



Prospective Plantings

ISSN: 1949-159X

Released March 31, 2015, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Corn Planted Acreage Down 2 Percent from 2014 Soybean Acreage Up 1 Percent All Wheat Acreage Down 3 Percent All Cotton Acreage Down 13 Percent

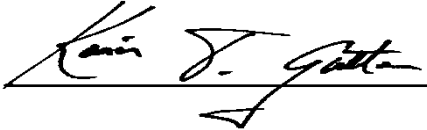
Corn planted area for all purposes in 2015 is estimated at 89.2 million acres, down 2 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the third consecutive year of an acreage decline and would be the lowest planted acreage in the United States since 2010.

Soybean planted area for 2015 is estimated at a record high 84.6 million acres, up 1 percent from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage intentions are up or unchanged in 21 of the 31 major producing States.

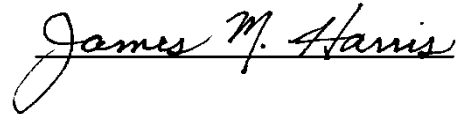
All wheat planted area for 2015 is estimated at 55.4 million acres, down 3 percent from 2014. The 2015 winter wheat planted area, at 40.8 million acres, is down 4 percent from last year but up less than 1 percent from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 29.6 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 7.75 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.43 million acres are White Winter. Area planted to other spring wheat for 2015 is estimated at 13.0 million acres, down slightly from 2014. Of this total, about 12.1 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. The intended Durum planted area for 2015 is estimated at 1.65 million acres, up 18 percent from the previous year.

All cotton planted area for 2015 is estimated at 9.55 million acres, 13 percent below last year. Upland area is estimated at 9.40 million acres, down 13 percent from 2014. American Pima area is estimated at 150,000 acres, down 22 percent from 2014.

This report was approved on March 31, 2015.



Secretary of Agriculture
Designate
Karis T. Gutter



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
James M. Harris

Contents

Corn Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015.....	6
Corn and Soybean Planted Acreage – United States Chart.....	7
Sorghum Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015	7
Oat Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015	8
Barley Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015	9
All Wheat Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015	10
Winter Wheat Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015	11
Durum Wheat Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015	12
Other Spring Wheat Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015.....	12
All Hay Area Harvested – States and United States: 2013-2015.....	13
Rice Area Planted by Class – States and United States: 2013-2015.....	14
Canola Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015.....	14
Soybean Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015	15
Peanut Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015.....	15
Sunflower Area Planted by Type – States and United States: 2013-2015	16
Flaxseed Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015.....	16
Cotton Area Planted by Type – States and United States: 2013-2015.....	17
Sugarbeet Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015.....	18
Tobacco Area Harvested – States and United States: 2013-2015.....	18
Tobacco Area Harvested by Class and Type – States and United States: 2013-2015	19
Dry Edible Bean Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015	20
Chickpea (Garbanzo Bean) Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015	21
Lentil Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015	22
Dry Edible Pea Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015	22
Austrian Winter Pea Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015	22

Spring Potato Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015	23
Sweet Potato Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015	23
Crop Area Planted and Harvested – United States: 2014 and 2015 (Domestic Units)	24
Crop Yield and Production – United States: 2014 and 2015 (Domestic Units)	25
Crop Area Planted and Harvested – United States: 2014 and 2015 (Metric Units)	26
Crop Yield and Production – United States: 2014 and 2015 (Metric Units).....	27
Winter Weather Summary	28
Crop Comments	30
Statistical Methodology.....	33
Reliability of Prospective Plantings Planted Acreage Estimates	34
Information Contacts.....	35

This page intentionally left blank.

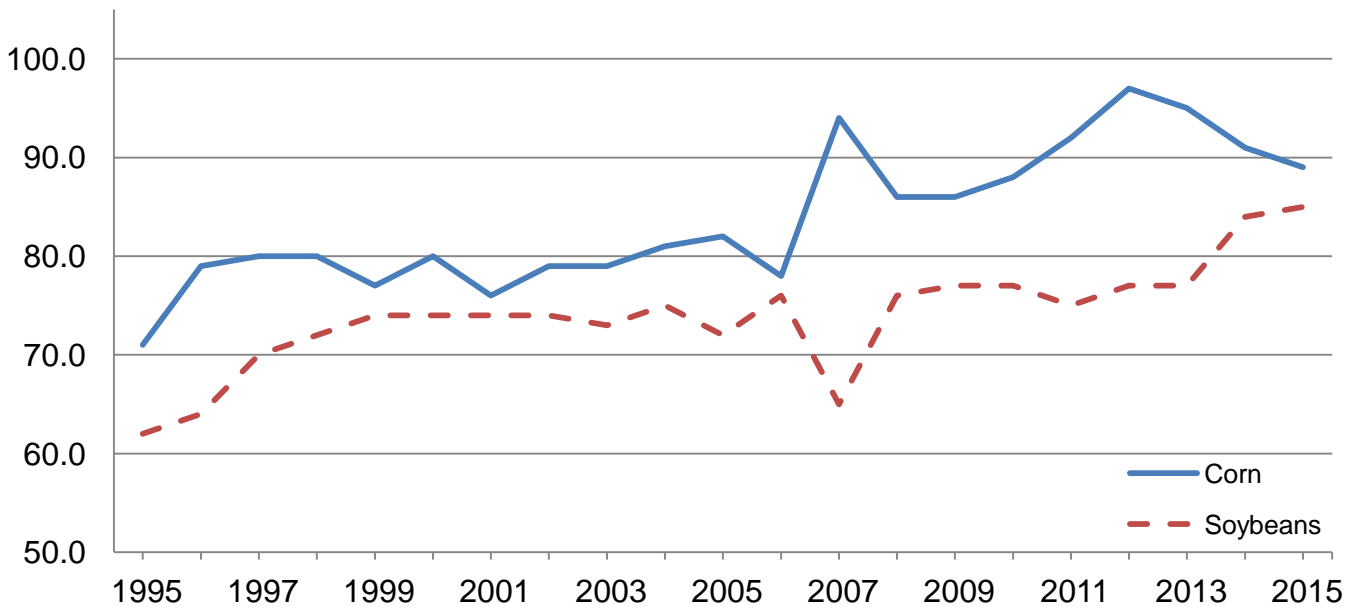
Corn Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Alabama	320	300	270	90
Arizona	85	75	65	87
Arkansas	880	540	530	98
California	600	520	430	83
Colorado	1,220	1,150	1,090	95
Connecticut	27	26	27	104
Delaware	180	175	170	97
Florida	115	75	80	107
Georgia	510	350	305	87
Idaho	350	320	320	100
Illinois	12,000	11,900	11,700	98
Indiana	6,000	5,900	5,800	98
Iowa	13,600	13,700	13,600	99
Kansas	4,300	4,050	4,050	100
Kentucky	1,530	1,520	1,480	97
Louisiana	680	400	450	113
Maine	31	31	31	100
Maryland	480	500	510	102
Massachusetts	16	16	16	100
Michigan	2,600	2,550	2,450	96
Minnesota	8,600	8,200	8,500	104
Mississippi	860	510	570	112
Missouri	3,350	3,500	3,300	94
Montana	120	130	110	85
Nebraska	9,950	9,300	9,300	100
Nevada	7	4	4	100
New Hampshire	14	15	14	93
New Jersey	90	85	92	108
New Mexico	120	125	140	112
New York	1,200	1,140	1,120	98
North Carolina	930	840	870	104
North Dakota	3,850	2,800	2,700	96
Ohio	3,900	3,700	3,500	95
Oklahoma	370	320	330	103
Oregon	80	80	80	100
Pennsylvania	1,480	1,460	1,470	101
Rhode Island	2	2	2	100
South Carolina	350	295	290	98
South Dakota	6,200	5,800	5,200	90
Tennessee	890	920	840	91
Texas	2,350	2,250	2,300	102
Utah	83	75	70	93
Vermont	92	92	90	98
Virginia	510	500	500	100
Washington	190	215	195	91
West Virginia	53	51	48	94
Wisconsin	4,100	4,000	4,100	103
Wyoming	100	90	90	100
United States	95,365	90,597	89,199	98

