

Corn production is record high for '09

Written by Gothenburg Times
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Corn for grain production in Nebraska based on year-end surveys is estimated at 1.58 billion bushels, up 13% from last year and a record high, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office.

Yield of 178 bushels per acre is 15 bushels above last year and highest of record. Farmers harvested 8.85 million acres of corn for grain, up 4% from 2008.

Soybean production for 2009 totaled 259 million bushels, up 15% from last year and a record high. Yield, at 54.5 bushels per acre, is up 8 bushels from last year and highest of record. Area for harvest, at 4.76 million acres, is down 2% from 2008.

Sorghum for grain production in 2009 is estimated at 13.0 million bushels, down 32% from last year. Yield, at 93 bushels per acre, is up 2 bushels from 2008. Area harvested for grain was 140,000 acres, down 70,000 acres from a year ago and the lowest sorghum for grain acreage since 1952.

Hay production totaled 6.24 million tons, virtually unchanged from the previous year. Acreage harvested is 2.70 million acres, up 5% from 2008. Yield, at 2.31 tons per acre, is down 0.1 ton per acre from last year. Alfalfa production is down 6% from a year ago while all other hay production is up 9%.