

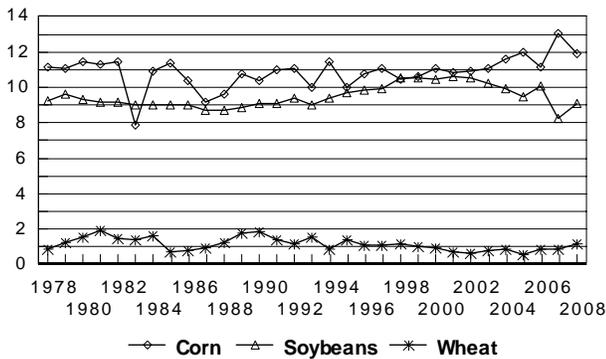
CROPS

Planting of 12.1 million acres of corn in 2008 got off to a slow start due to heavy rains and flooding conditions, preventing most corn planting throughout most of April. Warmer weather and adequate sunshine created excellent conditions for crop progress, pollination, and ear development. Generally good conditions allowed harvest to be nearly complete by the end of November. The value of the 2008 corn crop was 8.09 billion dollars, 13 percent less than the previous year.

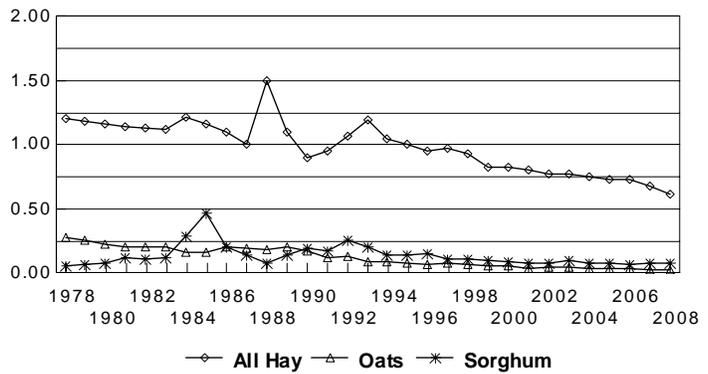
Soybean planting also got off to a slow start due to the wet spring. Planting of 9.2 million acres stretched out to where it was wrapping up in mid to late June. After the wet start, scattered rains and favorable temperatures through the end of August were of great benefit to the crop. Harvest conditions were generally very good across the state during October. The value of the 2008 soybean crop was 4.0 billion dollars, seven percent above the 2007 crop.

Winter wheat acreage for 2008 totaled 1.2 million acres seeded, 20 percent more than the previous year. The value of the wheat crop was 53 percent above the previous year at 401 million dollars. Acreage seeded to oats in 2008 was 45 thousand, up 29 percent from 2007. The oat crop was valued at 6.20 million dollars, up 13 percent from 2007. Acreage planted to sorghum in 2008 was 80 thousand, steady with the previous year. Sorghum value was 20 percent below 2007, falling to 20.2 million dollars. Harvested acreage of hay in 2008 was 620 thousand, nine percent less than 2007. The hay crop was valued at 261.2 million dollars.

PRINCIPAL CROPS
Illinois Harvested Acres (Millions)



OTHER CROPS
Illinois Harvested Acres (Millions)



CROPS: Record highs through 2008, Illinois

Crops	Unit	Date series began	Acres harvested		Yield per acre		Production	
			Year	Acres	Year	Yield	Year	Production
			Thousands				Thousands	
Corn for grain	Bushels	1866	2007	13,050	2004	180	2007	2,283,750
Soybeans	Bushels	1919	2001	10,620	2004	50	2004	495,000
Sorghum for grain	Bushels	1931	1985	470	2004	109	1985	36,190
Wheat	Bushels	1866	1919	4,103	2006	67	1989	105,020
Oats	Bushels	1866	1925	4,855	2003	89	1917	207,000
All hay	Tons	1866	1940	3,523	1990	3.72	1956	5,065