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Corn and Soybean Planted Acreage - United States

Million acres



Sorghum Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Arizona	33	25	25	100
Arkansas	130	170	250	147
Colorado	400	345	375	109
Georgia	55	40	40	100
Illinois	23	23	40	174
Kansas	3,150	2,850	2,900	102
Louisiana	115	100	75	75
Mississippi	65	110	90	82
Missouri	70	85	200	235
Nebraska	250	210	200	95
New Mexico	125	110	100	91
Oklahoma	320	370	410	111
South Dakota	340	200	195	98
Texas	3,000	2,500	3,000	120
United States	8,076	7,138	7,900	111

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Oat Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

[Includes area planted in preceding fall]

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Alabama	60	50	60	120
Arkansas	11	12	12	100
California	150	110	120	109
Colorado	55	45	45	100
Georgia	50	60	70	117
Idaho	70	70	70	100
Illinois	40	35	40	114
Indiana	20	20	20	100
Iowa	220	145	140	97
Kansas	100	85	95	112
Maine	28	32	30	94
Michigan	50	50	60	120
Minnesota	240	230	280	122
Missouri	30	25	25	100
Montana	50	45	50	111
Nebraska	150	90	125	139
New York	75	55	65	118
North Carolina	35	33	45	136
North Dakota	225	235	250	106
Ohio	50	55	55	100
Oklahoma	60	60	75	125
Oregon	30	30	25	83
Pennsylvania	95	90	95	106
South Carolina	20	21	22	105
South Dakota	260	250	250	100
Texas	450	450	440	98
Utah	40	20	25	125
Virginia	10	10	12	120
Washington	20	25	25	100
Wisconsin	255	255	275	108
Wyoming	31	30	30	100
United States	2,980	2,723	2,931	108

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Barley Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

[Includes area planted in preceding fall]

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Arizona	75	36	23	64
California	95	80	70	88
Colorado	63	57	65	114
Delaware	43	41	37	90
Idaho	650	560	580	104
Kansas	17	16	20	125
Maine	20	13	13	100
Maryland	75	70	50	71
Michigan	10	8	10	125
Minnesota	90	75	90	120
Montana	990	920	920	100
New York	11	12	8	67
North Carolina	19	20	24	120
North Dakota	760	620	900	145
Oregon	63	40	50	125
Pennsylvania	75	70	65	93
South Dakota	37	28	40	143
Utah	40	32	32	100
Virginia	72	56	57	102
Washington	205	115	95	83
Wisconsin	33	26	24	92
Wyoming	85	80	85	106
United States	3,528	2,975	3,258	110

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

All Wheat Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

[Includes area planted in preceding fall]

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year (percent)
	2013 (1,000 acres)	2014 (1,000 acres)	2015 ¹ (1,000 acres)	
Alabama	310	255	210	82
Arizona	87	81	134	165
Arkansas	680	465	390	84
California	690	495	490	99
Colorado	2,310	2,759	2,515	91
Delaware	85	80	75	94
Florida	25	15	25	167
Georgia	430	300	330	110
Idaho	1,321	1,271	1,327	104
Illinois	880	740	600	81
Indiana	460	390	340	87
Iowa	30	26	26	100
Kansas	9,500	9,600	9,400	98
Kentucky	700	630	620	98
Louisiana	265	160	130	81
Maryland	345	340	360	106
Michigan	620	570	530	93
Minnesota	1,227	1,262	1,308	104
Mississippi	400	230	170	74
Missouri	1,080	880	840	95
Montana	5,400	5,985	5,780	97
Nebraska	1,470	1,550	1,600	103
Nevada	31	21	15	71
New Jersey	34	33	30	91
New Mexico	440	380	370	97
New York	125	120	130	108
North Carolina	990	830	750	90
North Dakota	6,105	7,960	7,420	93
Ohio	660	620	550	89
Oklahoma	5,600	5,300	5,400	102
Oregon	880	830	850	102
Pennsylvania	185	185	195	105
South Carolina	280	230	185	80
South Dakota	2,494	2,514	2,725	108
Tennessee	640	530	470	89
Texas	6,300	6,000	5,900	98
Utah	138	130	129	99
Virginia	335	290	260	90
Washington	2,210	2,320	2,380	103
West Virginia	9	10	8	80
Wisconsin	315	295	245	83
Wyoming	150	140	155	111
United States	56,236	56,822	55,367	97

¹ Intended plantings for 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Winter Wheat Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

[Includes area planted in preceding fall]

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Alabama	310	255	210	82
Arizona	12	8	9	113
Arkansas	680	465	390	84
California	620	460	430	93
Colorado	2,300	2,750	2,500	91
Delaware	85	80	75	94
Florida	25	15	25	167
Georgia	430	300	330	110
Idaho	780	780	760	97
Illinois	880	740	600	81
Indiana	460	390	340	87
Iowa	30	26	26	100
Kansas	9,500	9,600	9,400	98
Kentucky	700	630	620	98
Louisiana	265	160	130	81
Maryland	345	340	360	106
Michigan	620	570	530	93
Minnesota	27	42	48	114
Mississippi	400	230	170	74
Missouri	1,080	880	840	95
Montana	2,000	2,500	2,400	96
Nebraska	1,470	1,550	1,600	103
Nevada	23	15	10	67
New Jersey	34	33	30	91
New Mexico	440	380	370	97
New York	125	120	130	108
North Carolina	990	830	750	90
North Dakota	215	870	250	29
Ohio	660	620	550	89
Oklahoma	5,600	5,300	5,400	102
Oregon	790	750	760	101
Pennsylvania	185	185	195	105
South Carolina	280	230	185	80
South Dakota	1,300	1,210	1,420	117
Tennessee	640	530	470	89
Texas	6,300	6,000	5,900	98
Utah	120	120	120	100
Virginia	335	290	260	90
Washington	1,700	1,700	1,750	103
West Virginia	9	10	8	80
Wisconsin	315	295	245	83
Wyoming	150	140	155	111
United States	43,230	42,399	40,751	96

Durum Wheat Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

[Includes area planted in preceding fall in Arizona and California]

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Arizona	75	73	125	171
California	70	35	60	171
Idaho	11	11	7	64
Montana	450	435	580	133
North Dakota	790	840	870	104
South Dakota	4	4	5	125
United States	1,400	1,398	1,647	118

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Other Spring Wheat Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Colorado	10	9	15	167
Idaho	530	480	560	117
Minnesota	1,200	1,220	1,260	103
Montana	2,950	3,050	2,800	92
Nevada	8	6	5	83
North Dakota	5,100	6,250	6,300	101
Oregon	90	80	90	113
South Dakota	1,190	1,300	1,300	100
Utah	18	10	9	90
Washington	510	620	630	102
United States	11,606	13,025	12,969	100

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

All Hay Area Harvested – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area harvested			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Alabama	790	750	710	95
Arizona	285	300	300	100
Arkansas	1,335	1,225	1,200	98
California	1,370	1,375	1,230	89
Colorado	1,310	1,340	1,450	108
Connecticut	47	53	58	109
Delaware	18	13	15	115
Florida	300	320	300	94
Georgia	580	580	560	97
Idaho	1,480	1,390	1,430	103
Illinois	660	520	510	98
Indiana	640	600	600	100
Iowa	1,170	1,155	1,150	100
Kansas	2,750	2,300	2,500	109
Kentucky	2,400	2,265	2,300	102
Louisiana	400	470	470	100
Maine	135	150	137	91
Maryland	225	195	205	105
Massachusetts	84	75	82	109
Michigan	940	980	1,030	105
Minnesota	1,900	1,910	1,750	92
Mississippi	720	600	570	95
Missouri	4,030	3,480	3,700	106
Montana	2,800	2,730	2,800	103
Nebraska	2,500	2,580	2,700	105
Nevada	345	430	340	79
New Hampshire	50	54	53	98
New Jersey	97	106	110	104
New Mexico	230	305	305	100
New York	1,430	1,370	1,470	107
North Carolina	858	830	850	102
North Dakota	2,620	2,700	2,600	96
Ohio	1,000	960	930	97
Oklahoma	3,130	3,590	3,100	86
Oregon	1,020	1,030	1,000	97
Pennsylvania	1,260	1,400	1,410	101
Rhode Island	8	7	8	114
South Carolina	290	270	270	100
South Dakota	3,050	3,250	3,500	108
Tennessee	1,915	1,766	1,850	105
Texas	5,640	5,440	5,350	98
Utah	725	680	630	93
Vermont	180	185	190	103
Virginia	1,240	1,175	1,200	102
Washington	760	870	830	95
West Virginia	590	618	640	104
Wisconsin	1,600	1,640	1,600	98
Wyoming	990	1,060	1,100	104
United States	57,897	57,092	57,093	100

