

OATS

Maine's whole grain oat production totaled 1.96 million bushels in 2005, down 23 percent from the previous year. Oat yields averaged 70 bushels per acre in 2005, down ten bushels from the 2004 average. Grain prices per bushel decreased 10 cents to \$1.10 in 2005. Decreased output and prices received for oats placed value of production \$2.16 million in 2005, down 30 percent from a year earlier.

Maine oats were seeded late due to excessive spring rainfall. Warm, sunny conditions prevailed during June, but by mid-

July, the crop was beginning to show signs of stress due to lack of moisture. Heat and sparse shower activity through August brought crop development back on schedule with normal. Crop conditions were rated good to excellent as harvest got underway the end of August. However, excessive rain throughout late September and early October saturated fields, brought harvest to a standstill, and caused the condition of the crop to worsen. Growers who intended to harvest oats for grain reported acreage was plowed down, cut for greenchop, or abandoned due to excessive moisture.

OATS: Acreage, Yield, Production and Value, 1996 – 2005

State and Year	Area		Yield per Acre	Grain Production	Price per Bushel	Value of Production
	Planted for all Purposes	Harvested for Grain				
	1,000 Acres		Bushels ^{1/}	1,000 Bushels	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
MAINE						
1996	31	28	75	2,100	1.57	3,297
1997	26	23	73	1,679	1.20	2,015
1998	24	23	73	1,679	0.97	1,629
1999	30	27	80	2,160	0.90	1,944
2000	28	26	70	1,820	0.90	1,638
2001	31	29	75	2,175	1.10	2,393
2002	28	27	85	2,295	1.45	3,328
2003	27	26	78	2,028	1.10	2,231
2004	34	32	80	2,560	1.20	3,072
2005	32	28	70	1,960	1.10	2,156

^{1/} Standard weight used for one bushel of oats is 32 pounds



BARLEY

Maine growers harvested 1.32 million bushels of barley in 2005. This production matches the output from 2004, and is 25 percent below total production in 2003. Barley yields averaged 60 bushels per acre in 2005, unchanged from a year earlier and down 5 bushels per acre from 2003. The value of the 2005 crop was placed at \$2.05 million, down two percent from the previous year. Grain prices per bushel decreased three cents to \$1.55 in 2005. As with oats, planting of barley ranged one to

two weeks later than normal due to wet spring conditions. Although warm sunny conditions in the summer brought development back on schedule with normal, excessive moisture in September slowed harvest progress and prevented barley yields from reaching full potential. The last of the barley was combined by early November, approximately one month later than normal.

BARLEY: Acreage, Yield, Production and Value, 2000 – 2005 ^{1/}

State and Year	Area		Yield per Acre	Grain Production	Price per Bushel	Value of Production
	Planted for all Purposes	Harvested for Grain				
	1,000 Acres		Bushels ^{2/}	1,000 Bushels	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
MAINE						
2000	26	25	70	1,750	1.45	2,538
2001	28	27	70	1,890	1.50	2,835
2002	28	27	80	2,160	1.70	3,672
2003	28	27	65	1,755	1.30	2,282
2004	23	22	60	1,320	1.58	2,086
2005	23	22	60	1,320	1.55	2,046

^{1/} Estimates began in 2000.

^{2/} Standard weight used for one bushel of barley is 48 pounds.