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New Jersey's FARM FACTS

"Fact Finders for Agriculture"

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New Jersey 2007 Total Cash Receipts up 1.9 Percent from 2006

New Jersey's commodity cash receipts totaled \$946 million for the 2007 calendar year. This is an increase of \$17.7 million from last year. Total crop cash receipts totaled \$769 million, up \$3.7 million from last year while total livestock and products totaled \$177 million, up \$14 million. Increases in cash receipts for field crop, fruits and nuts, and livestock and products more than offset the declines in the total vegetable and total greenhouse, sod, nursery and Christmas tree categories. Poultry had the largest dollar increase of \$13.6 million from 2006, followed by field corn at \$11.8 million, and dairy at \$8.9 million. Other commodity increases included soybeans, wheat, apples, blueberries, cranberries, tomatoes, and other livestock. Fresh green peppers showed the largest decline, at \$10.2 million; followed by horses and mules at \$5.0 million; greenhouse, sod, nursery and Christmas trees at \$4.5 million; and meat animals at \$4.4 million. Declines were also recorded for sweet corn, peaches, and hay.

Cash Receipts from New Jersey Farm Marketings 2005-2007

Commodity	2005	2006	2007	% Change from 2006
	1,000 Dollars			
Total All Commodities	879,031	928,230	945,926	1.9
Total Crops	694,937	765,278	768,939	0.5
Total Field Crops	51,794	57,661	77,503	34.4
Corn	11,950	13,719	25,500	85.9
Hay	9,226	8,893	8,637	(2.9)
Soybeans	15,700	15,717	20,845	32.6
Wheat	3,417	4,967	7,401	49.0
Total Fruits & Nuts	123,519	163,842	169,842	3.7
Apples	9,022	15,416	15,577	1.1
Blueberries	55,470	83,720	90,240	7.8
Cranberries	18,815	18,816	22,408	19.1
Peaches	30,869	35,700	32,832	(8.0)
Total Vegetables	139,627	157,240	139,596	(11.2)
Peppers, green, fresh	20,550	27,848	17,577	(36.9)
Sweet corn, fresh	12,212	19,019	15,053	(20.9)
Tomatoes, fresh	24,900	19,627	23,622	20.4
Total Greenhouse, Sod, Nursery, and Christmas Trees	379,997	386,535	381,998	(1.2)
Total Livestock & Products	184,094	162,952	176,987	8.6
Total Dairy Products	29,295	23,450	32,340	37.9
Total Horses & Mules	115,000	99,000	94,000	(5.0)
Total Meat Animals	8,838	10,640	6,256	(41.2)
Total Poultry & Eggs	23,669	23,085	36,698	59.0
Total Other Livestock & Products	7,292	6,777	7,693	13.5

New Jersey's Soybean Production Up 4 Percent from 2007

Note: Yield forecasts in this report are based on conditions around September 1 and do not reflect changes in conditions since that time.

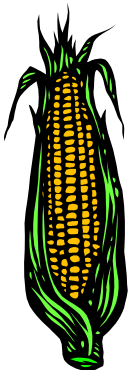
- **Corn** yield is forecast at 115 bushels per acre, down 5 bushels from the August 1, 2008 forecast. The state record yield per acre is 143 bushels, set in 2004. Production is expected to total 8.51 million bushels down 17 percent from 2007. Area harvested for grain, 74,000 acres, is down 8,000 acres from last year.
- **Soybean** production is forecast at 2.55 million bushels, 4 percent above the previous year. Producers expect 30 bushels per acre for the 2008 crop, down 2 bushels from the August 1, 2008 forecast. Conditions are rated mostly fair at the current time. Soybean harvested area is expected to total 85,000 acres, 6,000 acres more than 2007. The harvest of soybeans is expected to be completed by the end of October.
- **Summer potato** yield is forecast at 220 cwt. per acre, down from the July forecast of 240 cwt. The state record yield per acre is 285 cwt., set in 2000. Growing conditions are rated fair at the current time. Production of summer potatoes is forecast at 440,000 cwt, which is 31 percent lower than the 2007 final production.

United States: Soybeans production is anticipated to be the fourth highest production on record (2.93 billion bushels). The forecasted yield is 40.0 bushels, down 0.5 from last month, and down 1.2 from 2007. Harvested acreage is 73.3 million, the third most acreage on record. Corn yields are expected to average 152.3 bushels per acre, up 1.2 bushels from last year, and production is forecast at 12.1 billion bushels, the second highest on record.

