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New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service

FARM FACTS
"FACT FINDERS FOR AGRICULTURE"

New Jersey
Agricultural
Statistics Service
P.O. Box 330
Trenton, NJ 08625
Phone: 1(800)328-0179
Fax: 1(800)625-7581
www.nass.usda.gov/nj/

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New Jersey's Corn for Grain Production Up 49 Percent from Previous Year

- ◆ **Corn for grain** production is estimated at 10.3 million bushels, up 49 percent from last year's crop. Yield is estimated at a record high 143 bushels per acre, 30 bushels above the 2003 yield. The 10-year (1994-2003) state average yield is 99.5 bushels per harvested acre. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 72,000 acres, up 18 percent from last year.
- ◆ **Corn for silage** production is estimated at 260,000 tons, down 4 percent from the previous year. Yield is estimated at 20 tons per acre, up 5 tons per acre from 2003. Acreage cut for silage is estimated at 13,000 acres, down 28 percent from last year.
- ◆ **Alfalfa Hay** production is estimated at 111,000 tons, up 6 percent from 2003. Yield is estimated at 3.70 tons per acre, up 0.20 ton from 2003. Harvested acreage was unchanged at 30,000 acres in 2004.
- ◆ **Other Hay** production is estimated at 171,000 tons, up 6 percent from 2003. Yield is estimated at 1.90 tons per acre, up 0.10 ton from 2003. Harvested acreage remains unchanged at 90,000 acres.
- ◆ **Soybean** production increased from 2.99 million bushels in 2003 to 4.33 million bushels in 2004, up 45 percent. Yield is estimated at a record high 42 bushels per acre, up 8 bushels from last year. The 10-year average yield is 30.6 bushels per harvested acre. Area harvested for beans is estimated at 103,000 acres, up 17 percent from last year.

Crop	Unit	Acres for Harvest		Yield per Acre		Production	
		2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
NEW JERSEY		<i>Thousand Acres</i>		<i>Units</i>		<i>Thousand Units</i>	
Corn for Grain	Bu.	61	72	113.0	143.0	6,893.0	10,296.0
Corn for Silage	Tons	18	13	15.0	20.0	270.0	260.0
Hay, All	Tons	120	120	2.23	2.35	267.0	282.0
Alfalfa Hay	Tons	30	30	3.50	3.70	105.0	111.0
Other Hay	Tons	90	90	1.80	1.90	162.0	171.0
Soybeans	Bu.	88	103	34.0	42.0	2,992.0	4,326.0
UNITED STATES		<i>Thousand Acres</i>		<i>Units</i>		<i>Million Units</i>	
Corn for Grain	Bu.	70,944	73,632	142.2	160.4	10,089.2	11,807.2
Corn for Silage	Tons	6,583	6,103	16.3	17.6	107.4	107.3
Hay, All	Tons	63,383	61,916	2.49	2.55	157.6	157.8
Alfalfa Hay	Tons	23,529	21,707	3.24	3.47	76.3	75.4
Other Hay	Tons	39,854	40,209	2.04	2.05	81.3	82.4
Soybeans	Bu.	72,476	73,958	33.9	42.5	2,453.7	3,141.0



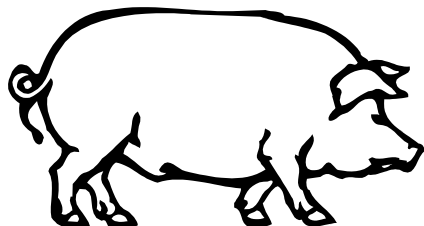
A special **"Thank You"** goes to New Jersey Farmers who have helped us by completing the **December Agricultural Survey**.

Hogs and Pigs

New Jersey's hog and pig inventory set a new State record low of 11,000 head as of December 1, 2004.

Breeding inventory at 1,000, was unchanged from last year. Market hog inventory was down 9 percent from the previous year to 10,000 as of December 1, 2004.

The under 60 pounds class inventory was 1,000 head, 60-119 pounds inventory was 2,000 head, 120-179 pounds inventory was 2,000 head, and the 180 pounds inventory and over class was 5,000 head.



U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2004, was 60.5 million head. This was up slightly from December 1, 2003, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2004.

Breeding inventory, at 5.97 million head, was down 1 percent from December 1, 2003, but up slightly from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.5 million head, was up slightly from last year, but 2 percent below last quarter.

Nationwide, market hogs and pigs, less than 60 pounds, totaled 19.6 million head, down 1 percent from previous year. Market hogs, weighing 60 to 119 pounds, totaled 13.4 million, up 2 percent from previous year. The 120 to 179 pound market hog weight category was 11.3 million head, also up 2 percent from previous year. Inventory for market hogs, weighing 180 pounds or more, totaled 10.2 million head, down 1 percent from previous year.

