

Prospective Plantings



USDA
Washington, D.C.

Released March 31, 1997, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Prospective Plantings" call (202) 720-2127, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

Corn Acreage Up 2 Percent Soybean Acreage Up 7 Percent

Corn growers intend to plant 81.4 million acres of corn for all purposes in 1997, up 2 percent from last year and 14 percent above 1995. If these intentions materialize, this would be the largest planted acreage since 1985. Expected acreages are up in most corn belt States with the exception of Iowa, Michigan, and Minnesota.

Soybeans growers intend to plant 68.8 million acres for 1997, up 7 percent from 1996 and 10 percent above 1995. If realized, this acreage would be the highest since 1980. All but 3 of the 29 soybean growing States anticipate an increase in soybean acres from last year.

Sorghum plantings are expected to total 10.9 million acres, down 18 percent from last year, but 15 percent above the 1995 total. Most major producing States show a decline from last year.

All wheat planted acres for 1997 are expected to total 69.2 million acres, down 9 percent from last year, but up slightly from 1995 plantings.

Durum wheat growers intend to plant 3.19 million acres for 1997, down 12 percent from 1996. North Dakota, the major durum wheat State intends to plant 13 percent less acres.

Other spring wheat plantings are expected to total 17.8 million acres for 1997, down 11 percent from 1996, but up 4 percent from 1995. Only Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming intend to plant larger acreages than last year.


All cotton plantings for 1997 are expected to total 14.5 million acres, 1 percent below 1996 and 14 percent less than the 1995 acreage. The Delta region and the Western States expect to decrease Upland cotton acreage by 6 percent, but the Southeast region shows a 2 percent increase. Texas Upland acreage is 4 percent above last year. Acreage of American-Pima cotton is 5 percent below last year's level.


Crop Summary: Area Planted, United States, 1995-97
(Domestic Units)

Crop	Area Planted			1997/96
	1995	1996	1997 1/	
	1,000 Acres			Percent
Corn	71,245.0	79,487.0	81,416.0	102.4
Sorghum	9,454.0	13,188.0	10,865.0	82.4
Oats	6,336.0	4,661.0	5,292.0	113.5
Barley	6,689.0	7,174.0	7,041.0	98.2
All Wheat	69,132.0	75,639.0	69,187.0	91.5
Winter	48,686.0	51,983.0	48,227.0	92.8
Durum	3,436.0	3,620.0	3,185.0	88.0
Other Spring	17,010.0	20,036.0	17,775.0	88.7
Rice	3,121.0	2,819.0	2,880.0	102.2
Soybeans	62,575.0	64,205.0	68,800.0	107.2
Peanuts	1,537.5	1,413.0	1,395.5	98.8
Sunflower	3,478.0	2,556.0	3,063.0	119.8
Flaxseed	165.0	96.0	197.0	205.2
All Cotton	16,931.4	14,665.5	14,484.5	98.8
Upland	16,716.8	14,407.5	14,239.5	98.8
Amer-Pima	214.6	258.0	245.0	95.0
Hay 2/	59,629.0	61,029.0	61,514.0	100.8
Dry Edible Beans	2,069.3	1,813.0	1,914.4	105.6
Sweetpotatoes	87.4	89.3	87.6	98.1
Tobacco 2/	663.1	733.9	807.5	110.0
Sugarbeets	1,444.6	1,367.7	1,454.9	106.4

1/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.
2/ Area harvested 1995-96, intended for harvest 1997.

This report was approved on March 31, 1997, by the Secretary of Agriculture and the National Agricultural Statistics Service's Agricultural Statistics Board.


 Secretary of
 Agriculture
 Dan Glickman


 Agricultural Statistics Board
 Chairperson
 Rich Allen

Crop Summary: Area Planted, United States, 1995-97
(Metric Units)

Crop	Area Planted		
	1995	1996	1997 1/
Hectares			
Corn	28,832,140	32,167,590	32,948,240
Sorghum	3,825,940	5,337,050	4,396,960
Oats	2,564,120	1,886,260	2,141,620
Barley	2,706,970	2,903,250	2,849,420
All Wheat	27,977,030	30,610,350	27,999,290
Winter	19,702,740	21,037,000	19,516,980
Durum	1,390,510	1,464,980	1,288,940
Other Spring	6,883,780	8,108,370	7,193,360
Rice	1,263,040	1,140,820	1,165,510
Soybeans	25,323,480	25,983,120	27,842,670
Peanuts	622,210	571,830	564,740
Sunflower	1,407,510	1,034,390	1,239,570
Flaxseed	66,770	38,850	79,720
All Cotton	6,851,970	5,934,980	5,861,730
Upland	6,765,120	5,830,570	5,762,580
Amer-Pima	86,850	104,410	99,150
Hay 2/	24,131,260	24,697,830	24,894,100
Dry Edible Beans	837,430	733,700	774,740
Sweet Potatoes	35,370	36,140	35,450
Tobacco 2/	268,360	297,010	326,780
Sugarbeets	584,620	553,490	588,780

1/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

2/ Area harvested 1995-96, intended for harvest 1997.

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production,
United States, 1988-97 1/

Corn				
Year	All Corn		Corn for Grain	
	Area Planted	Area Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production
	----- 1,000 Acres -----		Bushels	1,000 Bushels
1988	67,717	58,250	84.6	4,928,681
1989	72,322	64,783	116.3	7,531,953
1990	74,166	66,952	118.5	7,934,028
1991	75,957	68,822	108.6	7,474,765
1992	79,311	72,077	131.5	9,476,698
1993	73,235	62,921	100.7	6,336,470
1994	79,175	72,887	138.6	10,102,735
1995	71,245	64,995	113.5	7,373,876
1996	79,487	73,147	127.1	9,293,435
1997	81,416			

Sorghum				
Year	All Sorghum		Sorghum for Grain	
	Area Planted	Area Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production
	----- 1,000 Acres -----		Bushels	1,000 Bushels
1988	10,343	9,042	63.8	576,686
1989	12,642	11,103	55.4	615,420
1990	10,535	9,089	63.1	573,303
1991	11,064	9,870	59.3	584,860
1992	13,177	12,050	72.6	875,022
1993	9,882	8,916	59.9	534,172
1994	9,827	8,917	72.8	649,206
1995	9,454	8,278	55.6	460,373
1996	13,188	11,901	67.5	802,974
1997	10,865			

See footnotes at end of table.

--continued

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production,
United States, 1988-97 1/ (continued)

Year	Area		Yield	Production
	Planted	Harvested	per Acre	
	----- 1,000 Acres -----		Bushels	1,000 Bushels
			Oats	
1988	13,907	5,530	39.3	217,375
1989	12,085	6,882	54.3	373,587
1990	10,423	5,947	60.1	357,654
1991	8,653	4,816	50.6	243,851
1992	7,943	4,496	65.4	294,229
1993	7,937	3,803	54.4	206,770
1994	6,639	4,010	57.1	229,008
1995	6,336	2,962	54.7	162,027
1996	4,661	2,687	57.8	155,225
1997	5,292	3,225		
			Barley	
1988	9,831	7,636	38.0	289,994
1989	9,125	8,313	48.6	404,203
1990	8,221	7,529	56.1	422,196
1991	8,941	8,413	55.2	464,326
1992	7,762	7,285	62.5	455,090
1993	7,786	6,753	58.9	398,041
1994	7,159	6,667	56.2	374,862
1995	6,689	6,279	57.3	359,562
1996	7,174	6,787	58.5	396,851
1997	7,041			

See footnotes at end of table.

