



Minnesota Ag News – Prospective Plantings

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The annual *Prospective Plantings* report published by the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service is based on the voluntary responses from nearly two thousand Minnesota producers. This report provides an indication of the acres farmers intend to plant in the 2015 crop year. Actual plantings will depend upon weather, economic conditions and the availability of production inputs at the time producers must make their final planting decisions.

Minnesota farmers intend to plant 8.5 million acres of **corn** for all purposes in 2015, 300,000 acres more than last year's actual planted acres. If realized, this would be the third largest corn acreage planted on record, 250,000 less than the record of 8.75 million planted in 2012, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Prospective Plantings* report.

Farmers in Minnesota intend to plant 7.5 million acres of **soybeans**, up 2 percent from 2014. If realized, this would tie the previous record high set in 2003.

Spring wheat producers intend to plant 1.26 million acres, up 40,000 acres from last year and 60,000 acres above 2013.

Minnesota **oat** producers intend to plant 280,000 acres of oats, up 50,000 acres from 2014 planted acres, and 100,000 acres more than the record low set in 2011.

Minnesota farmers intend to plant 90,000 acres of **barley**, up 15,000 acres from last year, and 20,000 more than the record low set in 2011.

Minnesota farmers intend to harvest 1.75 million acres of **dry hay** in 2015, down 8 percent from last year. If realized, this would tie the record low for acres harvested set in 2012.

Minnesota farmers intend to plant 438,000 acres of **sugarbeets** this year, down 2,000 acres from 2014. If realized, this would be the lowest planted acreage since 1995.

Producers in Minnesota intend to plant 74,000 acres of **sunflowers** in 2015, up 12,000 acres from 2014. **Oil Sunflower** intentions, at 56,000 acres, are 9,000 acres above 2014. **Non-oil sunflower** planting intentions, at 18,000 acres, are 3,000 acres above last year.

Prospective Plantings – Minnesota and United States: 2013-2015

Crop	Minnesota				United States			
	2013	2014	Indicated 2015	'15 as % of '14	2013	2014	Indicated 2015	'15 as % of '14
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	percent	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	percent
Barley.....	90	75	90	120	3,528	2,975	3,258	110
Canola.....	17	14	19	136	1,348	1,714	1,554	91
Corn, all.....	8,600	8,200	8,500	104	95,365	90,597	89,199	98
Dry Beans.....	125	155	180	116	1,359.7	1,718.9	1,742.9	101
Flaxseed.....	4	2	3	150	181	311	401	129
Hay, all ¹	1,900	1,910	1,750	92	57,897	57,092	57,093	100
Oats.....	240	230	280	122	2,980	2,723	2,931	108
Soybeans.....	6,700	7,350	7,500	102	76,840	83,701	84,635	101
Sugarbeets.....	462	440	438	100	1,198.0	1,161.6	1,182.1	102
Sunflowers, all.....	43	62	74	119	1,575.5	1,560.8	1,786.0	114
Sunflowers, oil.....	33	47	56	119	1,279.0	1,172.0	1,485.0	127
Sunflowers, non-oil.....	10	15	18	120	296.5	388.8	301.0	77
Wheat, all.....	1,227	1,262	1,308	104	56,236	56,822	55,367	97
Wheat, Spring.....	1,200	1,220	1,260	103	11,606	13,025	12,969	100
Wheat, Winter.....	27	42	48	114	43,230	42,399	40,751	96

¹ Acres for harvest.

UNITED STATES PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

Corn planted area for all purposes in 2015 is estimated at 89.2 million acres, down 2 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the third consecutive year of an acreage decline and would be the lowest planted acreage in the United States since 2010.

Soybean planted area for 2015 is estimated at a record high 84.6 million acres, up 1 percent from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage intentions are up or unchanged in 21 of the 31 major producing States.

All wheat planted area for 2015 is estimated at 55.4 million acres, down 3 percent from 2014. The 2015 winter wheat planted area, at 40.8 million acres, is down 4 percent from last year but up less than 1 percent from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 29.6 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 7.75 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.43 million acres are White Winter. Area planted to other spring wheat for 2015 is estimated at 13.0 million acres, down slightly from 2014. Of this total, about 12.1 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. The intended Durum planted area for 2015 is estimated at 1.65 million acres, up 18 percent from the previous year.

