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2015 CROP PRODUCTION

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Corn for grain production in Iowa during 2015 is estimated at 2.51 billion bushels, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service annual *Crop Production 2015 Summary* report. This record high production is 4 percent above the previous record of 2.41 billion bushels set in 2009. Iowa has led the Nation in corn production for 22 consecutive years and 37 of last 38 years. Iowa's corn for grain yield is estimated at 192 bushels per acre, 6 percent higher than the previous record yield of 181 bushels per acre established in 2004 and tied in 2009. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 13.1 million acres, down 150,000 acres from the November 1 forecast and 250,000 acres below 2014. Corn planted for all purposes in 2015 is estimated at 13.5 million acres, down 100,000 acres from the November 1 estimate and the fewest planted acres since 2010.

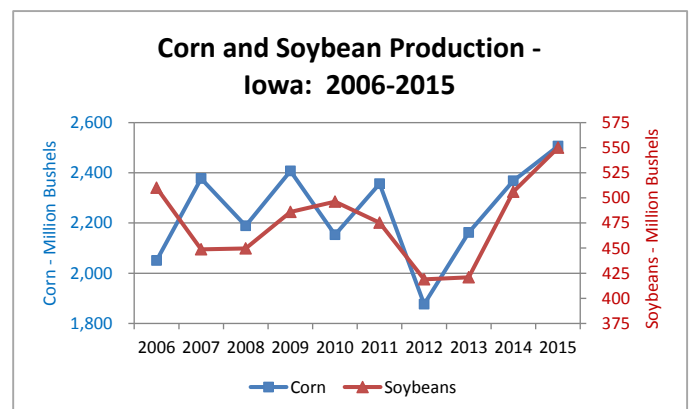
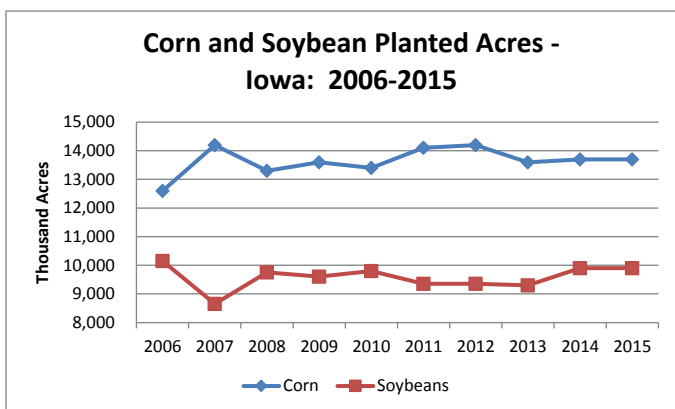
Corn for silage production is estimated at 8.16 million tons, up 32 percent from 2014. The silage yield estimate of 24.0 tons per acre is a record high, 2.0 tons per acre higher than the previous record set in 2009. Producers harvested 340,000 acres of corn for silage, up 30,000 acres from 2014.

Soybean production is estimated at 554 million bushels in 2015. This is a record high production, topping the previous record of 525 million bushels set in 2005 by 5 percent. The Iowa soybean crop yielded 56.5 bushels per acre in 2015. This yield is also a new record high, 8 percent above the previous record of 52.5 bushels per acre set in 2005. The harvested acreage of 9.80 million is down 20,000 acres from the November 1 estimate, but 30,000 acres above 2014. Soybean planted acreage, at 9.85 million, is down 50,000 acres from November 1, but is unchanged from 2014.

All hay production for the state is estimated at 3.94 million tons, up 7 percent from the 3.68 million tons produced in 2014 and the highest production since 2009. Producers averaged 3.4 tons per acre, up from 3.2 tons in 2014. All hay harvested acres is estimated at 1.16 million, up 5,000 acres from 2014.

Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures production is estimated at 3.0 million tons, up 3 percent from 2014. Producers averaged 3.9 tons per acre, up 0.3 ton from 2014. Harvested acres are down 40,000 from last year, to 770,000. Iowa producers seeded 90,000 acres of alfalfa in 2015, down 20,000 acres from 2014 and the lowest seeding since 2011.

Other hay production is estimated at 936,000 tons, up 23 percent from 2014. Producers averaged 2.4 tons per acre, 0.2 ton per acre above the 2014 yield. Harvested acres of other hay, at 390,000, is 13 percent above 2014.



