

crop production



Release:
January 27, 1972
3:00 P.M. EST

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS FOR 1972--35 STATES*

Corn growers intend to plant 70.0 million acres of corn in 1972, 4 percent less than last year.

Upland cotton plantings are expected to total 13.1 million acres, up 7 percent from last year.

Soybeans planted for all purposes are expected to continue the upward trend started in 1959, rising to a record high 44.3 million acres, 4 percent above 1971.

Durum wheat plantings are slated to total 2.7 million acres, 3 percent less than in 1971 but 31 percent above 1970.

Other spring wheat plantings, at a prospective 12.0 million acres, are 8 percent below last year but 34 percent above 1970.

Oat planting intentions, at 20.8 million acres, are 4 percent below last year, and 14 percent below 1970.

Barley plantings are expected to total 9.7 million acres, down 9 percent from 1971.

Sorghum growers intend to reduce acreage 7 percent, and plant 19.8 million acres, which is 15 percent above the acreage planted in 1970.

Flaxseed plantings are expected to total 1.3 million acres, 19 percent below last year.

*Only the 35 States included in this special survey are included in the comparisons. In 1971, planted acreage in these States accounted for all of the durum wheat, flaxseed, and sorghum; over 99 percent of the upland cotton, soybeans, and spring wheat other durum; over 98 percent of the oats and corn; and 97 percent of the barley acreage.

The purpose of this report is to assist growers in making such changes in acreage plans as might appear desirable. Acreages actually planted this year may be more or less than indicated because of weather, economic conditions, labor supply, farm programs, and the impact of this report itself on farmers' actions.

The regular 1972 March Prospective Plantings report will be released on March 16, 1972.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE CROP REPORTING BOARD

CrPr 2-4 (1-72)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

January 1972 Prospective Plantings Report

This special survey was made to obtain early information on farmers' plans to plant certain crops for harvest in 1972. These data, published well in advance of actual spring seeding, will aid producers in deciding whether or not to make changes in their plans for 1972.

The survey covered 35 States. Excluded were the six New England States, New Jersey, Delaware, West Virginia, Florida, Wyoming, Utah, and Nevada.

Crops for which intended acreage estimates are published in this report are corn, soybeans, spring wheat, oats, barley, all sorghums, flaxseed, and cotton. A report on winter wheat seedings for harvest in 1972 was released December 22, 1971.

Intentions reported this early may be subject to greater departures from actual plantings than the regular Intentions Report issued by the Crop Reporting Board in mid-March. This is particularly true for this survey because of uncertainty that may have existed because of provisions of the Government Program for 1972. The great majority of the questionnaires for this report were completed by farmers before announcement of the voluntary set-aside program. The regular March Prospective Plantings Intentions Report will be released at 3 p.m., EST, on March 16, 1972.

CROP REPORTING BOARD:

B. M. Graham, Chairman,

M. L. Koehn, Secretary,

B. W. Kelly,

C. E. Burkhead,

D. W. Barrowman,

G. B. Strong,

N. C. Cross,

G. D. Hasenmyer,

R. B. Karnes,

R. C. Max, Jr.,

S. J. Pscodna,

P. L. Doctor,

W. W. Wilson.

APPROVED:

Clarence D. Sahmy

ACTING SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

Intended Feed Grain Plantings Down 5 Percent

Intended plantings of the four feed grains is 120.3 million acres in 35 survey States, down 5 percent (6.3 million acres) from last year. These States accounted for 98.5 percent of the Nation's feed grain plantings in 1971.

Smaller acreages are expected for each of the four feed grain crops. Plantings are slated to decline 4 percent for both corn and oats, 7 percent for sorghum, and 9 percent for barley.

CORN: Growers in the 35 States surveyed intend to plant 70.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 1972, 4 percent less than planted in 1971. These States accounted for more than 98 percent of the Nation's corn acreage planted last year.

Intended acreage in the North Central Region is down 3 percent from 1971 plantings. The only acreage increase expected is in Kansas, where growers plan to up plantings 2 percent from last year. Intended cutbacks in other regions amount to: South Atlantic, 7 percent; South Central, 11 percent; Western, 4 percent. Growers in the North Atlantic States indicate virtually no change.

