



# FIELD CROPS

## Prospective Plantings for 2013

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### FLORIDA

**Forecast Planted Acres:** Florida farmers indicated that as of March 1 they intended to plant more corn, Upland cotton, soybeans and winter wheat. Sweet potatoes remain the same as in 2012. Acreage harvested for hay is expected to increase this year. Corn growers expect to plant 80,000 acres, up 5,000 acres from last year's 75,000 acres. The acreage planted to cotton is projected to total 115,000 acres, up 7,000 acres from the 108,000 planted a year ago. Producers intended to bale 290,000 acres of hay, a decrease of 30,000 acres from the 320,000 acres last year. Peanut growers forecast planting 190,000 acres compared to 210,000 acres in 2012. Growers expected to plant 25,000 acres of soybeans, up 4,000 acres from the previous year. Sweet potato acres (includes boniatos) remain unchanged from last year's 6,400 acres. Winter wheat growers indicated that 23,000 acres were seeded, up 3,000 acres from the 2012 season.

**Weather:** Cold temperatures persisted throughout March across the State. Topsoil and subsoil moisture in the Panhandle and Big Bend regions were mostly short to adequate in March. Dry conditions allowed corn growers to begin planting by mid-March. In the Panhandle, clear conditions allowed peanut growers to prepare the land for plantings. At the end of March, 40 percent of the topsoil moisture ratings were rated short with 44 percent rated adequate.

### Prospective Plantings for 2013 with Comparisons

Crops	Florida				United States			
	2011	2012	Indicated 2013 <sup>1</sup>	2013 as % of 2012 <sup>1</sup>	2011	2012	Indicated 2013 <sup>1</sup>	2013 as % of 2012
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Corn .....	70.0	75.0	80.0	107	91,936.0	97,155.0	97,282.0	100
Cotton, Upland.....	122.0	108.0	115.0	106	14,428.0	12,077.0	9,820.0	81
All Hay, Harvested .....	260.0	320.0	290.0	91	55,653.0	56,260.0	56,419.0	100
Peanuts .....	170.0	210.0	190.0	90	1,140.6	1,638.0	1,191.0	73
Soybeans.....	18.0	21.0	25.0	119	75,046.0	77,198.0	77,126.0	100
Sweet potatoes .....	3.3	6.4	6.4	100	133.6	130.5	122.3	94
WinterWheat .....	12.0	20.0	23.0	115	40,646.0	41,324.0	41,988.0	102

<sup>1</sup> Intended plantings or harvested acres in 2013 as indicated by reports from farmers.

## UNITED STATES

**Corn:** Growers intend to plant 97.3 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2013, up slightly from last year and 6 percent higher than in 2011. If realized, this will represent the highest planted acreage in the United States since 1936 when an estimated 102 million acres were planted.

**All Cotton:** Growers intend to plant 10.0 million acres in 2013, down 19 percent from last year. Upland area is expected to total 9.82 million acres, down 19 percent from 2012. American Pima area is expected to total 206,000 acres, down 14 percent from 2012. If realized, planted area in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, and Oklahoma will all be record lows. As of March 24, cotton planting in Texas was 3 percent complete, 5 percentage points behind last year and 2 percentage points behind the 5-year average.

**Hay:** Producers intend to harvest 56.4 million acres of all hay in 2013, up slightly from 2012. Hay acreage is expected to decline from last year across most of the eastern States, Southwest, and Great Lakes region. Record low acreage is expected across several New England States, as well as Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin. In contrast, Arkansas is expecting record high acreage in 2013.

**Peanuts:** Growers intend to plant 1.19 million acres in 2013, down 27 percent from the previous year. The expected decrease in planted area is largely driven by lower peanut prices and high supply. Last year growers increased peanut acres in many States due to higher prices. In Georgia, the largest peanut-producing State, expected planted area is down 35 percent from 2012.

**Soybean:** Growers intend to plant an estimated 77.1 million acres in 2013, down slightly from last year but up 3 percent from 2011. Compared with last year, planted acreage intentions are down across all of the Great Plains, with the exception of North Dakota, as drought conditions have persisted in many of these areas. However, the net intended change from last year for the United States is only a loss of 72,000 acres as expected increases in planted area across most of the eastern Corn Belt and parts of the Southeast nearly balance out the declines in the Great Plains. If realized, the planted area in New York, North Dakota, and Pennsylvania will be the largest on record.

**Sweet Potatoes:** Planted area of sweet potatoes is estimated at 122,300 acres for the 2013 season, down 6 percent from last year. Water availability is a concern for growers in California. In Florida, acreage in some areas sustained minor damage due to freezing conditions. Planted acreage in Louisiana is expected to be the lowest on record.

**All Wheat:** The planted area for 2013 is estimated at 56.4 million acres, up 1 percent from 2012. The 2013 winter wheat planted area, at 42.0 million acres, is 2 percent above last year and up slightly from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 28.9 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 9.67 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.39 million acres are White Winter. Area planted to other spring wheat for 2013 is expected to total 12.7 million acres, up 3 percent from 2012. Of this total, about 12.1 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. The intended Durum planted area for 2013 is estimated at 1.75 million acres, down 18 percent from the previous year.