¹ Intended area harvested in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Rice Area Planted by Class – States and United States: 2013-2015

Class and State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Long grain				
Arkansas	955	1,270	1,220	96
California	6	4	2	50
Louisiana	396	392	400	102
Mississippi	125	190	210	111
Missouri	157	210	220	105
Texas	142	141	145	103
United States	1,781	2,207	2,197	100
Medium grain				
Arkansas	120	215	220	102
California	515	395	375	95
Louisiana	22	70	80	114
Mississippi	-	1	1	100
Missouri	2	6	5	83
Texas	3	9	5	56
United States	662	696	686	99
Short grain				
Arkansas	1	1	1	100
California ²	46	35	31	89
United States	47	36	32	89
All				
Arkansas	1,076	1,486	1,441	97
California	567	434	408	94
Louisiana	418	462	480	104
Mississippi	125	191	211	110
Missouri	159	216	225	104
Texas	145	150	150	100
United States	2,490	2,939	2,915	99

- Represents zero.

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

² Includes sweet rice.

Canola Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Idaho	44.0	35.0	25.0	71
Minnesota	17.0	14.0	19.0	136
Montana	72.0	63.0	60.0	95
North Dakota	920.0	1,200.0	1,200.0	100
Oklahoma	205.0	270.0	145.0	54
Oregon	13.0	11.0	5.0	45
Washington	37.0	51.0	30.0	59
Other States ²	40.0	70.0	70.0	100
United States	1,348.0	1,714.0	1,554.0	91

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

² Other States include Colorado and Kansas. The 2015 estimate is carried forward from 2014. First 2015 estimate for Other States will be published in *Acreage* released June 2015.

Soybean Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Alabama	440	485	490	101
Arkansas	3,270	3,240	3,450	106
Delaware	165	185	180	97
Florida	32	39	37	95
Georgia	235	300	370	123
Illinois	9,500	9,800	9,900	101
Indiana	5,200	5,500	5,600	102
Iowa	9,300	9,900	10,100	102
Kansas	3,600	4,000	3,800	95
Kentucky	1,670	1,760	1,780	101
Louisiana	1,130	1,420	1,540	108
Maryland	485	510	500	98
Michigan	1,930	2,150	2,100	98
Minnesota	6,700	7,350	7,500	102
Mississippi	2,010	2,220	2,300	104
Missouri	5,650	5,650	5,650	100
Nebraska	4,800	5,400	5,100	94
New Jersey	90	105	105	100
New York	280	330	330	100
North Carolina	1,480	1,750	1,750	100
North Dakota	4,650	5,900	5,800	98
Ohio	4,500	4,850	5,100	105
Oklahoma	345	365	450	123
Pennsylvania	560	610	650	107
South Carolina	320	450	430	96
South Dakota	4,600	5,150	5,150	100
Tennessee	1,580	1,640	1,800	110
Texas	105	155	145	94
Virginia	610	660	650	98
West Virginia	23	27	28	104
Wisconsin	1,580	1,800	1,850	103
United States	76,840	83,701	84,635	101

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Peanut Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Alabama	140.0	175.0	185.0	106
Florida	140.0	175.0	160.0	91
Georgia	430.0	600.0	720.0	120
Mississippi	34.0	32.0	33.0	103
New Mexico	7.0	5.0	5.0	100
North Carolina	82.0	94.0	94.0	100
Oklahoma	17.0	12.0	19.0	158
South Carolina	81.0	112.0	115.0	103
Texas	120.0	130.0	130.0	100
Virginia	16.0	19.0	20.0	105
United States	1,067.0	1,354.0	1,481.0	109

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Sunflower Area Planted by Type – States and United States: 2013-2015

Varietal type and State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Oil				
California	56.0	44.0	42.0	95
Colorado	50.0	35.0	40.0	114
Kansas	55.0	45.0	55.0	122
Minnesota	33.0	47.0	56.0	119
Nebraska	28.0	25.0	22.0	88
North Dakota	425.0	520.0	790.0	152
Oklahoma	3.0	3.0	5.0	167
South Dakota	560.0	410.0	420.0	102
Texas	69.0	43.0	55.0	128
United States	1,279.0	1,172.0	1,485.0	127
Non-oil				
California	2.5	3.0	2.0	67
Colorado	17.0	9.5	14.0	147
Kansas	16.0	18.0	21.0	117
Minnesota	10.0	15.0	18.0	120
Nebraska	15.0	11.0	15.0	136
North Dakota	74.0	145.0	80.0	55
Oklahoma	2.0	1.3	1.0	77
South Dakota	115.0	125.0	110.0	88
Texas	45.0	61.0	40.0	66
United States	296.5	388.8	301.0	77
All				
California	58.5	47.0	44.0	94
Colorado	67.0	44.5	54.0	121
Kansas	71.0	63.0	76.0	121
Minnesota	43.0	62.0	74.0	119
Nebraska	43.0	36.0	37.0	103
North Dakota	499.0	665.0	870.0	131
Oklahoma	5.0	4.3	6.0	140
South Dakota	675.0	535.0	530.0	99
Texas	114.0	104.0	95.0	91
United States	1,575.5	1,560.8	1,786.0	114

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Flaxseed Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Minnesota	4	2	3	150
Montana	20	28	18	64
North Dakota	150	275	370	135
South Dakota	7	6	10	167
United States	181	311	401	129

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Cotton Area Planted by Type – States and United States: 2013-2015

Type and State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Upland				
Alabama	365.0	350.0	300.0	86
Arizona	160.0	150.0	95.0	63
Arkansas	310.0	335.0	230.0	69
California	93.0	57.0	45.0	79
Florida	131.0	107.0	90.0	84
Georgia	1,370.0	1,380.0	1,100.0	80
Kansas	27.0	31.0	24.0	77
Louisiana	130.0	170.0	130.0	76
Mississippi	290.0	425.0	350.0	82
Missouri	255.0	250.0	175.0	70
New Mexico	39.0	43.0	35.0	81
North Carolina	465.0	465.0	375.0	81
Oklahoma	185.0	240.0	260.0	108
South Carolina	258.0	280.0	235.0	84
Tennessee	250.0	275.0	170.0	62
Texas	5,800.0	6,200.0	5,700.0	92
Virginia	78.0	87.0	85.0	98
United States	10,206.0	10,845.0	9,399.0	87
American Pima				
Arizona	1.5	15.0	20.0	133
California	187.0	155.0	110.0	71
New Mexico	3.5	5.0	5.0	100
Texas	9.0	17.0	15.0	88
United States	201.0	192.0	150.0	78
All				
Alabama	365.0	350.0	300.0	86
Arizona	161.5	165.0	115.0	70
Arkansas	310.0	335.0	230.0	69
California	280.0	212.0	155.0	73
Florida	131.0	107.0	90.0	84
Georgia	1,370.0	1,380.0	1,100.0	80
Kansas	27.0	31.0	24.0	77
Louisiana	130.0	170.0	130.0	76
Mississippi	290.0	425.0	350.0	82
Missouri	255.0	250.0	175.0	70
New Mexico	42.5	48.0	40.0	83
North Carolina	465.0	465.0	375.0	81
Oklahoma	185.0	240.0	260.0	108
South Carolina	258.0	280.0	235.0	84
Tennessee	250.0	275.0	170.0	62
Texas	5,809.0	6,217.0	5,715.0	92
Virginia	78.0	87.0	85.0	98
United States	10,407.0	11,037.0	9,549.0	87

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Sugarbeet Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

[Relates to year of intended harvest in all States except California]

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
California ²	24.4	24.3	25.0	103
Colorado	26.8	29.4	31.7	108
Idaho	175.0	171.0	170.0	99
Michigan	154.0	151.0	154.0	102
Minnesota	462.0	440.0	438.0	100
Montana	43.4	45.0	42.6	95
Nebraska	46.0	48.0	55.0	115
North Dakota	227.0	216.0	224.0	104
Oregon	9.4	6.7	10.3	154
Wyoming	30.0	30.2	31.5	104
United States	1,198.0	1,161.6	1,182.1	102

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from processors.