--continued

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production,
United States, 1988-97 1/ (continued)

Year	Area		Yield	Production
	Planted	Harvested	per Acre	
	----- 1,000 Acres -----		Bushels	1,000 Bushels
	All Wheat			
1988	65,529	53,189	34.1	1,812,201
1989	76,615	62,189	32.7	2,036,618
1990	77,041	69,103	39.5	2,729,778
1991	69,881	57,803	34.3	1,980,139
1992	72,219	62,761	39.3	2,466,798
1993	72,168	62,712	38.2	2,396,440
1994	70,349	61,770	37.6	2,320,981
1995	69,132	60,945	35.8	2,182,591
1996	75,639	62,850	36.3	2,281,763
1997	69,187			
	Winter Wheat 2/			
1988	48,800	39,800	39.2	1,561,910
1989	55,091	41,509	35.0	1,454,642
1990	56,748	49,721	40.7	2,024,224
1991	51,024	39,506	34.7	1,371,617
1992	50,922	42,123	38.2	1,609,284
1993	51,587	43,811	40.2	1,760,143
1994	49,197	41,355	40.2	1,661,943
1995	48,686	40,972	37.7	1,544,653
1996	51,983	39,709	37.2	1,478,048
1997	48,227			
	Durum Wheat			
1988	3,336	2,847	15.7	44,831
1989	3,791	3,673	25.1	92,229
1990	3,570	3,507	34.9	122,430
1991	3,253	3,197	32.5	103,957
1992	2,547	2,519	39.7	99,906
1993	2,241	2,100	33.6	70,476
1994	2,823	2,715	35.6	96,747
1995	3,436	3,356	30.5	102,280
1996	3,620	3,546	32.7	115,840
1997	3,185			
	Other Spring Wheat			
1988	13,393	10,542	19.5	205,460
1989	17,733	17,007	28.8	489,747
1990	16,723	15,875	36.7	583,124
1991	15,604	15,100	33.4	504,565
1992	18,750	18,119	41.8	757,608
1993	18,340	16,801	33.7	565,821
1994	18,329	17,700	31.8	562,291
1995	17,010	16,617	32.2	535,658
1996	20,036	19,595	35.1	687,875
1997	17,775			

See footnotes at end of table.

--continued

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production,
United States, 1988-97 1/ (continued)

Soybeans				
Year	Area Planted	Harvested for Beans		
		Area	Yield per Acre	Production
	----- 1,000 Acres -----		Bushels	1,000 Bushels
1988	58,840	57,373	27.0	1,548,841
1989	60,820	59,538	32.3	1,923,666
1990	57,795	56,512	34.1	1,925,947
1991	59,180	58,011	34.2	1,986,539
1992	59,180	58,233	37.6	2,190,354
1993	60,135	57,347	32.6	1,870,958
1994	61,670	60,859	41.4	2,516,694
1995	62,575	61,624	35.3	2,176,814
1996	64,205	63,409	37.6	2,382,364
1997	68,800			

Rice				
Year	Area		Yield per Acre	Production
	Planted	Harvested		
	----- 1,000 Acres -----		Pounds	1,000 Pounds
1988	2,933	2,900	5,514	159,897
1989	2,731	2,687	5,749	154,487
1990	2,897	2,823	5,529	156,088
1991	2,884	2,781	5,731	159,367
1992	3,176	3,132	5,736	179,658
1993	2,920	2,833	5,510	156,110
1994	3,353	3,316	5,964	197,779
1995	3,121	3,093	5,621	173,871
1996	2,819	2,799	6,121	171,321
1997	2,880			

Flaxseed				
Year	Area		Yield per Acre	Production
	Planted	Harvested		
	---- 1,000 Acres ----		Bushels	1,000 Bushels
1988	275	226	7.1	1,615
1989	195	163	7.5	1,215
1990	260	253	15.1	3,812
1991	356	342	18.1	6,200
1992	171	165	19.9	3,288
1993	206	191	18.2	3,480
1994	178	171	17.1	2,922
1995	165	147	15.0	2,211
1996	96	92	17.4	1,602
1997	197			

See footnotes at end of table.

--continued

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production,
United States, 1988-97 1/ (continued)

Peanuts					
Year	Area		Harvested for Nuts		
	Planted	Area	Yield per Acre	Production	
	----- 1,000 Acres -----		Pounds	1,000 Pounds	
1988	1,657.4	1,628.4	2,445	3,980,917	
1989	1,665.2	1,644.7	2,426	3,989,995	
1990	1,846.0	1,815.5	1,985	3,603,650	
1991	2,039.2	2,015.7	2,444	4,926,570	
1992	1,686.6	1,669.1	2,567	4,284,416	
1993	1,733.5	1,689.8	2,008	3,392,415	
1994	1,641.0	1,618.5	2,624	4,247,455	
1995	1,537.5	1,517.0	2,282	3,461,475	
1996	1,413.0	1,391.5	2,619	3,644,660	
1997	1,395.5				
Sunflower					
Year	Area		Yield per Acre	Production	
	Planted	Harvested			
	----- 1,000 Acres -----		Pounds	1,000 Pounds	
1988	2,038	1,921	933	1,792,090	
1989	1,840	1,786	985	1,759,760	
1990	1,905	1,851	1,229	2,274,405	
1991	2,746	2,673	1,352	3,613,030	
1992	2,187	2,043	1,255	2,564,985	
1993	2,776	2,504	1,037	2,596,716	
1994	3,567	3,430	1,410	4,836,185	
1995	3,478	3,368	1,190	4,009,340	
1996	2,556	2,499	1,435	3,586,615	
1997	3,063				
All Cotton					
Year	Area		Yield per Acre	Production	Cottonseed
	Planted	Harvested			
	----- 1,000 Acres -----		Pounds	1,000 Bales	1,000 Tons
1988	12,514.8	11,948.2	619	15,411.5	6,061.8
1989	10,586.6	9,537.7	614	12,195.6	4,677.4
1990	12,348.1	11,731.6	634	15,505.4	5,968.5
1991	14,052.1	12,959.5	652	17,614.3	6,925.5
1992	13,240.0	11,123.3	700	16,218.5	6,230.1
1993	13,438.3	12,783.3	606	16,133.6	6,343.2
1994	13,720.1	13,322.3	708	19,662.0	7,603.9
1995	16,931.4	16,006.7	537	17,899.8	6,848.7
1996	14,665.5	12,833.4	709	18,951.4	7,271.3
1997	14,484.5				

See footnotes at end of table.

--continued

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production,
United States, 1988-97 1/ (continued)

All Hay				
Year	Area Harvested		Yield per Acre	Production
	1,000 Acres		Tons	1,000 Tons
1988	64,771		1.94	125,736
1989	62,722		2.31	144,706
1990	61,030		2.40	146,212
1991	61,834		2.46	152,073
1992	58,903		2.49	146,903
1993	59,679		2.46	146,799
1994	58,735		2.55	150,060
1995	59,629		2.59	154,166
1996	61,029		2.45	149,457
1997 3/	61,514			

Dry Edible Beans				
	Area Planted	Area Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production
	1,000 Acres		Pounds	1,000 Cwt
1988	1,485.4	1,353.0	1,423	19,253
1989	1,824.6	1,650.9	1,437	23,729
1990	2,177.6	2,084.4	1,553	32,379
1991	1,964.1	1,913.7	1,764	33,765
1992	1,640.6	1,529.9	1,478	22,615
1993	1,871.9	1,622.0	1,351	21,913
1994	2,015.8	1,835.2	1,582	29,028
1995	2,069.3	1,899.3	1,622	30,812
1996	1,813.0	1,717.7	1,592	27,354
1997	1,914.4			

See footnotes at end of table.

--continued

Crop Summary: Area Planted and Harvested, Yield, and Production,
United States, 1988-97 1/ (continued)

Sweet Potatoes				
Year	Area		Yield	Production
	Planted	Harvested	per Acre	
	----- 1,000 Acres -----		Cwt	1,000 Cwt
1988	89.1	85.5	128	10,945
1989	89.5	86.0	132	11,358
1990	93.9	89.5	141	12,594
1991	81.2	77.8	144	11,203
1992	85.9	82.4	146	12,005
1993	83.1	80.2	138	11,053
1994	86.1	82.8	162	13,395
1995	87.4	83.6	154	12,906
1996	89.3	85.1	160	13,605
1997	87.6			

Tobacco				
	Area	Yield per	Production	
	Harvested	Acre		
	1,000 Acres	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	
1988	634.0	2,160	1,369,500	
1989	678.2	2,016	1,367,188	
1990	733.3	2,218	1,626,380	
1991	763.7	2,179	1,664,372	
1992	784.4	2,195	1,721,671	
1993	746.4	2,161	1,613,319	
1994	671.1	2,359	1,582,896	
1995	663.1	1,913	1,268,538	
1996	733.9	2,133	1,565,447	
1997 3/	807.5			

Sugarbeets				
Year	Area		Yield	Production
	Planted	Harvested	per Acre	
	----- 1,000 Acres -----		Tons	1,000 Tons
1988	1,327.2	1,300.7	19.1	24,810
1989	1,324.4	1,294.5	19.4	25,131
1990	1,400.4	1,377.2	20.0	27,513
1991	1,427.4	1,386.7	20.3	28,203
1992	1,436.7	1,411.5	20.6	29,143
1993	1,437.7	1,409.4	18.6	26,249
1994	1,475.8	1,443.0	22.1	31,853
1995	1,444.6	1,420.1	19.8	28,065
1996	1,367.7	1,322.9	20.1	26,570
1997	1,454.9			

1/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

2/ Includes area planted in preceding fall.

