



Agri-News

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Featuring:

Agricultural Prices • Cash Rents • Cattle • Crop Production • Milk Production

August 1 Kentucky Crop Production Forecast

Corn production in **Kentucky** is forecast at 221 million bushels, down 2 percent from the previous crop. Yield is estimated at 170 bushels per acre, up 12 bushels from the 2014 level. Acres for harvest as grain were estimated at 1.30 million acres, down 130,000 acres from 2014. The **U.S.** corn production is forecast at 13.7 billion bushels, down 4 percent from 2014. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 168.8 bushels per acre, down 2.2 bushels from 2014. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 81.1 million acres, unchanged from the June forecast but down 2 percent from 2014.

Soybean production for **Kentucky** is forecast at 92.0 million bushels, increased 10 percent from 2014. Yield is estimated at 50.0 bushels per acre, up 2.0 bushels from a year ago. Acreage for harvest as beans was estimated at 1.84 million acres, up 90,000 acres from the previous year. **U.S.** soybean production is forecast at 3.92 billion bushels, down 1 percent from last year. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 46.9 bushels per acre, down 0.9 bushels from last year. Area for harvest is forecast at 83.5 million acres, down 1 percent from June but up 1 percent from 2014.

Kentucky farmers expect to harvest 31.5 million bushels of **winter wheat** during 2015. The expected crop for 2015 would be down 13 percent from the previous year. Growers expect a yield of 70.0 bushels per acre, down 1.0 bushel from 2014 and down 2.0 bushels from July. Farmers expect to harvest 450,000 acres for grain. Winter wheat production for the **Nation** was forecast at 1.44 billion bushels, up 4 percent from 2014. The United States yield is forecast at 43.2 bushels per acre, down 0.5 bushels from last month and up 0.6 bushels from last year. The expected area to be harvested for grain or seed totals 33.3 million acres, up 3 percent from last year.

Kentucky burley tobacco production is forecast at 118 million pounds, down 28 percent from 2014. Yield is projected at 1,900 pounds per acre, down 250 pounds from the 2014 crop. Harvested acreage was estimated at 62,000 acres, down 14,000 acres from last year's crop. For the **burley producing states** production is forecast at 157 million pounds, down 26 percent from last year. Burley growers plan to harvest 84,000 acres, down 17 percent from 2014. Yields were expected to average 1,872 pounds per acre, down 228 pounds from last year.

Production of **Kentucky dark fire-cured** tobacco is forecast at 32.3 million pounds, down 11 percent from the previous year. **Dark air-cured** tobacco production is forecast at 13.5 million pounds, down 7 percent from last year.

Production of **hay** by **Kentucky** farmers is forecast to be up from last year due to higher yields. **Alfalfa hay** production is forecast at 595,000 tons, 6 percent above the 2014 level. **Other hay** production is estimated at 4.62 million tons, up 10 percent from last year.

