



United States
Department
of Agriculture

OCS-08c

Apr. 10, 2008



A Report from the Economic Research Service

www.ers.usda.gov

Oil Crops Outlook

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Rebound for Expected 2008 U.S. Soybean Acreage

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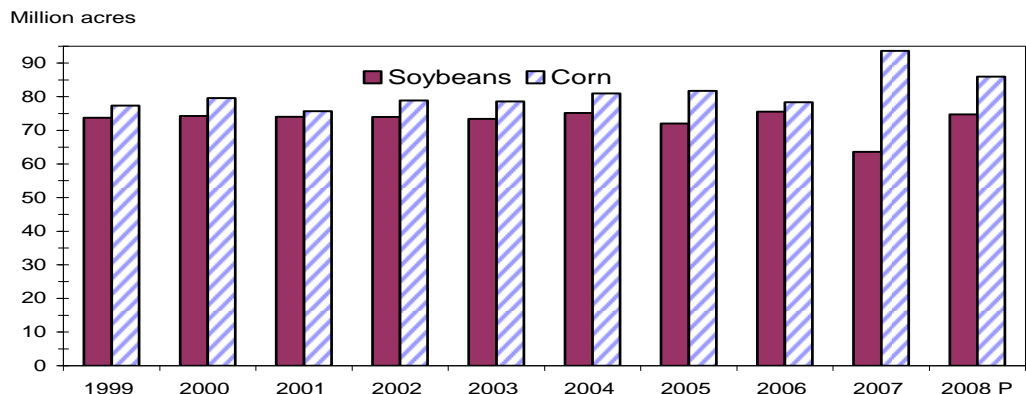
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USDA's *Prospective Plantings* report on March 31 indicated that U.S. farmers intend to plant 74.8 million acres of soybeans in 2008. This would be a strong recovery from the 63.6 million acres planted last year, with the increases coming from reduced plantings of corn and cotton and increased double-cropping of soybeans with winter wheat. Better than anticipated supplies from old and new crops have put downward pressure on the prices for soybeans, soybean oil, and soybean meal.

The imposition of higher Argentine export taxes for soybeans and soybean products in March led to widespread farm protests there. Interruption of soybean deliveries effectively halted exports from the country. Assuming no further stoppages of trade, Argentine exports of soybean meal for 2007/08 are forecast at 29 million tons, down from 29.3 million. The lapse in soybean meal exports reduced this month's forecast of the 2007/08 soybean crush in Argentina by 500,000 tons to 38 million tons.

Figure 1
Soybeans likely to recover acreage from corn



Source: *Prospective Plantings*, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Domestic Outlook

Farmers Intend to Raise 2008 Soybean Planting

USDA's *Prospective Plantings* report on March 31 indicated that U.S. farmers intend to plant 74.8 million acres of soybeans in 2008, a strong recovery from the 63.6 million acres planted last year and just below the 2006 record of 75.5 million acres. Soybean planting is slated to expand in every major producing State, with the largest increases in Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota. Most of the expanded acreage will come at the expense of corn, which is expected to decline by 7.6 million acres. Over the past several months, prices between the two crops had favored soybeans. Farmers are also considering the value of maintaining crop rotations after last year--when they sowed the most acres of corn since 1944. And with credit tight, a spike in this year's corn production costs also favors soybeans with its lower financing requirements. However, market reaction since the planting intentions report shifts the price incentives back toward corn. Weather permitting; producers could adjust their intended acreages provided that they can still get the needed production inputs at this late date.

In the South, soybeans are likely to gain acreage at the expense of cotton, which is expected to decline this year in nearly every State where it is grown. Mississippi growers intend to raise 600,000 more acres of soybeans this year and 240,000 fewer acres of cotton. Likewise, producers in Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Missouri are favoring soybeans over cotton. Increased double-cropping of soybeans in the South is likely with an expansion of winter wheat acreage. Soybean acreage in the South could be at a 10-year high in 2008. In some regions, a lack of availability of high-quality soybean seed may limit acreage. Local supplies of the most suitable seed varieties were limited by weather problems last year.

Although soybean acreage will benefit from the switching between crops, there will also be more U.S. cropland brought into production this year. Aggregate planting intentions for the top 15 U.S. field crops and hay are 4 million acres above last year's total. High commodity prices are encouraging producers to sow more acres of marginal cropland. Some land is coming from expiration of contracts in the Conservation Reserve Program, where reductions last fall exceeded re-enrollments by 2 million acres. Much of the newly available acreage is located in the Northern Plains, where in a typical year the land might be pastured or lie fallow. Yields for wheat can be erratic on these marginal lands, but the high current prices make them well worth the risk. A likely expansion of double-cropping soybeans behind winter wheat also adds to the cropland total.