3/ Intended for harvest in 1997.

Corn: Area Planted by State and United States, 1995-97

State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 1/	1997/1996
	1,000 Acres			Percent
AL	250	310	300	97
AZ	30	55	70	127
AR	95	240	220	92
CA	435	480	490	102
CO	950	1,050	1,150	110
CT	37	38	36	95
DE	145	155	175	113
FL	100	140	140	100
GA	400	580	550	95
ID	95	100	110	110
IL	10,200	11,000	11,200	102
IN	5,400	5,600	5,900	105
IA	11,700	12,700	12,500	98
KS	2,150	2,500	2,600	104
KY	1,280	1,300	1,400	108
LA	230	535	600	112
ME	31	33	32	97
MD	450	530	530	100
MA	30	32	30	94
MI	2,450	2,650	2,600	98
MN	6,700	7,500	7,300	97
MS	300	630	550	87
MO	1,650	2,750	2,900	105
MT	55	55	53	96
NE	8,000	8,500	8,600	101
NH	17	17	17	100
NJ	98	110	112	102
NM	123	130	135	104
NY	1,100	1,150	1,150	100
NC	800	1,000	950	95
ND	700	900	1,100	122
OH	3,300	2,900	3,800	131
OK	155	200	210	105
OR	46	65	45	69
PA	1,380	1,450	1,500	103
RI	3	2	2	100
SC	290	400	340	85
SD	2,800	4,000	4,200	105
TN	640	770	730	95
TX	2,100	2,100	2,100	100
UT	68	65	67	103
VT	87	95	97	102
VA	430	450	500	111
WA	150	170	160	94
WV	65	65	70	108
WI	3,650	3,900	4,000	103
WY	80	85	95	112
US	71,245	79,487	81,416	102

1/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Sorghum: Area Planted by State and United States, 1995-97

State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 1/	1997/1996
	1,000 Acres			Percent
AL	12	14	14	100
AR	200	230	210	91
CO	200	290	250	86
GA	55	65	65	100
IL	180	230	200	87
KS	3,300	4,800	3,800	79
KY	25	26	10	38
LA	87	155	150	97
MS	45	75	50	67
MO	520	600	500	83
NE	1,250	1,250	1,000	80
NM	230	250	235	94
NC	15	19	20	105
OK	350	520	520	100
SC	15	10	6	60
SD	250	230	220	96
TN	20	24	15	63
TX	2,700	4,400	3,600	82
US	9,454	13,188	10,865	82

1/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Oats: Area Planted and Harvested by State
and United States, 1995-97 1/

State	Area Planted				Area Harvested			
	1995	1996	1997 2/	% of 1996	1995	1996	1997 2/	% of 1996
	1,000 Acres		Percent		1,000 Acres		Percent	
AL	50	40	45	113	23	20	23	115
AR	20	30	20	67	18	25	18	72
CA	350	300	300	100	30	30	30	100
CO	95	80	75	94	33	35	30	86
GA	75	70	80	114	35	35	45	129
ID	90	60	90	150	20	25	30	120
IL	500	90	90	100	80	70	70	100
IN	90	40	50	125	30	25	35	140
IA	750	285	340	119	225	190	230	121
KS	130	130	140	108	80	80	80	100
ME	30	31	31	100	27	28	28	100
MD	8	9	10	111	6	7	8	114
MI	110	70	80	114	90	60	70	117
MN	625	320	400	125	375	270	350	130
MO	45	52	55	106	29	29	33	114
MT	145	100	140	140	80	50	60	120
NE	155	165	130	79	90	105	95	90
NY	110	90	95	106	90	75	85	113
NC	60	50	55	110	30	20	20	100
ND	650	530	700	132	450	380	500	132
OH	120	120	130	108	100	90	110	122
OK	60	50	70	140	20	20	35	175
OR	75	80	75	94	35	35	38	109
PA	190	160	180	113	160	135	155	115
SC	55	50	50	100	35	30	30	100
SD	350	450	550	122	250	360	450	125
TX	650	650	630	97	120	100	130	130
UT	50	45	50	111	9	9	9	100
WA	32	28	30	107	14	14	15	107
WV	8	6	6	100	5	3	3	100
WI	590	430	540	126	340	300	380	127
WY	68	50	55	110	33	32	30	94
US	6,336	4,661	5,292	114	2,962	2,687	3,225	120

1/ Includes area planted in preceding fall.

2/ Intended area planted, to be planted, and harvested for 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

All Wheat: Area Planted by State and United States, 1995-97 1/

State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 2/	1997/1996
	----- 1,000 Acres -----			Percent
AL	120	110	145	132
AZ	125	180	110	61
AR	1,100	1,300	880	68
CA	650	780	640	82
CO	2,940	3,070	3,165	103
DE	70	80	80	100
FL	20	13	17	131
GA	350	400	400	100
ID	1,410	1,620	1,520	94
IL	1,480	1,650	1,150	70
IN	700	850	700	82
IA	50	60	35	58
KS	11,700	11,800	11,400	97
KY	650	700	700	100
LA	100	140	130	93
MD	230	235	220	94
MI	630	700	580	83
MN	2,298	2,595	2,560	99
MS	180	245	220	90
MO	1,350	1,600	1,100	69
MT	5,720	6,630	6,070	92
NE	2,150	2,300	2,000	87
NV	12	21	19	90
NJ	36	46	35	76
NM	460	470	430	91
NY	130	160	140	88
NC	720	630	750	119
ND	11,290	12,680	10,340	82
OH	1,230	1,400	1,250	89
OK	6,900	7,000	6,800	97
OR	980	990	1,000	101
PA	190	195	180	92
SC	300	280	300	107
SD	2,883	4,325	3,930	91
TN	600	620	560	90
TX	5,800	6,000	6,000	100
UT	173	205	200	98
VA	300	300	280	93
WA	2,700	2,800	2,700	96
WV	15	14	13	93
WI	155	157	153	97
WY	235	288	285	99
US	69,132	75,639	69,187	91

1/ Includes area planted in preceding fall.

2/ Plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Winter Wheat: Area Planted by State and United States, 1995-97 1/

State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 2/	1997/1996
	1,000 Acres			Percent
AL	120	110	145	132
AZ	25	15	10	67
AR	1,100	1,300	880	68
CA	580	640	510	80
CO	2,900	3,000	3,100	103
DE	70	80	80	100
FL	20	13	17	131
GA	350	400	400	100
ID	830	900	920	102
IL	1,480	1,650	1,150	70
IN	700	850	700	82
IA	50	60	35	58
KS	11,700	11,800	11,400	97
KY	650	700	700	100
LA	100	140	130	93
MD	230	235	220	94
MI	630	700	580	83
MN	35	35	55	157
MS	180	245	220	90
MO	1,350	1,600	1,100	69
MT	1,500	2,150	1,750	81
NE	2,150	2,300	2,000	87
NV	5	10	12	120
NJ	36	46	35	76
NM	460	470	430	91
NY	130	160	140	88
NC	720	630	750	119
ND	40	80	40	50
OH	1,230	1,400	1,250	89
OK	6,900	7,000	6,800	97
OR	860	880	870	99
PA	190	195	180	92
SC	300	280	300	107
SD	1,600	2,000	1,650	83
TN	600	620	560	90
TX	5,800	6,000	6,000	100
UT	145	175	170	97
VA	300	300	280	93
WA	2,250	2,400	2,250	94
WV	15	14	13	93
WI	145	145	145	100
WY	210	255	250	98
US	48,686	51,983	48,227	93

1/ Includes area planted in preceding fall.

