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March 1 Planting Intentions

Farmers in Virginia intend to plant 490,000 acres of corn, 40,000 higher than 2015. U.S. corn growers intend to plant 93.6 million acres for all purposes in 2016, up 6 percent from last year and 3 percent higher than 2014.

Soybean acreage in Virginia is expected to total 630,000 acres, unchanged acres from the previous year. U.S. soybean planted area for 2016 is estimated at 82.2 million acres, down 1 percent from last year.

Upland cotton acreage to be planted in Virginia is forecast at 80,000, down 5,000 acres from 2015. The U.S. total upland cotton acreage is estimated at 9.35 million acres, up 11 percent from the previous year.

Peanut acreage in Virginia is expected to total 19,000 acres, unchanged acres from the previous year. U.S. peanut planted area for 2016 is estimated at 1.48 million acres, down 9 percent from last year.

Flue-cured tobacco growers in Virginia intend to harvest 21,000 acres, down 500 acres from 2015. For flue-cured producing states, growers intend to harvest 209,000 acres, 4 percent below last year.

Producers intend to harvest 250 acres of dark-fired tobacco in Virginia, unchanged acres from the previous year. Burley tobacco was estimated at 1,200 acres, down 100 acres from 2015.

Barley seeded by Virginia farmers in the fall of 2015 totaled 44,000 acres, down 2,000 acres from previous year. U.S. seeded acreage was 3.14 million acres, down 12 percent from the previous year.

Winter wheat seeded by Virginia farmers in the fall of 2015 totaled 240,000 acres, down 20,000 acres from previous year. Seeded acreage for the nation was 36.2 million acres, down 8 percent from the previous year.

Farmers in the state intend to harvest 1.18 million acres of all hay, up 5,000 from 2015. U.S. farmers intend on harvesting 54.3 million acres of hay in 2016, down slightly from last year.