SORGHUMS: Growers intend to plant 19.8 million acres of sorghum for all purposes in 1972, 7 percent below last year but 15 percent above the 1970 acreage. The January survey covers all States in which sorghum estimates are prepared. Smaller acreages are expected in most States with percentage declines especially large in the East. Last year growers there boosted sorghum acreage as an insurance against possible Southern corn leaf blight damage.

Growers in Texas, the leading sorghum State, and New Mexico intend to hold acreage at last year's level. In the Northern High Plains (irrigated area) of Texas, acreage intentions are down. Expected plantings are up, however, in other Texas areas which did not get all their sorghum acreage planted a year ago due to drought.

Intended sorghum acreage in Kansas, Nebraska, and Oklahoma, which accounts for about 40 percent of the Nation's crop, is down 8 percent.

OATS: Acreage of fall seeded oats plus intended spring plantings as reported by growers in 33 States about January 1 is expected to total 20.8 million acres. This is 4 percent less than the 21.7 million acres seeded a year earlier and 14 percent below the 24.1 million acres planted for harvest in 1970. Seedings in the 33 survey States accounted for 98.6 percent of the oat acreage planted for harvest in 1971 in the 42 States included in the estimating program.

Acreage cutbacks are indicated for all areas except the South Central States where increases are expected in Texas and Arkansas. In the North Central States, which accounted for 71 percent of the 1971 acreage, a decrease of 6 percent is indicated.

Condition of fall seedings is generally good and prospects appear favorable for seeding spring oats.

BARLEY: Acreage seeded last fall plus intended plantings this spring in 32 survey States total 9.7 million acres, 9 percent less than last year. The 32 States surveyed accounted for nearly 97 percent of the Nation's barley acreage in 1971.

North Dakota, the leading barley State, indicates a 4 percent increase in plantings. However, in Montana, the second largest producer, and California, the No. 3 State, growers plan to cut seeded acreage 8 percent and 5 percent, respectively. These three States account for about half of the Nation's barley acreage. The Western and South Central Regions indicate sharp declines in plantings while the other regions show no change or only slight reductions from last year.

WHEAT: The prospective planted acreage of durum wheat in the 5 major States totals 2,743,000 acres, down 3 percent from 1971 but 31 percent above 1970. Intended acreage in North Dakota, the dominant durum State, is unchanged from 1971. Growers in South Dakota expect to seed 12 percent less acreage and those in Montana plan a 32 percent cut.

Seedings of spring wheat other than durum are expected to total 12,028,000 acres in the 9 States included in this report. This is 8 percent less than the 1971 total for the same States but 34 percent above 1970. The survey included all the major spring wheat States and all but three of the minor ones -- Wyoming, Utah, and Nevada. Smaller acreages are in prospect in each of the 9 States. North Dakota, with more than half of the 9-State total, shows a 6 percent decline from 1971 while growers in Montana and South Dakota intend decreases of 8 and 7 percent, respectively. Minnesota growers expect a 4-percent decline in acreage.

Plantings of all wheat for harvest in 1972 would total 57,078,000 acres based on the December 1, 1971 estimate of winter wheat and the January 1 prospective plantings for all spring wheat. This includes an allowance of 68,000 acres of spring wheat in the 3 minor States not included in the current survey, the acreage planted in these States in 1971. If realized, this will be 4 percent more than the seedings for the 1971 crop and 15 percent more than 1970.

On January 10, USDA announced to wheat producers an additional option to voluntarily set aside wheat cropland in 1972. However, the great majority of growers reported their intentions to seed durum and other spring wheat prior to the announcement.

SOYBEANS: In 1972 soybean growers intend to plant 44.3 million acres in the 27 States surveyed. Acreage at this level would be 4 percent above a year earlier in the same 27 States which accounted for slightly over 99 percent of the Nation's planted acres in 1971.

In the North Central region plantings are expected to be 3 percent above 1971. Changes from last year range from no change in Illinois, to a 15 percent increase in both Nebraska and Wisconsin. Planted acreage in the North Central region usually accounts for about two-thirds of total acreage.

