



USDA – National
Agricultural Statistics
Service, Tennessee
Field Office

Debra K. Kenerson
Director



Cooperating with Tennessee
Department Of Agriculture

Ken Givens, Commissioner

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn> nass-tn@nass.usda.gov Phone 1-800-626-0987

Released October 24, 2005 Volume 05 Number 20

Featuring:

October Crop Production Cotton Ginnings Chicken & Eggs
Milk Production Livestock Slaughter Burning Permits Required

Unusual Weather Affects Hay, Soybeans, but Spares Cotton and Corn

September weather was highlighted by brief, heavy storms in the middle and western portions of Tennessee, but the East continued predominately dry. The results of this unusual weather pattern produced no change in the cotton forecast, a slight decline in hay prospects, and a reduction in expected yields for soybeans. Corn, on the other hand, is expected to surpass earlier predictions as producers, with only a quarter of the crop left to be harvested, have a better handle on the crop. The October forecast, which is based on farmers' expectations of final yields as of the first of the month, showed the following results: **Corn**, 130 bushels per acre, up 6 bushels from a month earlier, but 10 bushels below 2004; **Cotton**, 831 pounds per acre, down 69 pounds from 2004; **Soybeans**, 38 bushels per acre, down 3 bushels from a year ago; **Burley Tobacco**, 1,900 pounds per acre, down 20 pounds from last year; and **Hay**, excluding alfalfa, 2.50 tons per acre, down 0.1 tons from a month earlier, but the same as last year's record.

Cotton Production to Set a New State Record

Tennessee's cotton production is forecast at 1.10 million bales, unchanged from last month, and if realized, a new State record. Based on condition as of October 1, cotton yields are forecast at 831 pounds of lint per acre, unchanged from last month, but down 69 pounds from last year's record. Growers expect to harvest 635,000 acres, 110,000 more than 2004. Harvest conditions have been impacted due to the effects of the remnants of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Many fields have bolls at the top which are knotty, and the clouds and rains brought by the storms sheltered the crop from sufficient sunlight. Despite all these problems, early yield results are unchanged from last month, but highly variable. As of October 2, defoliant applications had reached almost two-thirds of the State's acreage and, along with harvest, are at a pace slightly ahead of last year but behind the five-year average. The crop's condition continues to be rated mostly good-to-fair.

Soybean Yield Prospects Decline

The State's soybean production is forecast at 41.8 million bushels, down 14 percent from 2004. Production projections decreased due to acreage being lower than expected and a one bushel per acre decline in yield prospects. The 2005 soybean planted area is now estimated at 1.13 million acres, while acreage for harvest is estimated at 1.10 million acres, down 100,000 acres from last month's forecast. Soybean yields are expected to average 38 bushels per acre, down a bushel from last month, but still the third highest on record. September saw crop development continue at its rapid pace. Slightly less than 90 percent of the crop was dropping leaves through October 2, a full 16 days ahead of our five-year average pace. Soybean acreage harvested, at 30 percent, was also 16 days ahead of normal. Producers, who generally had waited until after corn harvest to begin harvesting beans, were faced with juggling both harvests at the same time. As of October 2, the crop was rated in mostly good-to-fair condition.

Hay Yields at Record Level for Second Consecutive Year

Hay production, excluding alfalfa, is forecast at 4.63 million tons, down 3 percent from 2004. Harvested area is estimated at 1.85 million acres, 50,000 acres less than a year ago. Yields are expected to average 2.5 tons per acre, down 0.1 tons from a month earlier, but the same as last year's record. Periodic dry spells during August and September, particularly in East Tennessee, caused a slight reduction in yield expectations. As of October 2, the State's pastures were rated in mostly fair-to-good condition.

Corn Yields Better than Previously Expected

Corn production is forecast at 76.7 million bushels, up 10 percent from last month's forecast due to an increase in the estimated harvested acreage and projected yields.