2015 Crop Production Summary - Iowa and United States

Crop	Area harvested		Yield per acre		Production	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)			(1,000)	(1,000)
IOWA						
Corn for Grainbushels	13,300	13,050	178.0	192.0	2,367,400	2,505,600
Corn for Silage..... tons	310	340	20.0	24.0	6,200	8,160
Hay, all tons	1,155	1,160	3.18	3.40	3,675	3,939
Hay, Alfalfa tons	810	770	3.60	3.90	2,916	3,003
Hay, Other tons	345	390	2.20	2.40	759	936
Oats for Grainbushels	55	57	64.0	73.0	3,520	4,161
Soybeansbushels	9,770	9,800	51.0	56.5	498,270	553,700
Wheat, Winter.....bushels	15	15	49.0	52.0	735	780
UNITED STATES						
Corn for Grainbushels	83,136	80,749	171.0	168.4	14,215,532	13,601,198
Corn for Silage..... tons	6,371	6,221	20.1	20.4	128,048	126,894
Hay, all tons	57,062	54,437	2.45	2.47	139,923	134,388
Hay, Alfalfa tons	18,395	17,778	3.34	3.32	61,451	58,974
Hay, Other tons	38,667	36,659	2.03	2.06	78,472	75,414
Oats for Grainbushels	1,035	1,276	67.9	70.2	70,232	89,535
Soybeansbushels	82,591	81,849	47.5	48.0	3,927,090	3,929,885
Wheat, Winter.....bushels	32,299	32,257	42.6	42.5	1,377,216	1,370,188

U.S. Corn Supply and Use

CORN	2013-2014	2014-2015 (Est.)	2015-2016 ¹ Projections January
	(million bushels)	(million bushels)	(million bushels)
Beginning Stocks	821	1,232	1,731
Production	13,829	14,216	13,601
Imports	36	32	40
Supply, total	14,686	15,479	15,372
Feed & Residual	5,040	5,315	5,300
Food, Seed & Industrial ..	6,493	6,568	6,570
Domestic, total	11,534	11,883	11,870
Exports	1,920	1,864	1,700
Use, total	13,454	13,748	13,570
Ending Stocks, total	1,232	1,731	1,802
Avg. farm price (\$/bu)	4.46	3.70	3.30 - 3.90

¹Preliminary

U.S. Soybean Supply and Use

SOYBEANS	2013-2014	2014-2015 (Est.)	2015-2016 ¹ Projections January
	(million bushels)	(million bushels)	(million bushels)
Beginning Stocks	141	92	191
Production	3,358	3,927	3,930
Imports	72	33	30
Supply, total	3,570	4,052	4,150
Crushings	1,734	1,873	1,890
Exports	1,638	1,843	1,690
Seed	97	96	92
Residual	10	49	39
Use, total	3,478	3,862	3,711
Ending stocks	92	191	440
Avg. farm price (\$/bu) ...	13.00	10.10	8.05 - 9.55

¹Preliminary

HAY STOCKS

Dry hay stored on Iowa farms as of December 1, 2015, is estimated at 3.28 million tons, an increase of 11 percent from December 2014 according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Crop Production* report. Disappearance from May 1, 2015, through December 1, 2015, totaled 1.36 million tons, compared with 1.14 million tons for the same period in 2014.

Hay Stocks on Farms – Iowa and United States: May 1 and December 1, 2014-2015

	May 1		December 1	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)	(1,000 tons)
Iowa	410	700	2,950	3,280
United States	19,176	24,517	92,052	94,993

GRAIN STOCKS

Iowa corn stocks in all positions on December 1, 2015, totaled 2.19 billion bushels, up 7 percent from December 1, 2014, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Grain Stocks* report. Of the total stocks, 63 percent were stored on-farm. The September - November 2015 indicated disappearance totaled 678 million bushels, 16 percent above the 587 million bushels used during the same period last year.

Iowa soybeans stored in all positions on December 1, 2015, totaled 457 million bushels, up 12 percent from the 409 million bushels on hand December 1, 2014. Of the total stocks, 43 percent were stored on-farm. Indicated disappearance for September - November 2015 is 131 million bushels, 17 percent more than the 111 million bushels used during the same quarter last year.

Iowa oats stocks stored on-farm on December 1, 2015, totaled 1.6 million bushels, equal to the stocks on December 1, 2014.

Grain Stocks by Position – Iowa and United States: December 1, 2014 and 2015

Position and Grain	Iowa			United States		
	December 1 2014	December 1 2015	'15 as % of '14	December 1 2014	December 1 2015	'15 as % of '14
	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)	(percent)	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)	(percent)
On-Farm Stocks						
Corn	1,320,000	1,370,000	104	7,087,000	6,829,000	96
Oats	1,600	1,600	100	31,300	36,750	117
Soybeans	180,000	195,000	108	1,218,000	1,309,500	108
Wheat	(D)	(D)	(X)	472,800	503,450	106
Off-Farm Stocks ¹						
Corn	728,985	818,737	112	4,124,380	4,382,605	106
Oats	(D)	(D)	(X)	35,670	46,135	129
Soybeans	228,616	261,572	114	1,309,744	1,405,317	107
Wheat	2,280	2,467	108	1,056,830	1,234,917	117
Total Stocks						
Corn	2,048,985	2,188,737	107	11,211,380	11,211,605	100
Oats	(D)	(D)	(X)	66,970	82,885	124
Soybeans	408,616	456,572	112	2,527,744	2,714,817	107
Wheat	(D)	(D)	(X)	1,529,630	1,738,367	114

(D)Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. (X) Not Applicable.