2/ Plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Durum Wheat: Area Planted by State and United States, 1995-97 1/

State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 2/	1997/1996
	1,000 Acres			Percent
AZ	100	165	100	61
CA	70	140	130	93
MN	13	10	5	50
MT	270	280	320	114
ND	2,950	3,000	2,600	87
SD	33	25	30	120
US	3,436	3,620	3,185	88

1/ Includes area planted in preceding fall in AZ and CA.

2/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Other Spring Wheat: Area Planted by State and United States, 1995-97

State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 1/	1997/1996
	1,000 Acres			Percent
CO	40	70	65	93
ID	580	720	600	83
MN	2,250	2,550	2,500	98
MT	3,950	4,200	4,000	95
NV	7	11	7	64
ND	8,300	9,600	7,700	80
OR	120	110	130	118
SD	1,250	2,300	2,250	98
UT	28	30	30	100
WA	450	400	450	113
WI	10	12	8	67
WY	25	33	35	106
US	17,010	20,036	17,775	89

1/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Barley: Area Planted by State and United States, 1995-97 1/

State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 2/	1997/1996
	1,000 Acres			Percent
AZ	25	55	80	145
CA	260	280	230	82
CO	110	100	95	95
DE	40	25	40	160
ID	780	750	790	105
KS	10	13	11	85
KY	18	22	20	91
MD	65	55	55	100
MI	25	28	22	79
MN	610	550	600	109
MT	1,300	1,300	1,350	104
NE	8	20	10	50
NV	6	6	6	100
NJ	5	3	5	167
NC	35	25	20	80
ND	2,300	2,650	2,450	92
OK	6	6	8	133
OR	105	160	150	94
PA	80	80	80	100
SC	6	5	4	80
SD	180	160	180	113
TX	15	16	10	63
UT	100	110	105	95
VA	100	90	80	89
WA	300	450	450	100
WI	100	90	80	89
WY	100	125	110	88
US	6,689	7,174	7,041	98

1/ Includes area planted in preceding fall.

2/ Intended plantings for 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Soybeans: Area Planted by State and United States, 1995-97

State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 1/	1997/1996
	1,000 Acres			Percent
AL	240	330	350	106
AR	3,450	3,550	3,800	107
DE	235	220	200	91
FL	30	35	45	129
GA	320	400	430	108
IL	9,750	9,900	10,200	103
IN	5,000	5,400	5,200	96
IA	9,300	9,500	10,100	106
KS	2,100	2,050	2,300	112
KY	1,170	1,200	1,250	104
LA	1,070	1,100	1,350	123
MD	550	490	510	104
MI	1,500	1,650	1,700	103
MN	5,900	5,950	6,400	108
MS	1,850	1,800	2,000	111
MO	4,600	4,100	4,500	110
NE	3,100	3,050	3,700	121
NJ	140	120	135	113
NC	1,150	1,250	1,350	108
ND	660	850	1,150	135
OH	4,050	4,500	4,300	96
OK	290	300	320	107
PA	320	290	320	110
SC	550	560	600	107
SD	2,550	2,700	3,400	126
TN	1,130	1,200	1,300	108
TX	250	290	380	131
VA	490	500	510	102
WI	830	920	1,000	109
US	62,575	64,205	68,800	107

1/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Rice: Area Planted by Class, State,
and United States, 1995-97

Class and State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 1/	1997/1996
	1,000 Acres			Percent
Long Grain				
AR	1,148.0	918.0	928.0	101
CA	8.0	5.0	6.0	120
LA	460.0	465.0	510.0	110
MS	290.0	210.0	250.0	119
MO	119.0	92.0	90.0	98
TX	310.0	290.0	283.0	98
US	2,335.0	1,980.0	2,067.0	104
Medium Grain				
AR	200.0	260.0	270.0	104
CA	449.0	484.0	456.0	94
LA	115.0	70.0	60.0	86
TX	10.0	10.0	7.0	70
US	774.0	824.0	793.0	96
Short Grain				
AR	2.0	2.0	2.0	100
CA	10.0	13.0	18.0	138
US	12.0	15.0	20.0	133
All				
AR	1,350.0	1,180.0	1,200.0	102
CA	467.0	502.0	480.0	96
LA	575.0	535.0	570.0	107
MS	290.0	210.0	250.0	119
MO	119.0	92.0	90.0	98
TX	320.0	300.0	290.0	97
US	3,121.0	2,819.0	2,880.0	102

1/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Sunflower: Area Planted by Type, State,
and United States, 1995-97

Varietal Type and State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 1/	1997/1996
	----- 1,000 Acres -----			Percent
Oil				
CO	65	45	50	111
KS	220	235	190	81
MN	360	100	90	90
NE	44	23	23	100
ND	1,250	900	1,200	133
SD	890	640	750	117
TX	21	9	12	133
Oth Sts 2/	61	36	36	100
US	2,911	1,988	2,351	118
Non-Oil				
CO	50	65	70	108
KS	80	50	40	80
MN	80	50	45	90
NE	46	24	32	133
ND	200	280	400	143
SD	70	60	80	133
TX	23	22	28	127
Oth Sts 2/	18	17	17	100
US	567	568	712	125
All				
CO	115	110	120	109
KS	300	285	230	81
MN	440	150	135	90
NE	90	47	55	117
ND	1,450	1,180	1,600	136
SD	960	700	830	119
TX	44	31	40	129
Oth Sts 2/	79	53	53	100
US	3,478	2,556	3,063	120

1/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

2/ 1997 estimates carried forward from 1996. First 1997 estimate will be published in "Acreage" on June 30, 1997.

Flaxseed: Area Planted by State and United States, 1995-97

State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 1/	1997/1996
	1,000 Acres			Percent
MN	10	4	5	125
ND	130	80	175	219
SD	22	10	15	150
Oth Sts 2/	3	2	2	100
US	165	96	197	205

1/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

2/ 1997 estimates carried forward from 1996. First 1997 estimate will be published in "Acreage" on July 30, 1997.

Sweet Potatoes: Area Planted by State and United States, 1995-97

State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 1/	1997/1996
	1,000 Acres			Percent
AL	4.4	4.4	4.2	95
CA	9.6	9.6	9.7	101
GA	2.5	2.1	1.5	71
LA	22.0	22.0	22.0	100
MS	6.2	8.3	8.5	102
NJ	1.5	1.3	1.2	92
NC	33.0	33.0	32.0	97
SC	2.1	2.2	2.1	95
TX	5.6	5.9	6.0	102
VA	0.5	0.5	0.4	80
US	87.4	89.3	87.6	98

1/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Peanuts: Area Planted by State
and United States, 1995-97

State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996 1/	1997 2/	1997/1996
	1,000 Acres			Percent
AL	213.0	191.0	190.0	99
FL	89.0	86.0	90.0	105
GA	595.0	535.0	520.0	97
NM	20.0	16.5	16.5	100
NC	144.0	125.0	130.0	104
OK	100.0	85.0	90.0	106
SC	11.5	10.5	11.0	105
TX	275.0	288.0	270.0	94
VA	90.0	76.0	78.0	103
US	1,537.5	1,413.0	1,395.5	99

- 1/ Any revisions for the 1996 crop will be released in **"Crop Production"** published on April 11, 1997.
- 2/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Dry Edible Beans: Area Planted, by State
and United States, 1995-97 1/

State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 2/	1997/1996
	1,000 Acres			Percent
CA	145.0	128.0	120.0	94
CO	190.0	145.0	145.0	100
ID	110.0	95.0	115.0	121
KS	34.0	28.0	29.0	104
MI	390.0	340.0	320.0	94
MN	190.0	130.0	165.0	127
MT	11.0	10.5	10.0	95
NE	225.0	205.0	195.0	95
NM	12.5	12.0	12.0	100
NY	34.0	30.0	35.0	117
ND	600.0	580.0	650.0	112
OR	10.2	9.2	11.0	120
TX	25.0	13.0	20.0	154
UT	7.3	5.0	6.8	136
WA	41.0	37.0	37.0	100
WI	9.3	8.3	8.6	104
WY	35.0	37.0	35.0	95
US	2,069.3	1,813.0	1,914.4	106