A rise of 7 percent is in prospect in the South Atlantic region. Indicated increases by States range from 4 to 10 percent with the largest percentage gains in North Carolina and Georgia.

In the South Central region growers plan to increase their acreage 4 percent with all States except Mississippi showing gains. Arkansas expects a 1-percent increase; Louisiana, 3 percent; and Tennessee, 9 percent. Kentucky shows the largest percentage increase in the region -- 17 percent.

FLAXSEED: The prospective planted acreage of flaxseed is 1,338,000 acres, 19 percent below last year, 55 percent below two years ago, and the smallest since 1938. Acreage in both North Dakota and Minnesota is expected to be down 22 percent while South Dakota growers intend a 10-percent decline.

COTTON: Cotton growers in the 14 major producing States expect to seed 13,109,000 acres of upland cotton in 1972, 7 percent above the 12,223,000 acres planted in these States in 1971. If these intentions are realized, 1972 plantings would be the largest since 1965.

The national upland cotton base acreage allotment in 1972 for all States is 11,500,000 acres, of which 11,457,000 acres is the allotment for the 14 States surveyed. Plantings are slated to exceed allotments by 14 percent in these States.

In the Southeast--North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama--intended plantings totaled 1,619,000 acres, 3 percent more than the 1971 level of 1,579,000 acres. Gains ranged from 2 to 4 percent, except in North Carolina which was unchanged.

In the Delta States--Missouri, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana--growers plan to plant 4,320,000 acres, an increase of 13 percent from a year earlier when 3,832,000 acres were seeded. Increases ranging from 5 to 20 percent are indicated.

Upland growers in Texas and Oklahoma intend to plant 5,960,000 acres, 5 percent more than the 1971 plantings of 5,675,000 acres. A 15-percent gain is in prospect in Oklahoma and a 4-percent increase is indicated in Texas.

In New Mexico, Arizona, and California growers plan to plant 1,210,000 acres of upland cotton, 6 percent more than the 1,137,000 acres planted in 1971. California expects an increase of 8 percent, Arizona, 5 percent.

American-Pima cotton growers expect to plant 103,600 acres, 1 percent above the 102,300 acres planted in 1971. Plantings may be down 2 percent in Texas, up 2 percent in New Mexico and 3 percent in Arizona, and unchanged in California. The extra long staple cotton allotment for 1972 is 117,763 acres.

CROP REPORTING BOARD

ALL CORN

STATE	ACREAGE PLANTED			1972 AS PERCENT OF 1971
	1970	1971	INDICATED 1972	
	1,000 ACRES			PERCENT
N Y	847	915	925	101
PA	1,300	1,469	1,447	99
OHIO	3,247	3,767	3,616	96
IND	5,210	5,679	5,600	99
ILL	10,312	10,470	10,160	97
MICH	1,788	2,253	2,230	99
WISC	2,769	3,074	3,043	99
MINN	5,300	6,572	6,112	93
IOWA	10,668	12,231	11,742	96
MO	3,114	3,332	3,250	98
N DAK	542	569	558	98
S DAK	3,455	3,939	3,663	93
NEBR	5,416	5,958	5,839	98
KANS	1,689	1,660	1,700	102
MD	565	605	580	96
VA	650	670	650	97
N C	1,610	1,725	1,575	91
S C	490	510	435	85
GA	1,684	1,751	1,680	96
KY	1,167	1,377	1,239	90
TENN	722	801	713	89
ALA	686	686	645	94
MISS	332	325	270	83
ARK	57	48	42	88
LA	172	143	135	94
OKLA	102	108	105	97
TEXAS	645	709	600	85
MONT	62	75	70	93
IDAHO	97	105	105	100
COLO	622	719	683	95
N MEX	47	52	53	102
ARIZ	30	25	26	104
WASH	88	114	109	96
OREG	38	43	43	100
CALIF	332	405	389	96
TOTAL 35 STATES	65,855	72,884	70,032	96.1
OTHER STATES	1,149	1,213		
U. S.	67,004	74,097		

