



California Farm News

National
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Service

In Cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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CALIFORNIA PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS REPORT

SACRAMENTO -- The USDA-NASS, California Field Office today released the forecasts of crop plantings for 2007. These forecasts, of acreage planted and to be planted, are based on a survey of more than 2,500 California farmers, conducted the first two weeks of March. The impact of weather and/or market conditions since the survey is not reflected in this report.

Barley - California farmers had planted or intended to plant 75.0 thousand acres to barley, down 17 percent from the previous year.

Beans, Dry Edible - Seeding of dry edible beans were planned for 70.0 thousand acres in California, up 4 percent from last year.

Corn - California farmers were expecting to plant 620 thousand acres of corn for all purposes in 2007, an increase of 19 percent from last year.

Cotton - California farmers were intending to plant 210 thousand acres to Upland cotton in 2007, down 26 percent from the acreage seeded in 2006, and the lowest planted acreage since 1941. In addition, growers were expecting to seed 250 thousand acres to American Pima cotton in 2007, down 9 percent from last year.

Hay, All - California producers intended to harvest hay from 1.53 million acres, down 3 percent from last year.

Oats - Farmers in California had planted or were expecting to plant 250 thousand acres of oats, 7 percent less than in 2006.

Rice - California farmers intended to seed rice on 532 thousand acres, 1 percent above the acreage seeded in 2006. The expressed intentions were to seed 460 thousand acres to medium grain varieties, unchanged from a year ago. The long grain rice acreage forecast is 7.00 thousand acres, 17 percent above last season. The short grain rice planted acreage forecast is 65.0 thousand acres, 8 percent more than 2006. Short grain and all rice forecasts include the intended plantings of sweet rice.

Sorghum - Farmers in California were intending to plant 25.0 thousand acres to sorghum in 2007, 22 percent less than the 2006 acreage.

Sugar Beets - California producers had planted or intended to plant 39.9 thousand acres of sugar beets, down 9 percent from the acreage seeded in 2006.

Sweet Potatoes - California farmers were expecting to plant 13.3 thousand acres of sweet potatoes in 2007, up 6 percent from last year.

Wheat - Acreage seeded to Winter wheat is estimated at 550 thousand acres, a 22 percent increase from last year. Another 100 thousand acres have been seeded to Durum wheat, 43 percent above 2006.

The next production forecast will be issued April 10, 2007.

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