



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
HEARTLAND REGION -- ILLINOIS FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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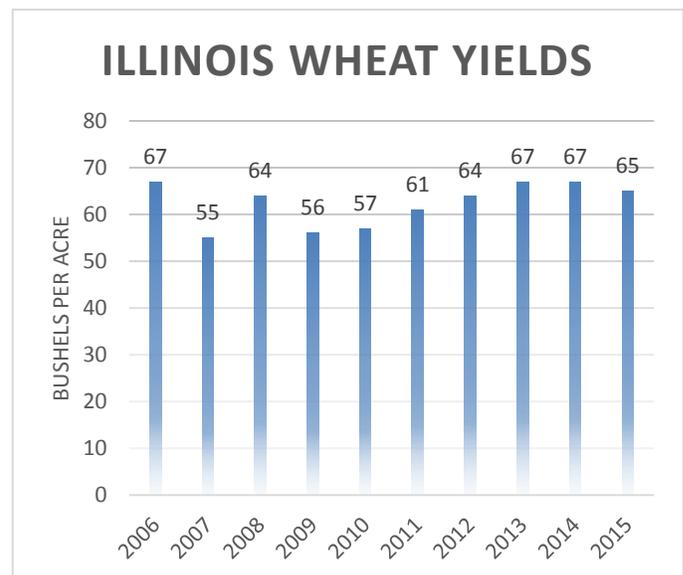
USDA-NASS to Forecast Winter Wheat Yields

Springfield, IL – In March, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) surveyed producers to create and publish an estimate of 560,000 acres of planted wheat in Illinois. Beginning May 10, and continuing through mid-August, NASS will publish a series of monthly crop reports that forecast the average wheat yield per acre in the state, helping farmers prepare to market their crops.

“These monthly reports rely solely on participation and response from Illinois producers,” said Mark Schleusener, Illinois State Statistician. Throughout the summer, many of those same producers will be surveyed again to provide updates as the crop matures. These updates will allow NASS to refine their yield estimates as the harvest draws closer.

In June, additional information for the monthly forecasts will come from observations of plant growth and development in 80 randomly selected fields across Illinois. “By responding to the Yield Survey, producers help NASS provide timely, accurate, and objective data for the wheat industry, including farmers themselves,” Mr. Schleusener explained.

As is the case with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law and is not shared with other federal agencies. NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents and publishes only state and national-level data, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified. “We value your privacy, and look forward to hearing from you,” Mr. Schleusener added.



Source: USDA / NASS

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