



NEWS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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NEBRASKA 2002 CROP PRODUCTION WELL BELOW YEAR AGO

Lincoln, Neb., January 10, 2003- **Corn** grain production in Nebraska based on year end surveys is estimated at 941 million bushels, up 1 percent from the November forecast, but 17 percent below 2001, and the lowest since 1995, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Acres harvested for grain were lowered to 7.35 million, down 5 percent from last year. Yield is estimated at 128 bushels per acre, 19 bushels below last year's record high.

Soybean production for 2002 totaled 176 million bushels, down 1 percent from the November forecast and down 21 percent from last year. This is the third largest crop behind 2001's record production of 223 million bushels followed by 1999's production. Harvested acres were lowered to 4.58 million acres, down 320,000 acres from last year. Yield, at 38.5 bushels per acre, is 7 bushels below 2001.

Sorghum for grain production in 2002 is estimated at 15.0 million bushels, down 1 percent from November, 58 percent below last year and the lowest since 1956. Area harvested for grain was lowered to 300,000 acres, down 125,000 acres from last year. Yield is estimated at 50 bushels per acre, down 34 bushels from last year.

Hay production totaled 5.95 million tons, down 21 percent from the previous year and the lowest since 1989. Acreage harvested at 3.25 million acres is unchanged from 2001. Yield, at 1.83 tons per acre, is down 0.5 ton from last year. **Alfalfa** production is down 21 percent from a year ago, and **all other hay** production is down 22 percent.

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Access the National publication for this release at:

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