



## NEWS RELEASE

Prospective Plantings  
March 31, 2005

### 2005 PLANTING INTENTIONS

#### North Dakota

North Dakota producers intend to plant an estimated 6.90 million acres of **other spring wheat** in 2005, up from 6.20 million acres planted in 2004, according to the USDA's North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. The previous high was 7.10 million acres planted in 2001. These estimates are based on a survey of growers' intentions the first two weeks of March.

Area planted to **durum wheat** is expected to total 1.85 million acres, up from 1.75 million acres last year. **Winter wheat** seeded last fall totaled 260,000 acres, up from 245,000 acres planted a year earlier, and the largest planted acreage since the 1986 crop of 520,000 acres.

**Oat** intentions are 530,000 acres, up from 490,000 acres last year. **Barley** producers intend to plant an estimated 1.20 million acres, down from 1.60 million acres last year. If realized, this would be the lowest planted acreage since records began in 1926.

**All corn** planting intentions are estimated at 1.50 million acres, down from 1.80 million acres in 2004, which was a record high. **Soybean** growers intend to plant an estimated 3.25 million acres, down from 3.75 million acres in 2004.

**Flaxseed** planting intentions are estimated at 850,000 acres. If realized, this will be a 73 percent increase from last year's 490,000 acres. This is the first year since 1999 that flax intentions were asked.

**Dry edible bean** acreage intentions are estimated at 720,000 acres, up from 560,000 acres planted in 2004. If realized, this would be the highest planted acreage since the 2002 crop of 790,000 acres.

**Canola** planting intentions are 950,000 acres, up from 780,000 acres last year.

**Oil sunflower** planting intentions are 1.00 million acres, up from 720,000 acres in 2004. **Non-oil sunflower** planting intentions are 260,000 acres, up from 160,000 acres planted last year, and the highest since 2000 when 320,000 acres were planted.

**Sugarbeet** growers expect to plant an estimated 259,000 acres, up from 256,000 acres last year.

Farmers and ranchers intend to harvest 2.80 million acres of **all hay**. This is up from last year's 2.73 million acres harvested.

#### United States

The 2005 **other spring wheat** planted acreage is estimated at 14.4 million, up 4 percent from last year. Of the total, about 13.7 million acres are hard red spring wheat. Area planted to **durum wheat** is intended to total 2.61 million acres, up 2 percent from the previous year. **Winter wheat** planted area for the 2005 crop is 41.6 million acres, down 4 percent from 2004. Of the total, about 30.5 million acres are hard red winter, 6.6 million acres are soft red winter, and 4.5 million acres are white winter.

**Oat** acres seeded and to be seeded for the 2005 crop year are expected to total 4.27 million acres, up 4 percent from last year's planted area. **Barley** growers intend to plant 3.97 million acres for 2005, down 12 percent from last year, if realized.

Growers intend to plant 81.4 million acres of **corn** for all purposes in 2005, up 1 percent from 2004 and 4 percent above 2003. If realized, this would be largest corn acreage since 1985 when 83.4 million acres were planted for all purposes. **Soybean** growers intend to plant an estimated 73.9 million acres in 2005, down 2 percent from the record acreage planted in 2004.

**Flaxseed** producers expect to plant 919,000 acres in 2005, up 76 percent from last year. If realized, this would be the largest planted area since 1979 when 922,000 acres were planted.

Prospective 2005 planting of **dry beans** in the U.S. totals 1.66 million acres, up 23 percent from last year and 18 percent above 2 years ago.

**Canola** producers intend to plant 1.05 million acres in 2005, up 21 percent from 2004, the first increase in canola acreage since 2000.

**Sunflower** growers expect to plant a total of 2.75 million acres in 2005, up 47 percent from last year and the first acreage increase since 1998. Area intended for oil type varieties, at 2.19 million acres, is up 43 percent from 2004, and the non-oil varieties, estimated at 565,000 acres, are up 66 percent from last year.

Area planted to **sugarbeets** for the 2005 crop year is expected to total 1.30 million acres, 3 percent below the 2004 planted acreage.

#### For More Information Contact:

**Prospective Plantings, March 1, 2005**

Crop	North Dakota				United States			
	Area Planted			2005 as % 2004	Area Planted			2005 as % 2004
	2003	2004	Indicated 2005		2003	2004	Indicated 2005	
	--- 1,000 Acres ---			Pct	--- 1,000 Acres ---			Pct
Barley	2,050	1,600	1,200	75	5,348	4,527	3,974	88
Corn, All	1,450	1,800	1,500	83	78,603	80,930	81,413	101
Hay, All <sup>1/</sup>	2,950	2,730	2,800	103	63,383	61,916	62,940	102
Oats	620	490	530	108	4,597	4,085	4,267	104
Wheat, All	8,630	8,195	9,010	110	62,141	59,674	58,592	98
Winter	130	245	260	106	45,384	43,350	41,613	96
Durum	2,000	1,750	1,850	106	2,915	2,561	2,608	102
Other Spring	6,500	6,200	6,900	111	13,842	13,763	14,371	104
Canola	970	780	950	122	1,082	865	1,047	121
Flaxseed	560	490	850	173	595	523	919	176
Soybeans	3,150	3,750	3,250	87	73,404	75,208	73,910	98
Sunflower, All	1,210	880	1,260	143	2,344	1,873	2,750	147
Oil	1,060	720	1,000	139	1,998	1,533	2,185	143
Non-Oil	150	160	260	163	346	340	565	166
Sugarbeets	259.0	256.0	259.0	101	1,365.4	1,346.0	1,299.0	97
Dry Edible Beans	540.0	560.0	720.0	129	1,406.1	1,354.3	1,663.5	123

*1/ Acreage for harvest.*

