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2012 GROWING SEASON

North Dakota
By the end of March, snow had melted due to unseasonably warm temperatures. Only trace amounts remained by April 1. Warm, dry conditions in early April allowed producers to begin fieldwork much earlier than usual. April 3 was the average starting date for fieldwork. Spring tillage and fieldwork for the 2012 crop year began 34 days earlier than last year and 22 days ahead of the five-year (2007-2011) average.

Planting progressed rapidly and ahead of average throughout May as conditions were favorable for fieldwork. Precipitation that occurred during May replenished some dry areas without causing significant delays in planting. Seeding of small grains was virtually complete by the end of May, well ahead of last year and the average. Planting of corn and soybeans was virtually complete by May 27 and June 3, respectively.

Cool conditions early on in June turned favorable by month's end. Precipitation was sufficient in most areas, however, crop and pasture conditions declined in some locations where precipitation was insufficient. Crop conditions around the state were mostly good to excellent until hot, dry weather resulted in heat stress on crops during the last week in June. Hot and dry conditions in July accelerated the pace of crop development and crop conditions continued to deteriorate through month's end.

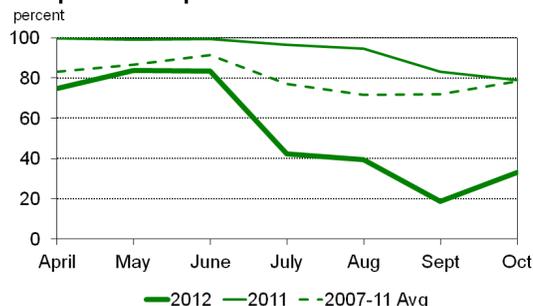
Early season crop harvest began during the week ending July 15, approximately 3 weeks ahead of 2011. During August, although the abundance of sun and heat continued to take a toll on soil moisture supplies, conditions were nearly ideal for harvesting. Barley, oats, and spring wheat harvest activities were all virtually complete by the week ending August 26, close to a month earlier than last year. Localized precipitation in August replenished fields in some dry areas. Other locations remained depleted of adequate moisture, stressing late season crops and pastures in those areas. In September, drought conditions were prevalent in many areas. Harvesting activities progressed unabated as a result, with Durum harvest virtually complete by September 9. This was nearly three weeks ahead of last year. Harvest activities for most other crops also advanced at a rapid pace through August.

Warm, dry conditions through September pushed late season crops to maturity. On September 30, the harvest of canola, flaxseed and lentils had been completed while other crops were progressing rapidly. With the exception of sugarbeets and potatoes, harvest activities for all late season crops remained ahead of average until completion. Soil moisture

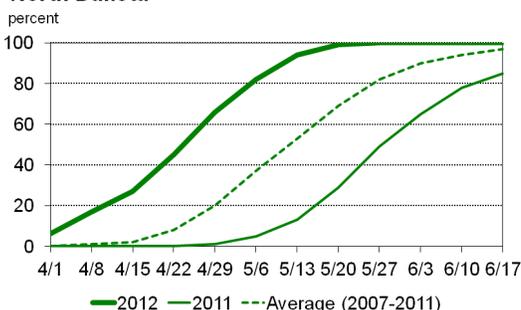
supplies continued to decline in most areas until the occurrence of widespread precipitation in October. Fieldwork continued between rain and snow events, which slowed the pace of fieldwork in some areas. By October 28, only corn, sugarbeets, and sunflower harvest activities had yet to reach completion. By November 4, the corn harvest had finished ahead of last year and average while the harvest of sugarbeets concluded slightly behind last year and average. The harvest of sunflower was finished by November 18, behind last year but ahead of average.

Precipitation was limited during the 2012 crop year, falling short of the average over the majority of this year's growing season. Across the state, topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies were rated mostly adequate to short throughout the 2012 crop year.

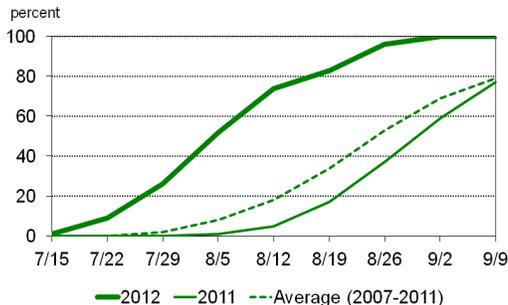
Topsoil Moisture Supplies Percent Rated Adequate to Surplus – North Dakota



Spring Wheat Planted North Dakota



Spring Wheat Harvested North Dakota



AGRICULTURAL PRICES

North Dakota

Prices received by farmers for spring wheat for November 2012 averaged \$8.40 per bushel, a decrease of 10 cents from the October 2012 price. Soybeans, at \$13.40 per bushel, decreased 70 cents from the previous month and corn decreased 1 cent to \$6.30 per bushel.