Hog and Pigs: Breeding, Market, and Total Inventory by Selected States, and United States, December 1, 2003-2004 ^{1/}

State	Breeding			Market			Total		
	2003	2004		2003	2004		2003	2004	
		Number	as % of 2003		Number	as % of 2003		Number	as % of 2003
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent
Delaware	3.0	3.0	100	9.0	12.0	133	12.0	15.0	125
Maryland	5.0	4.0	80	25.0	22.0	88	30.0	26.0	87
New Jersey	1.0	1.0	100	11.0	10.0	91	12.0	11.0	92
New York	9.0	12.0	133	64.0	72.0	113	73.0	84.0	115
Pennsylvania	120.0	115.0	96	990.0	965.0	97	1,110.0	1,080.0	97
United States	6,009.0	5,969.0	99	54,434.0	54,531.0	100	60,444.0	60,501.0	100

^{1/} May not add due to rounding.

Market Hogs and Pigs: Inventory Number by Weight Group, Selected States, and United States, December 1, 2003-2004 ^{1/}

State	Under 60 Lbs.		60-119 Lbs.		120-179 Lbs		180 Lbs. and Over	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	1,000 Head							
Delaware	4.0	5.0	2.0	2.5	1.5	2.0	1.5	2.5
Maryland	8.0	7.0	5.0	5.0	6.0	5.0	6.0	5.0
New Jersey	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	5.0	5.0
New York	24.0	26.0	15.0	18.0	13.0	13.0	12.0	15.0
Pennsylvania	350.0	280.0	235.0	275.0	195.0	225.0	210.0	185.0
United States	19,778.0	19,636.0	13,238.0	13,439.0	11,109.0	11,286.0	10,311.0	10,171.0

^{1/} Weight groups may not add to market due to rounding.

Winter Wheat

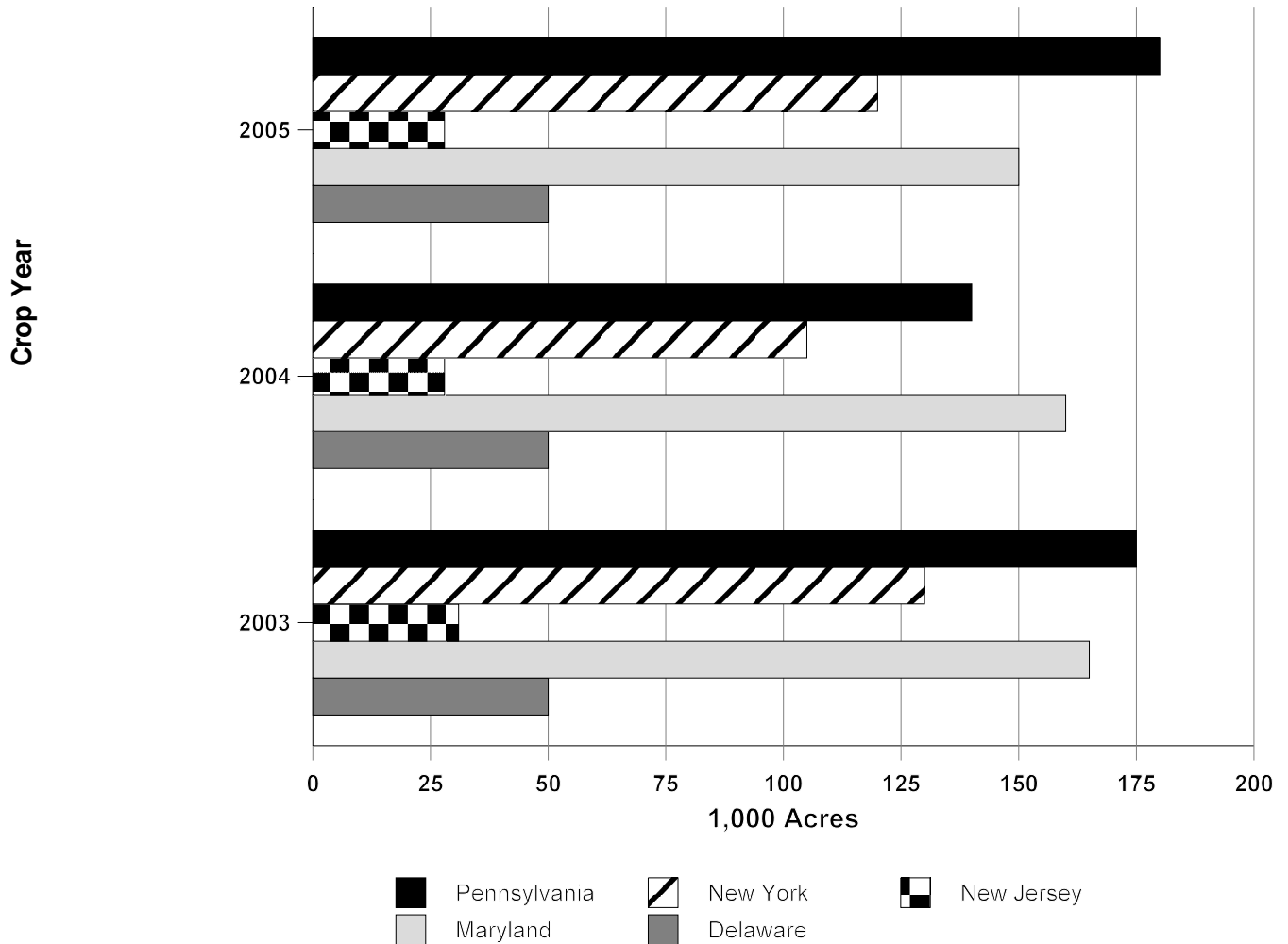
New Jersey winter wheat seeded area for 2005 is expected to total 28,000 acres. This is unchanged from the previous year, but 10 percent below 2003.