For other oilseeds, intended acreage increases are less than might be expected, given their excellent prices, Farmers seem primarily focused on expanding their acreage of soybeans and wheat. U.S. sunflower plantings are anticipated to increase 4 percent in 2008 to 2.15 million acres. Peanut growers say they will raise their sown acreage by 200,000 acres to 1.4 million. Intended flax acreage for 2008 is 360,000 acres--nearly unchanged from 354,000 acres last year. Canola planting may decrease by 15 percent in 2008 to 1 million acres. Cotton planting is likely to decline 13 percent to 9.4 million acres, which would reduce cottonseed production accordingly.

Steady Export Demand To Keep 2007/08 Soybean Stocks Tight

For the current crop year, the latest *Grain Stocks* report indicated March 1 soybean inventories totaled 1.428 billion bushels, down sharply from 1.787 billion a year earlier. These stocks turned out to be larger than expected though, based on the total use of soybeans between September 2007 and February 2008. As a consequence, the residual component in the soybean balance sheet was estimated 77 million bushels lower than the previous forecast to 2 million bu. USDA sees somewhat higher season ending soybean stocks at 160 million bushels, compared to the previous forecast of 140 million, still among the tightest ever.

A better than anticipated supply helps explain why 2007/08 soybean exports are still doing so well. Through April 3, export inspections of soybeans were 31 million bushels behind last year's record pace, while total sales commitments are 14 million bushels ahead of last year. Without the normal rate of exports last month from Argentina, U.S. sales and shipments continued a seasonally steady pace. Thus, USDA raised its 2007/08 forecast of soybean exports from 1.025 billion to 1.075 billion bushels.

Domestic use of soybeans is staying ahead of last season's record pace, as well. Crushing for the first half of 2007/08 was 938 million bushels, up 30 million from 2006/07. The 2007/08 crush forecast was raised 5 million bushels this month to a record 1.84 billion bushels in anticipation of export gains for soybean meal and soybean oil. Forecast use of soybean seed was also increased based on 2008 planting intentions.

Soybean Oil Exports Expected To Rise

U.S. exports of soybean oil in 2007/08 are expected to increase to 2.7 billion pounds, 300 million pounds higher than last month's forecast and trailing only the 1997/98 record of 3.079 billion pounds. The demand increase offsets a forecast of higher production. Stocks now appear to be declining from a January peak of 3.2 billion pounds.

Based on an upward revision of January data, the 2007/08 forecast of soybean oil consumption for methyl esters was increased to 2.95 billion from 2.8 billion pounds. In contrast, other domestic use (primarily food) was forecast down by 350 million pounds, reducing total domestic disappearance from 18.9 billion to 18.7 billion pounds. Within the food sector, strong growth for U.S. imports of canola oil and palm oil are countering a stagnant demand for soybean oil.

Prices Retreat as Supply Prospects Brighten

For several years, a strong influx of speculative capital into commodity futures contracts has inflated market values. This trend was disrupted last month when a tightening of credit markets forced a reduction of long positions. Thus, March prices for soybeans, soybean meal, and soybean oil collapsed almost as quickly as their increases through February. Between February and early April, soybean cash prices in central Illinois fell from around \$15 per bushel to near \$12. Similarly, there were sharp drops in the prices of soybean oil and soybean meal. Central Illinois daily values for soybean oil peaked in February at 68 cents per pound but

fell back toward 53 cents by early April. Soybean meal prices slid from a February average of \$346 per short ton to a March average of \$332 per ton—about even with its price level in January. The sudden changes prompted revisions of USDA price forecasts for 2007/08. For soybeans, the U.S. season-average price was lowered from \$10.00-\$10.80 to \$10.00-10.50 per bushel. The soybean oil price forecast was reduced from 53-57 cents per pound to 50-54 cents. The 2007/08 average soybean meal price was decreased to \$315-\$335 per short ton from \$320-\$350 previously.

Soybean prices were pressured again in April after USDA reported acreage intentions and quarterly stocks. Spring weather for planting may also be dampening prices. Throughout much of the eastern Corn Belt this spring, cold and wet soil conditions are not conducive to early planting of grain crops. If the same circumstances persist into May, farmers may sow even more acres of soybeans.

