 percent complete by November 7 as compared to 31 percent last year. Heat and low humidity has prevented stripping from advancing even quicker. There was concern over the light weight of the stripped tobacco and the bright color. Condition of the stripped tobacco as of November 5 was 4 percent very poor, 17 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 3 percent excellent.

Corn for grain production was forecast at 124.0 million bushels, up 2 percent from October's forecast but down 5 percent from 1998. The November 1 yield was estimated at 100 bushels per acre, up 2 bushels from last month, but down 15 bushels from last year. Ninety-nine percent of the State's corn acres were reported harvested as of October 31, compared to 96 percent in 1998 and 89 percent for the five-year average. As harvest completion neared many farmers realized a better crop than anticipated earlier in the year.

Soybean production was forecast at 20.9 million bushels, unchanged from last month, but down 42 percent from 1998. This would be the smallest crop in 28 years. Yield was forecast at 19.0 bushels per acre, also unchanged from October, but down 11 bushels from last year. This would be the smallest yield since 1983. The summer's drought hit the double crop soybeans particularly hard, the heat was at its peak and soil moisture at its lowest levels, as they were blooming and setting pods. Some acres were cut for forage, and other acres were abandoned. Although the state has not yet received a killing frost, the soybean harvest had reached 90 percent complete as of November 7. This harvest rate was behind last year's 93 percent, but well ahead of the 5-year average of 74 percent.

CROP PRODUCTION

CROP SUMMARY, NOVEMBER 1 KENTUCKY AND UNITED STATES, 1998 - 1999

CROPS	UNIT	ACREAGE HARVESTED		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION		
		1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	
			Indicated		Indicated		Indicated	% of '98
		(Thousand)				(Thousand)		
KENTUCKY								
Corn for Grain	Bu.	1,180	1,240	115.0	100.0	135,700	124,000	91
Soybeans for Beans	Bu.	1,200	1,100	30.0	19.0	36,000	20,900	58
Sorghum for Grain ^{1/}	Bu.	8	7	80.0	80.0	640	560	88
Tobacco:								
All	Lbs.	226.26	226.35	1,961	1,777	443,628	402,313	91
Burley	Lbs.	215.00	215.00	1,935	1,750	416,025	376,250	90
Type 22 E. Fired	Lbs.	3.85	3.65	2,315	2,200	8,913	8,030	90
Type 23 W. Fired	Lbs.	3.60	3.45	2,805	2,600	10,098	8,970	89
Type 35 One Sucker	Lbs.	2.45	2.75	2,280	2,150	5,586	5,913	106
Type 36 Green River	Lbs.	1.36	1.50	2,210	2,100	3,006	3,150	105
UNITED STATES								
Corn for Grain	Bu.	72,604	70,925	134.4	134.5	9,761,085	9,537,137	98
Soybeans for Beans	Bu.	70,441	72,786	38.9	36.7	2,741,014	2,672,972	98
Sorghum for Grain	Bu.	7,723	8,499	67.3	70.1	519,933	595,997	115
Tobacco:								
All	Lbs.	717.66	649.14	2,061	1,956	1,479,179	1,269,775	86
Burley	Lbs.	307.10	305.70	1,896	1,750	582,336	534,836	92
Type 22 E. Fired	Lbs.	11.15	10.75	2,325	2,200	25,922	23,650	91
Type 23 W. Fired	Lbs.	4.19	4.02	2,762	2,557	11,573	10,281	89
Type 35 One	Lbs.	2.98	3.35	2,238	2,123	6,657	7,113	107
Sucker								
Type 36 Green	Lbs.	1.36	1.50	2,210	2,100	3,006	3,150	105
River								

^{1/} Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.

U. S. DAIRY PRODUCTS, SEPTEMBER 1999

PRODUCT	September	August	September	Percent of	
	1998	1999 ^{1/}	1999	Sept 1998	Aug 1999
(000) Pounds			Percent		
BUTTER	68,218	66,059	78,773	116	119
CHEESE					
American Types ^{2/}	244,913	294,471	283,651	116	96
Mozzarella	185,248	209,361	202,509	109	97
All Other Types ^{3/}	153,951	147,513	153,517	100	104
Total	584,112	651,345	639,677	110	98
(000) Gallons			Percent		
FROZEN PRODUCTS					
Ice Cream (Hard)	72,851	80,599	71,345	98	89
Frozen Yogurt (Total)	8,641	7,853	7,045	82	90
MIX FOR FROZEN PRODUCTS					
Ice Cream Mix	40,344	46,554	40,310	100	87
Yogurt Mix	5,469	4,970	4,459	82	90

^{1/} Revised. ^{2/} Includes Cheddar, Colby, Monterey, and Jack. ^{3/} Includes Swiss, cream and all other types. Excludes cottage cheese.

BURLEY DOMESTIC DISAPPEARANCE DOWN 8 PERCENT

Total burley tobacco use is likely to fall in 1998/99 (October-September marketing year). About 63 percent of the crop will be used for domestic cigarette production, 34 percent exported, and the remainder used for other products, primarily smoking tobacco.

