



NEWS RELEASE



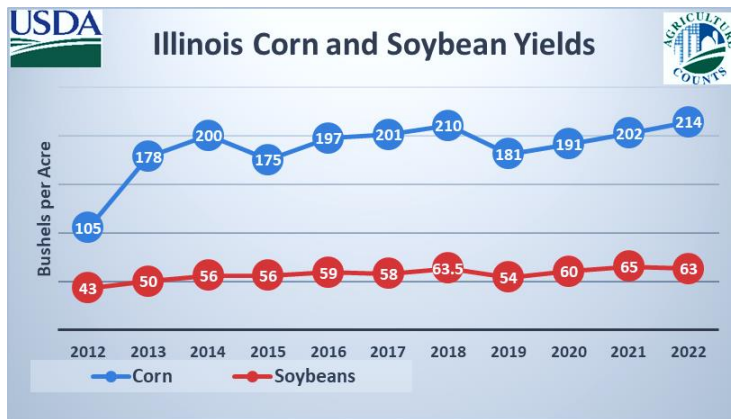
United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
HEARTLAND REGION – ILLINOIS FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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USDA TO FORECAST CROP YIELDS

Springfield, Illinois – At the beginning of each month from August through November, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will survey farmers across the U.S. asking for acres harvested and expected yield for their fall harvested crops. On August 11, NASS will publish estimates based on these surveys for each crop in each state, along with national estimates.



“USDA-NASS monthly crop forecasts are used by farmers, policy makers, researchers and businesses that use grains,” said Mark Schleusener, Illinois State Statistician. “NASS relies on Illinois farmers to provide the data needed to make those forecasts.” NASS encourages farmers to respond online, at agcounts.usda.gov, or by

mail. “Providing timely and accurate agricultural information helps both grain producers and users,” added Schleusener.

NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents and publishes only aggregate data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified, as required by federal law. Results will be published in Crop Production reports, released around the 12th of each month, August - November, available online at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications.

For assistance with the survey, or for more information, contact the NASS Heartland Regional Field Office at (800) 551-1014 or nassrfohlr@usda.gov.

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NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.

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