Argentine Farmers Block Foreign After Trade Government Raises Export Taxes

In March, the Argentine Government revised its policy of export taxes on grains, oilseeds, and their derivatives. Previously set at a fixed rate of 35 percent, the export tax on soybeans will now be determined on a sliding scale linked to the price level. At current export values (\$470 per metric ton), the tax for soybeans would be near 40 percent. Export taxes on soybean meal and soybean oil would be 4 percent less than the tax on soybeans. Biodiesel exports would be taxed at a fixed rate of 20 percent (up from 5 percent). For sunflowerseed, the export tax would rise from a flat rate of 32 percent to 39.1 percent (at the current price), with taxes on sunflowerseed oil and meal likewise 4 percent less. To encourage a greater domestic supply of grains next season, export taxes on Argentine wheat and corn were reduced slightly.

Farm groups reacted angrily to the higher taxes by withholding sales and erecting roadblocks for deliveries of farm goods. Lacking the supplies to load vessels, many exporters were forced to declare “force majeure,” which exempts exporters from their obligations whenever an event makes (through no fault of their own) timely performance impossible. Consequently, export shipments from Argentina fell sharply in March. Satisfaction of near-term needs required importers across the world to find alternative shipping arrangements from the United States and Brazil. After more than 3 weeks of disrupted trade, farmers recently agreed to suspend the blockades pending talks with the government to rescind the tax increases.

During this period immediately before the new crop harvest, it is normal for Argentine soybean exports to decline to a seasonal low. So, the supply interruption had its main impact on soybean processors and their export trade in soybean products. In the face of strong U.S. competition, the disruption in soybean meal exports is forecast to reduce the 2007/08 soybean crush in Argentina by 500,000 tons this month to 38 million tons. Expected stocks of soybeans were thereby raised a like amount to 21 million tons. Assuming no further stoppages of trade, Argentine exports of soybean meal were forecast at 29 million tons, down from 29.3 million. Smaller annual gains are also anticipated for the stocks and domestic use of soybean oil.

Many Governments Revise Tariffs To Moderate Costs for Food Staples

Across the world, exporting and importing countries alike are adjusting domestic and trade policies to temper rapidly rising prices for basic foodstuffs. Food riots have erupted in some countries where low-income consumers are struggling to afford bread, rice, meat, and cooking oil. Several exporting nations (aside from Argentina) have imposed higher export taxes, imposed export quotas, or banned exports altogether. Between March and July 2008, Ukraine’s exports of sunflowerseed oil have been limited to 300,000 tons (down about two-thirds from a year earlier). In March, Bolivia prohibited indefinitely all vegetable oil exports to preserve domestic supplies. Indonesia’s Government doubled its export tax on crude palm oil to 20 percent. As of July 1, Brazil will divert soybean oil to biofuels production, reducing its soybean oil exports in the second half of 2008, thereby increasing costs for importing countries.

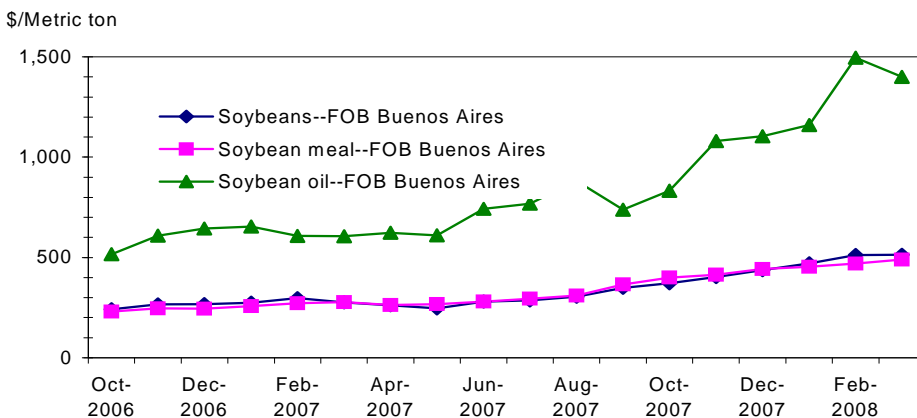
Supply constraints by exporting countries oblige importing countries to do what they can until the next oilseed harvest to counter the cost increases. The Government of India, alarmed by a rise in the country's inflation rate to a 3-year high, recently set out new policies to control the cost of food imports. As of April 1, Indian import duties for all crude edible oils were reduced to zero (and for refined oils to 7.5 percent). Exports of vegetable oil (although miniscule for India) were also banned.

