



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# FIELD CROPS

## PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS FOR 2007

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April 1, 2009

### FLORIDA

**FORECAST PLANTED ACRES:** In early March, Florida farmers indicated that they intend to plant more corn and soybeans, but less wheat, cotton, and peanuts in 2009 than in 2008. Hay acreage remained unchanged from last year. Growers planned to plant 35,000 acres of soybeans, up 3,000 acres from the 32,000 acres planted last year. Winter wheat producers expected to plant 17,000 acres, a decrease of 32 percent from the 25,000 acres planted last year. Corn acres are forecast to be up 5,000 acres to 75,000 acres. The acreage planted to cotton is expected to total 65,000 acres, down 2,000 acres or 3 percent from a year ago. Peanut growers intend to plant 110,000 acres, 27 percent less than the 2008 acreage.

**WEATHER:** Topsoil and subsoil moisture in the Panhandle and Big Bend regions was mostly short to adequate in the beginning of March. In the Panhandle area, fields were dry as preparations for row crops began. Hay was reported in short supply in many areas as supplemental feeding continued later than normal due to drought and cold. Some growers have decided not to plant cotton or peanuts due to the low prices and lack of contracts. In Santa Rosa and Escambia counties, recent wet weather, high winds and hail had negatively impacted the winter wheat crop. By the end of March, widespread rainfall improved soil moisture conditions although limiting field work in some areas. Drought in the southern Peninsula was causing some problems with salt in irrigated fields.

### UNITED STATES

**CORN:** Growers intend to plant 85.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2009, down 1 percent from last year as lower corn prices and unstable input costs are discouraging some growers from planting corn. If realized, this will be the second consecutive year-over-year decrease since 2007 but will still be the third largest acreage since 1949, behind 2007 and 2008.

**SOYBEAN:** Producers intend to plant 76.0 million acres in 2009, up slightly from last year. If realized, the U.S. planted area would be the largest on record. Acreage increases of 100,000 acres or more are expected in Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, and Ohio.

**ALL COTTON:** Plantings for 2009 are expected to total 8.81 million acres, 7 percent below last year and the lowest since 1983. Upland area is expected to total 8.67 million acres, down 7 percent from last year. Growers intend to decrease planted area in all States except Georgia, Kansas, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

**PEANUTS:** Growers intend to plant 1.12 million acres of peanuts in 2009, down 27 percent from the previous year. Record production in 2008, and concerns about future demand as a result of the Salmonella outbreak have limited the number of contracts being offered to producers for the upcoming season. Growers in the Southeast (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina) intend to plant 855,000 acres in 2009, compared with 1.13 million acres planted in 2008.

**HAY:** Producers intend to harvest 60.3 million acres of all hay in 2009, up slightly from 2008. Harvested area is expected to increase from last year throughout most of the Central Great Plains and the Pacific Northwest. Oklahoma, Montana, Kansas, and Wisconsin expect the largest increase in acreage harvested. North Dakota, Texas, North Carolina, and Missouri expect the largest decreases in acreage harvested. Producers in Oklahoma and Montana intend to harvest 240,000 and 200,000 more acres, respectively, while growers in North Dakota and Texas expect to harvest 420,000 and 130,000 less acres, respectively.

**ALL WHEAT:** Planted area is estimated at 58.6 million acres, down 7 percent from 2008. The 2009 winter wheat planted area, at 42.9 million acres, is 7 percent below last year but up 2 percent from the previous estimate.

**Prospective plantings for 2009 with comparisons**

Crops	Florida				United States			
	2007	2008	Indicated 2009 <sup>1/</sup>	2009 as % of 2008	2007	2008	Indicated 2009 <sup>1/</sup>	2009 as % of 2008
	<i>1,000 acres</i>			<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>			<i>Percent</i>
Corn <sup>2/</sup>	70	70	75	107	93,527	85,982	84,986	99
Cotton, Upland <sup>2/</sup>	85	67	65	97	10,827.2	9,740.0	8,811.5	93
All Hay, harvested	320	300	300	100	61,006	60,062	60,297	100
Peanuts <sup>2/</sup>	130	150	110	73	1,230	1,534	1,124	73
Soybeans <sup>2/</sup>	14	32	35	109	64,741	75,718	76,024	100
Tobacco, harvested <sup>3/</sup>								
All types	--	--	--	--	356,000	354,190	353,200	100
Class 1, Flue-cured	--	--	--	--	223,000	223,000	227,500	102
Winter Wheat <sup>2/</sup>	13	25	17	68	45,012	46,281	42,889	93

<sup>1/</sup> Intended plantings in 2009 as indicated by reports from farmers.

<sup>2/</sup> Planted for all purposes.

<sup>3/</sup> Estimates discontinued in 2007.