ALL SORGHUMS

STATE	ACREAGE PLANTED			1972 AS PERCENT OF 1971
	1970	1971	INDICATED 1972	
	1,000 ACRES			PERCENT
IND.	20	90	50	56
ILL.	30	200	160	80
IOWA	43	143	100	70
MO.	298	740	600	81
N. DAK.	7	3	4	133
S. DAK.	433	580	522	90
NEBR.	1,778	2,406	2,093	87
KANS.	4,391	5,180	4,850	94
VA.	27	57	50	88
N. C.	77	165	125	76
S. C.	30	65	57	88
GA.	54	135	115	85
KY.	18	60	42	70
TENN.	30	112	71	63
ALA.	58	116	90	78
MISS.	167	200	130	65
ARK.	245	294	179	61
LA.	87	120	80	67
OKLA.	937	1,200	1,120	93
TEXAS	7,010	7,641	7,650	100
COLO.	504	650	630	97
N. MEX.	410	492	492	100
ARIZ.	193	189	185	98
CALIF.	421	434	378	87
U. S.	17,268	21,272	19,773	93

OATS 1/

STATE	ACREAGE PLANTED			1972 AS PERCENT OF 1971
	1970	1971	INDICATED 1972	
	1,000 ACRES			PERCENT
N. Y.	398	363	344	95
PA.	464	459	455	99
OHIO	597	603	530	88
IND.	355	376	301	80
ILL.	935	1,197	1,077	90
MICH.	495	460	420	91
WISC.	1,764	1,588	1,540	97
MINN.	3,510	3,100	2,883	93
IOWA	2,751	2,279	2,165	95
MO.	312	359	300	84
N. DAK.	2,897	2,173	2,282	105
S. DAK.	2,737	2,521	2,445	97
NEBR.	702	630	561	89
KANS.	290	290	210	72
MD.	30	32	33	103
VA.	100	100	94	94
N. C.	236	241	210	87
S. C.	164	177	155	88
GA.	184	202	216	107
KY.	45	62	48	77
TENN.	141	133	130	98
ALA.	110	110	107	97
MISS.	130	120	120	100
ARK.	152	96	138	144
LA.	66	66	66	100
OKLA.	356	360	317	88
TEXAS	2,383	2,359	2,400	102
MONT.	644	354	347	98
IDAHO	128	90	80	89
COLO.	210	150	140	93
WASH.	251	57	56	98
OREG.	158	153	142	93
CALIF.	437	428	441	103
TOTAL 33 STATES	24,132	21,688	20,753	95.7
OTHER STATES	302	299		
U. S.	24,434	21,987		

1/ INCLUDES ACREAGE PLANTED IN PRECEDING FALL.

BARLEY 1/

STATE	ACREAGE PLANTED			1972 AS PERCENT OF 1971
	1970	1971	INDICATED 1972	
	1,000 ACRES			PERCENT
N Y	11	10	12	120
PA	194	194	192	99
OHIO	21	20	25	125
IND	11	17	18	106
ILL	14	20	22	110
MICH	25	22	20	91
WISC	34	37	44	119
MINN	607	857	857	100
IOWA	4	4	5	125
MO	26	24	25	104
N DAK	2,039	2,284	2,375	104
S DAK	389	472	463	98
NEBR	52	63	50	79
KANS	220	220	125	57
MD	113	107	110	103
VA	131	132	128	97
N C	70	90	86	96
S C	24	31	31	100
GA	9	13	14	108
KY	54	74	100	135
TENN	24	29	31	107
ARK	2	2	1	50
OKLA	565	627	370	59
TEXAS	197	167	120	72
MONT	1,800	1,740	1,600	92
IDAHO	673	720	612	85
COLO	340	424	350	83
N MEX	29	30	32	107
ARIZ	163	139	132	95
WASH	436	467	280	60
OREG	440	412	300	73
CALIF	1,328	1,235	1,173	95
TOTAL 32 STATES	10,045	10,683	9,703	90.8
OTHER STATES	375	381		
U. S.	10,420	11,064		

1/ INCLUDES ACREAGE PLANTED IN PRECEDING FALL.