Leaders in China are likewise worried about the steep climb in food costs. Between January 2007 and January 2008, China's consumer price index was up 18 percent for all foods and 37 percent for vegetable oils. But already low tariffs on imports of oilseeds and vegetable oils limit the measures China can take to affect costs. China extended an earlier reduction of the soybean import tariff (from 3 percent to 1 percent) through September 2008. Government price controls enacted early this year caused domestic supply shortages. Processors, who need government approval to pass on the full increase in their costs, held back vegetable oil sales while consumers hoarded the supplies they could find. Last month, 250,000 tons of vegetable oil stocks were released from state reserves, but the quantity was not enough to make a major price impact. China consumes approximately 2 million tons of vegetable oil per month. Current imports of soybean oil and palm oil are brisk, although replacement of those reserves will cost the Government considerably more than past acquisitions. A reduction of prices in March led a few importers to default on their purchase commitments.

Other recent measures by importing countries include Taiwan's reduction of its 5-percent business tax on grain and soybean imports for 1 year. South Korea abolished its tariff rate quota for soybean meal. Upon cabinet approval, Thailand's Commerce Ministry will reduce for 1 year the soybean meal import tariff from 4 percent to zero. Indonesia removed a 10-percent import tariff on soybeans through July 2008. Subsidies will also be provided to Indonesian producers of tofu and tempeh and to low-income consumers of cooking oil. Saudi Arabia reduced tariffs on vegetable oils from 20 percent to 5 percent. Egypt recently waived import duties on many basic food staples, including edible oils.

Figure 2

Argentine Government taps rapid rise of commodity export values



Source: Oilseeds: World Markets and Trade, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA

Contacts and Links

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Data

Monthly tables from *Oil Crops Outlook* are available in Excel (.xls) spreadsheets at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/soybeansoilcrops/Data/data.htm>. These tables contain the latest data on the production, use, imports, exports, prices, and textile trade of cotton and other fibers.

Recent Reports

Economic Analysis of Base Acre and Payment Yield Designations Under the 2002 U.S. Farm Act evaluates farmers' decisions to designate base acres under the 2002 Farm Act. Findings suggest that decision makers responded to economic incentives in their designations of base acres by selecting those options that resulted in the greatest expected flow of program payments (<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/ERR12/>). See also *Farm Program Acres* for the county-level farm program and planted acreage data used in the report, which can be downloaded and mapped (<http://www.ers.usda.gov/data/baseacres/>).

Related Websites

WASDE, <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1194>
Oilseed Circular, http://www.fas.usda.gov/oilseeds_arc.asp
Soybeans and Oil Crops Briefing Room, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/soybeansoilcrops/>

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Table 1--Soybeans: U.S. supply and disappearance

Year beg. Sept. 1	Area		Yield	Supply				Disappearance				
	Planted	Harvested		Beginning stocks	Production	Imports	Total	Crush	Exports	Seed, feed, & residual	Total	Ending stocks
	<i>Million acres</i>		<i>Bu/acre</i>	<i>Million bushels</i>								
2005/06	72.0	71.3	43.0	256	3,063	3	3,322	1,739	940	194	2,873	449
2006/07 ¹	75.5	74.6	42.7	449	3,188	9	3,647	1,806	1,118	148	3,073	574
2007/08 ²	63.6	62.8	41.2	574	2,585	10	3,169	1,840	1,075	94	3,009	160
2006/07												
September						0.4		142.4	64.9			
October						0.5		161.7	182.6			
November						0.6		155.1	126.4			
Sep-Nov				449.3	3,188.2	1.5	3,639.1	459.2	373.8	104.7	937.7	2,701.4
December						0.6		157.4	122.7			
January						0.5		155.3	135.1			
February						0.8		136.8	129.2			
Dec-Feb				2,701.4	---	1.9	2,703.3	449.5	387.0	80.0	916.4	1,786.9
March						0.9		155.7	85.0			
April						0.8		144.9	83.0			
May						0.8		151.9	51.4			
Mar-May				1,786.9	---	2.6	1,789.5	452.6	219.5	25.1	697.3	1,092.2
June						1.1		148.7	50.3			
July						0.9		150.2	35.5			
August						1.0		146.2	51.9			
Jun-Aug				1,092.2	---	3.0	1,095.2	445.1	137.7	(61.4)	521.4	573.8
Total							3,646.6	1,806.4	1,118.0	148.4	3,072.8	
2007/08												
September						0.4		147.7	60.9			
October						0.6		164.0	138.9			
November						0.6		155.7	127.1			
Sep-Nov				573.8	2,585.2	1.6	3,160.6	467.4	326.9	34.4	828.7	2,331.9
December						1.0		163.9	147.2			
January						1.5		160.5	140.9			
February ¹						1.3		146.4	139.8			
Dec-Feb ¹				2,331.9	---	3.7	2,335.6	470.7	427.9	8.8	907.5	1,428.1
Total to date								938.2	754.8	43.2	1,736.2	

¹ Estimated. ² Forecast.

