



CROP PRODUCTION

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Iowa **corn** production is forecast at 2.43 billion bushels according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service *Crop Production* report. If realized, the production would be the highest on record, one percent above the previous high from 2009. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 183 bushels per acre, an increase of 5 bushels per acre from last year. If realized, the yield will be the highest on record, 2 bushels above the high set in 2009. Corn planted acreage is estimated at 13.7 million acres. An estimated 13.3 million of the acres planted will be harvested for grain.

Soybean production is forecast at 516 million bushels. If realized, this would be the second highest soybean production on record, behind only the 525 million bushels produced in 2005. The August 1 forecasted yield is 52 bushels per acre, 0.5 bushel above 2014. Soybean planted acreage is estimated at 10.0 million acres with 9.92 million acres to be harvested.

Oat production for grain is forecast at 3.58 million bushels. The expected yield is 65 bushels per acre, up 1 bushel from 2014, but down 2 bushels from the July forecast. An estimated 55,000 acres will be harvested for grain.

Iowa hay yield for **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** is expected to be 3.60 tons per acre with a total production of 2.95 million tons, a production increase of 1 percent from the previous year. The projected yield for **other hay** is 2.50 tons per acre, with production at 863,000 tons, up 14 percent from 2014.

All crop forecasts in this report are based on August 1 conditions and do not reflect weather effects since that time. The next corn and soybean production forecasts, based on conditions as of September 1, will be released on September 11.

Area Harvested, Yield, and Production Summary – Iowa and United States: 2014 and Forecasted August 1, 2015

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(Bu)	13,300	13,300	178.0	183.0	2,367,400	2,433,900
Hay, Alfalfa.....(Ton)	810	820	3.60	3.60	2,916	2,952
Hay, Other.....(Ton)	345	345	2.20	2.50	759	863
Oats(Bu)	55	55	64.0	65.0	3,520	3,575
Soybeans(Bu)	9,820	9,920	51.5	52.0	505,730	515,840
UNITED STATES						
Corn(Bu)	83,136	81,101	171.0	168.8	14,215,532	13,626,063
Hay, Alfalfa.....(Ton)	18,445	18,337	3.33	3.39	61,446	62,092
Hay, Other.....(Ton)	38,647	38,202	2.03	2.09	78,352	80,008
Oats(Bu)	1,029	1,220	67.7	70.0	69,684	85,456
Soybeans(Bu)	83,061	83,549	47.8	46.9	3,968,823	3,916,448

Corn – Iowa Districts: 2014 and Forecasted August 1, 2015

District	Harvested for Grain		Yield/acre		Production	
	2014	2015	2014	2015 ¹	2014	2015
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(bushels)	(bushels)	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)
NW	1,941	1,945	175.3	193.0	340,250	375,251
NC	1,950	1,925	171.9	192.0	335,215	368,951
NE	1,630	1,610	170.2	189.0	277,480	303,602
WC	2,015	2,015	179.2	181.0	361,111	364,889
C	1,908	1,940	182.4	188.0	348,025	364,266
EC	1,366	1,365	186.9	184.0	255,293	251,722
SW	1,051	1,055	175.4	167.0	184,368	176,638
SC	536	540	169.5	155.0	90,826	83,608
SE	903	905	193.6	160.0	174,832	144,973
State	13,300	13,300	178.0	183.0	2,367,400	2,433,900

Soybeans – Iowa Districts: 2014 and Forecasted August 1, 2015

District	Harvested for Grain		Yield/acre		Production	
	2014	2015	2014	2015 ¹	2014	2015
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(bushels)	(bushels)	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)
NW	1,525	1,549	52.3	57.0	79,802	88,071
NC	1,190	1,265	47.6	56.0	56,609	70,687
NE	797	814	49.9	55.5	39,803	45,063
WC	1,531	1,536	53.1	49.0	81,345	75,032
C	1,415	1,398	51.7	54.0	73,210	75,671
EC	957	953	54.8	54.0	52,415	51,558
SW	998	1,000	52.7	46.0	52,610	45,803
SC	616	614	46.6	43.0	28,689	26,341
SE	791	791	52.1	47.5	41,247	37,614
State	9,820	9,920	51.5	52.0	505,730	515,840

¹ Yield rounded

COMPUTER USE

Seventy-four percent of Iowa farms own or lease a computer, 3 percentage points higher than the U.S. percentage, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service *Farm Computer Use* report. Seventy-six percent of Iowa farms report having access to a computer, up slightly from 2013. Farms using computers for their farm business remains unchanged at 53 percent, still well above the national percentage, which rose to 43 percent.