² Relates to year of intended harvest for fall planted beets in central California and to year of planting for overwintered beets in central and southern California.

Tobacco Area Harvested – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area harvested			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(percent)
Connecticut	(D)	(D)	(D)	(X)
Georgia	12,800	15,000	12,500	83
Kentucky	87,200	91,700	85,700	93
Massachusetts	(D)	(D)	(D)	(X)
North Carolina	181,900	193,400	176,300	91
Ohio	2,100	2,000	2,000	100
Pennsylvania	8,900	9,100	9,300	102
South Carolina	14,500	15,800	13,000	82
Tennessee	21,400	24,250	22,400	92
Virginia	24,250	24,330	21,180	87
Other States ²	2,625	2,780	2,900	104
United States	355,675	378,360	345,280	91

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Intended area harvested in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

² Includes data withheld above.

Tobacco Area Harvested by Class and Type – States and United States: 2013-2015

Class, type, and State	Area harvested			
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	Percent of previous year
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(percent)
Class 1, Flue-cured (11-14)				
Georgia	12,800	15,000	12,500	83
North Carolina	180,000	192,000	175,000	91
South Carolina	14,500	15,800	13,000	82
Virginia	21,500	22,500	19,500	87
United States	228,800	245,300	220,000	90
Class 2, Fire-cured (21-23)				
Kentucky	9,000	10,700	10,500	98
Tennessee	6,900	7,600	7,200	95
Virginia	350	330	280	85
United States	16,250	18,630	17,980	97
Class 3A, Light air-cured				
Type 31, Burley				
Kentucky	74,000	76,000	70,000	92
North Carolina	1,900	1,400	1,300	93
Ohio	2,100	2,000	2,000	100
Pennsylvania	5,100	5,100	5,000	98
Tennessee	13,500	15,500	14,000	90
Virginia	2,400	1,500	1,400	93
United States	99,000	101,500	93,700	92
Type 32, Southern Maryland				
Pennsylvania	2,000	2,000	2,200	110
Total light air-cured (31-32)	101,000	103,500	95,900	93
Class 3B, Dark air-cured (35-37)				
Kentucky	4,200	5,000	5,200	104
Tennessee	1,000	1,150	1,200	104
United States	5,200	6,150	6,400	104
Class 4, Cigar filler				
Pennsylvania	1,800	2,000	2,100	105
Class 5, Cigar binder				
Type 51, Connecticut Valley Broadleaf				
Connecticut	(D)	(D)	(D)	(X)
Massachusetts	(D)	(D)	(D)	(X)
United States	(D)	(D)	(D)	(X)
Class 6, Cigar wrapper				
Type 61, Connecticut Valley Shade-grown				
Connecticut	(D)	(D)	(D)	(X)
Massachusetts	(D)	(D)	(D)	(X)
United States	(D)	(D)	(D)	(X)
Other cigar types (51-61)	2,625	2,780	2,900	104
Total cigar types (41-61)	4,425	4,780	5,000	105
All tobacco				
United States	355,675	378,360	345,280	91

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Intended area harvested in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Dry Edible Bean Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

[Excludes beans grown for garden seed]

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Arizona	10.0	11.0	9.0	82
California	50.0	48.0	50.0	104
Colorado	39.0	46.0	69.0	150
Idaho	125.0	125.0	120.0	96
Kansas	5.0	7.5	7.0	93
Michigan	175.0	250.0	290.0	116
Minnesota	125.0	155.0	180.0	116
Montana	24.0	37.5	53.0	141
Nebraska	130.0	165.0	150.0	91
New Mexico	10.0	10.5	8.0	76
New York	9.0	8.0	9.0	113
North Dakota	440.0	630.0	610.0	97
Oregon	8.3	8.5	10.0	118
South Dakota	12.0	14.0	13.0	93
Texas	33.0	23.0	25.0	109
Washington	120.0	130.0	100.0	77
Wisconsin	5.4	7.9	7.9	100
Wyoming	39.0	42.0	32.0	76
United States	1,359.7	1,718.9	1,742.9	101

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Chickpea (Garbanzo Bean) Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

[Chickpea acres included with dry bean acres]

Size and State	Area planted			
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Small chickpeas ²				
Idaho	15.0	29.0	30.0	103
Montana	(D)	(D)	21.0	(X)
North Dakota	3.2	2.0	5.5	275
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(X)
South Dakota	0.9	(D)	(D)	(X)
Washington	17.0	22.0	12.0	55
Other States ³	12.1	13.8	1.0	(X)
United States	48.2	66.8	69.5	104
Large chickpeas ⁴				
California	11.3	9.3	8.6	92
Idaho	63.0	45.0	33.0	73
Montana	(D)	(D)	22.0	(X)
North Dakota	6.7	4.4	3.3	75
Oregon	(D)	(D)	(D)	(X)
South Dakota	4.7	(D)	(D)	(X)
Washington	80.0	68.0	58.0	85
Other States ³	6.8	21.6	2.5	(X)
United States	172.5	148.3	127.4	86
All chickpeas (Garbanzo)				
California	11.3	9.3	8.6	92
Idaho	78.0	74.0	63.0	85
Montana	18.0	31.5	43.0	137
North Dakota	9.9	6.4	8.8	138
Oregon	0.9	1.1	1.0	91
South Dakota	5.6	2.8	2.5	89
Washington	97.0	90.0	70.0	78
United States	220.7	215.1	196.9	92

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

² Chickpeas (or Garbanzo beans) smaller than 20/64 inches.

³ Includes data withheld above.

⁴ Chickpeas (or Garbanzo beans) larger than 20/64 inches.

Lentil Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Idaho	31.0	25.0	20.0	80
Montana	140.0	130.0	180.0	138
North Dakota	129.0	75.0	130.0	173
Washington	62.0	51.0	55.0	108
United States	362.0	281.0	385.0	137

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Dry Edible Pea Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Idaho	37.0	46.0	43.0	93
Montana	440.0	525.0	570.0	109
North Dakota	295.0	265.0	295.0	111
Oregon	8.0	9.0	7.0	78
Washington	80.0	90.0	90.0	100
United States	860.0	935.0	1,005.0	107

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Austrian Winter Pea Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Idaho	5.0	9.0	9.0	100
Montana	10.0	12.0	8.0	67
Oregon	3.0	3.0	3.0	100
United States	18.0	24.0	20.0	83

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Spring Potato Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Arizona	3.5	3.8	3.3	87
California	27.0	25.0	30.0	120
Florida	30.9	30.5	27.0	89
North Carolina	14.5	14.5	12.7	88
United States	75.9	73.8	73.0	99

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Sweet Potato Area Planted – States and United States: 2013-2015

State	Area planted			Percent of previous year
	2013	2014	2015 ¹	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Alabama	2.5	2.1	2.5	119
Arkansas	4.0	4.0	3.8	95
California	19.0	19.0	18.0	95
Florida	6.0	6.0	5.6	93
Louisiana	8.0	9.0	8.5	94
Mississippi	20.0	22.0	22.0	100
New Jersey	1.2	1.2	1.3	108
North Carolina	54.0	73.0	75.0	103
Texas	1.0	1.0	1.0	100
United States	115.7	137.3	137.7	100

¹ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.

