

Maryland Agriculture Data

Media Summary

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Corn and Soybean Production Up From 2002

Maryland: The 2003 crop year began with continuous rains throughout the spring and summer, which delayed and in some cases prevented plantings. Although above average moisture continued into the fall, additional rain-free and warm days resulted in generally good conditions for growth and harvest. In most areas, row crops benefitted from the extra moisture, raising production levels above last year, and bringing them near five-year averages.

Corn for Grain production totaled 50.4 million bushels, up 56 percent from 2002's production of 32.3 million bushels, and above the 5-year average of 45.6 million bushels. The yield averaged 123 bushels per acre, 47 bushels per acre more than last year. Corn for grain was harvested on 410,000 acres. **Corn for silage** production was 1,040 thousand tons, 8 percent above 2002. Corn for silage was harvested on 65,000 acres, down 15,000 acres from 2002. The yield averaged 16.0 tons per acre, 4 tons per acre more than 2002.

Soybean production totaled 15.9 million bushels, well above the 10.8 million bushels produced in 2002, but down from the 5-year average of 16.5 million bushels. The drop in production from the 5-year average is the result of fewer acres being planted and harvested. This year, only 435,000 acres of soybeans were planted, with 430,000 acres harvested. This is the lowest acreage planted to soybeans in Maryland since 1987, when 420,000 acres were planted statewide. The average yield in 2003 was 37 bushels per acre. This compares with last year's yield of 23 bushels per acre and the five-year average of 34 bushels per acre.

Hay production was up 6 percent from 2002 to a level of 539,000 tons in 2003. This includes 149,000 tons of alfalfa hay and 390,000 tons of other types of hay. The average yield on the 45,000 acres planted to alfalfa was 3.3 tons per acre, up 27 percent from 2.6 tons per acre in 2002. There were 150,000 acres planted to all other types of hay, which yielded 2.6 tons per acre on average. Yields for 'other' hay topped last year's average yield of 2.2 tons per acre and the 5-year average of 2.4 tons per acre.

Tobacco production was 2.2 million pounds, 9 percent less than 2002. Tobacco was harvested from 1,500 acres, 200 acres less than last year. The yield was 1,450 pounds per acre, 4 percent more than in 2002.

Winter Wheat planted acres for harvest in 2004 is forecast at 170,000 acres, up 3 percent from 2002.

United States:

Corn for Grain production is estimated at 10.1 billion bushels, down 2 percent from the November forecast but up 12 percent from the 9.01 billion bushels produced in 2002. The average U.S. grain yield is estimated at 142.2 bushels per acre, 1.0 bushel below the November forecast but up 12.2 bushels from 2002.

Soybeans production in 2003 totaled 2.42 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the November forecast and 12 percent below the 2002 level. This is the lowest production level since 1996. The average yield per acre is estimated at 33.4 bushels, 0.4 bushel below the November forecast and 4.6 bushels below the 2002 final yield. This is the lowest yield since 1993. Planted area at 73.4 million acres, is down 1 percent from 2002. Harvested area totaled 72.3 million acres, down slightly from last year and the previous forecast.

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ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION 2002 AND 2003

Commodity	Unit	Planted		Harvested		Average Yield		Production	
		2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
Maryland		<i>1,000 Acres</i>						<i>1,000</i>	
Corn ¹	ACR	510	480	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	425	410	76	123	32,300	50,430
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	80	65	12	16	960	1,040
Soybeans	BU	490	435	470	430	23	37	10,810	15,910
Sorghum ¹	BU	5	6	----	----	----	----	----	----
Sorghum Grain	BU	----	----	4	3	47	65	188	195
Sorghum Silage	TON	----	----	1	3	11	10	11	30
Winter Wheat	BU	195	165	180	145	66	37	11,880	5,365
Barley	BU	45	45	41	38	82	57	3,362	2,166
All Hay	TON	----	----	220	195	2.3	2.8	508	539
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	60	45	2.6	3.3	156	149
Other Hay	TON	----	----	160	150	2.2	2.6	352	390
Tobacco	LBS	----	----	1.7	1.5	1,400	1,450	2,380	2,175
Apples	LBS	----	----	----	----	----	----	32,000	37,000
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.6	250	240	1,175	1,104
United States		<i>1,000,000</i>						<i>1,000,000</i>	
Corn ¹	ACR	79,054	78,736	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	69,313	71,139	130	142	9,008	10,114
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	7,490	6,528	14	16	105	106
Soybeans	BU	73,923	73,404	72,437	72,321	38	33	2,749	2,418
Sorghum ¹	BU	9,580	9,420	----	----	----	----	----	----
Sorghum Grain	BU	----	----	7,299	7,798	50.7	52.7	370	411
Sorghum Silage	TON	----	----	352	343	9.5	10.4	3	4
Wheat, Winter	BU	41,845	44,945	29,751	36,541	39	47	1,146	1,707
Barley	BU	5,071	5,299	4,129	4,688	55	59	227	276
All Hay	TON	----	----	64,497	63,342	2.34	2.48	151	157
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	23,135	23,578	3.19	3.24	74	76
Other Hay	TON	----	----	41,362	39,764	1.86	2.03	77	81
Tobacco	LBS	----	----	428.7	416.2	2,049	1,997	879	831
Apples	LBS	----	----	----	----	----	----	8,556	9,352
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	62.2	64.2	59.1	59.3	304	324	18	19

¹ Acres planted is for all purposes.