



NEWS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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NEBRASKA DECEMBER 1, 2002 STOCKS BELOW LAST YEAR

LINCOLN, Neb., January 10, 2003- **Corn** stocks in all positions on December 1, 2002 totaled 856 million bushels, down 18 percent from last year and the lowest December total since 1995, according to the USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Of the total stocks, 530 million bushels are stored on farms, down 21 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 326 million bushels, are down 12 percent from 2001.

Soybeans stored in all positions on December 1, 2002 totaled 143 million bushels, down 15 percent from last year and the lowest since 1999. On-farm stocks are 56 million bushels, down 14 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks of 87 million bushels are down 15 percent from 2001.

Wheat stored in all positions on December 1, 2002 totaled 52 million bushels, down 18 percent from a year ago and the lowest total since 1997. On-farm stocks of 8.7 million bushels are down 28 percent from 2001. Off-farm stocks at 44 million bushels, are down 16 percent from last year.

Sorghum stored in all positions on December 1, 2002 totaled 23 million bushels, down 36 percent from 2001 and the lowest since 1956. On-farm stocks are set at 4.7 million bushels, down 61 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks at 18 million bushels, are 24 percent smaller than 2001.

Hay stocks on Nebraska farms totaled 3.4 million tons on December 1, down 29 percent from last year and the lowest total since 1957.

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