Seventy-four percent of Iowa farms have Internet access, up 3 percentage points from 2013. A wireless connection is now the most common method of accessing the Internet, with 28 percent of farms in Iowa with access to the Internet utilizing wireless. In 2015, DSL (Digital Subscriber Line) service declined to 26 percent, down from 34 percent in 2013. The proportion of Iowa farms using satellite service increased to 19 percent and cable modem service increased to 14 percent.

Farm Computer Usage – Iowa and United States: 2011, 2013, and 2015

Farms	Iowa			United States		
	2011 (percent)	2013 (percent)	2015 (percent)	2011 (percent)	2013 (percent)	2015 (percent)
With computer access	69	75	76	65	70	73
Own or lease computers	68	73	74	63	68	71
Use computers for farm business	52	53	53	37	40	43
With Internet access	66	71	74	62	67	70
Purchase agricultural inputs over Internet	16	19	22	14	16	19
Conduct agricultural marketing activities over Internet	25	30	28	12	14	16
Access USDA/NASS reports over Internet	16	15	17	7	8	10
Access other USDA reports over Internet	23	23	25	13	14	17
Access other federal government websites over Internet	17	15	18	14	14	17
Conduct business with any USDA website	7	9	11	5	6	9
Conduct business with any other federal government website	7	6	8	4	5	7
Conduct business with any non-agricultural website	38	46	46	35	40	44
Primary method of Internet access						
Dialup	10	6	5	12	5	3
DSL	36	34	26	38	35	30
Cable	7	11	14	11	13	12
Satellite	11	14	19	15	17	21
Wireless	28	28	28	20	24	29
Other/Unknown	8	7	8	4	6	5

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in Iowa during July 2015 totaled 406 million pounds, up 4 percent from July 2014 according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Milk Production* report. The average number of milk cows during July, at 212,000 head, was unchanged from last month but 4,000 more than a year ago. Monthly production per cow averaged 1,915 pounds, up 30 pounds from last July. This is the highest monthly milk per cow for July on record for Iowa.

Milk Cows and Production – Selected States: July 2014 and 2015

State	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	Change from 2014
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
Arizona	193	195	1,960	1,985	378	387	2.4
California	1,779	1,778	1,980	1,915	3,522	3,405	-3.3
Colorado	145	145	2,150	2,210	312	320	2.6
Florida	123	125	1,715	1,710	211	214	1.4
Idaho	579	586	2,115	2,105	1,225	1,234	0.7
Illinois	94	94	1,640	1,670	154	157	1.9
Indiana	179	181	1,830	1,855	328	336	2.4
Iowa	208	212	1,885	1,915	392	406	3.6
Kansas	142	143	1,845	1,860	262	266	1.5
Michigan	394	409	2,120	2,170	835	888	6.3
Minnesota	460	460	1,670	1,740	768	800	4.2
New Mexico	323	323	2,130	2,040	688	659	-4.2
New York	615	619	1,920	1,970	1,181	1,219	3.2
Ohio	266	266	1,745	1,760	464	468	0.9
Oregon	123	122	1,755	1,730	216	211	-2.3
Pennsylvania	530	530	1,690	1,730	896	917	2.3
South Dakota	97	106	1,845	1,900	179	201	12.3
Texas	470	462	1,840	1,850	865	855	-1.2
Utah	95	96	2,000	2,020	190	194	2.1
Vermont	132	132	1,730	1,740	228	230	0.9
Virginia	93	91	1,580	1,630	147	148	0.7
Washington	272	275	2,070	2,050	563	564	0.2
Wisconsin	1,271	1,280	1,870	1,955	2,377	2,502	5.3
23-State Total	8,583	8,630	1,909	1,921	16,381	16,581	1.2

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves