



PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

IOWA: Corn: Iowa farmers intend to plant 13.9 million acres of corn for all purposes as of March 1, 2011. This is up 500,000 acres from 2010.

Soybeans: Producers intend to plant 9.40 million acres of soybeans in Iowa this year. This is down 400,000 acres from the previous year's planted acres.

Oats: Farmers intend to plant 150,000 acres of oats for all purposes, down 30,000 acres from last year.

All Hay: Iowa producers intend to harvest 1.15 million acres of hay, down 50,000 from last year.

UNITED STATES: Corn growers intend to plant 92.2 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2011, up

5 percent from last year and 7 percent higher than in 2009. If realized, this will be the second highest planted acreage in the United States since 1944, behind only the 93.5 million acres planted in 2007. Acreage increases of 250,000 or more are expected in Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, and South Dakota. The largest decrease is expected in Texas, down 150,000 acres.

Soybean planted area for 2011 is estimated at 76.6 million acres, down 1 percent from last year. If realized, the United States planted area will be the third largest on record. Compared with last year, planted acreage declines of 100,000 acres or more are expected in Iowa, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, and Ohio. If realized, the planted area in New York and North Dakota will be the largest on record.

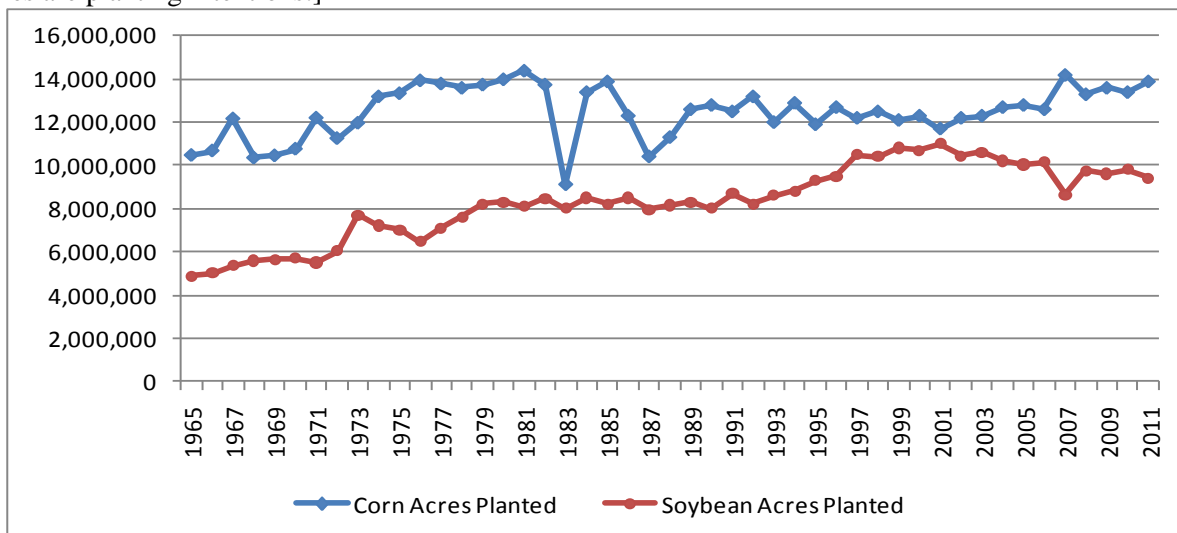
Prospective Plantings, March 1, Iowa and United States

Crop	Iowa				United States			
	2009	2010	Indicated 2011	'11 as % of '10	2009	2010	Indicated 2011	'11 as % of '10
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, all	13,600	13,400	13,900	104	86,382	88,192	92,178	105
Oats	200	180	150	83	3,404	3,138	2,839	90
Soybeans	9,600	9,800	9,400	96	77,451	77,404	76,609	99
Hay, all ¹	1,220	1,200	1,150	96	59,775	59,862	58,973	99
Wheat, all	28	15	25	167	59,168	53,603	58,021	108

¹ Acres for harvest.

Corn and Soybean Acres Planted, Iowa, 1966-2011

[2011 figures are planting intentions.]



NASS March Agricultural Survey

The March Crops/Stocks Survey is one of the most important yearly surveys conducted by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). It provides the official USDA estimates of U.S. farmers' planting intentions for 2011, offering a glimpse of the upcoming growing season.

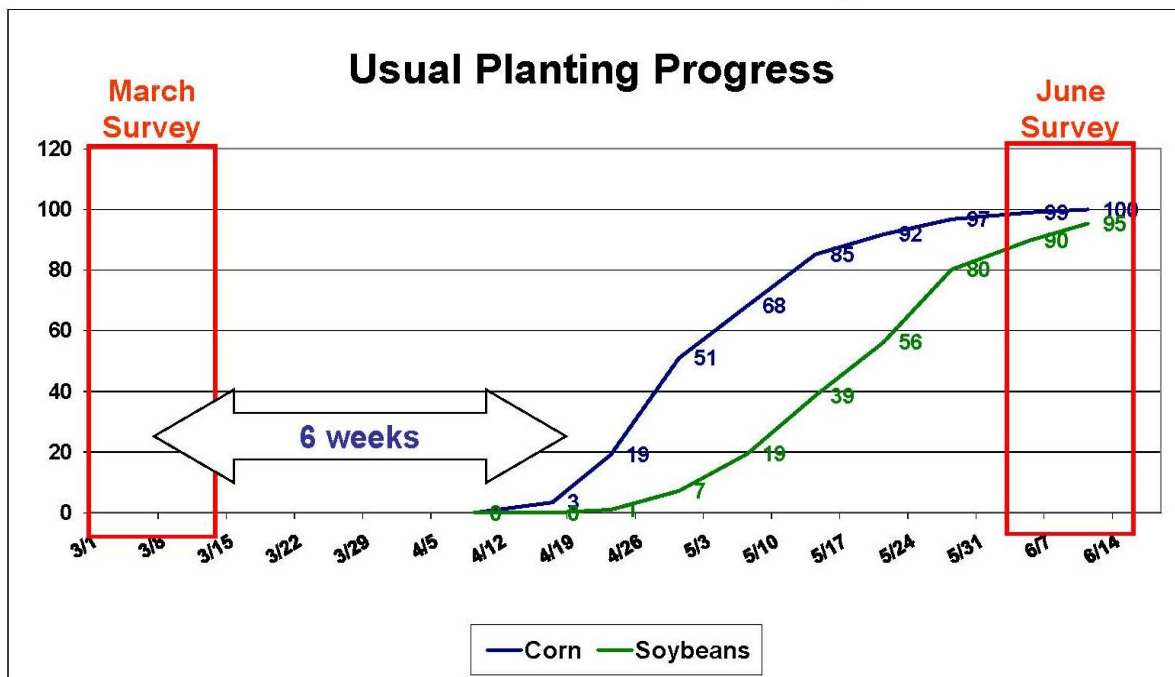
The *Prospective Plantings* report provides the first insight into the year's crop supplies and is used to establish futures and commodity prices worldwide. It is one of the most timely, accurate and important sources of information for producers when making critical decisions for their operations and finalizing their cropping and marketing plans.

NASS surveyed approximately 85,000 farm operators across the United States, including nearly 2,000 Iowa producers, between February 26 and March 17. This report provides only a preliminary indication of the acres farmers intend to plant. Actual plantings will depend greatly upon weather, economic conditions and the availability of production inputs at the time producers must make their final planting decisions.

NASS will publish data on actual planted area in the *Acreage* report, to be released June 30, 2011.



Acreage Intentions vs. Actual Planted Acreage



As the above graph shows, the March Crops/Stocks Survey is conducted approximately a month before actual planting begins. Depending on weather conditions, planting is nearly complete by the end of May. Thus the June Crops/Stocks Survey is conducted about the time most farmers have completed planting and provides the data used in the June *Acreage* report.

Grain Stocks

Iowa: Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2011 totaled 1.27 billion bushels, down 15 percent from last year. Of the total stocks, 54 percent were stored on-farm. The December 2010 - February 2011 disappearance totaled 637 million bushels, 6 percent below the 679 million bushels used last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions on March 1, 2011 totaled 246 million bushels, down 2 percent from the 251 million bushels on hand March 1, 2010. Of the total stocks, 38 percent were stored on-farm. Indicated disappearance for the December 2010 - February 2011 period was 141 million bushels, 3 percent below the 145 million bushels used last year.

Oat stocks stored on the farm on March 1, 2011 totaled 1.15 million bushels, 18 percent below the 1.40 million bushels on hand March 1, 2010.

United States: Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2011 totaled 6.52 billion bushels, down 15 percent from March 1, 2010. Of the total stocks, 3.38 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 26 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.14 billion bushels, are down slightly from

a year ago. The December 2010 - February 2011 indicated disappearance is 3.53 billion bushels, compared with 3.21 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions on March 1, 2011 totaled 1.25 billion bushels, down 2 percent from March 1, 2010. Soybean stocks stored on farms are estimated at 505 million bushels, down 17 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 744 million bushels, are up 13 percent from last March. Indicated disappearance for the December 2010 - February 2011 quarter totaled 1.03 billion bushels, down 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Oats stored in all positions on March 1, 2011 totaled 86.3 million bushels, 12 percent below the stocks on March 1, 2010. Of the total stocks on hand, 27.0 million bushels are stored on farms, down 13 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 59.4 million bushels, down 11 percent from the previous year. Indicated disappearance during December 2010 - February 2011 totaled 14.7 million bushels, up 16 percent from the same period a year ago.

Stocks of Grain, March 1, Iowa and United States

Position and Grain	Iowa			United States		
	March 1 2010	March 1 2011	'11 as % of '10	March 1 2010	March 1 2011	'11 as % of '10
	(1,000 Bushels)	(1,000 Bushels)	(Percent)	(1,000 Bushels)	(1,000 Bushels)	(Percent)
On-Farm Stocks						
Corn	930,000	680,000	73	4,548,000	3,384,000	74
Soybeans	115,000	94,000	82	609,200	505,000	83
Oats	1,400	1,150	82	30,900	26,950	87
Wheat	(D)	(D)	(X)	348,250	288,010	83
Off-Farm Stocks ¹						
Corn	568,433	589,258	104	3,145,787	3,138,804	100
Soybeans	136,325	152,173	112	660,868	743,885	113
Oats	(D)	5,634	(X)	67,091	59,395	89
Wheat	2,093	1,686	81	1,008,107	1,136,548	113
Total Stocks						
Corn	1,498,433	1,269,258	85	7,693,787	6,522,804	85
Soybeans	251,325	246,173	98	1,270,068	1,248,885	98
Oats	(D)	6,784	(X)	97,991	86,345	88
Wheat	(D)	(D)	(X)	1,356,357	1,424,558	105

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

(X) Not applicable

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

Crops and Weather Report

Nearly everyone has heard estimates from our *Crops and Weather Report*, even if they didn't realize it at the time. The *Crops and Weather Report*, especially the weekly report published April through November, is by far our most watched and quoted report. Data is collected from a variety of sources in every county in Iowa. If you would like to subscribe to the report you can go to www.nass.usda.gov/Publications and follow the links. If you would like to volunteer to participate in the survey each week throughout the crop year (planting to harvest), please contact our office at 1-800-772-0825.

