

MARYLAND AGRI-FACTS



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CROP PRODUCTION

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Maryland: Based on September 1 crop conditions, **corn** for grain yield is forecast at 143 bushels per acre, up 2 bushels per acre from last month's forecast of 141 bushels per acre. With an anticipated harvest of



440,000 acres, total production is forecast at 62.9 million bushels. According to the Weekly Crop and Weather Report for the week ending August 29, corn condition was rated 44 percent

excellent, 35 percent good, 16 percent fair, 3 percent poor, and 2 percent very poor.

Soybean yields are forecast at 38 bushels per acre, unchanged from the August 1 forecast. Growers expect to harvest 490,000 acres of soybeans, for a total production of 18.6 million bushels. The Weekly Crop and Weather Report for the week ending August 29 reports the soybean condition at 30 percent rated excellent, 47 percent good, 18 percent fair, and 5 percent poor.

Tobacco production, based on September 1 conditions, is forecast at 1.76 million pounds, 10 percent above the August 1 forecast. Yields are expected to be 1,600 pounds per acre, setting a new record yield in Maryland. Harvested acreage remains unchanged at 1,100 acres, same as 2003.

Potato production is forecast at 1.2 million cwt, unchanged from the August 1 forecast. Harvested acres is forecast at 4,600 acres with an expected yield of 260 cwt per acre.

United States: 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. Yields are forecast at record high levels in most Corn Belt States, except Minnesota and Wisconsin, as weather conditions have been mostly favorable. However, brief periods of freezing temperatures in the northern Corn Belt and adjacent areas of the Great Plains raised concerns about the crop being able to fully develop before a killing frost occurs.

Soybean production is forecast at 2.84 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the August forecast but 17 percent above 2003. If realized, this would be the second highest production on record. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 38.5 bushels per acre, down 0.6 bushel from August. Below-normal temperatures and adequate moisture across most of the Corn Belt, the Great Plains, and the Delta in August favored the soybean crop during the critical stages of development, although yield prospects declined in the northern tier of States due to cool weather.

ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION 2003 AND 2004

| Commodity | Unit | Planted | | Harvested | | Average Yield | | Production | |
|----------------------|------|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------|---------------|-------|------------------|--------|
| | | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 |
| Maryland | | <i>1,000 Acres</i> | | | | | | <i>1,000</i> | |
| Corn ¹ | ACR | 480 | 510 | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Corn Grain | BU | ---- | ---- | 410 | 440 | 123 | 143 | 50,430 | 62,920 |
| Corn Silage | TON | ---- | ---- | 65 | ---- | 16 | ---- | 1,040 | ---- |
| Soybeans | BU | 435 | 500 | 430 | 490 | 37 | 38 | 15,910 | 18,620 |
| Sorghum ¹ | BU | 6 | 5 | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Sorghum Grain | BU | ---- | ---- | 3 | 3 | 65 | ---- | 195 | ---- |
| Sorghum Silage | TON | ---- | ---- | 3 | ---- | 10 | ---- | 30 | ---- |
| Winter Wheat | BU | 165 | 160 | 145 | 145 | 37 | 59 | 5,365 | 8,555 |
| Barley | BU | 45 | 37 | 38 | 34 | 57 | 75 | 2,166 | 2,550 |
| All Hay | TON | ---- | ---- | 195 | 205 | 2.8 | ---- | 539 | ---- |
| Alfalfa Hay | TON | ---- | ---- | 45 | 35 | 3.3 | ---- | 149 | ---- |
| Other Hay | TON | ---- | ---- | 150 | 170 | 2.6 | ---- | 390 | ---- |
| Tobacco | LBS | ---- | ---- | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1,450 | 1,600 | 1,595 | 1,760 |
| Apples | LBS | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | 40,000 | 34,000 |
| Peaches | LBS | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | 8,500 | 8,800 |
| Potatoes, Summer | CWT | 4.7 | 4.7 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 240 | 260 | 1,104 | 1,196 |
| United States | | | | | | | | <i>1,000,000</i> | |
| Corn ¹ | ACR | 78,736 | 80,968 | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Corn Grain | BU | ---- | ---- | 71,139 | 73,377 | 142 | 149 | 10,114 | 10,961 |
| Corn Silage | TON | ---- | ---- | 6,528 | ---- | 16 | ---- | 106 | ---- |
| Soybeans | BU | 73,404 | 74,809 | 72,321 | 73,655 | 33.4 | 38.5 | 2,418 | 2,836 |
| Sorghum ¹ | BU | 9,420 | 8,099 | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| Sorghum Grain | BU | ---- | ---- | 7,798 | 6,916 | 52.7 | 68.3 | 411 | 472 |
| Sorghum Silage | TON | ---- | ---- | 343 | ---- | 10.4 | ---- | 4 | ---- |
| Wheat, Winter | BU | 44,945 | 43,450 | 36,541 | 34,825 | 47 | 43 | 1,707 | 1,489 |
| Barley | BU | 5,299 | 4,666 | 4,688 | 4,152 | 59 | 66 | 276 | 273 |
| All Hay | TON | ---- | ---- | 63,342 | 61,589 | 2.48 | 2.63 | 157 | 162 |
| Alfalfa Hay | TON | ---- | ---- | 23,578 | 22,226 | 3.24 | 3.48 | 76 | 77 |
| Other Hay | TON | ---- | ---- | 39,764 | 39,363 | 2.03 | 2.15 | 81 | 84 |
| Tobacco | LBS | ---- | ---- | 411.2 | 414.0 | 1,952 | 2,134 | 803 | 883 |
| Apples | LBS | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | 8,613 | 9,366 |
| Peaches | LBS | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | 2,519 | 2,598 |
| Potatoes, Summer | CWT | 63.4 | 58.8 | 58.7 | 55.1 | 320 | 336 | 19 | 18 |

