

# MARYLAND AGRI-FACTS



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## PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

This Prospective Plantings Report is the results of the March Agricultural Survey. We wish to thank the approximately 650 farmers who helped to make this report possible

Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service

**Maryland:** As spring planting season draws near, farmers are making final plans for the 2004 crop year. As of March 1, they indicate that they will plant 490,000 acres of **corn**, up 10,000 acres from last year, and close to the five-year average of 486,000 acres. **Soybean** acreage is expected to increase from 435,000 acres in 2003 to 475,000 acres in 2004. Acreage planted to soybeans was particularly low last year, due to excessive rain. **Sorghum** planting intentions are down 1,000 acres from last year, and are forecast at 5,000 acres.

**Winter wheat** plantings are now forecast at 160,000 acres, down 3 percent from the December seeding forecast and down 3 percent from last year. **Barley** planted acreage is estimated at 37,000 acres, down from 45,000 acres planted in 2003.

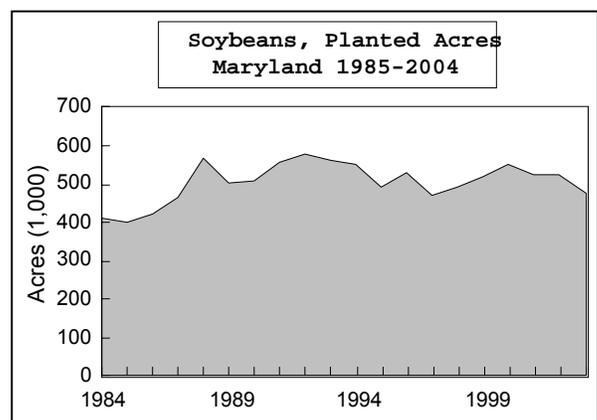
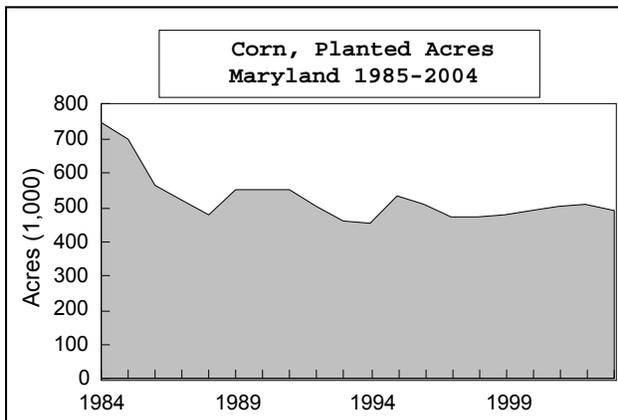
All **hay** harvested acres are currently forecast at 200,000, up 2.5 percent from last year's final estimate of 195,000 acres. Maryland **tobacco** acreage continues to decline, and is forecast at 1,000 acres.

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**United States:** **Corn** planted area for all purposes is estimated at 79.0 million acres, up fractionally from both 2002 and 2003. Expected acreage is up from last year throughout much of the Corn Belt as growers are hoping to take advantage of higher corn prices. However, most States in the Southeast and southern Great Plains are intending to decrease their corn plantings as producers are switching to soybeans and cotton due to more favorable prices relative to corn.

**Soybean** growers intend to plant an estimated 75.4 million acres, up 3 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the largest planted area on record and a rebound from the three year decline in acreage. Growers in all States, except South Dakota and Wisconsin, intend to plant more than or at least as many acres of soybeans as last year. Current high prices are encouraging many producers to plant more soybeans, with the largest acreage increases expected in North Dakota, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Minnesota.



**ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION 2003 AND 2004**

Commodity	Unit	Planted		Harvested		Average Yield		Production	
		2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
<b>Maryland</b>		<i>1,000 Acres</i>						<i>1,000</i>	
Corn <sup>1</sup>	ACR	480	490	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	410	----	123	----	50,430	----
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	65	----	16	----	1,040	----
Soybeans	BU	435	475	430	----	37	----	15,910	----
Sorghum <sup>1</sup>	BU	6	5	----	----	----	----	----	----
Sorghum Grain	BU	----	----	3	----	65	----	195	----
Sorghum Silage	TON	----	----	3	----	10	----	30	----
Winter Wheat	BU	165	160	145	----	37	----	5,365	----
Barley	BU	45	37	38	----	57	----	2,166	----
All Hay	TON	----	----	195	200	2.8	----	539	----
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	45	----	3.3	----	149	----
Other Hay	TON	----	----	150	----	2.6	----	390	----
Tobacco	LBS	----	----	1.5	1.0	1,450	----	2,175	----
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	4.7	----	4.6	----	240	----	1,104	----
								<i>1,000,000</i>	
<b>United States</b>									
Corn <sup>1</sup>	ACR	78,736	79,004	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	71,139	----	142	----	10,114	----
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	6,528	----	16	----	106	----
Soybeans	BU	73,404	75,411	72,321	----	33	----	2,418	----
Sorghum <sup>1</sup>	BU	9,420	8,600	----	----	----	----	----	----
Sorghum Grain	BU	----	----	7,798	----	52.7	----	411	----
Sorghum Silage	TON	----	----	343	----	10.4	----	4	----
Wheat, Winter	BU	44,945	43,372	36,541	----	47	----	1,707	----
Barley	BU	5,299	4,683	4,688	----	59	----	276	----
All Hay	TON	----	----	63,342	63,731	2.48	----	157	----
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	23,578	----	3.24	----	76	----
Other Hay	TON	----	----	39,764	----	2.03	----	81	----
Tobacco	LBS	64.2	----	59.3	----	324	----	19	----
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	64.2	----	59.3	----	324	----	19	----

<sup>1</sup> Acres planted is for all purposes.

## GRAIN STOCKS

U.S. **Corn** stocks in all positions on March 1, 2004 totaled 5.27 billion bushels, up 3 percent from March 1, 2003. Of the total stocks, 3.03 billion bushels were stored on farms, up 3 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 2.24 billion bushels, are up 2 percent from the previous year. The December 2003-February 2004 indicated disappearance is 2.68 billion bushels, compared with 2.51 billion bushels during the same period a year earlier.

**All wheat** stored in all positions on March 1, 2004 totaled 1.02 billion bushels, up 12 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 258 million bushels, up 9 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 761 million bushels, are up 14 percent from a year ago. The indicated December 2003 - February 2004 quarter disappearance is 501 million bushels, up 21 percent from the same period a year earlier.

**Soybeans** stored in all positions on March 1, 2004 totaled 906 million bushels, down 25 percent from March 1, 2003. This is the lowest March 1 stocks level since 1989. On-farm stocks, at 356 million bushels, down 44 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 550 million bushels, are down 3 percent from a year ago. The December 2003 - February 2004 indicated disappearance is 783 million bushels, down 14 percent from the same period a year earlier.

**Barley** stocks in all positions on March 1, 2004 totaled 151 million bushels, up 23 percent from March 1, 2003. On-farm stocks are estimated at 51.7 million bushels, 41 percent above a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 99.8 million bushels, are 15 percent above March 1, 2003. Indicated disappearance during the December 2003-February 2004 quarter totaled 46.4 million bushels, down fractionally from the same period a year earlier.

<b>Grain Stocks, March 1, 2003 and 2004 Maryland, and United States</b>					
STATE	March 1, 2003		March 1, 2004		2004/2003
	OFF FARMS <sup>1</sup>	TOTAL ALL POSITIONS	OFF FARMS	TOTAL ALL POSITIONS	ALL POSITIONS
-----1,000 BUSHELS-----					<i>Percent</i>
<b>CORN</b>					
MD	11,287	*	12,298	*	---
US	2,191,873	5,131,873	2,240,641	5,270,641	103
<b>ALL WHEAT</b>					
MD	1,769	*	1,682	*	---
US	670,333	906,633	761,141	1,019,031	112
<b>SOYBEANS</b>					
MD	*	*	*	*	---
US	565,528	1,202,028	549,623	905,523	75
<b>BARLEY</b>					
MD	1,029	*	321	*	---
US	86,710	123,440	99,784	151,484	123
<b>OATS</b>					
MD	10	10	10	10	---
US	47,879	82,879	49,469	95,069	115
<b>SORGHUM</b>					
MD	*	*	*	*	---
US	135,423	162,923	137,652	158,652	97

\*Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors.

## MAY RELEASE CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 Crop Progress	4 Weather -Crop Summary	5 Broiler Hatchery Dairy Products	6 Egg Production	7 Dairy Products Prices
10 Poultry Slaughter Crop Progress	11 Weather-Crop Summary	12 Broiler Hatchery	13 Turkey Hatchery	14 Dairy Products Prices Potato Stocks
17 Milk Production Crop Progress	18 Weather-Crop Summary	19 Broiler Hatchery	20 Cold Storage	21 Dairy Products Livestock Slaughter Chicken and Eggs
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31 Holiday				

Reports can be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

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