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March 31, 2005

### WEST VIRGINIA 2005 PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

**WEST VIRGINIA -- Corn** plantings in West Virginia are expected to total 50,000 acres, up 4% or 2,000 acres from 2004 and 2003.

**Winter wheat** planted area is estimated at 7,000 acres, down 12% or 1,000 acres from 2004 and down 42% or 5,000 acres from 2003.

**Soybeans** planted acreage is expected to total 19,000 acres, unchanged from 2004, but up 19% or 3,000 acres from 2003.

#### Soybeans: Asian Rust's Impact on Planting Intentions for Soybean Farm Operators who are Aware of Rust by Region and United States, March 2005

Region <sup>1</sup>	Was Asian Rust a factor in your planting intentions?			
	Yes	If so, how did your intentions change?		
		Increase	Decrease	No Change
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Northeast	12	16	44	40
Great Lake States	9	14	45	41
Corn Belt	10	7	47	46
Northern Plains	11	12	48	40
Appalachian	13	2	55	43
Southeast	29	4	63	33
Delta States	19	5	63	32
Southern Plains	15	6	55	39
US	11	9	49	42

<sup>1</sup> Regions consist of the following States: Appalachian: KY, NC, TN, VA, WV; Corn Belt: IA, IL, IN, MO, OH; Delta States: AR, LA, MS; Great Lake States: MI, MN, WI; Northeast: DE, MD, NJ, NY, PA; Northern Plains: KS, NE, ND, SD; Southeast: AL, FL, GA, SC; Southern Plains: OK, TX.

**Burley tobacco** growers intend to harvest 700 acres, down 46% or 600 acres from 2004 and down 42% or 500 acres from 2003.

**All hay** acreage harvested is expected to total 560,000 acres, down 3% or 15,000 acres from 2004, but up 3% or 15,000 acres from 2003.

### UNITED STATES WITH 2004 COMPARISONS

- Corn plantings - 81.4 million acres, up 1 %.
- Oat plantings - 4.27 million acres, up 4%.
- Winter wheat planted - 41.6 million acres, down 4%.
- All tobacco for harvest - 319,860 acres, down 22%, lowest on record.
- Burley tobacco for harvest - 108,300 acres, down 30%.
- Soybean plantings - 73.9 million acres, down 2%.
- Sorghum plantings - 7.4 million acres, down 1%.
- Barley plantings - 3.97 million acres, down 12%.
- All hay for harvest - 62.9 million acres, up 2%.

The acreage of biotechnology varieties of corn and soybeans intended to be planted is no longer included in this report. Estimates will continue to be published in the June Acreage report.