United States winter wheat seeded area for 2005 is expected to total 41.6 million acres, down 4 percent from 2004. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 30.5 million; Soft Red Winter, 6.6 million; and White Winter, 4.5 million.

Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, by Selected States and United States, 2003-2005

State	Crop Year			2005 as Percent of 2004
	2003	2004	2005	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>			<i>Percent</i>
Delaware	50	50	50	100
Maryland	165	160	150	94
New Jersey	31	28	28	100
New York	130	105	120	114
Pennsylvania	175	140	180	129
United States	45,384	43,350	41,567	96

Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, by Selected States, 2003-2005



December Farm Prices Received Index Down 1.8 Percent From Last Month

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 112, based on 1990-92=100, is 2.6 percent below the November Index. The Crop Index is down 7.1 percent from November while the Livestock Index increased 0.8 percent. Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, dairy, eggs, and cauliflower. Lower prices were received for tomatoes, oranges, corn, and cotton. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of dairy, tobacco, and wheat offset decreased marketings of cattle, grapes, and soybeans. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 1.8 percent from December 2003.

The Food Commodities Index decreased 3.3 percent from last month to 118. The index is up 1.7 percent from December 2003.

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The December Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 134 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is unchanged from November but 3.9 percent above December 2003. Lower prices in December for feeder cattle, diesel fuel, complete feeds, and gasoline, are offset by higher prices for feeder pigs, nitrogen fertilizers, LP gas, and feed concentrates.

Average Prices Received by Farmers: United States

Item	Entire Month		Preliminar
	Dec 2003	Nov 2004	Dec 2004
-- Dollars --			
Field Crops			
Barley, per bushel	2.93	2.51	2.46
Corn, per bushel	2.31	2.05	1.99
Hay, all, baled, per ton ^{1/}	80.60	86.20	84.30
Soybeans, per bushel	7.17	5.36	5.41
Fruit, fresh			
Apples, per lb ^{2/}	.279	.239	.223
Strawberries, per cwt	N/A	190.00	182.00
Vegetables, fresh			
Corn, Sweet, per cwt	22.60	28.00	23.10
Lettuce, per cwt	21.30	17.00	17.50
Tomatoes, per cwt	29.10	124.00	66.00
Livestock and Livestock Products			
Beef Cattle, per cwt	90.40	85.10	86.80
Steers and Heifers, per cwt	95.60	90.20	91.90
Cows, per cwt ^{3/}	49.20	48.90	48.70
Calves, per cwt	112.00	124.00	121.00
Broilers, live, per lb ^{4/}	.380	.390	.390
Eggs, all, per dozen	.868	.612	.654
Milk, all, per cwt ^{5/ 6/}	13.80	16.10	16.50

^{1/} Mid-month price.

^{2/} Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA, MI, and NY, and WA. Prices as sold for other states.

^{3/} Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

^{4/} Equivalent liveweight returns to producers for most states. Includes growers and contractors.

^{5/} Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

^{6/} December 2004 fat test percent: all milk 3.81, fluid milk 3.80, and mfg grade 4.03.

To obtain other agricultural statistics, visit the New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service website at www.nass.usda.gov/nj/ or call 1-800-328-0179.