1/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

2/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

All Hay: Area Harvested by State and United States, 1995-97

State	Area Harvested			
	1995	1996	1997 1/	1997/1996
	1,000 Acres			Percent
AL	720	730	720	99
AZ	195	179	200	112
AR	1,050	1,150	1,200	104
CA	1,470	1,450	1,350	93
CO	1,360	1,440	1,450	101
CT	73	80	85	106
DE	11	15	15	100
FL	230	240	230	96
GA	600	600	580	97
ID	1,400	1,280	1,300	102
IL	1,050	1,000	1,050	105
IN	720	725	750	103
IA	1,700	1,700	1,700	100
KS	2,600	2,500	2,750	110
KY	2,400	2,400	2,500	104
LA	310	310	310	100
ME	225	185	210	114
MD	205	220	225	102
MA	100	95	95	100
MI	1,350	1,300	1,300	100
MN	2,275	2,225	2,250	101
MS	725	800	800	100
MO	3,300	3,680	3,850	105
MT	2,400	2,600	2,700	104
NE	3,150	3,250	3,250	100
NV	490	490	490	100
NH	68	67	55	82
NJ	130	120	120	100
NM	350	355	365	103
NY	1,600	1,510	1,550	103
NC	530	540	550	102
ND	2,700	2,900	2,900	100
OH	1,250	1,200	1,250	104
OK	2,200	2,690	2,600	97
OR	1,100	1,070	1,100	103
PA	1,910	1,880	1,900	101
RI	7	8	9	113
SC	300	280	290	104
SD	4,300	4,300	4,300	100
TN	1,750	1,790	1,790	100
TX	3,760	4,350	4,000	92
UT	695	705	705	100
VT	300	250	250	100
VA	1,250	1,280	1,280	100
WA	760	800	820	103
WV	560	570	570	100
WI	2,700	2,500	2,500	100
WY	1,300	1,220	1,250	102
US	59,629	61,029	61,514	101

1/ Intended area harvested in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Cotton: Area Planted by Type, State,
and United States, 1995-97

Type and State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 1/	1997/1996
	----- 1,000 Acres -----			Percent
Upland				
AL	590.0	540.0	550.0	102
AZ	365.0	315.0	335.0	106
AR	1,170.0	1,000.0	970.0	97
CA	1,170.0	1,000.0	900.0	90
FL	110.0	100.0	95.0	95
GA	1,500.0	1,350.0	1,400.0	104
KS	3.8	4.5	12.5	278
LA	1,085.0	890.0	670.0	75
MS	1,460.0	1,120.0	1,100.0	98
MO	462.0	390.0	420.0	108
NM	61.0	60.0	62.0	103
NC	805.0	721.0	700.0	97
OK	380.0	290.0	180.0	62
SC	348.0	284.0	300.0	106
TN	700.0	540.0	540.0	100
TX	6,400.0	5,700.0	5,900.0	104
VA	107.0	103.0	105.0	102
US	16,716.8	14,407.5	14,239.5	99
Amer-Pima				
AZ	48.6	42.0	24.0	57
CA	115.0	165.0	175.0	106
NM	15.0	14.0	14.0	100
TX	36.0	37.0	32.0	86
US	214.6	258.0	245.0	95
All				
AL	590.0	540.0	550.0	102
AZ	413.6	357.0	359.0	101
AR	1,170.0	1,000.0	970.0	97
CA	1,285.0	1,165.0	1,075.0	92
FL	110.0	100.0	95.0	95
GA	1,500.0	1,350.0	1,400.0	104
KS	3.8	4.5	12.5	278
LA	1,085.0	890.0	670.0	75
MS	1,460.0	1,120.0	1,100.0	98
MO	462.0	390.0	420.0	108
NM	76.0	74.0	76.0	103
NC	805.0	721.0	700.0	97
OK	380.0	290.0	180.0	62
SC	348.0	284.0	300.0	106
TN	700.0	540.0	540.0	100
TX	6,436.0	5,737.0	5,932.0	103
VA	107.0	103.0	105.0	102
US	16,931.4	14,665.5	14,484.5	99

1/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Tobacco: Area Harvested by State and United States, 1995-97

State	Area Harvested			
	1995	1996	1997 1/	1997/1996
	Acres			Percent
CT	1,990	2,100	2,340	111
FL	7,200	7,500	7,700	103
GA	42,000	46,000	44,000	96
IN	6,700	7,600	8,900	117
KY	166,200	200,900	230,900	115
MD	8,500	8,000	8,000	100
MA	515	770	860	112
MO	2,700	2,800	3,200	114
NC	261,100	283,300	314,000	111
OH	7,700	8,300	9,500	114
PA	7,900	7,800	7,600	97
SC	50,000	51,000	56,000	110
TN	51,690	54,530	57,770	106
VA	44,170	48,870	52,270	107
WV	2,000	1,900	1,900	100
WI	2,760	2,550	2,550	100
US	663,125	733,920	807,490	110.0

1/ Intended area harvested in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Tobacco: Area Harvested by Class, Type, State,
and United States, 1995-97

Class and Type	Area Harvested		
	1995	1996	1997 1/
	Acres		
Class 1, Flue-cured			
Type 11, Old Belts			
NC	68,000	80,600	86,000
VA	34,000	37,700	40,000
US	102,000	118,300	126,000
Type 12, Eastern NC Belt			
NC	151,000	160,000	181,000
Type 13, NC Border & SC Belt			
NC	34,000	34,400	38,000
SC	50,000	51,000	56,000
US	84,000	85,400	94,000
Type 14, GA-FL Belt			
FL	7,200	7,500	7,700
GA	42,000	46,000	44,000
US	49,200	53,500	51,700
Total 11-14	386,200	417,200	452,700
Class 2, Fire-cured			
Type 21, VA Belt			
VA	1,100	1,100	1,200
Type 22, Eastern District			
KY	3,900	3,900	3,900
TN	7,600	7,500	7,700
US	11,500	11,400	11,600
Type 23, Western District			
KY	3,700	3,700	3,700
TN	580	560	580
US	4,280	4,260	4,280
Total 21-23	16,880	16,760	17,080
Class 3, Air-cured			
Class 3A, Light Air-cured			
Type 31, Burley			
IN	6,700	7,600	8,900
KY	155,000	190,000	220,000
MO	2,700	2,800	3,200
NC	8,100	8,300	9,000
OH	7,700	8,300	9,500
TN	43,000	46,000	49,000
VA	9,000	10,000	11,000
WV	2,000	1,900	1,900
US	234,200	274,900	312,500
Type 32, Southern MD Belt			
MD	8,500	8,000	8,000
PA	3,400	3,200	3,000
US	11,900	11,200	11,000
Total 31-32	246,100	286,100	323,500

See footnotes at end of table.

--continued

Tobacco: Area Harvested by Class, Type, State,
and United States, 1995-97

Class and Type	Area Harvested		
	1995	1996	1997 1/
Acres			
Class 3, Air-cured			
Class 3B, Dark			
Air-cured			
Type 35, One Sucker			
Belt			
KY	2,300	2,100	2,100
TN	510	470	490
US	2,810	2,570	2,590
Type 36, Green River			
Belt			
KY	1,300	1,200	1,200
Type 37, VA Sun-cured			
Belt			
VA	70	70	70
Total 35-37	4,180	3,840	3,860
Class 4, Cigar Filler			
Type 41, PA Seedleaf			
PA	4,500	4,600	4,600
Class 5, Cigar Binder			
Class 5A, CT Valley			
Binder			
Type 51, CT Valley			
Broadleaf			
CT	1,000	1,080	1,240
MA	240	380	470
US	1,240	1,460	1,710
Class 5B, WI Binder			
Type 54, Southern WI			
WI	1,900	1,800	1,800
Type 55, Northern WI			
WI	860	750	750
Total 54-55	2,760	2,550	2,550
Total 51-55	4,000	4,010	4,260
Class 6, Cigar Wrapper			
Type 61, CT Valley			
Shade-grown			
CT	990	1,020	1,100
MA	275	390	390
US	1,265	1,410	1,490
All Cigar Types			
Total 41-61	9,765	10,020	10,350
All Tobacco	663,125	733,920	807,490

1/ Intended area harvested in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.

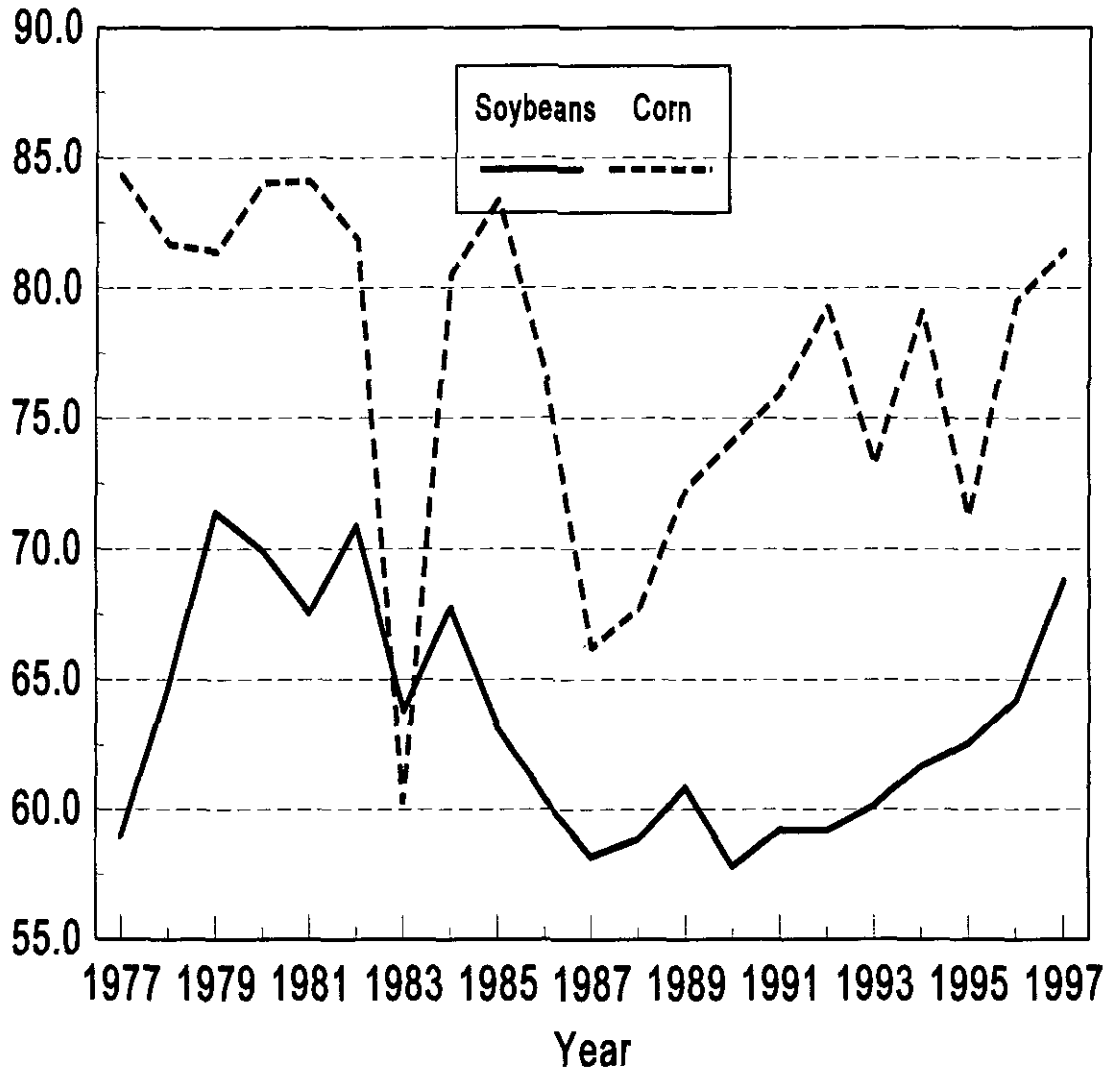
Sugarbeets: Area Planted by State and United States, 1995-97 1/

State	Area Planted			
	1995	1996	1997 2/	1997/1996
	1,000 Acres			Percent
CA	116.0	84.0	95.0	113
CO	42.8	54.8	68.5	125
ID	198.0	187.0	197.0	105
MI	190.0	153.0	170.0	111
MN	427.0	441.0	450.0	102
MT	55.7	57.7	60.3	105
NE	75.9	55.8	66.4	119
NM		1.1	2.2	200
ND	207.0	226.6	230.0	102
OH	16.3	4.4	0	0
OR	18.4	17.2	17.0	99
TX	20.2	14.1	18.0	128
WA		13.0	18.5	142
WY	63.0	58.0	62.0	107
Oth Sts 3/	14.3			
US	1,444.6	1,367.7	1,454.9	106.4

- 1/ Relates to year of intended harvest except for overwintered spring planted beets in CA.
 2/ Intended plantings in 1997 as indicated by reports from farmers.
 3/ Includes NM and WA prior to 1996.

U.S. Corn and Soybean Planted Acreage

Million Acres



Corn: Growers intend to plant 81.4 million acres of corn for all purposes in 1997, up 2 percent from last year and 14 percent above 1995.

Expected acreage is up in most of the corn belt with the exceptions of Minnesota, Iowa and Michigan. A wet spring in 1996 led corn growers in Indiana and Ohio to switch to soybeans last year and farmers intend to plant this acreage back to corn in 1997. Acreage in the Southeast is expected to decrease due to increased soybean acreage.

Sorghum: Growers intend to plant 10.9 million acres for all purposes during 1997. This is down 18 percent from last year, but 15 percent above the 1995 total. Acreage declines in most of the major producing States was the main reason for the overall reduction. Last year, a substantial amount of sorghum acreage was planted in abandoned wheat ground or in areas where it had been too dry to plant other crops. Intentions for 1997 reflect returning to a level more consistent with the 1993-1995 plantings. Kansas and Texas showed the largest decreases from 1996, down one million and 800,000 acres, respectively.

Oats: Producers plan to seed or have seeded 5.29 million acres of oats for 1997, up 14 percent from the record low 4.66 million acres seeded in 1996. However, even if all planting intentions are met, 1997 would still be the second lowest acreage seeded to oats on record since 1866. Oat planting intentions are up significantly due to high prices and the rebuilding of hay stocks after the severe winter in the upper-Midwest.

Growers intend to harvest 3.23 million acres for grain in 1997, up 20 percent from 2.69 million acres harvested for grain last year. If realized, this would be the third least acreage harvested for grain on record.

Winter Wheat: Seeded area for this year remains at 48.2 million acres, off 7 percent from 1996. Of the total, about 34.1 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 10.0 are Soft Red and 4.2 are White winter. Early March condition ratings in last year's drought affected Hard Red area ranged from fair-to-good to mostly good. Dryland wheat in the Oklahoma and Texas Panhandles needed rain. As of March 23, jointing progress was well ahead of last year in Kansas and Oklahoma; about 3 percent of the Texas acreage is headed.

Durum Wheat: Seeded area for 1997 should total 3.19 million acres, down 12 percent from 1996. Reduced prices, along with insect and disease problems have curbed North Dakota intentions. Conversely, ample moisture and better marketing potential spurred planting intentions in Montana. Arizona and California seeding continued into February. California's Imperial Valley growers planted more acres than originally intended.

Other Spring Wheat: Producers plan to seed 17.8 million acres this year, down 11 percent from last year's high level, but 4 percent more than in 1995. About 16.8 million of the prospective acres are Hard Red Spring and White Spring would be about 910,000 acres. Only Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming growers plan spring acreage equal to, or exceeding a year ago. Strong Hard Red Spring prices fostered increases in Montana and North Dakota's acreage last year; acreage that would have been summer fallowed got seeded. This year, downward price pressure has reduced the chances of repeating this practice. Lower prices have also lowered planting intentions in Idaho. Above normal snowpack and flooding potential in the main growing region have clouded South Dakota farmers spring wheat plans.

Barley: Growers intend to seed 7.04 million acres for 1997, down 2 percent from the 7.17 million acres seeded a year ago. Acreage declines in North Dakota, California, and Wyoming more than offset increases in Montana, Idaho, and Minnesota. Adequate to surplus snowfall across the northern half of the United States is expected to provide sufficient moisture for spring plantings. Field preparations were underway in Washington, as conditions permitted.