Sources: *Crop Production* and *Grain Stocks*, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; and *Oilseed Crushings*, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 2--Soybean meal: U.S. supply and disappearance

Year begin. Oct. 1	Supply			Disappearance				Ending stocks
	Beginning stocks	Production	Imports	Total	Domestic	Exports	Total	
<i>1,000 short tons</i>								
2005/06	172	41,244	141	41,557	33,195	8,048	41,243	314
2006/07 ¹	314	43,027	156	43,497	34,360	8,786	43,146	351
2007/08 ²	351	43,934	165	44,450	35,300	8,850	44,150	300
2006/07								
October	313.8	3,823.2	12.8	4,149.7	3,084.4	677.0	3,761.3	388.4
November	388.4	3,671.9	13.6	4,073.9	2,858.3	842.0	3,700.4	373.6
December	373.6	3,733.0	13.7	4,120.2	2,864.1	787.2	3,651.3	468.9
January	468.9	3,693.3	13.6	4,175.8	3,049.9	753.2	3,803.1	372.7
February	372.7	3,252.6	13.4	3,638.7	2,592.8	756.3	3,349.0	289.6
March	289.6	3,712.3	15.2	4,017.1	2,771.8	916.8	3,688.6	328.5
April	328.5	3,442.9	12.6	3,783.9	2,826.2	629.2	3,455.3	328.6
May	328.6	3,623.0	13.9	3,965.5	3,022.2	664.1	3,686.3	279.2
June	279.2	3,528.2	11.2	3,818.6	2,769.8	731.8	3,501.6	317.1
July	317.1	3,568.0	11.2	3,896.3	2,967.3	613.8	3,581.1	315.2
August	315.2	3,473.9	13.4	3,802.5	2,799.9	765.7	3,565.6	236.9
September	236.9	3,504.4	11.8	3,753.1	2,753.2	649.0	3,402.2	350.9
Total		43,026.7	156.3	43,496.8	34,359.9	8,786.0	43,145.8	
2007/08								
October	350.9	3,910.2	12.4	4,273.5	3,286.9	673.3	3,960.2	313.3
November	313.3	3,730.6	12.1	4,056.1	2,813.9	947.4	3,761.3	294.8
December	294.8	3,919.8	10.9	4,225.5	3,080.4	723.1	3,803.5	422.0
January	422.0	3,792.6	9.8	4,224.5	3,088.3	847.6	3,936.0	288.5
February ¹	288.5	3,473.8	11.9	3,774.3	2,548.0	890.5	3,438.5	335.8
Total to date		18,827.1	57.2	18,884.3	14,817.4	4,082.0	18,899.5	

¹ Estimated. ² Forecast.

Source: *Oilseed Crushings*, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 3--Soybean oil: U.S. supply and disappearance

