



Farm Facts



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cooperating with
Tennessee
Department
of Agriculture

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Record Yields for Soybeans, Corn, and Hay

Tennessee producers are forecasting record yields for their 2003 soybean, corn and hay crops, according to the October 1 Yield Survey conducted by the Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service. Projected yields increased for all crops from September's forecast with better than average yields also expected for cotton and tobacco. State Statistician Debra Kenerson stated that "Moderate temperatures and timely showers last month proved beneficial for many of the state's row crops." She added, "With harvest activities well underway, producers now have a better idea of what their final yields will be." The October forecast, which is based on farmers' expectations of final yields as of the first of the month, showed the following results: **Corn**, a record tying 132 bushels per acre, up 2 bushels from the last forecast and 25 bushels above 2002; **Cotton**, 763 pounds per acre, 54 pounds above the last forecast and 22 pounds above last year; **Soybeans**, 38 bushels per acre, up 2 bushels for the previous forecast and a new state record; **Burley Tobacco**, 2,100 pounds per acre, 100 pounds better than the last forecast and 200 pounds above 2002.; **Other Hay**, a new state record at 2.60 tons per acre, up 0.1 ton from the August and 0.4 tons above 2002.

Largest Corn Production Since 1920

Tennessee's corn production is forecast at 85.8 million bushels, up 29 percent from 2002 and the highest in 83 years. Corn yields are expected to average 132 bushels per acre, 2 bushels better than our last forecast and 25 bushels above a year ago. If realized, this would tie the record yield set in 2001. Acreage for grain harvest is estimated at 650,000 acres, up 5 percent from last year

and the highest in 7 years. Mild, dry weather during September allowed farmers to make excellent progress with harvest activities. By month's end, 75 percent of the grain acreage had been harvested, slightly behind last year and the normal pace, while silage harvest neared completion.

Soybean Yield Sets a New State Record

The State's soybean production is forecast at 43.7 million bushels, up 26 percent from 2002 and the highest production since 1985. Soybean yield is forecast at 38 bushels per acre, 7 bushels above last year and a new state record. Rains during September helped soybean pods fill and kept the crop rated in good-to-excellent condition throughout the month. Development has lagged behind last year and the 5-year average through much of the growing season. Harvest of an estimated 1.15 million acres had begun on a limited basis with only 5 percent completed by month's end. There have been several reports of insect and disease pressure in some areas, but no more than normal.

Cotton Production Up 4 Percent From 2002

Cotton production is forecast at 850,000 bales, up 60,000 bales from the September forecast and 4 percent above 2002. Tennessee's cotton yield is forecast at 763 pounds of lint per acre, 54 pounds more than last month and 22 pounds better than a year ago. Cotton growers expect to harvest 535,000 acres, up 1 percent from a year ago. Development continued to lag behind normal throughout September, but conditions remained mostly good. During the last week of the month, cooler temperatures and scattered showers decreased the crop's condition slightly to fair-to-good. As of October 5, harvest was 12 percent complete, 7 points behind last year and a full week behind the normal schedule. Defoliants had been applied on two-thirds of the State's acreage with only light to moderate insect pressure in most fields.

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Burley Production 3 Percent Above Last Year

Tennessee's burley tobacco growers expect to produce 58.8 million pounds, up 2.8 million pounds from September's forecast and 3 percent above 2002. Burley yields are expected to average 2,100 pounds per acre, up 200 pounds from a year earlier and the highest yield since 1994. Producers plan to harvest 28,000 acres, 7 percent below a year ago. Yields per acre for dark types are forecast at 3,000 pounds for Type 22; 3,300 pounds for Type 23; and 2,500 pounds for Type 35, all up 100 pounds from the previous month's forecast. By the first full week of September, virtually all of the State's tobacco had been topped. The crop suffered some wind and hail damage in East Tennessee, but remained in good-to-fair condition. By month's end, only 10 percent of the burley acreage remained to be harvested. Growers are now stripping and preparing the crop for market.