SPRING WHEAT OTHER THAN DURUM

STATE	ACREAGE PLANTED			1972 AS PERCENT OF 1971
	1970	1971	INDICATED 1972	
	1,000 ACRES			PERCENT
WISC	15	17	16	94
MINN	799	1,462	1,404	96
N DAK	4,796	6,762	6,356	94
S DAK	1,224	1,628	1,514	93
MONT	1,739	2,435	2,240	92
IDAHO	211	293	252	86
COLO	48	76	70	92
WASH	108	300	110	37
OREG	42	78	66	85
TOTAL				
9 STATES	8,982	13,051	12,028	92.2
OTHER STATES	65	68		
U. S.	9,047	13,119		

DURUM WHEAT

STATE	ACREAGE PLANTED			1972 AS PERCENT OF 1971
	1970	1971	INDICATED 1972	
	1,000 ACRES			PERCENT
MINN	30	41	33	80
N DAK	1,812	2,464	2,464	100
S DAK	110	143	126	88
MONT	129	168	114	68
CALIF	10	10	6	60
U. S.	2,091	2,826	2,743	97.1

FLAXSEED 1/

STATE	ACREAGE PLANTED			1972 AS PERCENT OF 1971
	1970	1971	INDICATED 1972	
	1,000 ACRES			PERCENT
MINN	425	245	191	78
IOWA	1	1		
N DAK	1,711	895	698	78
S DAK	715	465	418	90
TEXAS	107	43	18	42
MONT	43	13	13	100
CALIF	2			
U. S.	3,004	1,662	1,338	80.5

1/ INCLUDES ACREAGE PLANTED IN PRECEDING FALL.

SOYBEANS

STATE	ACREAGE PLANTED			1972 AS PERCENT OF 1971
	1970	1971	INDICATED 1972	
	1,000 ACRES			PERCENT
NY	6	7	8	114
PA	30	34	40	118
OHIO	2,434	2,507	2,607	104
IND	3,300	3,400	3,570	105
ILL	6,848	7,190	7,190	100
MICH	539	561	570	102
WISC	155	130	150	115
MINN	3,140	2,889	3,120	108
IOWA	5,709	5,456	5,674	104
MO	3,546	3,652	3,700	101
N DAK	184	211	211	100
S DAK	253	243	255	105
NEBR	824	650	748	115
KANS	1,074	880	910	103
MD	216	222	233	105
VA	372	384	403	105
N C	981	1,059	1,150	109
S C	1,023	1,084	1,130	104
GA	550	660	725	110
KY	582	768	899	117
TENN	1,281	1,371	1,494	109
ALA	642	700	728	104
MISS	2,358	2,429	2,429	100
ARK	4,393	4,305	4,350	101
LA	1,730	1,695	1,750	103
OKLA	200	155	180	116
TEXAS	170	114	125	110
TOTAL 27 STATES	42,540	42,756	44,349	103.7
OTHER STATES	405	420		
U. S.	42,945	43,176		

COTTON

State	Acreage Planted			1972 as percent of 1971 Percent
	1970	1971	Indicated 1972	
	1,000 acres			
North Carolina	173	194	194	100
South Carolina	346	381	395	104
Georgia	408	426	435	102
Tennessee	425	447	470	105
Alabama	565	578	595	103
Missouri	310	340	380	112
Mississippi	1,235	1,355	1,560	115
Arkansas	1,120	1,180	1,300	110
Louisiana	465	510	610	120
Oklahoma	525	445	510	115
Texas, All	5,251.8	5,265.7	5,485.0	104
Upland	5,225.0	5,230.0	5,450.0	104
Amer-Pima	26.8	35.7	35.0	98
New Mexico, All	154.5	156.5	157.0	100
Upland	139.0	135.0	135.0	100
Amer-Pima	15.5	21.5	22.0	102
Arizona, All	276.1	286.5	301.0	105
Upland	243.0	242.0	255.0	105
Amer-Pima	33.1	44.5	46.0	103
California, All	665.5	760.6	820.6	108
Upland	665.0	760.0	820.0	108
Amer-Pima	0.5	0.6	0.6	100
Upland-14 States	11,844.0	12,223.0	13,109.0	107.2
Upland-Other States	25.3	25.4		
<u>United States</u>				
Upland	11,869.3	12,248.4		
Amer-Pima	75.9	102.3	103.6	101.3
All Cotton	11,945.2	12,350.7		



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE



FIRST-CLASS MAIL