

## OATS

Maine's whole grain oat production totaled 1.65 million bushels in 2006, down 16 percent from the previous year. Oat yields averaged 55 bushels per acre in 2006, down 15 bushels from the 2005 average. Grain prices per bushel rose one cent to \$1.20 in 2006. Decreased output for oats placed value of production \$1.98 million in 2006, down 15 percent from a year earlier.

Warm, dry conditions in April allowed Maine farmers to get an early start with planting of small grains. Although heavy rain during May stalled field work on most crops across New

England, Maine's oat crops was completely planted and mostly emerged by the end of the first week of June, well ahead of the five year average. Small grain harvest began during the first week of August and progressed ahead of schedule. Small grain conditions were rated from good to excellent for most of the season; however, operators in Southern Aroostook County noted there was some loss in grain and potato fields from too much rain early in the season. Additionally, several growers reported that excess moisture caused many grain fields to be overrun by underseeded clover, bringing down yields to their lowest levels in years.

## OATS: Acreage, Yield, Production and Value, 1997 – 2006

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 <sup>1/</sup>	1,000 Bushels	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
<b>Maine</b>						
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	1.19	2,332
2006	31	30	55	1,650	1.20	1,980

<sup>1/</sup> Standard weight used for one bushel of oats is 32 pounds.



## BARLEY

During 2006, only 17,000 acres of barley were harvested for grain in Maine, 5,000 fewer acres than the previous year. Total barley production in Maine was 850,000 bushels in 2006, 36 percent below 2005 output. This level of production, the lowest for Maine since estimates began in 2000, was due to fewer acres harvested and lower yields. Barley yields averaged 50 bushels per acre in 2006, down 10 bushels per acre from a year earlier. The value of the 2006 crop was

placed at \$1.49million, down 41 percent from the previous year. Grain prices per bushel fell 15 cents to \$1.75 in 2006. As with oats, Maine's barley crop was 100% planted and 90% emerged by the end of the first week of June, approximately ten days ahead of the five-year average. Despite the summer rain, barley conditions were rated from good to excellent for most of the season. As of the second week of September, 85% of Maine's barley crop had been combined, well ahead of both last year and normal.

BARLEY: Acreage, Yield, Production and Value, 2000 – 2006 <sup>1/</sup>

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 <sup>2/</sup>	1,000 Bushels	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
<b>Maine</b>						
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	1.90	2,508
2006	18	17	50	850	1.75	1,488

<sup>1/</sup> Estimates began in 2000.

<sup>2/</sup> Standard weight used for one bushel of barley is 48 pounds.