Crop Area Planted and Harvested – United States: 2014 and 2015 (Domestic Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2015 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2014 (1,000 acres)	2015 (1,000 acres)	2014 (1,000 acres)	2015 (1,000 acres)
Grains and hay				
Barley	2,975	3,258	2,443	
Corn for grain ¹	90,597	89,199	83,136	
Corn for silage	(NA)		6,371	
Hay, all	(NA)	(NA)	57,092	57,093
Alfalfa	(NA)		18,445	
All other	(NA)		38,647	
Oats	2,723	2,931	1,029	
Proso millet	505		430	
Rice	2,939	2,915	2,919	
Rye	1,434		258	
Sorghum for grain ¹	7,138	7,900	6,401	
Sorghum for silage	(NA)		315	
Wheat, all	56,822	55,367	46,381	
Winter	42,399	40,751	32,304	
Durum	1,398	1,647	1,337	
Other spring	13,025	12,969	12,740	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1,714.0	1,554.0	1,555.7	
Cottonseed	(X)	(X)	(X)	
Flaxseed	311	401	302	
Mustard seed	33.6		31.2	
Peanuts	1,354.0	1,481.0	1,325.0	
Rapeseed	2.2		2.1	
Safflower	181.5		170.2	
Soybeans for beans	83,701	84,635	83,061	
Sunflower	1,560.8	1,786.0	1,507.6	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all	11,037.0	9,549.0	9,707.4	
Upland	10,845.0	9,399.0	9,518.0	
American Pima	192.0	150.0	189.4	
Sugarbeets	1,161.6	1,182.1	1,147.2	
Sugarcane	(NA)		874.1	
Tobacco	(NA)	(NA)	378.4	345.3
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas	24.0	20.0	16.8	
Dry edible beans	1,718.9	1,742.9	1,665.7	
Dry edible peas	935.0	1,005.0	899.5	
Lentils	281.0	385.0	259.0	
Wrinkled seed peas	(NA)		(NA)	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Coffee (Hawaii)	(NA)		7.9	
Hops	(NA)		38.0	
Peppermint oil	(NA)		63.1	
Potatoes, all	1,061.1		1,049.5	
Spring	73.8	73.0	71.1	
Summer	50.4		48.9	
Fall	936.9		929.5	
Spearmint oil	(NA)		24.4	
Sweet potatoes	137.3	137.7	135.2	
Taro (Hawaii) ²	(NA)		0.4	

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Area planted for all purposes.

² Area is total acres in crop, not harvested acres.

Crop Yield and Production – United States: 2014 and 2015 (Domestic Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2015 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield per acre		Production	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
			(1,000)	(1,000)
Grains and hay				
Barley	bushels	72.4	176,794	
Corn for grain	bushels	171.0	14,215,532	
Corn for silage	tons	20.1	128,048	
Hay, all	tons	2.45	139,798	
Alfalfa	tons	3.33	61,446	
All other	tons	2.03	78,352	
Oats	bushels	67.7	69,684	
Proso millet	bushels	31.4	13,483	
Rice ¹	cwt	7,572	221,035	
Rye	bushels	27.9	7,189	
Sorghum for grain	bushels	67.6	432,575	
Sorghum for silage	tons	13.1	4,123	
Wheat, all	bushels	43.7	2,025,651	
Winter	bushels	42.6	1,377,526	
Durum	bushels	39.7	53,087	
Other spring	bushels	46.7	595,038	
Oilseeds				
Canola	pounds	1,614	2,510,995	
Cottonseed	tons	(X)	5,314.0	
Flaxseed	bushels	21.1	6,368	
Mustard seed	pounds	930	29,004	
Peanuts	pounds	3,932	5,210,100	
Rapeseed	pounds	1,233	2,590	
Safflower	pounds	1,226	208,643	
Soybeans for beans	bushels	47.8	3,968,823	
Sunflower	pounds	1,469	2,214,835	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ¹	bales	795	16,084.0	
Upland ¹	bales	781	15,496.0	
American Pima ¹	bales	1,490	588.0	
Sugarbeets	tons	27.4	31,386	
Sugarcane	tons	35.7	31,183	
Tobacco	pounds	2,316	876,415	
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas ¹	cwt	1,339	225	
Dry edible beans ¹	cwt	1,753	29,206	
Dry edible peas ¹	cwt	1,907	17,155	
Lentils ¹	cwt	1,300	3,367	
Wrinkled seed peas	cwt	(NA)	618	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Coffee (Hawaii)	pounds	1,030	8,100	
Hops	pounds	1,868	70,995.9	
Peppermint oil	pounds	90	5,692	
Potatoes, all	cwt	426	446,693	
Spring	cwt	318	22,608	
Summer	cwt	322	15,756	
Fall	cwt	439	408,329	
Spearmint oil	pounds	114	2,784	
Sweet potatoes	cwt	219	29,584	
Taro (Hawaii)	pounds	(NA)	3,240	

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Yield in pounds.

Crop Area Planted and Harvested – United States: 2014 and 2015 (Metric Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2015 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Area planted		Area harvested	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)
Grains and hay				
Barley	1,203,950	1,318,480	988,660	
Corn for grain ¹	36,663,700	36,097,940	33,644,310	
Corn for silage	(NA)		2,578,280	
Hay, all ²	(NA)	(NA)	23,104,560	23,104,970
Alfalfa	(NA)		7,464,510	
All other	(NA)		15,640,050	
Oats	1,101,970	1,186,150	416,430	
Proso millet	204,370		174,020	
Rice	1,189,380	1,179,670	1,181,290	
Rye	580,330		104,410	
Sorghum for grain ¹	2,888,680	3,197,050	2,590,420	
Sorghum for silage	(NA)		127,480	
Wheat, all ²	22,995,300	22,406,470	18,769,930	
Winter	17,158,450	16,491,520	13,073,110	
Durum	565,760	666,520	541,070	
Other spring	5,271,090	5,248,420	5,155,750	
Oilseeds				
Canola	693,640	628,890	629,580	
Cottonseed	(X)	(X)	(X)	
Flaxseed	125,860	162,280	122,220	
Mustard seed	13,600		12,630	
Peanuts	547,950	599,350	536,210	
Rapeseed	890		850	
Safflower	73,450		68,880	
Soybeans for beans	33,872,960	34,250,940	33,613,960	
Sunflower	631,640	722,780	610,110	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ²	4,466,560	3,864,380	3,928,490	
Upland	4,388,860	3,803,680	3,851,840	
American Pima	77,700	60,700	76,650	
Sugarbeets	470,090	478,380	464,260	
Sugarcane	(NA)		353,740	
Tobacco	(NA)	(NA)	153,120	139,730
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas	9,710	8,090	6,800	
Dry edible beans	695,620	705,330	674,090	
Dry edible peas	378,390	406,710	364,020	
Lentils	113,720	155,810	104,810	
Wrinkled seed peas	(NA)		(NA)	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Coffee (Hawaii)	(NA)		3,200	
Hops	(NA)		15,380	
Peppermint oil	(NA)		25,540	
Potatoes, all ²	429,420		424,720	
Spring	29,870	29,540	28,770	
Summer	20,400		19,790	
Fall	379,150		376,160	
Spearmint oil	(NA)		9,870	
Sweet potatoes	55,560	55,730	54,710	
Taro (Hawaii) ³	(NA)		150	

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Area planted for all purposes.

² Total may not add due to rounding.

³ Area is total hectares in crop, not harvested hectares.

