



News Release

100 Centennial Mall North, Room 298, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508
Media Contact: Dean C. Groskurth (402) 437-5541

NEBRASKA'S MARCH 1, 2012 PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

Lincoln, Neb., March 30, 2012 -- Nebraska producers expect to increase acreage planted to corn, sorghum, dry edible beans, and oats, while decreasing acreage devoted to soybeans, hay, wheat (sown last fall), sunflowers, and sugarbeets, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office.

Nebraska **corn** growers expect to plant 10.3 million acres for all purposes in 2012, up 5 percent from 2011 and the largest acreage since 1933.

Soybean producers intend to plant 4.7 million acres, down 4 percent from a year earlier.

Hay acreage for harvest, at 2.4 million, is expected to be down 3 percent from last year.

Last fall, **winter wheat** was sown on 1.35 million acres, down 11 percent from 2011. This is the smallest winter wheat acreage planted in Nebraska since records began in 1909.

Sorghum growers expect to plant 165,000 acres, up 10 percent from last year.

Dry edible bean producers intend to plant 155,000 acres, up 41 percent from 2011.

Oat planting intentions, at 75,000 acres, are up 15,000 acres from 2011.

Sunflower planting intentions, at 50,000 acres, are down 9,000 acres from last year.

Sugarbeet plantings, at 50,000 acres, are down 4 percent from a year ago.

These acreage estimates are based on surveys conducted the first two weeks of March. This report is intended to assist growers in finalizing their acreage plans for 2012. Actual area planted may vary from that indicated due to farmer's final assessment of planting options, effects of weather, availability of production inputs, and changes in price expectations for the coming crop year.

Access the National publication for this release at:

<http://usda01.library.cornell.edu/usda/nass/ProsPlan//2010s/2012/ProsPlan-03-30-2012.pdf>

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.nass.usda.gov/.

- # -

NASS provides accurate, timely, useful and objective statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. The Agency invites you to express your thoughts and provide occasional feedback on our products and services by joining a data user community. To join, sign in at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions> and look for "NASS Data User Community."