Year begin. Oct. 1	Supply				Disappearance				
	Beginning stocks	Production	Imports	Total	Domestic		Exports	Total	Ending stocks
					Total	Methyl ester			
<i>Million pounds</i>									
2005/06	1,699	20,387	35	22,122	17,959	1,555	1,153	19,112	3,010
2006/07 ¹	3,010	20,487	37	23,535	18,743	2,796	1,888	20,630	2,904
2007/08 ²	2,904	21,250	37	24,191	18,700	2,950	2,700	21,400	2,792
2006/07									
October	3,009.8	1,829.5	1.0	4,840.3	1,660.9	166.1	167.1	1,828.0	3,012.3
November	3,012.3	1,725.0	1.0	4,738.3	1,536.1	157.6	120.3	1,656.3	3,081.9
December	3,081.9	1,771.0	1.3	4,854.2	1,486.9	178.7	276.7	1,763.6	3,090.6
January	3,090.6	1,746.3	2.5	4,839.4	1,482.7	167.8	174.9	1,657.6	3,181.7
February	3,181.7	1,547.2	1.1	4,730.1	1,324.2	157.8	125.2	1,449.4	3,280.7
March	3,280.7	1,764.3	1.4	5,046.3	1,603.8	218.8	81.2	1,685.0	3,361.4
April	3,361.4	1,626.5	2.0	4,989.9	1,585.7	215.4	102.7	1,688.4	3,301.5
May	3,301.5	1,728.9	3.1	5,033.5	1,601.2	271.9	121.3	1,722.5	3,311.0
June	3,311.0	1,692.5	9.7	5,013.1	1,529.4	256.5	123.5	1,652.9	3,360.2
July	3,360.2	1,709.7	5.4	5,075.3	1,648.7	347.6	202.1	1,850.8	3,224.5
August	3,224.5	1,662.9	6.8	4,894.3	1,646.0	376.2	201.9	1,847.9	3,046.4
September	3,046.4	1,683.6	2.2	4,732.2	1,637.1	281.3	190.8	1,828.0	2,904.2
Total		20,487.3	37.5	23,534.6	18,742.7	2,795.7	1,887.7	20,630.4	
2007/08									
October	2,904.2	1,871.1	4.1	4,779.4	1,593.2	237.5	132.9	1,726.1	3,053.3
November	3,053.3	1,799.8	3.1	4,856.1	1,602.4	223.4	198.0	1,800.5	3,055.7
December	3,055.7	1,879.0	3.3	4,937.9	1,467.9	219.9	391.3	1,859.2	3,078.7
January	3,078.7	1,855.2	6.0	4,939.9	1,535.7	268.1	169.9	1,705.7	3,234.2
February ¹	3,234.2	1,685.6	7.0	4,926.8	1,317.2	290.1	508.1	1,825.3	3,101.5
Total to date		9,090.7	23.4	12,018.3	7,516.5	1,239.1	1,400.3	8,916.8	

¹ Estimated. ² Forecast.

Sources: *Oilseed Crushings and Production, Consumption, and Stocks*, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 4--Cottonseed: U.S. supply and disappearance

Year beg. Aug. 1	Supply			Disappearance				Ending stocks	
	Beginning stocks	Production	Imports	Total	Crush	Exports	Other		Total
<i>1,000 short tons</i>									
2005/06	592	8,172	0	8,764	3,010	523	4,630	8,163	602
2006/07	602	7,348	0	7,950	2,680	616	4,165	7,461	489
2007/08 ²	489	6,596	5	7,090	2,750	600	3,335	6,685	405

¹ Estimated. ² Forecast.

Sources: *Crop Production*, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; and *Oilseed Crushings*, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 5--Cottonseed meal: U.S. supply and disappearance

Year beg. Oct. 1	Supply			Disappearance				Ending stocks
	Beginning stocks	Imports	Production	Total	Domestic	Exports	Total	
<i>1,000 short tons</i>								
2005/06	53	0	1,372	1,425	1,225	141	1,366	59
2006/07 ¹	59	0	1,241	1,301	1,133	105	1,238	63
2007/08 ²	63	0	1,250	1,313	1,158	105	1,263	50

¹ Estimated. ² Forecast.

Source: *Oilseed Crushings*, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 6--Cottonseed oil: U.S. supply and disappearance

Year beg. Oct. 1	Supply			Disappearance			Ending stocks	
	Beginning stocks	Imports	Production	Total	Domestic	Exports		Total
<i>Million pounds</i>								
2005/06	76	1	951	1,028	860	67	927	101
2006/07 ¹	101	1	849	951	708	138	845	106
2007/08 ²	106	1	865	972	722	160	882	90

¹ Estimated. ² Forecast.

Sources: *Oilseed Crushings and Production, Consumption, and Stocks*, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 7--Peanuts: U.S. supply and disappearance

Year beg. Aug. 1	Supply			Disappearance						Ending stocks
	Beginning stocks	Imports	Production	Total	Domestic food	Crush	Seed & residual	Exports	Total	
<i>Million pounds</i>										
2005/06	1,415	32	4,870	6,317	2,616	542	501	491	4,150	2,167
2006/07 ¹	2,167	58	3,464	5,689	2,585	513	468	603	4,169	1,520
2007/08 ²	1,520	60	3,741	5,321	2,520	530	396	625	4,071	1,250

¹ Estimated. ² Forecast.

