



NEWS RELEASE

**Grain Stocks
January 12, 2005**

DECEMBER 1, 2004 GRAIN STOCKS REPORT

North Dakota

All wheat stored in all positions in North Dakota on December 1, 2004 totaled 233.5 million bushels, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. This is up 2 percent from a year ago, and 21 percent from a relatively low level on December 1, 2002. All wheat stocks include durum, other spring and winter wheat. On-farm stocks are estimated at 173 million bushels, up 5 percent from last year and 30 percent from two years ago. Off-farm stocks, at 60.5 million bushels, are down 7 percent from a year ago. The indicated September-November 2004 disappearance is 65.0 million bushels, up 10 percent from the same period in 2003.

Durum wheat stocks in all positions totaled 47.4 million bushels, up 21 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 38.0 million bushels, are up 23 percent from December 1, 2003. Off-farm stocks totaled 9.40 million bushels, up 15 percent from a year ago. The September-November total disappearance is 4.9 million bushels, down from 15.8 million bushels a year ago and the lowest disappearance since records began in 1974.

Barley stocks in all positions totaled 83.6 million bushels, up 20 percent from a year ago and the highest since 1998's December 1 stocks of 87.2 million bushels. On-farm stocks are 60.0 million bushels, up 25 percent from a year ago and highest since 63.0 million bushels in 1998. Off-farm stocks are 23.6 million bushels, up 10 percent from a year ago. Disappearance during the quarter totaled 7.9 million bushels, down 57 percent from the same period a year earlier, and the lowest disappearance since 1952.

Corn stocks in all positions totaled 105.5 million bushels, virtually unchanged from a year ago. Of the total stocks, 75.0 million bushels are stored on farms, down 10 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 30.5 million bushels, are up 34 percent. Disappearance during the quarter totaled 23.2 million bushels, 40 percent lower than a year earlier.

Soybean stocks in all positions totaled 52.5 million bushels, up 26 percent from last year and a record high. On-farm stocks totaled 32.0 million bushels on December 1, 2004, up from last year's 19.0 million bushels. Off-farm stocks totaled 20.5 million bushels, compared with last year's 22.7 million bushels.

Hay stocks totaled 3.92 million tons, down 16 percent compared to a year ago. Disappearance since May 1 totaled 605,000 tons, down 29 percent from the same period a year ago and the lowest disappearance since 1989's 506,000 tons.

Capacity of On-farm grain storage totaled 730 million bushels, 3 percent higher than December 1, 2003. Off-farm grain storage capacity is 256 million bushels, up from 235 million bushels a year ago.

United States

All wheat stored in all positions on December 1, 2004 totaled 1.43 billion bushels, down 6 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 531 million bushels, up 8 percent from last December. Off-farm stocks, at 900 million bushels, are down 13 percent from a year ago. The September - November 2004 indicated disappearance is 508 million bushels, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Durum wheat stocks in all positions totaled 78.7 million bushels, up 18 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 51.8 million bushels, are up 25 percent from December 1, 2003. Off-farm stocks totaled 26.9 million bushels, up 5 percent from a year ago. The September - November 2004 indicated disappearance of 12.4 million bushels is down 39 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Corn stocks in all positions totaled 9.45 billion bushels, up 19 percent from December 1, 2003. This is the highest December 1 stocks level since 1987. Of the total stocks, 6.14 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 16 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.30 billion bushels, are up 24 percent from a year ago. The September - November 2004 indicated disappearance is 3.32 billion bushels, compared with 3.22 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions totaled 2.30 billion bushels, up 36 percent from December 1, 2003. This is the largest December 1 stocks level on record, exceeding the previous record set in 2001 by 1 percent. Soybean stocks stored on farms totaled 1.30 billion bushels, up 59 percent from a year ago and set a new record high by 5 percent. Off-farm stocks, at 1.00 billion bushels, are up 16 percent from last December. Indicated disappearance for September - November 2004 totaled 949 million bushels, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

For More Information Contact:

GRAIN STOCKS, December 1, 2004

Crop	Date	NORTH DAKOTA			UNITED STATES		
		On Farm	Off Farm ^{1/}	Total all Positions	On Farm	Off Farm ^{1/}	Total all Positions
		--- 1,000 Bushels ---			--- 1,000 Bushels ---		
Wheat, All ^{2/}	Dec 1, 2003	165,000	65,000	230,000	491,925	1,028,359	1,520,284
	Sep 1, 2004	247,000	51,500	298,500	790,600	1,147,807	1,938,407
	Dec 1, 2004	173,000	60,500	233,500	531,020	899,718	1,430,738
Durum Wheat	Dec 1, 2003	31,000	8,200	39,200	41,400	25,569	66,969
	Sep 1, 2004	46,000	6,300	52,300	65,600	25,508	91,108
	Dec 1, 2004	38,000	9,400	47,400	51,800	26,905	78,705
Barley	Dec 1, 2003	48,000	21,400	69,400	97,200	100,679	197,879
	Sep 1, 2004	72,000	19,500	91,500	175,300	114,777	290,077
	Dec 1, 2004	60,000	23,600	83,600	130,700	115,476	246,176
Oats	Dec 1, 2003	13,000	1,200	14,200	64,400	54,900	119,300
	Sep 1, 2004	14,500	1,120	15,620	74,300	41,458	115,758
	Dec 1, 2004	10,500	750	11,250	60,400	44,563	104,963
Corn	Dec 1, 2003	83,000	22,700	105,700	5,286,000	2,667,775	7,953,775
	Sep 1, 2004	4,000	3,900	7,900	438,000	520,091	958,091
	Dec 1, 2004	75,000	30,500	105,500	6,144,000	3,304,798	9,448,798
Soybeans	Dec 1, 2003	19,000	22,700	41,700	820,000	868,653	1,688,653
	Sep 1, 2004	800	1,040	1,840	29,400	83,014	112,414
	Dec 1, 2004	32,000	20,500	52,500	1,300,000	1,004,880	2,304,880
Dry Edible Peas ^{3/} (000 Cwt)	Jun 1, 2004	---	---	---	---	---	571
	Dec 1, 2004	---	---	---	---	---	7,708
Lentils ^{3/} (000 Cwt)	Jun 1, 2004	---	---	---	---	---	261
	Dec 1, 2004	---	---	---	---	---	2,626
Chickpeas ^{3/} (000 Cwt)	Jun 1, 2004	---	---	---	---	---	168
	Dec 1, 2004	---	---	---	---	---	452
Hay (000 Tons)	Dec 1, 2003	4,690	---	4,690	111,027	---	111,027
	May 1, 2004	828	---	828	25,947	---	25,947
	Dec 1, 2004	3,923	---	3,923	114,294	---	114,294

1/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors. 2/ Includes durum, other spring and winter 3/ Published at the U.S. level only.

