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TENNESSEE'S 2004 WHEAT YIELDS DECLINE

Tennessee's 2004 winter wheat yields are forecast to average 48 bushels per acre, down 2 bushels from last year, according to a recent survey conducted by the Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service. A mild winter and wet spring contributed to the influx of a variety of diseases which lowered grain weight and consequently, lowered potential yields. Total production is an estimated 13.4 million bushels, slightly below the previous year and the lowest recorded production in 12 years. Producers seeded a total of 400,000 acres last fall, 30,000 acres less than a year earlier and the lowest planted acreage since 1985. Harvested area for grain, at 280,000 acres, is up 10,000 acres from 2003. Despite scattered showers and thunderstorms during June, winter wheat growers made excellent progress harvesting this year's crop with 95 percent of the acreage combined by the first week of July.

U.S. WINTER WHEAT PRODUCTION

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.47 billion bushels. This is down 4 percent from last month and 14 percent below 2003. The U.S. yield is forecast at 42.2 bushels per acre, down 1.4 bushels from last month. Hard Red Winter, at 838 million bushels, is down 5 percent from a month ago. White Winter is up 1 percent from last month and now totals 248 million bushels. Soft Red Winter, at 383 million bushels, is down 3 percent from the last forecast.

WINTER WHEAT: TENNESSEE, SURROUNDING STATES, AND U.S., JULY 1, 2004 WITH COMPARISONS ¹

State	Acreage Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	1,000 Acres		Bushels		1,000 Bushels	
Arkansas	570	620	50.0	52.0	28,500	32,240
Georgia	230	200	46.0	46.0	10,580	9,200
Kentucky	330	370	62.0	55.0	20,460	20,350
Mississippi	125	155	49.0	53.0	6,125	8,215
Missouri	870	940	61.0	50.0	53,070	47,000
North Carolina	410	440	36.0	48.0	14,760	21,120
TENNESSEE	270	280	50.0	48.0	13,500	13,440
Virginia	160	190	46.0	61.0	7,360	11,590
United States	36,541	34,825	46.7	42.2	1,707,069	1,469,735

¹ 2004 forecast, 2003 final.

TENNESSEE PEACH CROP UNCHANGED FROM 2003

Tennessee's 2004 peach crop is forecast at 3.5 million pounds, unchanged from last year. Virtually all of the State's peach crop had reached the budding stage by the first week of April and blooming by month's end. Development progressed ahead of last year throughout the month. The peach crop escaped any serious freeze damage during the winter months.

U.S. PEACH PRODUCTION FORECAST

The July 2004 forecast of U.S. peach production is 2.61 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2003 and 3 percent above two years ago. Fourteen States forecast increases in production from last year, while 11 States expect declines and 4 States remain unchanged.