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Soybean Yields Effected by Dry Conditions

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released the August Crop Production report today. Dry conditions during September allowed harvest to proceed at a normal pace, but hurt soybean yields. Some later planted corn fields were also impacted by the drought, but overall the yields remain good.

Corn production in **Kentucky** is forecast at 258 million bushels, down 3 percent from the September forecast and up 20 percent from the previous crop. Yield was estimated at 178 bushels per acre, up 1 bushel from last month and up 3 bushels from the 2018 level. Acres for harvest as grain were estimated at 1.45 million acres, up 220,000 acres from 2018. The **U.S.** corn production is forecast at 13.8 billion bushels, down slightly from the September forecast and down 4 percent from 2018. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 168.4 bushels per acre, up 0.2 bushels from last month and down 8.0 bushels from 2018. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 81.8 million acres, down slightly from the September forecast and up slightly from 2018.

Soybean production for **Kentucky** is forecast at 82.8 million bushels, down 8 percent from the September forecast and down 16 percent from 2018. Yield was estimated at 49 bushels per acre, down 4 bushels from last month and down 2 bushels from a year ago. Acreage for harvest as beans was estimated at 1.69 million acres, down 240,000 acres from the previous year. **U.S.** soybean production is forecast at 3.55 billion bushels, down 2 percent from the September forecast and down 20 percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 46.9 bushels per acre, down 1.0 bushels from last month and down 3.7 bushels from last year. Area for harvest is forecast at 75.6 million acres, down slightly from the September forecast and down 14 percent from 2018.

Kentucky burley tobacco production is forecast at 77.9 million pounds, down 5 percent from the September forecast and down 3 percent from 2018. Yield was projected at 1,900 pounds per acre, unchanged from last month and up 300 pounds from the 2018 crop. Harvested acreage was estimated at 41,000 acres, down 9,000 acres from last year's crop. For the **burley producing states** production is forecast at 91.8 million pounds, down 9 percent from last year. Burley growers plan to harvest 48,600 acres, down 20 percent from 2018. Yields were expected to average 1,889 pounds per acre, up 244 pounds from last year.

Production of **Kentucky dark fire-cured** tobacco is forecast at 29.5 million pounds, up 2 percent from the September forecast and down 16 percent from the previous year. **Dark air-cured** tobacco production is forecast at 19.4 million pounds, down 4 percent from the September forecast and up 1 percent from last year.

Alfalfa hay production by **Kentucky** farmers is forecast at 368,000 tons, down 18 percent the 2018 level. **Other hay** production is estimated at 4.80 million tons, up 3 percent from last year.

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

Crops	Area Planted ¹		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre			Production	
	2018	2019	2018	2019 ²	2018	2019		2018	2019
						Sep 1 ¹	Oct 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	1,340	1,550	1,230	1,450	175.0	177.0	178.0	215,250	258,100
Soybeans ³	1,950	1,700	1,930	1,690	51.0	53.0	49.0	98,430	82,810
	<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	--	--	1,895	2,115	2.68	--	--	5,088	--
Alfalfa	--	--	145	115	3.10	--	3.20	450	368
Other, All	--	--	1,750	2,000	2.65	--	2.40	4,638	4,800
	<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	--	--	68,100	57,700	1,973	2,196	2,197	134,370	126,790
Burley	--	--	50,000	41,000	1,600	1,900	1,900	80,000	77,900
Dark-Fire Cured	--	--	11,000	9,500	3,200	3,100	3,100	35,200	29,450
Dark-Air Cured	--	--	7,100	7,200	2,700	2,800	2,700	19,170	19,440
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	89,129	89,942	81,740	81,815	176.4	168.2	168.4	14,420,101	13,779,335
Soybeans ³	89,167	76,457	87,594	75,626	50.6	47.9	46.9	4,428,150	3,550,281
Wheat, Winter ³⁴									
	<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	--	--	52,839	52,773	2.34	--	2.48	123,600	130,932
Alfalfa	--	--	16,608	16,828	3.17	--	3.22	52,634	54,219
Other, All	--	--	36,231	35,945	1.96	--	2.13	70,966	76,713
	<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	--	--	291,430	228,620	1,830	2,090	1,960	533,241	448,062
Burley	--	--	61,050	48,600	1,645	1,897	1,889	100,435	91,800
Dark-Fire Cured	--	--	18,880	16,220	3,121	2,920	2,922	58,926	47,402
Dark-Air Cured	--	--	9,900	10,600	2,686	2,704	2,604	26,590	27,600

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