North Dakota
# FARM REPORTER
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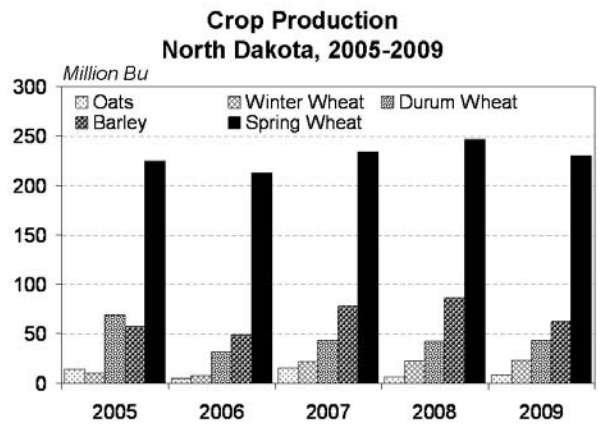
**IN THIS ISSUE**

*Crop Production*
*Dry Edible Pea & Lentil Acreage*
*Potato Acreage*
*Milk Production*
*Oil Crops Outlook*

## CROP PRODUCTION

**North Dakota**
Spring wheat production for 2009 is forecast at 230 million bushels, down 6 percent from the 246 million bushels produced last year. The forecasted yield is 36.0 bushels per harvested acre, down 2.5 bushels per acre from 2008. Durum wheat production is forecast at 42.4 million bushels, 130,000 bushels more than last year. The forecasted yield is 26.0 bushels per acre, 1.0 bushels per acre more than in 2008.

Barley production is forecast at 62.2 million bushels, down 28 percent from last year and 20 percent from 2007. The average yield is forecast at 55.0 bushels per acre, down 1 bushel per acre from last year. Oat production is forecast at 8.25 million bushels, up 24 percent from 2008 but down 46 percent from 2007's production of 15.3 million bushels. The average yield is forecast at 55.0 bushels per acre, up 4 bushels per acre from last year.




The crop production forecasts in this report are based on yield projections and acreage reports collected from a cross-section of North Dakota producers around July 1. This report is based on conditions around July 1 and assumes no extreme conditions the remainder of the crop season.

**United States**
Spring wheat production is forecast at 506 million bushels, 7 percent below 2008. Durum wheat production is forecast at 81.2 million bushels, down 4 percent from 2008. Barley production for 2009 is forecast at 203 million bushels, down 15 percent from 2008. Oat production is forecast at 91.3 million bushels, 3 percent above last year's record low 88.6 million bushels.

**Crop Summary: Area Planted, Harvested, Yield and Production**
**North Dakota and United States, 2008-2009**

| Crop | Planted 2008 | Planted 2009 | Harvested 2008 | Harvested Forecasted 2009 | Unit | Yield Per Harvested Acre Average 2004-08[1] | Yield 2008 | Yield Forecasted 2009 | Production 2008 | Production Forecasted 2009 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *1,000 Acres* | *1,000 Acres* | *1,000 Acres* | *1,000 Acres* | | | | | *1,000* | *1,000* |
| **North Dakota** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Barley | 1,650 | 1,200 | 1,540 | 1,130 | *Bu* | 55.4 | 56.0 | 55.0 | 86,240 | 62,150 |
| Oats | 320 | 270 | 130 | 150 | *Bu* | 54.8 | 51.0 | 55.0 | 6,630 | 8,250 |
| Wheat, All | 9,230 | 8,950 | 8,640 | 8,530 | *Bu* | 35.1 | 36.0 | 34.7 | 311,200 | 295,780 |
| Winter | 630 | 550 | 550 | 500 | *Bu* | 42.8 | 41.0 | 46.0 | 22,550 | 23,000 |
| Durum | 1,800 | 1,700 | 1,690 | 1,630 | *Bu* | 29.5 | 25.0 | 26.0 | 42,250 | 42,380 |
| Spring | 6,800 | 6,700 | 6,400 | 6,400 | *Bu* | 36.1 | 38.5 | 36.0 | 246,400 | 230,400 |
| **United States** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Barley | 4,234 | 3,627 | 3,767 | 3,142 | *Bu* | | 63.6 | 64.7 | 239,498 | 203,329 |
| Oats | 3,217 | 3,158 | 1,395 | 1,426 | *Bu* | | 63.5 | 64.0 | 88,635 | 91,277 |
| Wheat, All | 63,147 | 59,775 | 55,685 | 50,445 | *Bu* | | 44.9 | 41.9 | 2,499,524 | 2,112,342 |
| Winter | 46,281 | 43,448 | 39,614 | 34,787 | *Bu* | | 47.2 | 43.8 | 1,867,903 | 1,524,771 |
| Durum | 2,731 | 2,555 | 2,584 | 2,453 | *Bu* | | 32.8 | 33.1 | 84,877 | 81,217 |
| Spring | 14,135 | 13,772 | 13,487 | 13,205 | *Bu* | | 40.5 | 38.3 | 546,744 | 506,354 |

[1] U.S. average yield not computed.