Crop Yield and Production – United States: 2014 and 2015 (Metric Units)

[Data are the latest estimates available, either from the current report or from previous reports. Current year estimates are for the full 2015 crop year. Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Crop	Yield per hectare		Production	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)	(metric tons)
Grains and hay				
Barley	3.89		3,849,230	
Corn for grain	10.73		361,091,140	
Corn for silage	45.05		116,163,190	
Hay, all ¹	5.49		126,822,610	
Alfalfa	7.47		55,742,870	
All other	4.54		71,079,740	
Oats	2.43		1,011,460	
Proso millet	1.76		305,790	
Rice	8.49		10,025,980	
Rye	1.75		182,610	
Sorghum for grain	4.24		10,987,910	
Sorghum for silage	29.34		3,740,320	
Wheat, all ¹	2.94		55,129,190	
Winter	2.87		37,490,110	
Durum	2.67		1,444,790	
Other spring	3.14		16,194,280	
Oilseeds				
Canola	1.81		1,138,970	
Cottonseed	(X)		4,820,780	
Flaxseed	1.32		161,750	
Mustard seed	1.04		13,160	
Peanuts	4.41		2,363,260	
Rapeseed	1.38		1,170	
Safflower	1.37		94,640	
Soybeans for beans	3.21		108,013,660	
Sunflower	1.65		1,004,630	
Cotton, tobacco, and sugar crops				
Cotton, all ¹	0.89		3,501,880	
Upland	0.88		3,373,860	
American Pima	1.67		128,020	
Sugarbeets	61.33		28,472,900	
Sugarcane	79.97		28,288,740	
Tobacco	2.60		397,540	
Dry beans, peas, and lentils				
Austrian winter peas	1.50		10,180	
Dry edible beans	1.97		1,324,760	
Dry edible peas	2.14		778,140	
Lentils	1.46		152,720	
Wrinkled seed peas	(NA)		28,030	
Potatoes and miscellaneous				
Coffee (Hawaii)	1.15		3,670	
Hops	2.09		32,200	
Peppermint oil	0.10		2,580	
Potatoes, all ¹	47.71		20,261,650	
Spring	35.64		1,025,480	
Summer	36.11		714,680	
Fall	49.24		18,521,490	
Spearmint oil	0.13		1,260	
Sweet potatoes	24.53		1,341,910	
Taro (Hawaii)	(NA)		1,470	

(NA) Not available.

(X) Not applicable.

¹ Production may not add due to rounding.

Winter Weather Summary

Highlights: The warmest winter on record covered five Western States—Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah, and Washington. In California, the previous warmest winter had occurred just last year. In addition, it was the second-warmest winter on record in Idaho and Oregon. In contrast, colder-than-normal weather dominated the eastern half of the United States, despite a mild December. Conditions turned especially harsh in late winter, when the second-coldest February on record occurred in nine States from Ohio to New England. The Eastern cold wave peaked on February 20, when freezes were noted as far south as interior southern Florida.

Between the Western warmth and the Eastern chill, the Plains were subjected to frequent and rapid temperature changes. The winter temperature extremes, some of which occurred without the benefit of a protective snow cover, caused general declines in crop condition for winter wheat. Outside of the hard red winter wheat belt, parts of the upper Midwest experienced a “snow drought,” with less precipitation than normal falling during the winter months.

Only two small areas, the northern Atlantic region and the Southwest, reported wetter-than-normal winter weather. In parts of the Northeast, extremely heavy snow fell from late January to mid-February. Elsewhere, most of California’s wet weather was compressed into two brief periods—the first 3 weeks of December and several days in early February.

Historical Perspective: According to preliminary data provided by the National Climatic Data Center, winter featured regionally contrasting temperatures and mostly drier-than-normal conditions. The Nation’s average December-February temperature of 34.3°F was 2.1°F above the 20th century mean, while the average precipitation of 6.12 inches was 90 percent of normal—marking the 19th-warmest, 27th-driest winter since 1895-96.

State temperature rankings were impressive in the West, with record-setting warmth in California and four other States. In contrast, top-twenty rankings for winter cold were observed in Connecticut, Michigan, New York, and Ohio. Meanwhile, State precipitation rankings ranged from top-twenty winter dryness in Kentucky, Michigan, and Wisconsin to the 15th-wettest winter in New Mexico.

December: Limited drought relief came to California in the form of several periods of heavy precipitation, highlighted by a potent, moisture-laden storm on December 11-12. Although the rain improved topsoil moisture, benefited winter grains, and helped to revive rangeland and pastures, significant effects from the 3-year drought persisted. For example, California’s reservoirs got a slight boost from runoff, but collectively remained at near-record low levels. And, since most of California’s storms were “warm” systems, high-elevation snowpack remained below one-half of average for this time of year.

Precipitation also spread into other areas of the West. Like California, however, snowpack in the Pacific Northwest languished due to warm conditions, despite an abundance of storms. Fewer storms reached the Southwest, where significantly below-average snowpack was also a concern.

Farther east, a very cold November was followed by a mostly mild December. Thawing, muddy fields led to delays in final corn harvest efforts in the Great Lakes region. Most other fieldwork across the South, East, and Midwest was eventually curtailed, as increasingly wet conditions developed as the month progressed. Just prior to the holidays, a sprawling storm system produced wet snow across the northern Plains and Midwest, along with torrential rainfall and locally severe thunderstorms in the Southeast.

Elsewhere, mid- to late-month precipitation (rain and snow) provided a little bit of beneficial moisture across winter wheat areas of the central and southern Plains. Heading into the overwintering period, wheat-related concerns included lingering drought (on the southern Plains); the effects of November’s cold wave (on the central High Plains); and issues related to late planting and poor crop establishment (in the southern and eastern Corn Belt). From November 23 to the end of December, the portion of the winter wheat rated in good to excellent condition fell from 69 to 57 percent in Nebraska; 61 to 49 percent in Kansas; and 56 to 24 percent in Illinois.

The contiguous United States experienced its second-warmest, 51st-wettest December during the 120-year period of record. The average temperature of 37.2°F was nearly 4.5°F above the 20th century mean, and marked the Nation’s

warmest December since 1939. Above-average temperatures were noted in every State, and temperatures were among the ten highest December values on record in Texas, four New England States, and four Western States. The “coolest” State, Nebraska, experienced its 35th-warmest December.

Meanwhile, State precipitation rankings ranged from the ninth-driest December in North Dakota to the seventh-wettest December in Maine. General wetness across New England, the Southeast, central portions of the Rockies and Plains, and an area stretching from California to Arizona contrasted with the aforementioned dry conditions in North Dakota, as well as parts of the south-central United States. For the Nation as a whole, the average precipitation of 2.51 inches was 107 percent of normal.

January: Mid-winter warmth dominated the western United States, accompanied in most areas by unfavorably dry conditions. California’s spell without meaningful precipitation stretched to 6 weeks by the end of January, increasing the odds of a fourth consecutive drought year. Among the most serious drought-related issues in California was the lack of snowpack in key watershed areas, including the Sierra Nevada. The snowpack concerns also extended northward into the Cascades, where seasonal precipitation was adequate but persistent warmth resulted in melting of existing snow or precipitation falling as rain.

Farther east, beneficial precipitation fell across much of the Nation’s mid-section, including the High Plains. Some of the heaviest precipitation arrived at month’s end, when a developing storm moved from the southern Rockies into the Midwest. Despite the January moisture, the statewide portion of hard red winter wheat rated in good to excellent condition decreased by 7 to 15 percentage points between November 23 and January 31 in each of the Plains’ seven major production States from Montana to Texas. By month’s end, wheat rated in the good to excellent categories ranged from 38 percent in Colorado to 61 percent in Nebraska.

Meanwhile, precipitation events were frequent but generally light across the Midwest, South, and East. Notable exceptions included a late-January blizzard along the northern Atlantic Coast and a snow storm that began to unfold at month’s end across the Midwest. In the southernmost Corn Belt, a mid-month cold snap without the benefit of a protective snow cover threatened the poorly established soft red winter wheat crop. Elsewhere, areas being watched for developing dryness included the mid-South and the southern tip of Florida.

The contiguous United States experienced its 24th-warmest, 18th-driest January during the 1895-2015 period of record. The Nation’s average temperature of 33.0°F was 2.9°F above the 20th century mean, while the average precipitation of 1.75 inches was approximately three-quarters (76 percent) of normal.

