

2009 USA Dry Pea, Lentil and Chickpea Planting Estimates

Date: July 10, 2009

The latest US Department of Agriculture (USDA) surveys^(a) of seeded acreage indicate that US farmers seeded 51% more lentils, 18% more chickpeas and 0.2% fewer dry peas than in 2008. The US Dry Pea & Lentil Council (USADPLC) also surveyed its member farmers and processors in late March regarding seeding intentions, resulting in significantly lower estimates.

Chickpeas: The USDA estimates an 18% increase in chickpea seedings while USADPLC figures show nearly a 30% decrease. USDA predicts a big jump in small chickpea acres with a slight decrease in large chickpea acres. USADPLC projects a small decrease in small chickpeas and over a 30% decrease in large chickpeas with Washington, Idaho and North Dakota estimated to plant 30-40% fewer acres than in 2008.

US Chickpeas					
Area Planted by State, 2006-2009					
Size & State	2006	2007	2008	2009 ¹	2009/2008
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Small Chickpeas ²					
CA	0	0	0	0	-
ID	1,600	1,400	1,700	3,600	212%
MT	1,000	600	400	400	100%
ND	3,000	1,800	1,600	5,300	331%
SD	0	0	400	900	225%
WA	1,400	600	0	800	-
US	7,000	4,500	4,100	11,000	268%
Large Chickpeas ³					
CA	6,500	2,600	2,600	4,300	165%
ID	16,200	15,400	10,800	7,300	68%
MT	2,600	3,300	700	1,100	157%
ND	2,200	5,100	2,100	1,200	57%
OR	1,400	1,300	300	400	133%
SD	3,800	2,300	600	400	67%
WA	15,200	16,200	11,900	13,400	113%
US	48,300	46,200	29,100	28,000	96%
US Total Chickpeas	55,300	50,700	33,100	39,100	118%

¹ Intended plantings in 2009 as indicated by reports from farmers during a USDA survey of 86,000 farm operators conducted the first two weeks of March 2009.

² Garbanzo beans smaller than 7 mm

³ Garbanzo beans larger than 20/64 inch

Lentils: Both USDA and the US Dry Pea & Lentil Council (USADPLC) predict an increase in lentil acreage, but the industry foresees a much smaller increase, especially in North Dakota and Montana, due to a lack of seed (lentil stocks were very tight this spring) and attractive spring wheat prices.

US Lentils					
Area Planted by State, 2006-2009					
State	2006	2007	2008	2009¹	2009/2008
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Percent</i>
ID	20,200	15,400	15,400	22,300	145%
MT	57,500	35,200	33,600	50,600	151%
ND	64,800	44,500	38,400	64,800	169%
WA	31,200	27,500	22,300	28,300	127%
US	173,600	122,600	109,700	165,900	151%

¹ Plantings in 2009 as indicated by the USDA farm survey of June-July 2009.

Dry Peas: USDA estimates dry pea acreage to remain practically the same in 2009. USADPLC projects a small 5% decrease in overall dry pea acreage with the biggest percentage of change in Washington, estimated to be down 12%.

US Dry Peas					
Area Planted by State, 2006-2008					
State	2006	2007	2008	2009¹	2009/2008
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Percent</i>
ID	12,100	10,100	15,000	16,200	108%
MT	85,000	95,100	99,200	97,100	98%
ND	246,900	208,400	210,400	206,400	98%
OR	3,400	2,200	2,200	2,300	105%
WA	27,100	27,100	30,400	34,400	113%
US	374,500	343,000	357,100	356,400	99.80%

¹ Plantings in 2009 as indicated by the USDA farm survey of June-July 2009.

USADPLC expects the dry pea acreage breakdown by type to be **60% yellow peas**, **39.5% green peas** and **0,5% Austrian Winter peas**.

(a) See USDA/NASS reports at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>