Record Hay Yields Anticipated

Production of hay, excluding alfalfa, is forecast at 5.07 million tons, up 15 percent from 2002 and a new state record. Yields are expected to average a record 2.6 tons per acre, 0.4 tons above last year. Harvested area is estimated at 1.95 million acres, 50,000 acres less than a year ago. The state's hay fields and pastures benefitted greatly from warm temperatures and timely rains during much of September. Favorable weather conditions allowed growers to get third and fourth cuttings on some of their late summer hay fields. Hay has remained in mostly good condition throughout the growing season

Crop Forecasts: Tennessee and United States, October 1, 2003, with Comparisons

Crop	Unit	Harvested Acres		Yield Per Acre		Production	
		2002	Indicated 2003	2002	Indicated 2003	2002	Indicated 2003
		Thousands		Number of Units		Thousands	
Tennessee							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	6,500	9,000
Corn for grain	bu.	620	650	107	132	66,340	85,800
Cotton ¹	lb.	530	535	741	763	818	850
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	2,000	1,950	2.20	2.60	4,400	5,070
Peaches	lb.	---	---	---	---	4,000	3,500
Soybeans	bu.	1,120	1,150	31.0	38.0	34,720	43,700
Tobacco, All	lb.	35.90	34.04	2,096	2,255	75,261	76,770
E. Dark-fired (22)	lb.	5.0	5.1	3,110	3,000	15,550	15,300
W. Dark-fired (23)	lb.	.39	.40	3,550	3,300	1,385	1,320
Burley (31)	lb.	30.0	28.0	1,900	2,100	57,000	58,800
One-sucker (35)	lb.	.51	.54	2,600	2,500	1,326	1,350
Winter Wheat	bu.	300	270	46.0	50.0	13,800	13,500
United States							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	8,555,600	9,351,600
Corn for grain	bu.	69,313	71,765	130.0	142.2	9,007,659	10,207,141
Cotton ¹	lb.	12,426.6	12,107.4	665	696	17,208.6	17,559.0
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	41,362	40,838	1.86	2.01	77,138	82,183
Peaches	lb.	---	---	---	---	2,575,400	2,618,100
Soybeans	bu.	72,437	72,538	38.0	34.0	2,749,340	2,468,390
Tobacco, All	lb.	428.70	413.01	2,055	2,044	880,734	844,298
E. Dark-fired (22)	lb.	7.45	7.60	3,126	3,066	23,292	23,300
W. Dark-fired (23)	lb.	2.79	2.80	3,636	3,471	10,145	9,720
Burley (31)	lb.	158.60	149.20	1,892	2,033	300,051	303,300
One-sucker (35)	lb.	2.61	2.74	2,922	2,821	7,626	7,730
Winter Wheat	bu.	29,751	36,541	38.5	46.7	1,145,602	1,707,069

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

All Other Hay (Except Alfalfa): Acreage, Yield, and Production, by County, 2001 and 2002

