

TOBACCO

The December 1, 2004 tobacco forecast placed **broadleaf** production at 4.0 million pounds in the Connecticut River Valley, 18 percent above 2003's disease-reduced crop. Cooler than normal temperatures delayed ripening of the 2004 crop, and broadleaf harvest was underway one to two weeks later than normal. Two severe storms hit at the end of June and middle of July, with high winds and heavy rains destroying entire fields. Blue mold did not appear in the Valley until early August; however, damage was generally light due to the late arrival of the disease and grower vigilance. Broadleaf yields are expected to average 1,681 pounds per acre in the two states according to early-December assessments, compared with 1,429 pounds per acre in 2003.

The preliminary value of the 2004 broadleaf crop was placed at \$21.9 million, almost double the value of a year earlier due to increased production and improved prices.

Shade production in the Connecticut River Valley is expected to total 1.9 million pounds in 2004, a 43 percent increase over the previous year's disease-reduced output. Yields are expected to average 1,592 pounds per acre, compared with the 1,253 pounds per acre average from a year earlier. Tobacco harvest was completed in most areas by mid-September, on schedule with normal.

[Tobacco charts appear on page 44.]

TOBACCO: Acreage, Yield, Production and Value, 1995 - 2004

State and Year	Broadleaf Tobacco (Type 51)					Shade Tobacco (Type 61)					All Tobacco			
	Area Hvstd	Yield per Acre	Production ^{1/}	Price per Pound	Value of Production	Area Hvstd	Yield per Acre	Production ^{1/}	Price per Pound	Value of Production	Area Hvstd	Yield per Acre	Production ^{1/}	Value of Production
	Acres	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Dollars	1,000 Dollars	Acres	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Dollars	1,000 Dollars	Acres	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Dollars
Connecticut														
1995	1,000	1,980	1,980	3.85	7,623	990	1,560	1,544	2/	2/	1,990	1,771	3,524	2/
1996	1,220	1,840	2,245	6.20	13,919	1,040	1,490	1,550	2/	2/	2,260	1,679	3,795	2/
1997	1,315	1,760	2,314	6.00	13,884	1,230	1,475	1,814	2/	2/	2,545	1,622	4,128	2/
1998	1,450	1,600	2,320	5.40	12,528	1,380	1,435	1,980	2/	2/	2,830	1,519	4,300	2/
1999	1,530	1,650	2,525	4.50	11,363	1,510	1,950	2,945	2/	2/	3,040	1,799	5,470	2/
2000	650	1,500	975	4.90	4,778	1,000	1,550	1,550	2/	2/	1,650	1,530	2,525	2/
2001	1,380	1,790	2,470	5.55	13,709	970	1,415	1,373	2/	2/	2,350	1,635	3,843	2/
2002	1,350	1,820	2,457	5.45	13,391	650	1,320	858	2/	2/	2,000	1,658	3,315	2/
2003	1,400	1,400	1,960	3.50	6,860	780	1,290	1,006	2/	2/	2,180	1,361	2,966	2/
2004	1,450	1,700	2,465	5.50	13,558	890	1,600	1,424	2/	2/	2,340	1,662	3,889	2/
Massachusetts														
1995	240	1,920	461	4.05	1,867	275	1,660	457	2/	2/	515	1,783	918	2/
1996	410	1,600	656	6.55	4,297	390	1,425	556	2/	2/	800	1,515	1,212	2/
1997	725	1,825	1,323	9.50	12,569	450	1,310	590	2/	2/	1,175	1,628	1,913	2/
1998	925	1,445	1,337	5.67	7,581	340	1,325	451	2/	2/	1,265	1,413	1,788	2/
1999	970	1,695	1,644	5.10	8,384	350	1,950	683	2/	2/	1,320	1,763	2,327	2/
2000	250	720	180	5.00	900	260	1,000	260	2/	2/	510	863	440	2/
2001	840	1,780	1,495	5.65	8,447	300	1,040	312	2/	2/	1,140	1,585	1,807	2/
2002	850	1,840	1,564	5.25	8,211	310	950	295	2/	2/	1,160	1,603	1,859	2/
2003	970	1,470	1,426	3.70	5,276	280	1,150	322	2/	2/	1,250	1,398	1,748	2/
2004	920	1,650	1,518	5.50	8,349	300	1,570	471	2/	2/	1,220	1,630	1,989	2/
New England ^{3/}														
1995	1,240	1,969	2,441	3.89	9,490	1,265	1,582	2,001	2/	2/	2,505	1,773	4,442	2/
1996	1,630	1,780	2,901	6.28	18,216	1,430	1,473	2,106	2/	2/	3,060	1,636	5,007	2/
1997	2,040	1,783	3,637	7.27	26,453	1,680	1,431	2,404	2/	2/	3,720	1,624	6,041	2/
1998	2,375	1,540	3,657	5.50	20,109	1,720	1,413	2,431	2/	2/	4,095	1,487	6,088	2/
1999	2,500	1,668	4,169	4.74	19,747	1,860	1,950	3,628	2/	2/	4,360	1,788	7,797	2/
2000	900	1,283	1,155	4.92	5,678	1,260	1,432	1,810	25.30	45,793	2,160	1,373	2,965	51,471
2001	2,220	1,786	3,965	5.59	22,156	1,270	1,327	1,685	23.00	38,755	3,490	1,619	5,650	60,911
2002	2,200	1,828	4,021	5.37	21,602	960	1,201	1,153	22.50	25,943	3,160	1,637	5,174	47,545
2003	2,370	1,429	3,386	3.58	12,136	1,060	1,253	1,328	26.00	34,528	3,430	1,374	4,714	46,664
2004	2,370	1,681	3,983	5.50	21,907	1,190	1,592	1,895	4/	4/	3,560	1,651	5,878	4/

^{1/} Any leaf that is not harvested, or harvested and destroyed for any reason, is excluded from production.

^{2/} Connecticut and Massachusetts Shade type 61 price and value of production not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

^{3/} New England includes Connecticut and Massachusetts.

^{4/} Connecticut and Massachusetts shade price available February, 2006.