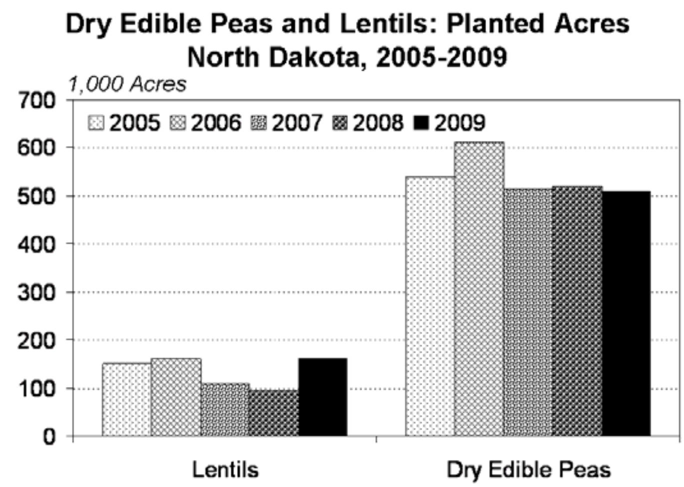
## DRY EDIBLE PEA & LENTIL ACREAGE

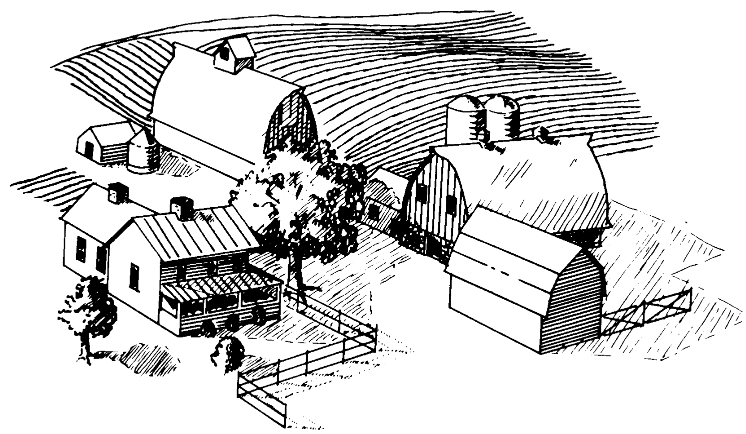
**North Dakota**
Dry edible pea planted area in North Dakota is estimated at 510,000 acres, down from 520,000 acres last year and 515,000 acres in 2007. The record high was set in 2006 at 610,000 acres. Dry edible pea acreage estimates were added to the program in 1998 when 100,000 acres were planted. Harvested acreage is estimated at 490,000, down from 500,000 acres last year and 2007. The record high was 590,000 acres harvested in 2006.

Lentil planted area is estimated at 160,000 acres, up from last year's 95,000 acres and tying the record high 160,000 acres planted in 2006. This is the first increase in acreage after a two year decrease from the 2006 record high. Lentil acreage estimates were added to the program in 1998 when 22,000 acres were planted. Harvested acreage is estimated at 155,000, up from 92,000 acres last year and a record high if realized.

**United States**
Dry edible pea planted area in the U.S. is estimated at 880,700 acres, virtually unchanged from last year. Area for harvest, at 840,900 acres, is 1 percent below a year ago.

Lentil planted area is estimated at 410,000 acres, 51 percent above 2008. If realized, this will be the largest planted acreage since the 429,000 planted acres reported in 2006. Harvested area is estimated at 399,000 acres, up 52 percent from last year.