District and County	Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production		District and County	Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002		2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	Acres		Tons		Tons		Acres		Tons		Tons		Tons
Dyer	7,500 ¹	7,000	2.1	2.6	15,500 ¹	18,500	Trousdale	14,000	13,000	2.3	2.0	32,000	26,000
Lake		600		2.0		1,200	Williamson	50,000	49,000	2.0	2.0	98,000	98,000
Lauderdale		5,900		2.5		15,000	Wilson	53,000	54,000	1.9	2.1	100,000	113,000
Obion	12,000	11,000	2.3	2.3	28,000	25,500	District 40	611,000	608,000	2.0	2.2	1,250,000	1,320,000
Shelby	11,000	11,000	2.2	3.0	24,000	33,300							
Tipton	6,500	6,500	2.1	2.5	13,500	16,500							
Other	5,000	---	2.2	---	11,000	---							
District 10	42,000	42,000	2.2	2.6	92,000	110,000	Bledsoe	28,000	25,000	2.5	2.4	70,000	59,000
Benton	11,500	11,500	1.8	2.0	21,000	23,000	Coffee	30,000	28,000	2.6	2.2	77,000	61,000
Carroll	18,000	18,500	2.0	2.1	36,000	39,000	Cumberland	24,000	25,000	2.4	2.5	57,000	62,500
Chester	10,500	10,000	2.2	2.2	23,000	22,000	Fentress	15,000	16,000	2.3	2.7	34,000	43,000
Crockett	6,500	6,500	2.0	2.6	13,000	17,000	Franklin	26,000	25,000	2.8	2.4	73,000	59,000
Decatur	15,000	15,000	2.4	2.3	36,000	34,500	Grundy	8,000	7,000	2.4	2.3	19,000	16,000
Fayette	24,000	24,000	1.9	2.6	45,000	62,000	Marion	10,000	10,000	2.4	2.4	24,000	24,000
Gibson	14,000	14,000	2.0	2.2	28,000	31,000	Morgan	12,000	13,000	2.3	2.3	27,000	30,500
Hardeman	18,000	19,000	2.2	2.3	40,000	44,000	Overton	25,000	27,000	2.3	2.5	58,000	68,000
Hardin	11,500	11,500	2.3	2.3	26,000	26,000	Pickett	8,500	8,500	2.4	2.8	20,000	24,000
Haywood	6,000	6,000	1.8	2.3	11,000	14,000	Putnam	30,000	27,000	2.3	2.1	69,000	58,000
Henderson	23,000	24,000	1.9	2.1	43,000	50,000	Scott	7,000	6,000	2.3	2.2	16,000	13,000
Henry	20,000	18,500	2.2	2.4	43,000	45,000	Sequatchie	5,000	4,500	2.6	2.3	13,000	10,500
McNairy	9,000	9,000	1.9	2.1	17,000	19,000	Van Buren	7,500	6,000	2.3	2.5	17,000	15,000
Madison	12,000	11,500	2.5	2.5	30,000	28,500	Warren	39,000	35,000	2.6	2.3	100,000	79,000
Weakley	16,000	16,000	2.3	2.5	36,000	40,000	White	37,000	37,000	2.6	2.6	96,000	97,500
District 20	215,000	215,000	2.1	2.3	448,000	495,000	District 50	312,000	300,000	2.5	2.4	770,000	720,000
Cheatham	13,000	12,000	2.1	2.0	27,000	24,000	Anderson	12,000	11,000	2.0	2.1	24,500	23,000
Dickson	32,000	28,000	2.1	1.9	66,000	54,000	Blount	36,000	33,000	2.4	2.3	87,000	77,000
Hickman	26,000	22,000	2.0	2.1	51,000	46,000	Bradley	26,500	24,000	2.4	2.1	64,000	51,000
Houston	10,000	8,500	2.0	2.2	20,000	19,000	Campbell	9,000	8,500	2.4	2.3	22,000	19,800
Humphreys	21,500	19,000	1.9	2.1	41,000	39,000	Carter	8,500	8,000	2.5	2.3	21,000	18,500
Lawrence	45,000	38,000	2.1	2.1	93,000	80,000	Claiborne	28,000	28,000	2.5	1.8	69,000	50,000
Lewis	6,500	5,500	1.9	2.2	12,500	12,000	Cocke	16,000	16,000	2.4	2.0	39,000	32,000
Montgomery	28,000	26,000	1.9	1.9	52,000	49,000	Grainger	22,500	20,000	2.6	2.3	58,000	46,000
Perry	8,000	7,000	2.1	2.0	17,000	14,000	Greene	76,000	75,000	2.2	2.0	168,000	150,000
Robertson	50,000	43,000	2.1	2.3	103,000	100,000	Hamblen	17,500	15,500	2.3	1.9	41,000	29,500
Stewart	8,000	8,500	2.1	1.9	16,500	16,000	Hamilton	17,000	15,000	2.4	2.1	41,000	32,000
Wayne	22,000	17,500	1.9	2.1	41,000	37,000	Hancock	11,000	11,000	2.2	2.0	24,000	22,000
District 30	270,000	235,000	2.0	2.1	540,000	490,000	Hawkins	35,500	33,000	2.2	2.0	77,000	66,000
Bedford	53,000	51,000	2.2	2.2	115,000	112,000	Jefferson	34,000	32,000	2.5	2.4	84,000	77,000
Cannon	20,000	19,500	2.0	2.4	40,000	47,000	Johnson	7,500	8,000	2.4	2.0	18,000	16,000
Clay	16,000	16,000	1.9	2.4	21,000	39,000	Knox	32,000	27,000	2.3	2.0	73,000	55,000
Davidson	11,000	10,500	1.9	2.0	30,000	21,000	Loudon	26,500	25,000	2.0	2.2	52,000	56,000
DeKalb	20,000	20,000	2.3	2.4	45,000	48,000	McMinn	39,000	36,000	2.3	2.0	88,000	73,000
Giles	51,000	51,500	2.0	2.1	100,000	110,000	Meigs	14,000	12,000	2.1	2.3	30,000	28,000
Jackson	14,000	14,000	2.2	2.5	31,000	35,000	Monroe	31,000	26,000	2.5	2.4	76,000	63,000
Lincoln	54,000	55,000	2.5	2.2	135,000	121,000	Polk	9,000	8,000	2.4	2.1	22,000	17,000
Macon	30,000	32,000	2.0	2.7	60,000	87,000	Rhea	14,000	14,000	2.4	2.5	33,000	35,000
Marshall	39,000	38,000	2.1	2.1	81,000	81,000	Roane	16,000	14,500	2.3	2.3	36,000	33,000
Maury	56,000	55,000	1.9	2.0	105,000	110,000	Sevier	17,500	15,000	2.5	2.3	43,000	34,000
Moore	11,000	11,000	2.5	2.3	27,000	25,000	Sullivan	28,000	26,000	2.4	1.7	67,000	45,000
Rutherford	43,000	43,000	1.9	2.0	80,000	86,000	Unicoi	2,000	1,500	2.3	2.1	4,500	3,200
Smith	27,000	27,500	2.0	2.1	54,000	59,000	Union	12,000	11,000	2.6	1.9	31,000	21,000
Sumner	49,000	48,000	2.0	2.1	96,000	102,000	Washington	52,000	46,000	2.4	2.0	127,000	92,000
							District 60	650,000	600,000	2.3	2.1	1,520,000	1,265,000
							State	2,100,000	2,000,000	2.2	2.2	4,620,000	4,400,000