Soybeans: Soybean growers intend to plant 68.8 million acres for 1997, up 7 percent from 1996 and 10 percent above 1995. Of the 29 soybean producing states, 26 intend to plant more acres than last year, while only 3 states show a decline.

Growers in North Dakota intend to plant 250,000 more soybean acres, up 35 percent from 1996, the largest increase for soybean estimating states. Indiana and Ohio are the only two major producing states intending to plant fewer acres, both down 4 percent from last year. Plantings are expected to increase significantly across all of the southeastern states.

Rice: Growers intend to plant 2.88 million acres in 1997, an increase of 2 percent from 1996, but 8 percent below 1995's planted area. Long grain acreage is up 4 percent from last year, medium grain acreage is down 4 percent, and short grain acreage is up 33 percent. Prospective plantings in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi increased over a year ago, while California, Missouri, and Texas anticipate a decrease from 1996.

Sunflower: Sunflower growers intend to plant 3.06 million acres of sunflower for 1997, up 20 percent from the previous year. The total consists of 2.35 million acres of Oil types and 712,000 acres of non-oil types.

North Dakota growers show the largest increase in intended plantings at 1.60 million acres, up 36 percent from last year. Growers in Kansas and Minnesota intend to plant fewer acres than in 1996, down 19 percent and 10 percent respectively.

Flaxseed: Plantings in 1997 are expected to total 197,000 acres, compared to 96,000 acres in 1996. Planted acres are expected to increase significantly in all 3 major producing states.

Sweet Potatoes: Growers intend to plant 87,600 acres of sweet potatoes this year, down 2 percent from last year but up slightly from two years ago. Decreased acreage is expected in Alabama, Georgia, and up the Atlantic Coast. California, Mississippi, and Texas are looking for moderate planting increases, while Louisiana acreage should be about the same as last year.

Good weather in California has allowed planting to go ahead of schedule. Texas planting is late because of wet fields, but the presence of ample moisture bodes well for early crop progress. The Delta States are wet and late also, as farmers are tending slips in the greenhouses in preparation for transplanting. North Carolina plantings are expected to be down from last year because of low profits on recent crops. New Jersey, South Carolina, and Virginia growers look for smaller acres this year than last.

Peanuts: Producers intend to plant 1.40 million acres of peanuts in 1997, down 1 percent from the 1996 planted acreage of 1.41 million acres and 9 percent below the 1995 level.

Southeast growers (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina) expect to plant 811,000 acres, down 1 percent from 1996 and 10 percent below 1995.

In the Virginia-North Carolina region, producers intend to plant 208,000 acres of peanuts this year. This represents a 3 percent increase from 1996 but 11 percent less than 1995.

Growers in the Southwest (New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) intend to plant 376,500 acres or 3 percent less than last year and 5 percent below the 1995 level.

Dry Beans: Farmers intend to plant 1.91 million acres of dry beans in 1997, up 6 percent from last year but 7 percent below 1995. Growers in nearly all producing States are planning for more acres of dry beans than last year. However, planting of dry beans is two to three months away, and plans could easily change during that time.

In the major producing states, North Dakota farmers expect 1997 acreage of dry beans to be up 12 percent from last year. Minnesota and Idaho producers expect a 27 percent and 21 percent increase, respectively.

Growers in California, Michigan and Nebraska plan to reduce their dry bean acreage from last year, while Colorado's acreage is expected to be unchanged from 1996.

Elsewhere in the United States, acreage is expected above 1996 levels in Kansas, New York, Oregon, Texas, Utah and Wisconsin and below last year in Montana and Wyoming. Planted acres in New Mexico and Washington are expected to be at 1996 levels.

Adequate moisture, in some cases snow, and recent strong prices for the 1996 crop have many growers looking favorably on dry beans, except in Michigan and Colorado. In Michigan, there were record stocks of some classes in late 1996 and high soybean prices. In southwestern Colorado, some producers are wary of another drought similar to conditions in 1996. Anticipated higher prices for dry beans compared with recent wheat and potato prices make dry beans a good alternative for Idaho farmers. Some Texas producers will consider dry beans if other crops fail.

All Hay: Producers expect to harvest 61.5 million acres of hay in 1997, up 1 percent from 1996. Acreage increases were widespread across the United States with the main exceptions being California, the Southern Plain States, and the Southeast States. States anticipating increases cite the previous year's low production, tight hay supplies, and high prices as the main reasons for the expected rise in harvested acreage. The expected decrease in California is a result of substantial flood damage in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys during the Winter. Although the demand for hay in Texas is currently high, expectations are for an 8 percent reduction from the record level in 1996. A mild winter, lower cattle numbers, and adequate hay supplies were the driving forces behind expected declines in Alabama, Georgia, and Florida.

Cotton: Area planted to all cotton for 1997 is expected to total 14.5 million acres, 1 percent below 1996 plantings, and 14 percent less than 1995's planted area. Upland acreage is expected to total 14.2 million acres, down 1 percent from last year, and 15 percent below 2 years ago. Growers intend to decrease their plantings of American-Pima cotton to 245,000 acres, down 5 percent from last year, but 14 percent above the 1995 level.

Upland growers in the Delta States (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee) intend to plant 3.70 million acres. This is a 6 percent decrease from 1996, and down 24 percent from two years ago.

Texas and Oklahoma producers' planting intentions total 6.08 million acres, a 2 percent increase from 1996. Planting began in Texas' southern areas, but wet conditions are causing some delays.

The Southeast States (Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina), intend to plant 2.95 million acres in 1997, an increase of 2 percent.

Upland planted acreage in the Western States (Arizona, California, and New Mexico) is expected to total 1.30 million acres, 6 percent less than 1996's level, and 19 percent below the 1995 acreage. Arizona again approved early planting dates this year in an attempt to lessen the effects of whitefly on the crop, and producers had seeded 10 percent of their acreage in mid-March. In California, State water project allocations are expected to be 100 percent again this year. Plantings were underway in the Desert areas in late February, and began in the San Joaquin Valley in late March.

Only California producers intend to increase American-Pima acreage in 1997. California anticipates seeding 175,000 acres, 6 percent more than in 1996. Arizona acreage is expected to decrease by 18,000 acres. The Texas acreage is estimated at 32,000 acres, down 5,000 from last year. Planting should begin in April.

Tobacco: Growers intend to harvest 807,490 acres of tobacco in 1997. If these intentions are realized, the area harvested will be 10 percent above 1996. All but 3 tobacco types showed an increase from 1996. Kentucky Green River Dark Air-cured; Pennsylvania Seedleaf; and Southern Wisconsin Binder types remain at the same level as last year. Good tobacco prices for last year's crop and quota increases for the coming year have growers fairly optimistic for the 1997 crop.

Flue-cured growers plan to harvest 452,700 acres, 9 percent above last year, with every State except Georgia showing an increase in acres from last year. Flue-cured tobacco accounts for 56 percent of this year's total tobacco acreage.

Burley tobacco growers expect to harvest 312,500 acres, 14 percent above last year. Kentucky, with 70 percent of the 1997 burley area to be harvested, is 16 percent above a year ago.

Acreage of Maryland type tobacco at 11,000 acres, is expected to be down 2 percent from last year. Wisconsin growers expect to harvest 2,550 acres of binder, unchanged from last year.

Harvested acres of Fire-cured tobacco are up 2 percent from a year ago, and are estimated at 17,080 acres for 1997. Growers of dark air-cured tobacco indicate a 1 percent increase from last year to 3,860 acres for 1997.

Sugarbeets: Area planted to Sugarbeets for 1997 is expected to total 1.45 million acres in the 14 producing States. If growers' intentions are realized, planted acreage will be 6.4 percent above last year.

Ample snowpack in the Colorado and Wyoming mountains should translate into adequate irrigation water supplies for the season. North Dakota could realize a record high acreage if planting intentions are met. Growers in Ohio intend to plant no sugarbeets in 1997 because the major processing plant in the state was shut down.

Reliability of Acreage Data in this Report

Survey Procedures: The acreage estimates in this report are based primarily on a survey conducted the first two weeks of March. The March Acreage Intentions Survey is a probability survey that includes about 55,000 operators selected from a list of producers that ensure all operations in the U.S. have a chance to be selected. These operators were contacted by mail, telephone, or personal interviews, to obtain information on crop acreage plans for the 1997 crop year.

