

## OATS and BARLEY

Planting of 2008 crop small grains in Maine was delayed until mid-May due to cool, wet conditions. Despite sporadic rain showers, planting schedules remained on par or ahead of normal during May. Maine's barley and oat crops were 100 percent planted and between 45 and 65 percent emerged by the end of the first week of June, approximately a week ahead of the five-year average. Small grain harvest did not begin until the third week of August due to the later planting date and excessive moisture during the summer. Standing water in fields as well as damage from strong thunderstorms reduced quality and lowered 2008 oat and barley crop yields below the previous year. Harvest wrapped up during the first two weeks of October, on schedule with last year and ahead of normal.

**Oats** harvested for grain totaled 31,000 acres, an increase of 3,000 acres from 2007. Oat yields averaged 65 bushels per acre in 2008, compared with 70 bushels per acre a year earlier. Grain production weighed in at 2.0 million bushels, three percent above 2007 output. Oat price per bushel rose 65 cents to \$2.90 in 2008, which placed value of production at a record \$5.8 million.

**Barley** acreage increased to 19,000 acres harvested for grain. Barley yields averaged 55 bushels per acre in 2008, compared with 65 bushels per acre in 2007. Grain production, at 1.0 million bushels, was five percent below 2007 output. Barley price per bushel rose \$1.00 to \$3.55 in 2008, which placed the value of production at a record \$3.7 million.

OATS: Acreage, Yield, Production and Value, 1999 – 2008 <sup>1</sup>

State and Year	Area		Yield per Acre	Grain Production	Price per Bushel	Value of Production
	Planted for All Purposes	Harvested for Grain				
	1,000 Acres		Bushels	1,000 Bushels	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
<b>Maine</b>						
1999	30	27	80	2,160	0.90	1,944
2000	28	26	70	1,820	0.90	1,638
2001	31	29	75	2,175	1.10	2,393
2002	28	27	85	2,295	1.45	3,328
2003	27	26	78	2,028	1.10	2,231
2004	34	32	80	2,560	1.20	3,072
2005	32	28	70	1,960	1.19	2,332
2006	29	28	55	1,540	1.38	2,125
2007	29	28	70	1,960	2.25	4,410
2008	32	31	65	2,015	2.90	5,844

<sup>1</sup> Standard weight for one bushel of oats is 32 pounds.

BARLEY: Acreage, Yield, Production and Value, 2000 – 2008 <sup>1 2</sup>

State and Year	Area		Yield per Acre	Grain Production	Price per Bushel	Value of Production
	Planted for All Purposes	Harvested for Grain				
	1,000 Acres		Bushels	1,000 Bushels	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
<b>Maine</b>						
2000	26	25	70	1,750	1.45	2,538
2001	28	27	70	1,890	1.50	2,835
2002	28	27	80	2,160	1.70	3,672
2003	28	27	65	1,755	1.30	2,282
2004	23	22	60	1,320	1.58	2,086
2005	23	22	60	1,320	1.90	2,508
2006	18	17	50	850	1.85	1,573
2007	18	17	65	1,105	2.55	3,035
2008	20	19	55	1,045	3.55	3,710

<sup>1</sup> Estimates began in 2000.

<sup>2</sup> Standard weight for one bushel of barley is 48 pounds.