¹ Combined with "Other" counties to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Alfalfa Hay: Acreage, Yield, and Production, by County, 2001 and 2002

District and County	Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production		District and County	Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002		2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	Acres		Tons		Tons			Acres		Tons		Tons	
Obion	500 ²	2 ²	4.8 ²	2 ²	2,400 ²	2 ²	Coffee	500	500	3.6	3.6	1,800	1,800
Shelby	2 ²	800	2 ²	3.9	2 ²	3,100	Franklin	800	2 ²	4.3	2 ²	3,400	2 ²
Other ¹	900	1,000	3.7	4.3	3,300	4,300	Warren	600	2 ²	4.2	2 ²	2,500	2 ²
District 10	1,400	1,800	4.1	4.1	5,700	7,400	Other ¹	2,300	2,700	3.6	3.8	8,300	10,200
Henry	2 ²	500	2 ²	4.0	2 ²	2,000	District 50	4,200	3,200	3.8	3.8	16,000	12,000
Other ¹	2,200	1,700	3.8	3.6	8,300	6,100	Blount	900	2 ²	3.7	2 ²	3,300	2 ²
District 20	2,200	2,200	3.8	3.7	8,300	8,100	Grainger	2 ²	500	2 ²	4.8	2 ²	2,400
Dickson	600	2 ²	4.5	2 ²	2,700	2 ²	Greene	1,800	2,500	4.3	3.7	7,800	9,200
Lawrence	900	700	2.8	3.9	2,500	2,700	Hamblen	500	500	4.2	4.0	2,100	2,000
Montgomery	800	700	3.8	3.7	3,000	2,600	Hawkins	900	1,100	3.8	3.2	3,400	3,500
Robertson	3,000	1,800	4.3	4.1	13,000	7,400	Jefferson	600	600	4.0	4.0	2,400	2,400
Other ¹	800	1,200	3.5	3.6	2,800	4,300	Johnson	800	700	4.6	3.0	3,700	2,100
District 30	6,100	4,400	3.9	3.9	24,000	17,000	Monroe	500	2 ²	4.2	2 ²	2,100	2 ²
Bedford	800	500	4.3	3.6	3,400	1,800	Sullivan	1,000	1,300	4.2	3.7	4,200	4,800
Giles	600	2 ²	3.5	2 ²	2,100	2 ²	Washington	1,500	1,200	3.6	3.8	5,400	4,500
Marshall	1,400	800	4.7	4.0	6,600	3,200	Other ¹	4,000	3,600	3.9	3.8	15,600	13,600
Maury	1,100	900	3.5	3.4	3,900	3,100	District 60	12,500	12,000	4.0	3.7	50,000	44,500
Rutherford	1,400	600	3.7	3.2	5,200	1,900	State	35,000	30,000	3.9	3.8	137,000	114,000
Sumner	900	800	3.9	3.9	3,500	3,100							
Williamson	800	700	3.3	5.1	2,600	3,600							
Other ¹	1,600	2,100	3.6	4.0	5,700	8,300							
District 40	8,600	6,400	3.8	3.9	33,000	25,000							

¹ Unlisted counties combined with "Other" counties.

² Combined with "Other" counties to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

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