

TOBACCO

Tobacco growers marketed 4.4 million pounds of broadleaf tobacco in the Connecticut River Valley in 2006. Increased acreage harvested and improved yields brought 2006 marketed production eight percent above 2005 output and 18 percent above 2004 crop sales. It was a challenging year to grow tobacco in 2006. A cold, wet spring delayed growth in the greenhouses and plants were set out from one to two weeks later than normal. Numerous July storms brought heavy rains and hail to the Valley. Damage was significant at a few locations and growers left acreage unharvested. Excessive leaching and stunted growth in wet areas reduced yields; damage was most evident in earliest planted fields. Disease problems included blue mold and brown spot. Broadleaf harvest finished up by mid-September, on schedule with a year earlier. Broadleaf tobacco harvested acreage totaled 2,600 acres in Connecticut and Massachusetts, an increase of 180 acres from

2005. The 2006 crop yield averaged 1,705 pounds per acre, up fractionally from the previous year. Value of production from both states in 2006 was placed at \$29.2 million, an increase of 26 percent from the previous year's value.

Producers intend to market 1.38 million pounds of shade tobacco in Connecticut and Massachusetts in 2006. If realized, this would place marketed production 16 percent below the previous year's sales. Shade tobacco growers harvested 1,050 acres of shade tobacco in 2006 in the two states, 170 fewer acres than in 2005. Yields averaged 1,312 pounds per acre, compared with the 1,348 pounds per acre average a year earlier. Final acreage, yield, and price assessments for the 2006 shade crop will be published in May of 2008 in the **Crop Production Report**.

TOBACCO: Acreage, Yield, Production and Value, 1997 – 2006

| State and Year | Broadleaf Tobacco (Type 51) | | | | | Shade Tobacco (Type 61) | | | | | All Tobacco | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| | Area Harvested | Yield per Acre | Production ^{1/} | Price per Pound | Value of Production | Area Harvested | Yield per Acre | Production ^{1/} | Price per Pound | Value of Production | Area Harvested | 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 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | 1,180 | 920 | 2/ | 2/ | 2,180 | 1,321 | 2,880 | 2/ |
| 2004 | 1,500 | 1,530 | 2,295 | 5.25 | 12,049 | 860 | 1,595 | 1,372 | 2/ | 2/ | 2,360 | 1,554 | 3,667 | 2/ |
| 2005 | 1,520 | 1,720 | 2,614 | 5.70 | 14,900 | 930 | 1,400 | 1,302 | 2/ | 2/ | 2,450 | 1,598 | 3,916 | 2/ |
| 2006 | 1,650 | 1,760 | 2,904 | 6.50 | 18,876 | 850 | 1,280 | 1,088 | 2/ | 2/ | 2,500 | 1,597 | 3,992 | 2/ |
| Massachusetts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | 1,120 | 314 | 2/ | 2/ | 1,250 | 1,392 | 1,740 | 2/ |
| 2004 | 920 | 1,600 | 1,472 | 5.40 | 7,949 | 320 | 1,390 | 445 | 2/ | 2/ | 1,240 | 1,546 | 1,917 | 2/ |
| 2005 | 900 | 1,670 | 1,503 | 5.55 | 8,342 | 290 | 1,180 | 342 | 2/ | 2/ | 1,190 | 1,550 | 1,845 | 2/ |
| 2006 | 950 | 1,610 | 1,530 | 6.75 | 10,328 | 200 | 1,450 | 290 | 2/ | 2/ | 1,150 | 1,583 | 1,820 | 2/ |
| New England ^{3/} | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | 1,951 | 3,628 | 2/ | 2/ | 4,360 | 1,788 | 7,797 | 2/ |
| 2000 | 900 | 1,283 | 1,155 | 4.92 | 5,678 | 1,260 | 1,437 | 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 | 1,164 | 1,234 | 26.00 | 32,084 | 3,430 | 1,347 | 4,620 | 44,220 |
| 2004 | 2,420 | 1,557 | 3,767 | 5.31 | 19,998 | 1,180 | 1,540 | 1,817 | 25.30 | 45,971 | 3,600 | 1,551 | 5,584 | 65,969 |
| 2005 | 2,420 | 1,701 | 4,117 | 5.65 | 23,242 | 1,220 | 1,348 | 1,644 | 21.00 | 34,524 | 3,640 | 1,583 | 5,761 | 57,766 |
| 2006 | 2,600 | 1,705 | 4,434 | 6.59 | 29,204 | 1,050 | 1,312 | 1,378 | 4/ | 4/ | 3,650 | 1,592 | 5,812 | 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/} 2006 Connecticut and Massachusetts shade price available February, 2008.