¹ Acres planted is for all purpose.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

Maryland crop prices declined in August. Wheat decreased \$0.25 per bushel from July and barley is down by one cent. Soybeans fell \$1.54 per bushel from July, but still is \$1.10 per bushel more than a year ago. Cattle and hog prices were both down from last month. Cattle prices

fell \$1.90 per hundred weight from July, and hogs were down \$3.00. Broiler and egg prices were down from last month. Chicken prices are up to \$.102 per pound.

| Commodity | Unit | Maryland and Delaware | | | United States | | | |
|-----------------------|------|-----------------------|----------|----------|---------------|----------|-----------------------|--------------|
| | | Aug 2003 | Jul 2004 | Aug 2004 | Aug 2003 | Jul 2004 | Aug ¹ 2004 | Parity Price |
| <i>Dollars</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Wheat, Winter | BU | 3.15 | 3.11 | 2.86 | 3.28 | 3.32 | 3.02 | 10.10 |
| Corn | BU | 2.64 | 2.77 | 2.57 | 2.15 | 2.51 | 2.27 | 6.79 |
| Barley | BU | 1.70 | 1.87 | 1.86 | 2.91 | 2.54 | 2.45 | 6.74 |
| Soybeans | BU | 5.64 | 8.28 | 6.74 | 5.68 | 8.46 | 6.34 | 16.00 |
| All Hay, Baled | TON | 153.00 | 126.00 | 140.00 | 85.00 | 90.40 | 89.80 | ----- |
| All Beef Cattle | CWT | 78.40 | 82.50 | 80.60 | 79.30 | 88.50 | 88.10 | 171.00 |
| Calves | CWT | 83.90 | 107.00 | 103.20 | 106.00 | 131.00 | 131.00 | 229.00 |
| Hogs | CWT | 42.00 | 54.00 | 51.00 | 39.60 | 57.10 | 56.00 | 106.00 |
| Chickens ² | LB | 0.082 | .095 | 0.102 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Broilers | LB | 0.305 | .394 | 0.387 | 0.360 | 0.520 | 0.460 | ----- |
| Turkeys, Live | LB | ---- | ----- | ---- | 0.327 | 0.436 | 0.454 | 1.03 |
| Eggs, Market | DOZ | 0.695 | .482 | 0.445 | 0.668 | 0.399 | 0.334 | 1.70 |

¹ Mid-Month Forecast

² Excludes Broilers

| INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED | | | |
|---|------------------------------|----------|----------|
| INDEX AND RATIOS | UNITED STATES 1990 - 92 =100 | | |
| | AUG 2003 | JUL 2004 | AUG 2004 |
| All Farm Products | 109 | *124 | 120 |
| All Crops | 113 | *120 | 118 |
| Feed Grain & Hay | 102 | *113 | 105 |
| Oil- Bearing Crops | 101 | *151 | 112 |
| Fruits & Nuts | 124 | *126 | 127 |
| All Livestock and Livestock Products | 105 | 128 | 122 |
| Meat Animals | 104 | *122 | 121 |
| Dairy Products | 102 | *123 | 115 |
| Poultry and Eggs | 112 | 145 | 131 |
| Ratio ¹ | 86 | 93 | 89 |
| Prices Paid Index | 127 | 134 | 135 |

* Revised

¹ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

OCTOBER RELEASE CALENDAR

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|----------|--|
| | | | | 1 Dairy Products Vegetables |
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Reports can be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

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