**Dry Edible Peas and Lentils: Area Planted and Harvested by State and United States, 2008-2009**

| State | Area Planted | | Area Harvested | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | Forecasted 2009 |
| | *1,000 Acres* | *1,000 Acres* | *1,000 Acres* | *1,000 Acres* |
| **Dry Edible Peas**[1] | | | | |
| North Dakota | 520.0 | 510.0 | 500.0 | 490.0 |
| Idaho | 37.0 | 40.0 | 36.0 | 39.0 |
| Montana | 245.0 | 240.0 | 231.0 | 222.0 |
| Oregon | 5.5 | 5.7 | 5.3 | 4.9 |
| Washington | 75.0 | 85.0 | 75.0 | 85.0 |
| United States | 882.5 | 880.7 | 847.3 | 840.9 |
| **Lentils** | | | | |
| North Dakota | 95.0 | 160.0 | 92.0 | 155.0 |
| Idaho | 38.0 | 55.0 | 37.0 | 54.0 |
| Montana | 83.0 | 125.0 | 79.0 | 120.0 |
| Washington | 55.0 | 70.0 | 55.0 | 70.0 |
| United States | 271.0 | 410.0 | 263.0 | 399.0 |

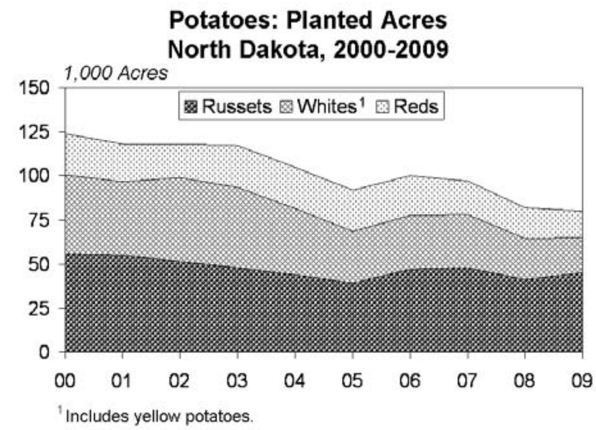
[1] Excludes both wrinkled seed peas and Austrian winter peas.

## POTATO ACREAGE

**North Dakota**
Acreage planted to potatoes in North Dakota for 2009 is estimated at 80,000 acres, down 2 percent from 2008. Area for harvest is forecast at 77,000 acres, a 5 percent decrease from last year. During May and June wet soil conditions delayed planting progress; planting was virtually complete June 21, 2009, behind last year and the five-year (2004-2008) average.

Russets account for 56 percent of the total acreage, up from 50 percent last year. Whites, at 24 percent, are down from 28 percent in 2008. Reds account for 19 percent of the total, down from 21 percent last year. Yellows account for 1 percent of the total acreage, the same as last year.

**United States**
Area planted to fall potatoes in 2009 is estimated at 932,900 acres, up slightly from the 2008 crop year. Harvested area is forecast at 922,700 acres, also up slightly from 2008.




**Fall Potatoes: Area Planted and Percent of Acreage Planted by Type of Potatoes, 11 Major States and Total Fall States, 2008-2009**

| State | Area Planted | | Planted by Type [1] | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Reds | | Whites | | Yellows | | Russets | |
| | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 |
| | *1,000 Acres* | *1,000 Acres* | *Percent* | *Percent* | *Percent* | *Percent* | *Percent* | *Percent* | *Percent* | *Percent* |
| **North Dakota** | 82.0 | 80.0 | 21 | 19 | 28 | 24 | 1 | 1 | 50 | 56 |
| Colorado | 57.0 | 56.0 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 11 | 85 | 84 |
| Idaho | 305.0 | 320.0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 94 | 94 |
| Maine | 56.0 | 56.0 | 4 | 3 | 40 | 42 | 3 | 4 | 53 | 51 |
| Michigan | 43.0 | 45.0 | 2 | 2 | 86 | 80 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 17 |
| Minnesota | 50.0 | 47.0 | 21 | 22 | 11 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 67 | 66 |
| New York | 18.0 | 17.1 | 6 | 6 | 86 | 88 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Oregon | 35.3 | 36.0 | 4 | 3 | 19 | 14 | 3 | 3 | 74 | 80 |
| Pennsylvania | 10.0 | 10.0 | 3 | 3 | 83 | 95 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Washington | 155.0 | 145.0 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 13 | 1 | 3 | 86 | 80 |
| Wisconsin | 63.5 | 63.5 | 11 | 8 | 28 | 36 | 1 | 1 | 60 | 55 |
| **Total, 11 Major States** | | | 7 | 6 | 18 | 19 | 2 | 2 | 73 | 73 |
| **Total, Fall States** | 930.5 | 932.9 | | | | | | | | |

[1] Predominant type shown may include small portion of other types constituting less than 1 percent of State's total.

## MILK PRODUCTION

**North Dakota**
Milk production for the April - June 2009 quarter totaled 98.0 million pounds, down 8.4 percent from 107 million pounds during the same period a year earlier. Average number of milk cows during the current quarter, at 23,000 head, was down 2,000 cows from the previous quarter of January – March 2009 and 3,000 head from the April - June 2008 quarter. Milk produced per cow during the April – June quarter was 4,260 pounds, up from 3,920 pounds the previous quarter and 4,100 pounds the same period last year.