**CROP PRODUCTION SUMMARY, AUGUST 1
KENTUCKY AND UNITED STATES**

Crops	Area Planted ¹		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre			Production	
	2014	2015	2014	2015 ²	2014	2015		2014	2015
						Jul 1 ¹	Aug 1 ²		
KENTUCKY									
	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(bushels)</i>	<i>(bushels)</i>	<i>(bushels)</i>	<i>(1,000 bushels)</i>	<i>(1,000 bushels)</i>
Corn ³	1,520	1,400	1,430	1,300	158.0	--	170.0	225,940	221,000
Soybeans ³	1,760	1,850	1,750	1,840	48.0	--	50.0	84,000	92,000
Wheat, Winter ³⁴	630	600	510	450	71.0	72.0	70.0	36,210	31,500
	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(tons)</i>	<i>(tons)</i>	<i>(tons)</i>	<i>(1,000 tons)</i>	<i>(1,000 tons)</i>
Hay:									
All	--	--	2,265	2,275	2.10	--	2.29	4,761	5,215
Alfalfa	--	--	165	175	3.40	--	3.40	561	595
Other, All	--	--	2,100	2,100	2.00	--	2.20	4,200	4,620
	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(pounds)</i>	<i>(pounds)</i>	<i>(pounds)</i>	<i>(1,000 pounds)</i>	<i>(1,000 pounds)</i>
Tobacco:									
All	--	--	91,700	76,500	2,337	--	2,139	214,280	163,600
Burley	--	--	76,000	62,000	2,150	--	1,900	163,400	117,800
Dark-Fire Cured	--	--	10,700	9,500	3,400	--	3,400	36,380	32,300
Dark-Air Cured	--	--	5,000	5,000	2,900	--	2,700	14,500	13,500
UNITED STATES									
	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(bushels)</i>	<i>(bushels)</i>	<i>(bushels)</i>	<i>(1,000 bushels)</i>	<i>(1,000 bushels)</i>
Corn ³	90,597	88,897	83,136	81,101	171.0	--	168.8	14,215,532	13,686,063
Soybeans ³	83,701	84,339	83,061	83,549	47.8	--	46.9	3,968,823	3,916,448
Wheat, Winter ³⁴	42,399	40,620	32,304	33,329	42.6	43.7	43.2	1,377,526	1,438,278
	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(1,000 acres)</i>	<i>(tons)</i>	<i>(tons)</i>	<i>(tons)</i>	<i>(1,000 tons)</i>	<i>(1,000 tons)</i>
Hay:									
All	--	--	57,092	56,539	2.45	--	2.51	139,798	142,100
Alfalfa	--	--	18,445	18,337	3.33	--	3.39	61,446	62,092
Other, All	--	--	38,647	38,202	2.03	--	2.09	78,352	80,008
	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(pounds)</i>	<i>(pounds)</i>	<i>(pounds)</i>	<i>(1,000 pounds)</i>	<i>(1,000 pounds)</i>
Tobacco:									
All	--	--	378,360	332,450	2,316	--	2,158	876,415	717,341
Burley	--	--	101,500	84,000	2,100	--	1,872	213,160	157,265
Dark-Fire Cured	--	--	18,630	17,450	3,175	--	3,247	59,146	56,665
Dark-Air Cured	--	--	6,150	6,200	2,844	--	2,681	17,490	16,620

¹ Commodities with estimates not available are (denoted by "--"). ² Forecasted. ³ Area harvested represents grain. ⁴ Includes area planted in preceding fall.

JULY 1 CATTLE INVENTORY UP 2 PERCENT

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of July 1, 2015, totaled 98.4 million head, 2 percent above the 96.3 million on July 1, 2014. The last time all cattle and calves inventory for July 1 increased was 2006. **All cows and heifers** that have calved, at 39.8 million, were up 2 percent from July 1, 2014. **Beef cows**, at 30.5 million, were up 3 percent from July 1, 2014. **Milk cows**, at 9.30 million, were up 1 percent from July 1, 2014. The 2015 **calf crop** was expected to be 34.3 million, up 1 percent from 2014. Calves born during the first half of the year were estimated at 24.8 million, up 1 percent from the previous year.

Other class estimates on July 1, 2015, and the changes from July 1, 2014, are as follows:

- * All heifers 500 pounds and over, 15.9 million, up 2 percent.
- * Beef replacement heifers, 4.90 million, up 7 percent.
- * Milk replacement heifers, 4.20 million, up 2 percent.
- * Other heifers, 6.80 million, down 1 percent.
- * Steers, weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.1 million, up 3 percent.
- * Bulls, weighing 500 pounds and over, 1.90 million, unchanged.
- * Calves under 500 pounds, 26.7 million, up 2 percent.
- * All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter, 12.1 million, up 2 percent.