Warmth continued to dominate the West, where monthly average temperatures were among the ten highest January values on record in California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. With its 24th-coldest January, New York had the lowest monthly ranking. Meanwhile, January dryness covered the Pacific Coast States and much of the northern two-thirds of the Nation. It was the fourth-driest January in drought-stricken California, along with the fifth driest in Oregon and eighth driest in Nebraska. Wetness was limited to the northern Atlantic Coast and the Southwest, where New Mexico experienced its 13th-wettest January.

February: A remarkably persistent weather regime—featuring a Western ridge and Eastern trough—led to record-setting February temperatures on both sides of the country. The West basked in spring-like warmth, while the Great Lakes and Northeastern States suffered through the coldest weather in decades—even colder than February 2014. At the height of the Eastern cold wave, on February 20, producers as far south as Florida had to take protective measures to help guard against freeze damage to tender crops such as blueberries, strawberries, and vegetables.

In between warm and cold regions, the Plains were the battleground for competing air masses and saw wildly fluctuating temperatures. In areas with patchy, shallow, or non-existent snow cover, the Plains’ weather extremes were detrimental to the health of winter wheat. As a result, the portion of the wheat crop rated in good to excellent condition declined during February from 58 to 44 percent in Montana and 58 to 49 percent in South Dakota.

Like January, February was a rather dry month across the majority of the country. However, there were notable exceptions, including an early-month snow storm from the Midwest into the Northeast; occasional heavy snow on the

High Plains; and several Southern storms. During the second half of the month, some of the Southern storms produced disruptive amounts of snow, sleet, and freezing rain.

Meanwhile, California headed toward a fourth consecutive year of drought, despite a brief period of heavy precipitation from February 6-9. During February, conditions were especially dry in parts of the Great Basin, Intermountain West, and Desert Southwest, while snowpack remained close to record-low levels in the Cascades and the Sierra Nevada.

The contiguous United States experienced its 53rd-coldest, 20th-driest February during the 121-year period of record. Western warmth partially offset frigid Eastern conditions, leading to a monthly average temperature of 33.1°F—just 0.7°F below the 20th century mean. February precipitation averaged 1.70 inches, 80 percent of normal.

It was the warmest February on record in Arizona, California, Utah, and Washington, and among the ten warmest in Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, and Wyoming. Meanwhile, temperatures ranked among the ten lowest February values on record in Arkansas and 22 of the 26 States east of the Mississippi River. For New York, Pennsylvania, and the six New England States, it was the second-coldest February on record behind 1934. It was also the second-coldest February in Ohio, behind 1978. Meanwhile, monthly precipitation rankings ranged from the 11th-driest February in Connecticut to the 31st-wettest February in Colorado.

Crop Comments

Corn: Growers intend to plant 89.2 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2015, down 2 percent from last year and down 6 percent from 2013. If realized, this will be the lowest planted acreage in the United States since 2010. The reduction in planted acres is mainly due to the expectation of lower prices and returns in 2015.

Planted acreage for 2015 is expected to be down across most of the Corn Belt with the exceptions being Minnesota and Wisconsin, which are both expecting an increase in planted acreage from last year. Acreage in Nebraska is expected to be unchanged from 2014.

Sorghum: Growers intend to plant 7.90 million acres of sorghum for all purposes in 2015, up 11 percent from last year. Kansas and Texas, the leading sorghum producing States, account for 75 percent of the expected United States acreage. As of March 22, Texas growers had only planted 7 percent of their crop, 7 percentage points behind last year and 21 points behind the 5-year average.

Oats: Area seeded to oats for the 2015 crop year is expected to total 2.93 million acres, up 8 percent from 2014. If realized, United States planted acres will be the fourth lowest on record. Record low planted acreage is estimated in Oregon, Texas, and Wyoming.

Barley: Producers intend to seed 3.26 million acres of barley for the 2015 crop year, up 10 percent from the previous year. If realized, this will be the fourth smallest seeded area on record. Record low acreage is expected in California, New York, and Utah.

Winter wheat: The 2015 winter wheat planted area is estimated at 40.8 million acres, down 4 percent from 2014 but up less than 1 percent from the previous estimate. States with notable acreage increases from the previous estimate were Missouri, Montana, and Oklahoma, while notable decreases occurred in Nebraska and North Dakota. If realized, a new record low would be set in Utah. Of the total acreage, about 29.6 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 7.75 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.43 million acres are White Winter.

Durum wheat: Area seeded to Durum wheat for 2015 is estimated at 1.65 million acres, up 18 percent from 2014. Planted acreage is expected to increase in all states except Idaho. If realized, planted acres will be a record low in Idaho.

Other spring wheat: Growers intend to plant 13.0 million acres, down slightly from 2014. Of the total, about 12.1 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. Compared with last year, acreage increases are expected in the Pacific Northwest, as well as Minnesota and North Dakota. Decreases are expected in Montana, Nevada, and Utah. If realized, planted acres will be a record low in Utah.

Rice: Area planted to rice in 2015 is expected to total 2.92 million acres, down 1 percent from 2014. The expectation of lower prices for 2015 is contributing to the expected decline in rice acres compared with last year. While long grain acres are expected to be down only slightly from 2014, medium and short grain acres are expected to be down 1 and 11 percent respectively. California, the largest medium and short grain producing State, continues to experience a severe drought and is expected to decrease medium and short grain acres in 2015. Medium grain acres in Arkansas and Louisiana are expected to increase from 2014 which is helping to offset the expected acreage decline in California.

Hay: Producers intend to harvest 57.1 million acres of all dry hay in 2015, virtually unchanged from 2014. Hay acreage is expected to increase in the Mid-Atlantic and Central Plains. However, this is offset by expected decreases across the Southern and Pacific States, as well as in the Upper Midwest. Record high acreage is expected in Louisiana. Record low acreage is expected in California, Illinois, Minnesota, and Ohio.

Soybeans: Growers intend to plant a record high 84.6 million acres in 2015, up 1 percent from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage intentions are up or unchanged in 21 of the 31 major producing States. Increases of 200,000 acres or more are anticipated in Arkansas, Iowa, and Ohio. Compared with last year, the largest declines are expected in Kansas and Nebraska. If realized, the planted area in Kentucky, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, and Wisconsin will be the largest on record.

Peanuts: Growers intend to plant 1.48 million acres in 2015, up 9 percent from the previous year. The expected increase in planted area is mainly due to relatively low prices of other crops, especially cotton. In Georgia, the largest peanut-producing State, planted area is expected to be up 20 percent from 2014. If realized, planted acres in South Carolina will be a record high.

Sunflower: Growers intend to plant a total of 1.79 million acres in 2015, up 14 percent from last year. Despite the increase, planted area for the Nation will be the fourth lowest since 1976, if realized. Area intended for oil type varieties, at 1.49 million acres, is up 27 percent from 2014. The area intended for non-oil varieties, estimated at 301,000 acres, is down 23 percent from last year.

Canola: Producers intend to plant 1.55 million acres in 2015, down 9 percent from 2014. If realized, planted area in the United States will be the fourth largest on record. Compared with last year, planted area is expected to decrease in five of the seven major canola-producing States, with acreage in Oklahoma, Oregon, and Washington expected to decrease more than 40 percent from the previous year. Producers in North Dakota, the leading canola-producing State, intend to remain at last year's level of 1.20 million acres.

Flaxseed: Producers intent to plant 401,000 acres of flaxseed in 2015, up 90,000 acres, or 29 percent more than was planted in 2014. Acreage in North Dakota, the largest flaxseed-producing State, is up 35 percent, or 95,000 acres, from the previous year.

Cotton: Growers intend to plant 9.55 million acres in 2015, down 13 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the lowest planted acreage in the United States since 2009. Upland area is expected to total 9.40 million acres, down 13 percent from 2014, and the lowest estimated United States upland acreage since 2009. American Pima area is expected to total 150,000 acres, down 22 percent from 2014.

Growers in all States except Oklahoma are expected to reduce planted acreage from last year. If realized, planted area in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Tennessee would be record lows.