**United States**
Milk production in the U.S. during the April - June quarter totaled 48.8 billion pounds, up 0.1 percent from the April - June quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.26 million head, 53,000 head less than the same period last year. Production per cow during the April – June quarter averaged 5,272 pounds, up from 5,236 pounds the same period a year ago.

**Milk Cows and Production: Selected States and United States April - June, 2008-2009**

| State | April-June Milk Cows [1] | | April-June Milk Production [2] | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | Change From 2008 |
| | *1,000 Head* | *1,000 Head* | *Million Pounds* | *Million Pounds* | *Percent* |
| **North Dakota** | 26 | 23 | 107 | 98 | -8.4 |
| California | 1,846 | 1,815 | 10,515 | 10,221 | -2.8 |
| Minnesota | 463 | 469 | 2,228 | 2,299 | 3.2 |
| New York | 626 | 623 | 3,205 | 3,246 | 1.3 |
| Wisconsin | 1,251 | 1,256 | 6,232 | 6,382 | 2.4 |
| United States | 9,315 | 9,262 | 48,774 | 48,826 | 0.1 |

[1] Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. [2] Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## OIL CROPS OUTLOOK

### Higher Production Prospects Temper New-Crop Soybean Prices

U.S. farmers reported planting a record 77.5 million acres of soybeans in 2009, raising this month's projection of 2009 production by 65 million bushels to 3.26 billion. The larger soybean supply is expected to boost 2009/10 ending stocks to 250 million bushels, compared to the previous forecast of 210 million. Soybean farm prices for 2009/10 could drop to $8.30-$10.30 per bushel, compared to last month's forecast of $9.00-$11.00.

Led by better prospects for U.S. production, world soybean output in 2009/10 is expected to expand to a record 243.7 million metric tons from 210.6 million this year. For 2008/09, global ending stocks for soybeans are estimated at a 5-year low of 41 million tons. Production increases for the United States, Argentina, and Brazil in 2009/10 are expected to restore global soybean stocks to 51.8 million tons.

### Record U.S. Acreage of Soybeans is Sown

In USDA's *Acreage* report last month, U.S. farmers reported planting 77.5 million acres of soybeans this year. It is the country's largest area ever sown to soybeans and 2 percent above last year's acreage. Soybean planting exceeded what farmers had indicated in March, when intentions totaled 76 million acres. Soybean acreage increased from March intentions in most States, with the exception of Nebraska and Iowa, where growers planted fewer soybeans and significantly more corn. Record areas were sown to soybeans this year in North Dakota and Kansas.

Like last year, a large segment of the soybean-growing region was planted later than usual due to excessively wet soils this spring. The main problems this year were in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee, where March-May rainfall was well above normal. Overall crop development was also slowed in June by below average temperatures throughout the northern half of the country. Blooming of the soybean crop is delayed as a result. Nevertheless, growing conditions for soybeans are generally favorable, with 66 percent of acreage rated from good to excellent as of July 5. Louisiana is the only part of the country currently lacking a good reserve of soil moisture.

The increase in U.S. soybean acreage raised projected 2009 production to 3.26 billion bushels, up 65 million bushels from last month. If realized, the 2009 crop would surpass the three year old record of 3.197 billion bushels. Low carryover stocks from 2008/09 would limit the supply increase, but 2009/10 supply could still exceed this year's by 6 percent.

U.S. soybean exports should derive additional support in 2009/10 from a higher domestic supply and a tightening outlook for South American soybean stocks. USDA raised the soybean export forecast this month by 15 million bushels to 1.275 billion. Similarly, the domestic market for soybean crushing is likely to improve next year as well. Domestic crush for 2009/10 was forecast 5 million bushels higher this month to 1.68 billion based on higher soybean meal consumption this year. Domestic use of soybean meal is projected higher in 2009/10 to 30.9 million short tons, while 2008/09 use was estimated 150,000 tons higher to 30.65 million tons.

A larger soybean supply is expected to boost 2009/10 ending stocks to 250 million bushels, compared to the previous forecast of 210 million. Futures prices for new-crop soybeans abruptly declined following the June 30 *Acreage* report. Sharply lower prices for corn are also pressuring on soybean prices. Recovery from a 31 year low in soybean stocks next year should dampen farm prices to $8.30-$10.30 per bushel, compared to last month's forecast of $9.00-$11.00.

**Source: *Oil Crops Outlook*, USDA-ERS, July 13, 2009**