

2009 USA Dry Bean Planting Estimates

Date: July 1, 2009

US Dry Bean Seeded Acreage Predicted Down 2% in 2009

According to this season's second US Department of Agriculture (USDA) survey of US farmers published June 30, 2009^(a), US growers will plant 2% fewer hectares to dry beans in 2009 than they did in 2008. USDA's initial March 2009 farmer survey predicted a 3% increase in area planted to dry beans, reflecting general industry expectation that dry bean acreage would increase in the US in response to the drop in grain prices from their 2008 highs, as well as strong prices for most types of dry beans which were trading this spring at or above the 3-year average price.

Then, low temperatures and above-average precipitation delayed dry bean planting in many US growing areas. North Dakota and Minnesota suffered widespread flooding in March and April along the Red and James Rivers, making seeding impossible in many low-lying areas. Cool, wet weather also delayed seeding in Michigan and Nebraska. At the same time, soybean prices increased almost 20% and corn 6% between March and May. Planting delays and rising commodity prices convinced many farmers to shift acreage into alternative crops.

It now looks certain that US farmers will be unable to surpass last year's production levels for most dry bean classes. Last year's record 1,768 lbs/acre yields will be difficult to attain again this year in light of delayed dry bean planting in many US growing areas, especially in North Dakota. Late plantings have also lowered industry expectations regarding the percentage of planted area that will be harvested.

- **Pinto, black** and **navy** bean production is expected to decline 10%, 15% and 20% respectively in 2009 due largely to reduced acreage in **North Dakota** and **Michigan** and an expected return to average yields.
- 2009 **great northern** bean production is expected to drop at least 25% in 2009 due to Nebraska farmers' 15% reduction in dry bean acreage combined with a shift in acreage into pinto and other bean classes.
- **Light** and **dark red kidney** bean production is expected to decline 14% due to reduced seeded acreage and a predicted return to average yields.
- Farmers in California and Texas increased their plantings of **blackeye** beans in 2009 and production is expected to rebound by at least 30%.
- **Garbanzo** bean production is also expected to rise 8-9% to over 54,000 mt in 2009 because of a sharp increase in **small caliber (less than 7 mm) garbanzo** plantings in North Dakota and Montana. US farmers reported seeding 4% fewer acres of **large caliber garbanzos** this spring.

US Dry Bean Seeded Acreage 2006-2009

State	2006	2007	2008	2009¹	2009/2008
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Arizona	-	-	-	4,500	-
California	27,100	23,900	10,100	24,300	141%
Colorado	28,300	19,400	19,400	20,200	4%
Idaho	42,500	36,400	32,400	40,500	25%
Kansas	4,500	2,600	2,400	2,600	8%
Michigan	91,100	80,900	80,900	78,900	-2%
Minnesota	58,700	60,700	60,700	54,600	-10%
Montana	7,900	7,400	4,500	4,500	0%
Nebraska	56,700	44,500	54,600	46,500	-15%
New Mexico	3,300	3,400	3,800	4,900	29%
New York	7,700	6,900	6,900	7,700	12%
North Dakota	271,100	279,200	267,100	242,800	-9%
Oregon	4,000	3,100	1,900	2,000	5%
South Dakota	8,700	5,300	3,400	4,700	38%
Texas	8,100	6,900	9,700	10,900	12%
Utah	1,200	600	500	0	-
Washington	24,700	24,300	20,200	24,300	20%
Wisconsin	2,300	2,500	2,600	2,300	-12%
Wyoming	11,700	10,100	12,700	14,200	12%
US	659,600	618,100	605,000	590,300	-2%
¹ Intended plantings in 2009 as indicated by reports from farmers during a USDA survey conducted the first two weeks of June 2009.					

(a) <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/Acre/Acre-06-30-2009.pdf>

Survey Procedures used by NASS for its June 2009 Acreage Report: The estimates of planted and harvested acreages in this report are based primarily on surveys conducted the first 2 weeks of June. These surveys are based on a probability area frame survey with a sample of approximately 11,000 segments or parcels of land (average approximately 1 square mile) and a probability sample of over 87,000 farm operators.