United States

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in November, at 203 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, decreased 6 points (2.9 percent) from October. The Crop Index is down 7 points (3.0 percent) but the Livestock Index increased 5 points (3.1 percent).

Prices Received for Field Crops – North Dakota, November 2012 with comparisons

Item	Entire Month		Preliminary
	November 2011	October 2012	November 2012
Wheat, all dollars/bushel	8.70	8.27	8.32
Spring dollars/bushel	8.59	8.50	8.40
Durum dollars/bushel	9.98	7.41	8.10
Winter..... dollars/bushel	6.50	7.85	7.90
Barley, all dollars/bushel	5.43	6.60	6.53
Feed dollars/bushel	5.19	6.19	5.25
Malting dollars/bushel	5.50	6.67	6.85
Oats dollars/bushel	2.90	(D)	(D)
Sunflower, all ¹ dollars/cwt	30.30	28.30	27.40
Canola..... dollars/cwt	23.30	26.60	25.90
Soybeans dollars/bushel	11.20	14.10	13.40
Flaxseed dollars/bushel	13.90	13.50	14.00
Corn dollars/bushel	5.41	6.31	6.30
Beans, all dry edible dollars/cwt	39.40	35.90	32.30
Pinto dollars/cwt	39.90	35.70	(D)
Navy dollars/cwt	37.50	36.90	(D)
Potatoes, all dollars/cwt	9.90	8.20	8.30
Fresh ² dollars/cwt	17.10	8.25	(D)
Processing dollars/cwt	7.65	8.15	(D)
Baled hay, all ³ dollars/ton	72.00	137.00	138.00
Alfalfa ³ dollars/ton	73.00	141.00	140.00
Other ³ dollars/ton	52.00	87.00	84.00

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. ¹ Oil and Non-oil Sunflower prices will no longer be published monthly. The October 2012 prices will be available in November 2013 when the sunflower marketing year average data is published. ² Fresh market prices only, includes table stock. ³ Alfalfa, other and all hay are mid-month prices only.

Access this complete report at: <http://usda01.library.cornell.edu/usda/current/AgriPric/AgriPric-11-30-2012.pdf>

Marketing Year Average Prices: North Dakota and United States: 2010-2011

Item	North Dakota		United States	
	2010 (dollars per unit)	2011 (dollars per unit)	2010 (dollars per unit)	2011 (dollars per unit)
Wheat, allbushels	6.61	8.24	5.70	7.24
Spring.....bushels	6.78	8.17	6.49	8.24
Durum.....bushels	6.34	9.45	5.98	9.68
Winter.....bushels	5.02	6.57	5.37	6.81
Barley, allbushels	3.74	5.42	3.86	5.35
Feed.....bushels	3.12	5.06	3.22	4.91
Maltingbushels	3.95	5.50	4.05	5.44
Oatsbushels	2.60	3.03	2.52	3.49
Hay, all tons	58.00	71.00	114.00	178.00
Alfalfa..... tons	61.00	73.00	123.00	196.00
Other tons	44.00	52.00	97.00	132.00
Cornbushels	5.01	5.81	5.18	6.22
Safflowercwt	18.50	24.80	17.20	24.40
Soybeansbushels	10.90	11.90	11.30	12.50
Flaxseedbushels	12.20	13.90	12.20	13.90
Canola.....cwt	19.30	24.00	19.30	24.00
Sunflower, all.....cwt	24.20	29.30	23.30	29.10
Oilcwt	23.70	27.60	22.60	28.00
Non-oil.....cwt	25.90	32.70	26.60	33.80
Dry edible beans, Allcwt	24.70	39.90	28.00	42.10
Navy.....cwt	27.40	37.30	(NA)	(NA)
Pinto.....cwt	23.60	41.60	(NA)	(NA)
Dry edible peascwt	9.47	15.30	9.77	15.30
Lentilscwt	25.10	20.40	25.70	25.00
Potatoes, allcwt	8.75	9.20	9.20	9.41
Fresh.....cwt	13.00	15.80	12.71	12.82
Processingcwt	7.35	7.40	7.41	7.84

(NA) Not available.

DRY EDIBLE BEAN PRODUCTION

North Dakota

Dry edible bean production in North Dakota is forecast at 11.7 million hundredweight (cwt) for 2012, unchanged from the October 1 forecast, but up 137 percent. This is a new record high for production, breaking the old record set in 2010 when 11.5 million cwt was produced. The increase in production from 2011 is due to increased acreage and higher yields.

Total planted area, at 700,000 acres, remains the same as October but is up from 2011's 410,000 acres. Harvested area, at 690,000, remains the same as October but is above last year's 380,000 acres harvested. Planted and harvested acres are up 71 and 82 percent, respectively, from last year. The statewide average yield for 2012 is set at a record high 1,700 pounds per harvested acre, unchanged from the October forecast, but 400 pounds higher than last year.