Milk Cows & Milk Production, Selected States & U.S. Preliminary April-June, 2014 - 2015

State	Apr - Jun Milk Cows ¹		Apr - Jun Milk Production ²		
	2014	2015	2014	2015	15 % 14
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CA	1,779	1,778	10,979	10,652	0.97
IL	94	95	482	495	1.03
IN	177	181	995	1,023	1.03
KY	64	62	268	288	1.07
MN	460	460	2,310	2,406	1.04
MO	91	88	373	370	0.99
OH	266	267	1,396	1,396	1.00
TX	464	462	2,679	2,656	0.99
VA	93	92	458	461	1.01
WI	1,269	1,278	7,019	7,285	1.04
US	9,253	9,319	52,897	53,615	1.01

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. ² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Livestock Average Prices Received ^{1 2}

Commodity	United States		
	Jun 2014	May 2015	Jun 2015
	<i>\$/ Cwt.</i>	<i>\$/ Cwt.</i>	<i>\$/ Cwt.</i>
All Hogs	84.80	58.90	59.90
Barrows & Gilts	85.00	60.00	60.80
Sows	80.40	31.40	36.80
All Beef Cattle ³	147.00	160.00	155.00
Steers & Heifers ⁴	148.00	161.00	156.00
Cows	106.00	114.00	113.00
Calves ⁵	249.00	288.00	292.00

¹ U.S. prices based on data provided by USDA AMS. ² Only full month prices published starting in January 2015. ³ "Steers & Heifers" and "Cows" combined. ⁴ 500 lbs. and over. ⁵ Under 500 lbs.

Crop Average Prices Received ¹

Commodity	Kentucky		U.S.	
	Jun 2014	Jun 2015	Jun 2014	Jun 2015
	<i>\$</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>\$</i>
All Corn (Bu) ²³	4.87	3.89	4.50	3.58
Soybeans (Bu) ²	14.60	9.91	14.30	9.58
Winter Wheat (Bu) ²	(4)	(4)	6.34	5.20
Hay, Alfalfa (Ton)	190.00	210.00	222.00	178.00
Hay, Other (Ton)	90.00	105.00	139.00	127.00

¹ Only full month prices published starting in January 2015. ² Includes contract sales paid during month. ³ Includes yellow and white corn. ⁴ Kentucky is a minor State, not published separately.

2015 AGRICULTURAL CASH RENTS

Cash rent for **Kentucky** agricultural **cropland** for 2014 was \$148.00 per acre. The bordering states of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Tennessee had cropland rents of \$228.00, \$197.00, \$150.00 and \$101.00 per acre respectively. California led the nation with \$329.00 per acre for all cropland. The national cropland average was \$144.00 per acre, up \$3.00 per acre from 2014.

Pasture cash rent for Kentucky was \$27.00. With regard to pasture cash rent in neighboring states, Illinois was \$35.00 per acre, Missouri was \$34.00 per acre and Tennessee was \$20.00 per acre. The national pasture rent was \$14.00 per acre, up \$2.00 per acre from 2014. Variation between the states was significant. Iowa had the highest pasture rent at \$50.00, while Colorado reported pasture rent at \$5.00 per acre.

Cropland Rented for Cash: Average Cash Rent per Acre, 2011 - 2015 by Selected States and U.S.

STATE	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Illinois	183.00	212.00	223.00	234.00	228.00
Indiana	152.00	175.00	192.00	195.00	197.00
Kentucky	105.00	130.00	149.00	148.00	148.00
Missouri	106.00	110.00	121.00	132.00	132.00
North Carolina	65.50	70.50	77.50	84.50	88.50
Ohio	110.00	122.00	139.00	144.00	150.00
Tennessee	79.50	91.00	92.00	101.00	101.00
Virginia	45.00	49.00	52.00	56.00	57.50
West Virginia	33.00	(S)	(S)	40.00	40.00
US Total	111.00	125.00	136.00	141.00	144.00

(S) Insufficient number of reports to establish an estimate.

Internet Access: Data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>