Three basic survey estimates are calculated from the March Intentions Survey. One is called the direct expansion of the reported survey data. The reported acreage for each farm in the sample is multiplied times its chances of being included in the survey. The largest farms are selected with certainty, so their data are multiplied by 1.0. The smallest farms are selected with rates of 1 out of 135. Their data are therefore multiplied by 135.0. The second is a ratio of acreage reported by operators on the March survey to acreage reported by the same operators in 1996 surveys. This provides a measure of change by crop between 1996 and 1997. The direct expansion for the March survey is divided by the direct expansion from the 1996 survey to obtain an additional measure of change. This third estimate utilizes data from all operators reporting on either survey.

Estimating Procedures: National and State data for individual crops were reviewed for reasonableness and consistency with general cultural practices, economic factors, and historic estimates. Each State Statistical Office submits its analysis of the data to the Agricultural Statistics Board for review. Survey data are compiled to the National level and are reviewed at this level independently of each State's review. Acreage estimates were based on survey estimates and the historical relationship of official estimates to survey estimates.

Revision Policy: Acreage estimates in the "Prospective Plantings" report will not be revised. These estimates are intended to reflect grower intentions as of the survey period. New acreage estimates will be made based on surveys conducted in June when crop acreages have been established or planting intentions are firm. These new estimates will be published in the "Acreage" release scheduled for June 30, 1997. Winter wheat is an exception. Since winter wheat acreages were seeded prior to the March survey, any changes in estimates in this report are considered revisions. The estimates of the harvested acreage of winter wheat will be published on May 12, 1997, along with the first production forecast of the crop year. The winter wheat planted and harvested acreage is subject to revisions in the "Acreage" report.

Reliability: The survey used to make acreage estimates is subject to sampling and non-sampling type errors that are common to all surveys. Sampling errors for major crops generally are between 1.0 and 3.0 percent. Sampling errors represent the variability between estimates that would result if many different samples were surveyed at the same time. Sampling errors cannot be applied directly to the acreage published in this report to determine confidence intervals since the official estimates represent a composite of information from more than a single source.

Non-sampling errors cannot be measured directly. They may occur due to incorrect reporting, and/or recording data, omissions or duplications, and errors in processing. To minimize non-sampling errors, rigorous quality controls are used in the data collection process and all data are carefully reviewed for consistency and reasonableness.

In addition to the survey errors discussed above, data users are cautioned that the actual acreage estimates may vary from data included in this report. Growers may change their intentions after the survey because of the effects of weather, availability of production inputs, change in economic conditions prior to planting, and the implications of this report.

A method of evaluating the reliability of acreage estimates in this report is the "**Root Mean Square Error**," a statistical measure based on past performances shown below for selected crops. This is computed by expressing the deviations between the planted acreage estimates and the final estimates as a percent of the final estimates and averaging the squared percentage deviations for the 1977-1996 20-year period; the square root of this average becomes statistically the "Root Mean Square Error." Probability statements can be made concerning expected differences in the current estimates relative to the final estimates assuming that factors affecting this year's estimate are not different than those that occurred during the past 20 years.

For example, the "Root Mean Square Error" for the corn planted estimate is 2.3 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current acreage estimate of 81.4 million acres will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 2.3 percent or approximately 1.87 million acres. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 4.0 percent or approximately 3.26 million acres.

Also, shown in the table is a 10-year record for selected crops of the difference between the "**Prospective Plantings**" planted acres estimates and the final estimates. Using corn again as an example, changes between the intentions estimates and the final estimates during the past 10 years have averaged 1.25 million acres ranging from 167,000 acres to 4.08 million acres. The prospective plantings estimates have been below the final estimate 3 times and above, 7 times. This does not imply that the planted estimate this year is likely to understate or overstate the final estimate.

Reliability of Prospective Plantings Planted Acreage Estimates

Crop	Root Mean Square Error		10 Year Record of Differences Between The Intentions and Final Estimates					
	Percent	90% Confidence Level	Thousand Acres	Average	Small	Large	Below Final	Above Final
Corn	2.3	4.0	3,257	1,250	167	4,078	3	7
Sorghum	7.5	12.9	1,402	770	76	2,562	4	6
Oats	7.6	13.1	693	912	173	2,429	1	9
Barley	5.0	8.7	613	354	68	667	2	8
Spring Wheat	7.7	13.2	2,346	1,027	167	2,549	7	3
Soybeans	3.2	5.5	3,784	1,114	0	2,065	8	1
Upland								
Cotton	5.5	9.5	1,353	332	6	914	4	6

Index

	Page	
	Table	Narrative
Area Planted and Harvested.....	A- 4	
Barley.....	A-17	B- 2
Beans, Dry Edible.....	A-23	B- 3
Corn.....	A-11	B- 1
Cotton.....	A-25	B- 3
Crop Summary.....	A- 2	
Flaxseed.....	A-21	B- 2
Hay.....	A-24	B- 3
Oats.....	A-13	B- 1
Peanuts.....	A-22	B- 2
Rice.....	A-19	B- 2
Sorghum.....	A-12	B- 1
Soybeans.....	A-18	B- 2
Sugarbeets.....	A-29	B- 4
Sunflower.....	A-20	B- 2
Sweet Potatoes.....	A-21	B- 2
Tobacco by States.....	A-26	B- 4
Tobacco by Class and Type.....	A-27	B- 4
Wheat, All.....	A-14	
Wheat, Durum.....	A-16	B- 1
Wheat, Other Spring.....	A-16	B- 1
Wheat, Winter.....	A-15	B- 1

Report Features

The next "Prospective Plantings" report will be released in March 1998.

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information.

C. Ray Halley, Chief	(202) 720-2127
Field Crops Section	
Bill Dowdy, Head	(202) 720-3843
Kevin Barnes - Soybeans, Minor Oilseeds	(202) 720-7369
Rhonda Brandt - Sugar Crops, Weekly Crop Weather, Oats	(202) 720-7621
Dan Kerestes - Corn	(202) 720-9526
Roger Latham - Cotton, Cotton Ginnings	(202) 720-5944
Joel Moore - Barley, Hay, Sorghum	(202) 690-3234
Barbara Rater - Peanuts, Rice	(202) 720-7688
Vaughn Siegenthaler - Wheat, Rye	(202) 720-8068
Fruit, Vegetable & Special Crops Section	
Vince Matthews, Head	(202) 720-3843
Arvin Budge - Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes	(202) 720-4285
Dave DeWalt - Citrus, Tropical Fruits	(202) 720-5412
Howard Hill - Cherries, Berries, Prunes, Plums, Cranberries, Grapes, Maple Syrup	(202) 720-7235
Vince Matthews - Nuts, Floriculture	(202) 720-3843
Dave Mueller - Fresh and Processing Vegetables, Onions	(202) 720-2157
Linda Simpson - Noncitrus Fruits, Mint, Dry Beans & Peas, Mushrooms, Hops	(202) 690-0270
Debbie Williams - Apples, Strawberries, Tobacco	(202) 720-4288

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or familial status. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA Office of Communications at (202) 720-2791.

To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, USDA, Washington, D.C., 20250, or call 1-800-245-6340 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!!

For your convenience, there are several ways to obtain NASS reports, data products, and services:

INTERNET ACCESS

All NASS reports are now available free of charge on the worldwide Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select:

1. Worldwide Web: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/> **OR**
2. For Gopher/Telenet/FTP access:
HOST=usda.mannlib.cornell.edu **OR**
3. For a subscription direct to your e-mail address,
send an e-mail message to: usda-reports@usda.mannlib.cornell.edu
and in the body of the message type the word: list

AUTOFAX ACCESS

NASSFax service is available for some reports from your fax machine. Please call 202-720-2000, using the handset attached to your fax. Respond to the voice prompts.

PRINTED REPORTS OR DATA PRODUCTS

CALL OUR TOLL-FREE ORDER DESK: 1-800-999-6779 (U.S. and Canada)
Other areas, please call 1-703-834-0125 FAX: 1-703-834-0110
(Visa, MasterCard, check, or money order acceptable for payment.)

ASSISTANCE

For **assistance** with general agricultural statistics or further information about NASS or its products or services, contact the **Agricultural Statistics HOTLINE** at **1-800-727-9540**, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: **NASS@NASS.USDA.GOV**.
