

OATS and BARLEY

Wet weather during April and heavy soils at the start of May delayed planting from one week to ten days for many Maine farmers in 2007. As a result, only 20 percent of the oat and barley crops in Maine had been planted by May 20, compared with 85 percent in 2006 and normal of 45 percent. Much warmer weather followed and remained through the Memorial Day weekend, allowing farmers to catch up on field work. Crop specialists rated Maine's grain crops as either excellent or good for the entire season. Harvest was underway the first week in September, trailing last year and normal from one to two weeks due to the late start. Ideal harvest conditions prevailed through the end of September, and harvest wrapped up on schedule with the previous year and ahead of normal.

Oats harvested for grain totaled 30,000 acres, unchanged from the previous year. Oat yields averaged 70 bushels per acre in 2007, compared with 55 bushels per acre a year earlier. Grain production weighed in at 2.1 million bushels, 27 percent above 2006 output. Oat price per bushel rose 52 cents to \$1.90 in 2007, bringing the value of production close to \$4.0 million.

Barley harvested for grain totaled 17,000 acres, unchanged from the previous year. Barley yields averaged 70 bushels per acre in 2007 compared with 50 bushels per acre in 2006. Grain production, at 1.19 million bushels, was 40 percent above 2006 output. Barley price per bushel rose 70 cents to \$2.55 in 2007, which placed the value of production at \$3.04 million.

OATS: Acreage, Yield, Production and Value, 1998 – 2007 ¹

State and Year	Area		Yield per Acre	Grain Production	Price per Bushel	Value of Production
	Planted for All Purposes	Harvested for Grain				
	1,000 Acres		Bushels	1,000 Bushels	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
Maine						
1998	24	23	73	1,679	0.97	1,629
1999	30	27	80	2,160	0.90	1,944
2000	28	26	70	1,820	0.90	1,638
2001	31	29	75	2,175	1.10	2,393
2002	28	27	85	2,295	1.45	3,328
2003	27	26	78	2,028	1.10	2,231
2004	34	32	80	2,560	1.20	3,072
2005	32	28	70	1,960	1.19	2,332
2006	31	30	55	1,650	1.38	2,277
2007	31	30	70	2,100	1.90	3,990

¹ Standard weight for one bushel of oats is 32 pounds.

BARLEY: Acreage, Yield, Production and Value, 2000 – 2007 ^{1 2}

State and Year	Area		Yield per Acre	Grain Production	Price per Bushel	Value of Production
	Planted for All Purposes	Harvested for Grain				
	1,000 Acres		Bushels	1,000 Bushels	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
Maine						
2000	26	25	70	1,750	1.45	2,538
2001	28	27	70	1,890	1.50	2,835
2002	28	27	80	2,160	1.70	3,672
2003	28	27	65	1,755	1.30	2,282
2004	23	22	60	1,320	1.58	2,086
2005	23	22	60	1,320	1.90	2,508
2006	18	17	50	850	1.85	1,573
2007	18	17	70	1,190	2.55	3,035

¹ Estimates began in 2000.

² Standard weight for one bushel of barley is 48 pounds.