Pintos account for 65.5 percent of the total production; at 7.68 million cwt, they are up from 2.71 million cwt in 2011. Navies account for 18.9 percent of total production, blacks 11.4, pinks 1.9, chickpeas 1.3, and great northern 0.3. All other dry edible bean classes represent 0.7 percent of the state's total production.

United States

Dry edible bean production is forecast at 31.8 million cwt, up 60 percent from last year. Planted area is estimated at 1.74 million acres, up 43 percent from 2011. Harvested area is forecast at 1.70 million acres, 45 percent above the previous year. The average United States yield is forecast at 1,873 pounds per acre, an increase of 170 pounds from 2011. If realized, yield will be a record high, exceeding the previous record of 1,768 pounds set in 2008.

Dry Edible Beans Area Planted, Harvested, Yield and Production - North Dakota: 2011-2012

Class	Area planted		Area harvested		Yield per acre		Production	
	2011 (1,000 acres)	2012 (1,000 acres)	2011 (1,000 acres)	2012 (1,000 acres)	2011 (pounds)	2012 (pounds)	2011 (1,000 cwt)	2012 (1,000 cwt)
North Dakota:								
Navy.....	94.0	125.0	84.0	123.0	1,340	1,800	1,125	2,215
Great Northern	1.8	2.8	1.7	2.7	1,000	1,370	17	37
Pinto.....	225.0	455.0	210.0	450.0	1,290	1,710	2,709	7,680
Dark Red Kidney	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1,300	1,500	18	21
Pink.....	10.0	12.7	9.5	12.3	1,670	1,790	159	220
Small Red	2.5	1.7	2.4	1.6	1,250	2,000	30	32
Black.....	69.0	87.0	65.0	85.0	1,260	1,580	819	1,340
Chickpeas, All (Garbanzo).....	4.7	12.0	4.5	11.8	1,040	1,290	47	152
Small.....	3.0	5.4	2.9	5.3	1,010	1,510	29	80
Large.....	1.7	6.6	1.6	6.5	1,100	1,110	18	72
Other.....	1.5	2.3	1.5	2.2	1,080	1,500	16	33
Total.....	410.0	700.0	380.0	690.0	1,300	1,700	4,940	11,730

Access this complete report at: <http://usda01.library.cornell.edu/usda/current/CropProd/CropProd-12-11-2012.pdf>

POTATO PRODUCTION AND STOCKS

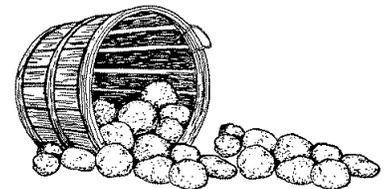
North Dakota

Production - Potato production in North Dakota is estimated at 25.2 million hundredweight (cwt) for 2012, unchanged from last month, but up 34 percent from last year. Total planted area is 88,000 acres, is up 5 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 84,000 acres, is the same as last month but 9 percent higher than last year. The average yield is expected to be a record high 300 cwt per harvested acre, unchanged from last month but up from 245 cwt in 2011.

Stocks - North Dakota growers, dealers and processors held 16.8 million hundredweight (cwt) of potatoes in storage December 1, 2012, up 29 percent from a year ago and 20 percent from 2010. Current stocks represent 67 percent of the production, down from 69 percent in 2011, but up from 64 percent in 2010. Total stocks are defined as all potatoes on hand, regardless of use, including those that will be lost through future shrinkage and dumping.

Comparing stocks by type, russets accounted for 67 percent of the total, same as both 2011 and 2010. Round whites

were 11 percent of the total, same as in 2011, but up from 10 percent in 2010. Long whites were 5 percent, same as in 2011, but down from 7 percent in 2010. All white potatoes, at 16 percent of total stocks, were the same as in 2011, but down from the 17 percent in 2010. Reds, at 16 percent of total stocks, were the same as in 2011, but up from 15 percent in 2010. Yellows, at 1 percent, were the same as both 2011 and 2010.



United States

Production of fall potatoes for 2012 is forecast at 422 million cwt, up 8 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 991,500 acres, is unchanged from the November forecast but 6 percent above the previous year. The average yield forecast, at 425 cwt per acre, is up 9 cwt from last year's yield.

Access these complete reports at: <http://usda01.library.cornell.edu/usda/current/Pota/Pota-09-20-2012.pdf> and <http://usda01.library.cornell.edu/usda/current/CropProd/CropProd-12-11-2012.pdf>

The Farm Reporter will be discontinued as of December 31, 2012. The series of official USDA statistics still continue and can be found on our website at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/nd>. Or, you can call our office at (701) 239-5306 and we will assist you.



The staff at the National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office want to thank all of the farmers, ranchers, agri-businesses and county agents who have taken time to supply the information needed for our many surveys in 2012. You help make agriculture count in North Dakota. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darin D. Jantzi".

*Darin Jantzi
Director*

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