Domestic use of U.S. burley in 1998/99 is expected to slide about 8 percent from 1997/98 to about 350 million pounds, much less than the previous year's decline. Lower cigarette output and reduced leaf exports contributed to the decrease. Carryover of U.S.-grown burley is expected to rise about 6 percent because marketings will exceed use.

For the first 9 months of 1998/99, burley exports totaled 150.0 million pounds, farm sales weight, about 4 percent above a year earlier. For the 1998/99 marketing year, exports should total about 180 million pounds, short of the previous year's record 209.5 million pounds.

The September 1 forecast of the 1999 U.S. burley crop is 536.1 million pounds, about 9 percent less than last year. Quota cuts reduced planted acres. Yields are expected to be down slightly from last season due to extremely dry conditions during last July and August.

FIRE-CURED (TYPE 22-23) DISAPPEARANCE WAS UNCHANGED

Fire-cured tobacco is mainly used in making snuff and plug and twist chewing tobacco. About half the crop is usually exported. During the last four seasons, production and use have rebounded. Strong demand has boosted prices.

Disappearance of Kentucky-Tennessee fire-cured (type 22-23) during the first 9 months of the 1998/99 marketing year (beginning October 1, 1998) was unchanged at 29.9 million pounds. Higher domestic use caused most of the gain. Output of snuff, the major domestic use of fire-cured, has been increasing and exports fell.

DARK AIR-CURED (TYPE 35-36) DISAPPEARANCE DOWN 36 PERCENT

Dark air-cured (types 35-36) is used in plug and twist chewing tobacco, snuff, and to some extent, smoking tobacco. Production and use have declined by more than half over the last 2 decades. Exports usually account for 10 to 20 percent of total use.

Disappearance of dark air-cured (type 35-36) tobacco totaled 6.0 million pounds during October-June, 36

Marketings in 1999/2000 are forecast at about 536 million pounds, compared with 589 million pounds a year earlier. The effective quota of 690.1 million pounds will likely be under produced by less than one-fourth, compared with a shortfall of nearly 40 percent last season. Since 1985, marketings have consistently fallen short of the effective quota, especially in Tennessee. Beginning in 1991, the quota law was changed to permit greater use of burley quota, including belt-wide sales of burley quotas within counties, and lease and transfer of quotas across county lines in Tennessee. The projected marketings, combined with lower carryover, are likely to leave supplies unchanged. This is about 2.7 times the expected disappearance, somewhat higher than usual.

U.S. auction sales usually begin in late November. The 1998 crop sold for an average of \$1.903 per pound, 1.8 cent below a year earlier. In 1999, price supports will average \$1.789 per pound for all burley grades. The no-net-cost fee is 3 cents per pound each for growers and purchasers. There is no budget deficit assessment in 1999.

Total disappearance of types 22-23 for the entire marketing year (October 1998-September 1999) is estimated at 40 million pounds, about the same as 1997. Carryover is expected to decline slightly. In 1999, Kentucky-Tennessee fire-cured production is expected to slide due to fewer planted acres and lower yields. Kentucky-Tennessee (types 22-23) exports reached 10.4 million pounds (farm sales weight) during the first 9 months of the 1998/99 marketing year, slightly below last season.

percent below 1997/98. Advances in domestic use more than offset declines in exports as dark air-cured leaf is used in snuff production.

By the end of the 1998/99 marketing season, total disappearance of types 35-36 is expected to increase, perhaps reaching 11.6 million pounds. Higher marketings are expected to increase supplies for 1999.

**CORN: FERTILIZER USE BY STATE, 1998
PERCENT OF ACRES TREATED AND TOTAL AMOUNT APPLIED**

Percent of Acres Treated and Total Applied							
State	Planted Acreage	Nitrogen		Phosphate		Potash	
	(000 Acres)	%	Mil. Lbs	%	Mil. Lbs	%	Mil. Lbs
CO	1,180	93	110.3	78	18.0	49	4.9
IL	10,600	99	1,636.8	74	567.8	70	785.9
IN	5,800	100	846.3	97	341.0	90	619.4
IA	12,500	96	1,529.0	81	613.8	81	803.0
KS	3,000	100	514.3	83	101.4	21	21.6
KY	1,300	100	227.3	94	103.7	95	140.4
MI	2,300	95	228.9	91	90.7	87	179.2
MN	7,300	96	851.2	91	352.3	87	447.9
MO	2,650	99	466.7	92	138.2	93	184.6
NE	8,800	99	1,106.1	69	215.1	21	33.1
NC	860	98	105.1	92	42.2	91	76.1
OH	3,550	100	587.5	96	243.0	74	310.3
PA	1,550	88	128.5	71	54.4	69	41.4
SD	3,900	94	305.9	78	117.4	25	21.5
TX	2,400	99	319.4	87	89.3	21	15.4
WI	3,700	97	326.8	96	148.2	96	188.0
TOTAL	71,390	98	9,290.1	83	3,236.5	66	3,872.7

Internet Access: Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service (KASS) data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) homepage located at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

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