

July 11, 2003

MPR-8-03

Maryland Wheat and Barley Yields Down *Peach Production Up*

Based on the July Yield survey for conditions around July 1st, Maryland farmers are expecting a winter wheat yield of 56 bushels per acre, down 10 bushels from 2002 and down 8 bushel from the June 1 forecast. Harvested acreage is down 30,000 acres from last year. This year's forecasted production is 8.4 million bushels, down 29 percent from last year due to both an acreage decrease and a decrease in expected yield. Weather conditions this spring and early summer have been characterized by cool temperatures and wet field conditions. Air temperatures during the month of May averaged in the 50's and in June averaged in the 60's. Precipitation in Maryland was on average 2.8 inches above normal for May and 3.1 inches above normal for June. According to the Maryland Crop Progress Report, as of July 7th, 29 percent of the winter wheat acres had been harvested, which was 39 percent behind the five year average.

Barley yield is forecast at 61 bushels per acre, a 21 bushel decrease from 2002. Barley harvested acreage is down 1,000 acres from last year. Forecasted production is 2.44 million bushels, down 27 percent from last year. The barley harvest was 79 percent complete as of July 7th, 18 percent behind the five year average.

Potato planted acreage is forecast at 4,700 acres. Harvested acreage is expected to be 4,600 acres with a projected yield of 240 cwt. per acre. Potato production is forecast at 1.1 million cwt, down 6 percent from 2002. Peach production is forecast at 10.5 million pounds, up 3.5 million pounds from 2002. Fruit set was good this year and the condition is rated 11 percent excellent, 60 percent good, and 29 percent fair. Harvest is beginning, with 2 percent of the crop harvested as of July 7th.

United States: Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.72 billion bushels. This is up 6 percent from last month and 50 percent above 2002. Yield is forecast at 47.0 bushels per acre, up 2.4 bushels from last month.

Hard Red Winter, at 1.09 billion bushels, is up 9 percent from a month ago. White Winter is up 2 percent from last month and now totals 259 million bushels. Soft Red Winter, at 366 million bushels, is down 1 percent from the last forecast.

Durum wheat production is forecast at 93.5 million bushels, up 18 percent from 2002. The U.S. yield is forecast at 34.1 bushels per acre, 4.7 bushels more than last year.

Other Spring wheat production is forecast at 502 million bushels, up 27 percent from 2002. The U.S. yield is forecast at 37.3 bushels per acre, 8.0 bushels higher than last year. Of the total production, 467 million is Hard Red Spring wheat, up 31 percent from last season.

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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	530	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	425	450	76	----	32,300	----
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	80	----	12	----	960	----
Soybeans	BU	490	480	470	475	23	----	10,810	----
Sorghum ¹	BU	5	5	----	----	----	----	----	----
Sorghum Grain	BU	----	----	4	4	47	----	188	----
Sorghum Silage	TON	----	----	1	---	11	----	11	----
Winter Wheat	BU	195	165	180	150	66	56	11,880	8,400
Barley	BU	45	45	41	40	82	61	3,362	2,440
All Hay	TON	----	----	220	215	2.3	----	508	----
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	60	50	2.6	----	156	----
Other Hay	TON	----	----	160	165	2.2	----	352	----
Tobacco	LBS	----	----	1.7	1.5	1,400	----	2,380	----
Potatoes,Summer	CWT	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.6	250	240	1,175	1,104
United States								<i>1,000,000</i>	
Corn ¹	ACR	79,054	79,066	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	69,313	71,985	130	----	9,008	----
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	7,490	----	14	----	105	----
Soybeans	BU	73,758	73,653	72,160	72,681	37.8	----	2,730	----
Sorghum ¹	BU	9,580	9,477	----	----	----	----	----	----
Sorghum Grain	BU	----	----	7,299	8,121	50.7	----	370	----
Sorghum Silage	TON	----	----	352	----	9.5	----	3	----
Wheat, Winter	BU	41,735	44,349	29,651	36,491	39	47	1,143	1,716
Barley	BU	5,073	5,461	4,135	4,899	55	60	227	292
All Hay	TON	----	----	64,497	64,379	2.34	----	151	----
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	23,135	23,541	3.19	----	74	----
Other Hay	TON	----	----	41,362	40,838	1.86	----	77	----
Tobacco	LBS	----	----	428.7	413.7	2,068	----	890	----
Potatoes,Summer	CWT	62.2	65.1	59.1	63.1	304	310	18	20

¹ Acres planted is for all purposes.