Sugarbeets: Area expected to be planted to sugarbeets for the 2015 crop year is estimated at 1.18 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. Intended plantings are above the previous year in seven of the ten estimating States.

Tobacco: United States all tobacco area for harvest in 2015 is expected to be 345,280 acres, down 9 percent from 2014. Flue-cured tobacco, at 220,000 acres, is 10 percent below 2014 and accounts for 64 percent of this year's total tobacco acreage. Total light air-cured tobacco type area, at 95,900 acres, is 7 percent below 2014. Burley tobacco, at 93,700 acres, is 8 percent below last year.

Fire-cured tobacco, at 17,980 acres, is down 3 percent from 2014. Dark air-cured tobacco, at 6,400 acres, is 4 percent above last year. All cigar type tobacco harvested area, at 5,000 acres, is 5 percent above last year. Cigar filler acreage is up 5 percent from last year.

Spring potatoes: Area planted of spring potatoes is expected to be 73,000 acres for the 2015 season, down 1 percent from 2014. Spring potato planting was complete in California where February weather was favorable. Growers reported the crop was in good condition, despite the continued drought. In Florida, the crop was minimally affected by frost, as crop conditions have been favorable.

Sweet potatoes: Planted area of sweet potatoes in 2015 is expected to be 137,700 acres, up slightly from the previous year. Field preparations were sporadic in Mississippi due to the highly variable weather during January and February. February began with little precipitation and ended with frequent rain occurring the last two weeks of the month. March started with a strong cold front that brought rain, freezing rain, sleet and snow throughout the State. In North Carolina, field conditions were wet with soil moisture rated mostly as surplus. The last few weeks were especially cold with snow and ice, hampering any field activities that might have been planned.

Dry beans: Area planted to dry beans in 2015 is expected to be 1.74 million acres, up 1 percent from the previous season. Expected area planted for all chickpeas is 196,900 acres, down 8 percent from last season. Small chickpeas, at 69,500 acres, is 4 percent above 2014, while large chickpeas, at 127,400 acres, decreased 14 percent from the previous year.

Half of the 18 estimating States expect an increase in planted acres from last year. Colorado growers expect a 50 percent increase from the previous year, while in North Dakota, the largest producing State, planted area is expected to decrease by 20,000 acres, or 3 percent, from 2014.

Lentils: Area planted for the 2015 crop year is expected to total 385,000 acres, up 37 percent from 2014. Prospective plantings are up in Montana, North Dakota, and Washington, while Idaho growers expect a 20 percent decline from last season. Montana's anticipated area is up 38 percent from 2014, while North Dakota growers expect to plant 73 percent more acres than a year ago.

Dry edible peas: Area planted for the 2015 crop year is expected to total 1.01 million acres, up 7 percent from 2014. If realized, this will be a record high planted area. Prospective plantings are up in Montana and North Dakota, down in Idaho and Oregon, and expected to be the same in Washington. If realized, Montana's expected planted area, at 570,000 acres, will be a record high.

Austrian winter peas: Intended planted area for 2015 is estimated at 20,000 acres, down 17 percent from 2014. Growers in Idaho and Oregon showed no acreage change from 2014, while Montana farmers anticipate lower plantings from a year ago.

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: The acreage estimates in this report are based primarily on surveys conducted during the first two weeks of March. The March Agricultural Survey is a probability survey that includes a sample of over 84,000 farm operators selected from a list of producers that ensures all operations in the United States have a chance to be selected. These operators were contacted by mail, internet, telephone, or personal interview to obtain information on crop acreage planned for the 2015 crop year.

Estimating Procedures: National, Regional, State, and grower reported data were reviewed for reasonableness and consistency with historical estimates. Each State Field Office submits their analysis of the current situation to the Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB). 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 data and the historical relationship of official estimates to the survey data.

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* report scheduled for June 30, 2015. Winter wheat is an exception. Since winter wheat was seeded prior to the March survey, any changes in estimates in this report are considered revisions. The estimate of the harvested acreage of winter wheat will be published on May 12, 2015, along with the first production forecast of the crop year.

Reliability: The survey used to make acreage estimates is subject to sampling and non-sampling errors that are common to all surveys. Sampling errors represent the variability between estimates that would result if many different samples were surveyed at the same time. Sampling errors for major crops are generally between 1.0 and 3.0 percent, but they cannot be applied directly to the acreage published in this report to determine confidence intervals because 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, vigorous quality controls are used in the data collection process and all data are carefully reviewed for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of acreage estimates in this report, the "Root Mean Square Error," a statistical measure based on past performance, is computed. The deviations between the acreage estimates in this report and the final estimates are expressed as a percentage of the final estimates. The average of squared percentage deviations for the latest 20 year period is computed. The square root of the average becomes statistically the "Root Mean Square Error." Probability statements can be made concerning expected differences in the current estimates relative to the final end of season estimates, assuming that factors affecting this year's estimates are not different from those influencing recent years. For example, the "Root Mean Square Error" for the corn planted estimate is 1.9 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current corn acreage estimate will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 1.9 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 3.3 percent.

Also, shown in the following table is a 20 year record for selected crops of the difference between the *Prospective Plantings* planted acreage estimates and the final estimates. Using corn again as an example, changes between the intentions estimates and the final estimates during the past 20 years have averaged 1.17 million acres, ranging from 32,000 acres to 3.84 million acres. The prospective plantings estimates have been below the final estimate 7 times and above 13 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

[Based on data for the past twenty years]

Crop	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence interval	Difference between forecast and final estimate				
			Thousand acres			Years	
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Below final	Above final
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(number)	(number)
Barley	7.1	12.2	239	31	455	4	16
Corn for grain	1.9	3.3	1,174	32	3,844	7	13
Oats	7.2	12.5	209	21	660	2	18
Sorghum for grain	9.3	16.1	638	31	2,471	13	7
Soybeans for beans	2.1	3.6	1,264	25	3,296	11	9
Upland cotton	5.9	10.2	606	6	2,115	12	8
Wheat							
Winter wheat	1.7	2.9	580	52	1,242	7	13
Durum wheat	20.3	35.1	234	15	1,028	12	8
Other spring	6.6	11.4	765	12	2,543	9	11

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

Lance Honig, Chief, Crops Branch.....	(202) 720-2127
Anthony Prillaman, Head, Field Crops Section.....	(202) 720-2127
Angie Considine – Cotton, Cotton Ginnings, Sorghum.....	(202) 720-5944
Tony Dahlman – Crop Weather, Barley.....	(202) 720-7621
Chris Hawthorn – Corn, Flaxseed, Proso Millet.....	(202) 720-9526
James Johanson – County Estimates, Hay.....	(202) 690-8533
Anthony Prillaman – Oats, Rye, Wheat.....	(202) 720-2127
Bianca Pruneda – Peanuts, Rice.....	(202) 720-7688
Travis Thorson – Soybeans, Sunflower, Other Oilseeds.....	(202) 720-7369
Jorge Garcia-Pratts, Head, Fruits, Vegetables and Special Crops Section.....	(202) 720-2127
Vincent Davis – Fresh and Processing Vegetables, Onions, Strawberries, Cherries.....	(202) 720-2157
Fleming Gibson – Citrus, Coffee, Grapes, Sugar Crops, Tropical Fruits.....	(202) 720-5412
Greg Lemmons – Berries, Cranberries, Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes.....	(202) 720-4285
Dave Losh – Hops.....	(360) 709-2400
Dan Norris – Austrian Winter Peas, Dry Edible Peas, Lentils, Mint, Mushrooms, Peaches, Pears, Wrinkled Seed Peas, Dry Beans.....	(202) 720-3250
Daphne Schauber – Floriculture, Maple Syrup, Nursery, Tree Nuts.....	(202) 720-4215
Chris Singh – Apples, Apricots, Plums, Prunes, Tobacco.....	(202) 720-4288

Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit <http://www.nass.usda.gov> and in the “Follow NASS” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#) (PDF), found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.