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Large Kentucky Corn and Soybean Crops Expected

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released its crop production report today from the September Agricultural Yield Survey conducted at the beginning of the month. Based on September 1 conditions, the report showed corn production is expected to be up 6 percent from last year, and soybeans 30 percent higher.

“There is potential for a record large corn production this year”, said David Knopf, director of the NASS Eastern Mountain Regional Office in Kentucky. “Corn harvest is just beginning, so it’s never certain until the corn is in the bin, but farmers are optimistic at this point.” On September 1, corn and soybean conditions were 10 points or more above the 5-year average.

Corn production in **Kentucky** is forecast at 259 million bushels, unchanged from the August forecast but up 6% from 2019. Yield was estimated at 181 bushels per acre, unchanged from last month and up 12.0 bushels from the 2019 level. Acres for harvest as grain were estimated at 1.43 million acres, down 20,000 acres from 2019. The **U.S.** corn production is forecast at 14.9 billion bushels, down 2% from the August forecast and up 9% from last year's record production. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 178.5 bushels per acre, up 11.1 bushels from 2019. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 83.5 million acres, down 1% from the August forecast but up 3% from 2019.

Soybean production for **Kentucky** is forecast at 101 million bushels, up 2% from the August forecast and up 30% from 2019. Yield was estimated at 55.0 bushels per acre, up 1.0 from last month and up 9.0 bushels from a year ago. Acreage for harvest was estimated at 1.84 million acres, up 150,000 acres from the previous year. **U.S.** soybean production is forecast at 4.31 billion bushels, down 3% from the August forecast but up 21% from last year. Yields are expected to average 51.9 bushels per acre, down 1.4 bushels from last month but up 4.5 bushels from last year. Area for harvest is forecast at 83.0 million acres, unchanged from the August forecast but up 11 % from 2019.

Kentucky burley tobacco production is forecast at 61.2 million pounds, down 6% from the August forecast and down 21% from 2019. Yield was projected at 1,700 pounds per acre, down 100 pounds from last month and down 200 pounds from the 2019 crop. Harvested acreage was estimated at 36,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from last year's crop. For the **burley producing states** production is forecast at 71.8 million pounds, down 23% from last year. Burley growers plan to harvest 41,800 acres, down 14 percent from 2019. Yields were expected to average 1,717 pounds per acre, down 193 pounds from last year.

Production of **Kentucky dark fire-cured** tobacco is forecast at 23.2 million pounds, down 2% from the August forecast but down 16% from the previous year. **Dark air-cured** tobacco production is forecast at 14.7 million pounds, down 6% from the August forecast but down 18% from last year.

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

Crops	Area Planted ¹		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre			Production	
	2019	2020	2019	2020 ²	2019	2020 ¹		2019	2020
						Aug 1	Sep 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	1,550	1,550	1,450	1,430	169.0	181.0	181.0	245,050	258,830
Soybeans ³	1,700	1,850	1,690	1,840	46.0	54.0	55.0	77,740	101,200
Wheat, Winter ³⁴	460	530	330	375	76.0	64.0	--	25,080	24,000
	<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	--	--	57,400	50,400	2,150	2,071	1,967	123,390	99,120
Burley	--	--	41,000	36,000	1,900	1,800	1,700	77,900	61,200
Dark-Fire Cured	--	--	9,500	8,000	2,900	3,000	2,900	27,550	23,200
Dark-Air Cured	--	--	6,900	6,400	2,600	2,450	2,300	17,940	14,720
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	89,700	92,006	81,322	83,473	167.4	181.8	178.5	13,617,261	14,899,557
Soybeans ³	76,100	83,825	74,951	83,020	47.4	53.3	51.9	3,552,241	4,312,819
Wheat, Winter ³⁴	31,159	30,550	24,327	23,439	53.6	51.1	--	1,304,003	1,198,362
	<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	--	--	227,120	195,750	2,060	1,892	1,880	467,956	368,065
Burley	--	--	48,600	41,800	1,910	1,779	1,717	92,830	71,765
Dark-Fire Cured	--	--	16,120	13,950	2,839	2,960	2,903	45,766	40,490
Dark-Air Cured	--	--	9,900	10,100	2,464	2,485	2,373	24,390	23,970

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

The next Crop Production report will be released October 9. All reports are available on the NASS website: www.nass.usda.gov. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Kentucky Field Office at (800) 928-5277.

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