Sources: *Crop Production* and *Peanut Stocks and Processors*, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 8--Oilseed prices received by U.S. farmers

Marketing year	Soybeans \$/bu.	Cottonseed \$/ton	Sunflower \$/cwt.	Canola \$/cwt.	Peanuts Cents/lb.	Flaxseed \$/bu.
1997/98	6.47	121.00	11.60	11.30	28.30	5.81
1998/99	4.93	129.00	10.60	10.30	28.40	5.05
1999/00	4.63	89.00	7.53	7.82	25.40	3.79
2000/01	4.54	105.00	6.89	6.71	27.40	3.30
2001/02	4.38	90.50	9.62	8.77	23.40	4.29
2002/03	5.53	101.00	12.10	10.60	18.20	5.77
2003/04	7.34	117.00	12.10	10.60	19.30	5.88
2004/05	5.74	107.00	13.70	10.70	18.90	8.07
2005/06	5.66	96.00	12.10	9.62	17.30	5.94
2006/07	6.43	111.00	14.50	11.90	17.70	5.80
2007/08 ¹	10.00-10.50	145-175	20.60-21.40	17.55-18.35	21.6-22.4	12.55-13.35
2006/07						
September	5.23	97.00	11.60	NA	17.30	5.46
October	5.52	98.00	12.10	NA	17.20	5.41
November	6.08	113.00	12.50	NA	17.20	5.38
December	6.18	120.00	13.60	NA	17.60	5.73
January	6.37	121.00	13.80	NA	17.80	6.03
February	6.87	130.00	14.90	NA	17.80	6.39
March	6.95	NA	15.60	NA	17.80	6.79
April	6.88	NA	15.90	NA	18.30	6.72
May	7.12	NA	16.60	NA	17.90	7.08
June	7.51	NA	17.00	NA	18.10	7.81
July	7.56	NA	18.40	14.50	18.70	8.14
August	7.72	NA	18.40	14.60	18.00	8.64
2007/08						
September	8.18	137.00	17.70	15.00	18.60	9.55
October	8.36	153.00	17.80	16.30	21.40	11.60
November	9.41	160.00	18.40	16.60	21.70	12.90
December	10.00	171.00	19.20	17.70	21.30	13.00
January	9.96	171.00	19.00	17.90	21.80	13.80
February	11.70	162.00	24.20	22.20	21.00	15.70
March ¹	11.90	NA	24.10	23.50	20.90	17.50

¹ Preliminary. NA = Not available.

Source: *Agricultural Prices*, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Table 9--U.S. vegetable oil and fats prices

Marketing year	Soybean oil ²	Cottonseed oil ³	Sunflower oil ⁴	Canola oil ⁴	Peanut oil ⁵	Corn oil ⁶	Lard ⁶	Edible tallow ⁶
<i>Cents/lb.</i>								
1997/98	25.80	28.85	27.00	28.83	49.21	28.94	19.46	20.69
1998/99	19.90	27.32	20.10	22.48	40.72	25.30	14.66	15.14
1999/00	15.60	21.52	16.68	17.11	35.96	17.81	13.64	13.21
2000/01	14.15	15.98	15.89	17.56	34.97	13.54	14.61	13.43
2001/02	16.46	17.98	23.25	23.45	32.23	19.14	13.55	13.87
2002/03	22.04	37.75	33.11	29.75	46.70	28.17	18.13	17.80
2003/04	29.97	31.21	33.41	33.76	60.84	28.43	26.13	22.37
2004/05	23.01	28.01	43.71	30.78	53.63	27.86	21.80	18.48
2005/06	23.41	29.47	40.64	31.00	44.48	25.18	21.74	18.16
2006/07	31.02	35.70	58.03	40.57	52.99	31.80	28.43	27.32
2007/08 ¹	50.0-54.0	71.5-75.5	90.0-94.0	65.0-69.0	97.5-101.5	67.0-71.0	38.0-42.0	41.0-45.0
2006/07								
October	24.80	27.44	52.94	34.50	52.67	24.70	23.55	19.86
November	27.64	30.25	56.00	37.63	52.50	26.47	20.78	21.78
December	27.63	30.75	56.33	38.42	50.00	28.05	22.58	23.23
January	28.00	31.00	55.56	38.56	49.25	28.05	23.00	23.91
February	28.94	32.69	54.50	40.06	46.25	28.66	23.82	23.25
March	29.74	33.00	53.25	38.95	48.20	29.08	30.75	24.34
April	31.06	34.38	52.69	38.44	52.63	29.93	27.71	26.22
May	32.90	37.75	53.44	40.44	55.63	31.56	28.60	30.19
June	34.01	40.00	57.31	42.56	62.56	34.71	32.64	34.50
July	35.74	42.44	65.00	45.00	69.63	37.25	36.00	35.00
August	34.87	42.15	68.80	44.25	70.00	39.61	35.77	32.85
September	36.89	46.56	70.50	48.00	73.00	43.61	36.00	32.69
2007/08								
October	38.10	52.20	73.50	50.38	76.75	52.50	35.09	33.98
November	42.68	63.60	84.80	57.30	93.20	56.32	33.78	36.88
December	45.16	66.63	86.50	61.50	98.50	59.47	32.66	35.28
January	49.77	71.69	90.00	64.94	97.33	63.67	33.01	38.53
February	56.68	78.60	96.00	71.80	99.00	74.89	38.33	44.33
March ¹	57.27	78.94	96.75	70.56	100.00	83.55	46.00	48.39

