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### **Kentucky soybean acreage reaches new high**

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released the Acreage and Grain Stocks reports today, showing the Commonwealth’s 2018 soybean planted acreage is a record high.

“Soybean acreage has nearly doubled since 2007,” said David Knopf, director of the NASS Eastern Mountain Regional Office in Kentucky. “The crop is a good fit for the current market and agronomic conditions. This year soybeans are planted on 34 percent of the principal field crop acreage. On the other hand, corn planted acreage is at the lowest level since 2009. Much of the decrease results from the shift to soybeans and other land uses.”

**Soybeans** planted in Kentucky were estimated at 2.10 million acres, up 150,000 acres from 2017. Acres harvested for grain, at 2.09 million acres, was 150,000 acres above acres a year ago. U.S. soybean planted area for 2018 was estimated at 89.6 million acres, down one percent from last year. Area for harvest, at 88.9 million acres, is down one percent from 2017.

Acreage planted to **corn** in Kentucky was estimated at 1.31 million acres, down 10,000 acres from 2017. Acres harvested for grain was estimated at 1.21 million acres, down 10,000 acres from last year. The U.S. corn planted for all purposes in 2018 was estimated at 89.1 million acres, down one percent from last year. Growers expect to harvest 81.8 million acres for grain, down one percent from last year.

Farmers in Kentucky intend to set an estimated 55,000 acres of **burley tobacco** for harvest. This was down 8,000 from the 2017 level. **Dark fire-cured tobacco** acreage set was estimated at 11,000 acres, down 500 acres from the previous year. **Dark air-cured tobacco** acreage was estimated at 6,000 acres, unchanged from a year ago. Burley producing states acreage for harvest was estimated at 69,800 acres, 14 percent below last year.

**Winter wheat** seeded acreage in Kentucky was estimated at 460,000 acres, 20,000 acres below the previous year. Acreage harvested for grain was estimated at 350,000 acres, 40,000 acres above 2017. The U.S. Winter wheat planted area was estimated at 32.7 million acres, up slightly from 2017. Area harvested for grain was forecast at 24.8 million acres, down two percent from last year.

**Alfalfa hay** acreage in Kentucky was estimated at 140,000 acres, down 10,000 from the 2017 crop. **All other hay** was estimated at 2.10 million acres, up 100,000 from a year ago. The U.S. All hay acreage was estimated at 55.1 million acres, up two percent from 2017.

To view the complete Acreage report, visit <https://release.nass.usda.gov/reports/acrg0618.pdf>. To view the complete Grain Stocks report, visit <https://release.nass.usda.gov/reports/grst0618.pdf>. For more information, call the NASS Kentucky Field Office at (800) 928-5277.

### Planted and Harvested Acres, June 2018 - Kentucky and United States

	Kentucky				United States			
	Planted <sup>1</sup>		Harvested		Planted <sup>1</sup>		Harvested	
	2017 <i>(1,000 acres)</i>	2018 <i>(1,000 acres)</i>	2017 <i>(1,000 acres)</i>	2018 <sup>2</sup> <i>(1,000 acres)</i>	2017 <i>(1,000 acres)</i>	2018 <i>(1,000 acres)</i>	2017 <i>(1,000 acres)</i>	2018 <sup>2</sup> <i>(1,000 acres)</i>
Corn	1,320	1,310	1,220	1,210	90,167	89,128	82,703	81,770
Soybeans	1,950	2,100	1,940	2,090	90,142	89,557	89,522	88,862
Wheat, Winter <sup>3</sup>	480	460	310	350	32,696	32,732	25,291	24,831
Hay:								
All	--	--	2,150	2,240	--	--	53,784	55,068
Alfalfa	--	--	150	140	--	--	16,563	17,351
Other, All	--	--	2,000	2,100	--	--	37,221	37,717
	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>	<i>(acres)</i>
Tobacco:								
All	--	--	80,500	72,000	--	--	321,470	303,680
Burley	--	--	63,000	55,000	--	--	81,500	69,800
Dark Fire-Cured	--	--	11,500	11,000	--	--	19,270	18,080
Dark Air-Cured	--	--	6,000	6,000	--	--	7,600	7,500

<sup>1</sup> Commodities with planted estimates not available are denoted by "--". <sup>2</sup> Forecasted. <sup>3</sup> Includes area planted in preceding fall.