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

The State's corn yields are expected to average 130 bushels per acre, down 10 bushels from last year's record, but up 6 bushels from the September forecast. Tennessee's planted area for 2005 is now estimated at 650,000 acres, while acreage for grain harvest is estimated at 590,000 acres, both up 30,000 acres from last month's forecast. After the rains from the remnants of Hurricane Katrina, producers had to wait for the crop to dry down before harvest. This, coupled with an earlier than normal soybean harvest, has slowed harvest activities as producers are trying to get both done simultaneously. Through October 2, seventy-six percent of the crop had been harvested, behind last year and the five-year average.

Burley Production to Decline by a Third

Burley tobacco growers expect to produce 32.3 million pounds, unchanged from last month's forecast, but down 30 percent from the previous year. Tennessee's burley yields are forecast at 1,900 pounds per acre, also the same as last month. Farmers plan to harvest 17,000 acres for 2005, down 7,000 acres from a year ago. Dry weather during the month in East Tennessee lowered yield potential there, but prospects in other areas improved. As a result, overall average yield remained the same as September's forecast. As of October 2, slightly over 90 percent of the burley acreage had been harvested, in line with normal. Tennessee's dark fire-cured tobacco yields are forecast at 3,000 pounds, while dark air-cured is forecast to yield 2,700 pounds per acre.

Crop Forecasts: Tennessee and United States, October 1, 2005, with Comparisons

Crop	Unit	Harvested Acres		Yield Per Acre		Production	
		2004	Indicated 2005	2004	Indicated 2005	2004	Indicated 2005
		Thousands		Number of Units		Thousands	
Tennessee							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	11,000	9,000
Corn for grain	bu.	615	590	140	130	86,100	76,700
Cotton ¹	lb.	525	635	900	831	984	1,100
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	1,900	1,850	2.50	2.50	4,750	4,625
Peaches	ton	---	---	---	---	1.95	1.90
Soybeans	bu.	1,180	1,100	41.0	38.0	48,380	41,800
Tobacco, All	lb.	30.26	23.26	2,161	2,189	65,381	50,918
Dark fire-cured	lb.	5.72	5.72	3,115	3,000	17,816	17,160
Burley	lb.	24.0	17.0	1,920	1,900	46,080	32,300
Dark air-cured	lb.	.54	.54	2,750	2,700	1,485	1,458
Winter Wheat	bu.	280	170	49.0	60.0	13,720	10,200
United States							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	10,419,900	9,379,100
Corn for grain	bu.	73,632	74,333	160.4	146.1	11,807,217	10,857,440
Cotton ¹	lb.	13,057	13,673	855	797	23,251	22,717
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	40,209	39,605	2.05	1.94	82,391	76,931
Peaches	ton	---	---	---	---	1,307.1	1,233.9
Soybeans	bu.	73,958	71,270	42.2	41.6	3,123,686	2,967,075
Tobacco, All	lb.	408.04	307.01	2,155	2,083	879,227	639,566
Dark fire-cured	lb.	11.73	12.47	3,167	3,184	37,151	39,708
Burley	lb.	153.15	105.30	1,908	1,826	292,172	192,285
Dark air-cured	lb.	4.26	4.04	2,799	2,787	11,922	11,258
Winter Wheat	bu.	34,462	33,680	43.5	44.4	1,499,434	1,493,769

¹ Production in 480-lb. net weight bales. U.S. production includes American-Pima cotton.

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.usda.gov/nass

Cotton Ginnings: Running Bales Ginned (Excluding Linters) Prior to October 1, Crop Years 2002-2005

State	Running Bales Ginned			
	2002	2003	2004	2005
All Cotton				
AL	32,750	21,550	38,300	35,450
AZ	43,400	36,200	51,600	27,900
AR	76,700	91,650	113,500	288,700
CA	4,100	0	19,450	0
FL ¹	---	3,700	---	0
GA	89,600	62,800	82,400	29,000
LA	122,650	257,000	131,200	291,800
MS	275,700	405,300	367,300	404,950
MO	16,400	3,700	28,250	56,150
NC	11,850	950	46,700	17,800
OK	6,100	2,100	1,850	800
SC	4,350	2,050	16,350	4,000
Tennessee	39,400	22,300	61,450	71,750
TX	929,350	1,091,850	1,265,750	1,057,450
US	1,656,350	2,001,150	2,226,500	2,285,750

¹ Not published to avoid disclosing individual gins.