¹ Preliminary. ² Decatur, IL. ³ PBSY Greenwood, MS. ⁴ Midwest. ⁵ Southeast mills. ⁶ Chicago.

NA= Not available.

Sources: *Monthly Feedstuff Prices* and *Peanut Report*, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Table 10--U.S. oilseed meal prices

Marketing year	Soybean meal ²	Cottonseed meal ³	Sunflower meal ⁴	Peanut meal ⁵	Canola meal ⁶	Linseed meal ⁷
\$/Short ton						
1997/98	185.30	144.00	84.20	210.25	131.15	117.54
1998/99	138.50	109.55	64.20	122.02	112.28	84.49
1999/00	167.62	127.43	75.00	108.15	117.07	103.42
2000/01	173.62	142.93	90.50	119.75	139.20	121.92
2001/02	167.72	136.16	87.27	112.32	143.33	121.29
2002/03	181.58	146.12	105.00	128.35	144.06	122.91
2003/04	256.05	183.47	111.14	177.56	188.45	159.25
2004/05	182.90	124.04	85.50	118.34	139.75	115.55
2005/06	174.17	144.27	77.46	106.98	140.52	115.53
2006/07	205.44	150.36	104.88	100.00	173.38	133.01
2007/08 ¹	315-335	230-250	185-205	180-200	245-265	195-215
2005/06						
October	166.22	133.13	73.25	105.50	130.13	100.38
November	170.32	132.50	64.80	102.50	139.55	113.60
December	193.17	175.00	70.00	100.88	158.06	118.00
January	183.64	172.50	NA	NA	150.05	127.25
February	176.73	152.50	NA	114.50	143.94	130.17
March	175.07	148.75	98.00	113.50	134.74	129.00
April	174.64	144.38	90.33	113.17	136.04	126.63
May	175.77	131.50	72.60	113.33	136.59	119.10
June	176.83	135.00	66.50	107.13	139.63	116.88
July	168.97	132.50	76.50	107.50	137.83	111.50
August	159.76	134.50	79.33	100.00	143.28	101.10
September	168.87	139.00	83.33	98.75	136.38	92.75
2006/07						
October	177.71	132.40	87.00	98.50	149.77	100.75
November	190.67	131.88	98.50	98.50	166.80	118.13
December	180.63	152.50	109.00	98.00	163.17	123.33
January	190.36	161.00	114.67	98.50	173.30	134.20
February	208.81	174.75	152.50	98.50	198.37	156.38
March	205.26	185.50	132.50	NA	195.37	156.25
April	189.37	148.25	118.75	NA	169.01	149.00
May	198.66	137.00	99.80	NA	168.19	135.10
June	229.70	131.25	85.13	NA	189.11	132.00
July	222.05	137.50	83.13	NA	171.14	135.75
August	217.63	144.75	74.63	NA	159.33	123.88
September	254.41	167.50	103.00	NA	176.98	131.38
2007/08						
October	260.55	183.40	138.40	NA	167.24	170.20
November	280.76	176.25	133.75	NA	192.25	184.63
December	314.78	196.67	158.67	NA	226.30	186.83
January	331.28	273.60	212.00	NA	276.78	242.70
February	345.87	292.00	225.50	NA	285.83	250.00
March ¹	331.57	245.00	201.25	NA	276.85	247.13

¹ Preliminary. ² Hi-pro Decatur, IL. ³ 41% Memphis. ⁴ 28% Minneapolis.

⁵ 50% Southeast mills. ⁶ 36% Pacific Northwest. ⁷ 34% Minneapolis. NA= Not available.

Source: *Monthly Feedstuff Prices*, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.