¹Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

GRAIN STORAGE CAPACITY

Iowa on-farm storage capacity on December 1, 2014, was 2.00 billion bushels, unchanged from December 1, 2013, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Grain Stocks* report. Iowa's 900 off-farm storage facilities have a storage capacity of 1.43 billion bushels, 30 million bushels above the previous year. As of December 1, 2014, Iowa had a total of 3.43 billion bushels of storage capacity, the largest total storage capacity of any State.

Grain Stocks Storage Capacity – Iowa and Selected States: December 1, 2014 and 2015

Position and Grain	On-Farm Storage Capacity		Off-Farm Storage Capacity		Total Storage Capacity	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)
Illinois	1,460,000	1,470,000	1,460,000	1,470,000	2,920,000	2,940,000
Iowa	2,000,000	2,000,000	1,430,000	1,500,000	3,430,000	3,500,000
Kansas	380,000	380,000	1,025,000	1,050,000	1,405,000	1,430,000
Minnesota	1,500,000	1,500,000	720,000	750,000	2,220,000	2,250,000
Missouri	520,000	530,000	245,000	250,000	765,000	780,000
Nebraska	1,180,000	1,180,000	896,950	928,940	2,076,950	2,108,940
North Dakota	880,000	880,000	409,000	424,000	1,289,000	1,304,000
South Dakota	690,000	710,000	345,000	394,000	1,035,000	1,104,000
Wisconsin	375,000	375,000	340,000	355,000	715,000	730,000
United States	13,135,000	13,235,000	10,659,320	10,977,120	23,794,320	24,212,120

HORTICULTURAL SPECIALTIES

Iowa's total floriculture, nursery and specialty crops generated \$99.3 million in sales in 2014, up 26.9 percent from 2009. This accounts for 0.7 percent of all U.S. horticulture sales in 2014. Iowa producers increased in number from 217 in 2009 to 289 in 2014, a 33.2 percent increase. Of the 289 horticultural specialty operations, family- or individually-owned operations were the most common, accounting for 59.2 percent of all operations, but corporately owned operations accounted for 78.5 percent of all sales (\$78.0 million). Total industry expenses in Iowa totaled \$81 million, up 27.9 percent since 2009. Hired labor costs were the largest expense, accounting for 39.9 percent of total expenses in 2014, up from 36.5 percent of total expenses in 2009.

Sales value of Iowa flower seeds were ranked second in the nation, composing 23.2 percent of the total US flower seed sales, with \$7.34 million in sales. Ten operations harvested and sold over 1.28 million pounds of clean seed. In 2009, only 104,000 pound of flower seeds were harvested and sold in Iowa.

Annual bedding and garden plants had the largest increase in total sales from 2009, up \$18.2 million to \$40.5 million in sales in 2014. There were 154 operations with annual bedding and garden plant sales, up 45.3 percent from 2009. Seventy-five percent of the sales were wholesale sales, while the remainder were retail sales. Potted flowering plants also showed strong growth, with sales increasing 33.0 percent to \$10.3 million in sales in 2014. This gain in sales was partially off-set by declining sales of nursery stock, which decreased 59.7 percent from 2009 to 2014.

Food crops grown under protection gained in prominence as the number of operations engaged in this practice increased 168 percent to 75 operations. Total sales from food crops grown under protection increased 70.0 percent to 8.28 million dollars in 2014. Total production increased 74.8 percent to 25,610 cwt.

Top Horticultural Commodities – Iowa: 2009 and 2014

	2009 Sales (1,000 dollars)	2014 Sales (1,000 dollars)	% change from 2009 to 2014
All Horticulture	78,284	99,330	26.9
Annual Bedding/Garden Plants	22,346	40,536	81.4
Food Crops Under Protection	4,870	3,417	70.0
Nursery Stock	20,391	8,210	-59.7
Potted Flowering Plants	7,726	10,279	33.0
Potted Herbaceous Perennials	6,842	7,132	4.2
Sod, Sprigs and Plugs	4,053	3,417	-15.7

Top Annual Bedding/Garden Plants – Iowa: 2009 and 2014

Commodity	Operations		Value of Sales (1,000 dollars)	
	2009	2014	2009	2014
Flowering and Foliar Annuals, Total	102	147	20,610	34,734
Combination planters	25	40	1,174	2,614
Geraniums (from vegetative cuttings)	72	104	2,314	3,049
Impatiens, other	76	118	716	1,872
Petunias	91	135	1,728	2,912
Other flowering & foliar annuals	35	52	3,958	17,291
Vegetable-type Bedding Plants, Total	67	82	1,736	5,802
Herbs (culinary)	32	47	(D)	1,424
Tomatoes	53	68	700	1,903
Other vegetable-type bedding plants	33	43	(D)	1,346

(D) Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.