Layers and Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Selected States and United States, During September 2004 and 2005

Selected States	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 or more		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	Thousands				Number	
Alabama	1,870	1,717	9,273	9,034	1,887	1,838
Arkansas	4,576	4,344	15,145	14,436	1,888	1,940
Georgia	11,120	9,768	20,280	19,009	2,027	2,025
North Carolina	3,331	3,523	10,819	11,011	1,913	1,934
All Other States ²	258,286	259,239	288,601	288,892	2,171	2,193
United States	279,183	278,591	344,118	342,382	2,134	2,155

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size. ² Tennessee is included in all other states total.

U.S. Milk production in the U.S. during the July-September quarter totaled 44.0 billion pounds, up 4.2 percent from the July-September quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.05 million head, 27,000 head more than the same period last year.

Milk Cows and Production: Selected States and United States, Preliminary July-September, 2004-2005

State	July-September Milk Cows ¹		July-September Milk Production ²		Change From 2004
	2004	2005	2004	2005	
	1,000 Head		Million Pounds		Percent
Alabama	17	16	52	47	-9.6
Arkansas	24	22	74	69	-6.8
Georgia	84	81	319	309	-3.1
Kentucky	110	106	341	327	-4.1
Mississippi	27	25	80	81	1.3
Missouri	121	116	436	407	-6.7
North Carolina	56	54	241	233	-3.3
Tennessee	75	69	265	250	-5.7
Virginia	104	105	415	426	2.7
United States	9,027	9,054	42,239	44,024	4.2

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. ² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Livestock Slaughter¹: Tennessee & United States, September 2004 and 2005

Species	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Tennessee						
Cattle	1.1	1.2	1,073	1,148	968	949
Calves	0.1	0.1	45	52	466	498
Hogs	55.4	62.2	26,936	30,047	486	483
Sheep & lambs	0.6	1.1	44	77	78	72
United States						
Cattle	2,737	2,778	3,463,716	3,543,498	1,265	1,276
Calves	67	61	21,546	22,035	320	363
Hogs	8,999	8,870	2,387,426	2,349,204	265	265
Sheep & lambs	244	231	32,370	31,136	133	135

¹ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter (excludes farm slaughter).

Fall Fire Season Begins, Burning Permits Required

NASHVILLE, Tenn. –During official fire season, Oct. 15 – May 15, state law requires citizens to obtain a burning permit before conducting any open, outdoor burning. “The burning permit system is a very important wildfire prevention tool,” said state forester Steve Scott. “Getting a burning permit is more than just a requirement of state law. It serves as a useful way for us to communicate with citizens about how, when and where it is safe to burn.”

Citizens can obtain a verbal burning permit by simply calling their local Division of Forestry office listed in the phone directory under state government between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Permits are generally good for 24 hours and can be issued for weekends.

Activities requiring a burning permit include, but are not limited to unconfined, outdoor burning of brush and leaves, untreated wood waste, and burning to clear land. Burning permits are required in all areas of the state unless superseded by local ordinance, so forestry officials suggest that you also check with your city government for any local burning requirements.

Earlier this year, the Division of Forestry deployed 112 new dozers, known as fireplows, and transports statewide. The new heavy firefighting equipment was funded through a \$20 million appropriation in last year’s state budget as proposed by Governor Phil Bredesen and supported by the Tennessee General Assembly. The new equipment is expected to improve employee safety and to increase effectiveness in suppressing wildfires. According to forestry officials, about 25,000 acres of forest burn each year in Tennessee.



###