Iowa corn production is forecast at 2.41 billion bushels according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – Crop Production report. If realized, the production is tied for the highest on record, equal to the 2009 production. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 181 bushels per acre, an increase of 3 bushels per acre from last year but down 2 bushels from the August 1 forecast. If realized, the yield will be tied for the highest on record, equal to the high set in 2009. Corn planted and harvested for grain acreage is estimated at 13.7 million and 13.3 million acres, respectively.

Forecasted production and yield are up from 2014 in 4 Iowa districts. Northwest Iowa is expected to have the highest yield in the state, with 191 bushels per acre. All three northern Iowa districts are anticipated to have higher yields and production than last year, while all three southern districts are expected to have lower yields and production than last year. The largest increase in yield is expected in North Central Iowa, where yields are anticipated to average 18.1 bushels per acre more than 2014. The largest decrease in yield is expected in Southeast Iowa, where yields are expected to decline 32.6 bushels per acre from 2014.

Soybean production is forecast at 526 million bushels. If realized, this will be the highest soybean production on record, slightly above the 525 million bushels produced in 2005. The September 1 forecast yield is 53 bushels per acre, 1.5 bushels above 2014, and up 1.0 bushel from the August 1 forecast. Iowa farmers planted 10.0 million acres of soybeans and plan to harvest 9.92 million acres.

Production and yield are forecasted to be up from 2014 in 5 Iowa districts. Northwest Iowa is expected to have the highest yield in the state, with 58.5 bushels per acre. Similar to corn, all three northern Iowa districts are anticipated to have higher yields and production than last year, while all three southern districts are expected to have lower yields and production than last year. The largest increase in yield is expected in the Northeast Iowa, where yields are anticipated to average 7.6 bushels per acre more than 2014. The largest decrease in yield is expected in South Central Iowa, where yields are expected to decline 5.1 bushels per acre from 2014.

All crop forecasts in this report are based on conditions on September 1 and do not reflect weather effects since that time. The next district corn and soybean production forecasts, based on conditions as of October 1, will be released on October 9.