Acreage, Yield, and Production of Corn, Soybeans, and Summer Potatoes, September 1, Forecast

Crop	Unit	Acres for Harvest			Yield per Acre			Production		
		Final 2007	Aug 1 2008 Forecast	Sept 1 2008 Forecast	Final 2007	Aug 1 2008 Forecast	Sept 1 2008 Forecast	Final 2007	Aug 1 2008 Forecast	Sept 1 2008 Forecast
NEW JERSEY		- Thousand Acres -			- Units -			- Thousand Units -		
Corn for grain	Bu.	82	74	74	125.0	120.0	115.0	10,250	8,880	8,510
Soybeans	Bu.	79	85	85	31.0	32.0	30.0	2,449	2,720	2,550
Summer Potatoes	Cwt.	2.4	1	2.0	265.0	1	220.0	636	1	440
UNITED STATES		- Thousand Acres -			- Units -			- Million Units -		
Corn for grain	Bu.	86,542	79,290	79,290	151.1	155.0	152.3	13,073.9	12,287.9	12,072.4
Soybeans	Bu.	62,820	73,341	73,341	41.2	40.5	40.0	2,585.2	2,972.6	2,933.9
Summer Potatoes	Cwt.	51.2	1	46.2	332.0	1	324.0	17.0	1	15.0

¹ Not available.



New Jersey Cranberry Production Up 6 Percent

New Jersey expects a crop of 500,000 barrels, down 6 percent from 2007 but 3 percent above 2006. Winter kill was minimal, with growers rating bloom and fruit set as average. However, poor weather during bloom has growers concerned about pollination.

Cranberries: Production by State and United States, 2006-2007 and Forecasted 2008

State	Total Production (Barrels) ¹		
	2006	2007	2008
MA	1,896,000	1,522,000	1,900,000
NJ	485,000	531,000	500,000
OR	465,000	495,000	490,000
WA	114,000	176,000	145,000
WI	3,940,000	3,830,000	3,850,000
US	6,900,000	6,554,000	6,885,000

¹ A barrel weighs 100 lbs.

Quarterly Milk Production: April - June

New Jersey Quarterly Milk Production: The April-June 2008 quarterly milk production for New Jersey was 44 million pounds, unchanged from the previous quarter, but 2 percent above the April-June period last year.

Milk cow numbers in New Jersey remained steady. The average number of milk cows during the April-June 2008 quarter was 10,000 head, the same as the January-March 2008 quarter.

United States Quarterly Milk Production: Milk production in the United States during the April-June quarter totaled 48.7 billion pounds, up 2.4 percent from the previous quarter, and up 2.7 percent from the April-June quarter last year.

The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.27 million head, 136,000 head more than the same period last year, and 25,000 head more than the January-March 2008 quarter.

Northeast II Region Farm Labor

There were 35,000 hired workers on Northeast II Region farms and ranches the week of July 6, 2008, through July 12, 2008, down 3 percent from a year ago. States included in the Northeast Region II are Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Hours worked during the reference week averaged 41.5 compared to 42.0 the previous year.

Farm operators in the Northeast Region II paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.10 per hour during the July 2008 reference week, down 68 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$9.66 per hour, up 4 cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$8.68 per hour compared with \$10.04 a year earlier.

Farm Employment & Wage Rates: Northeast II Region and United States, July 6-12, 2008, with Comparisons

Items	Northeast II ¹			United States		
	July 8-14, 2007	April 6-12, 2008	July 6-12, 2008	July 8-14, 2007	April 6-12, 2008	July 6-12, 2008
	<i>Thousand workers</i>			<i>Thousand workers</i>		
Hired Workers ²	36	31	35	843	700	828
150 Days or More	26	24	20	596	563	585
149 Days or Less	10	7	15	247	137	243
	<i>Per Week</i>			<i>Per Week</i>		
Average Hours Worked (All Hired Farm Workers)	42.0	35.8	41.5	41.4	40.8	40.5
	<i>Per Hour</i>			<i>Per Hour</i>		
Average Wage Rate (All Hired Farm Workers)	10.78	10.00	10.10	9.99	10.57	10.34
By Type of Workers						
Field	9.62	9.71	9.66	9.24	9.65	9.66
Livestock	10.04	8.77	8.68	9.73	10.24	9.98

¹ Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

² Excludes agricultural service workers.

Source: USDA-NASS: Farm Labor, July 2008

August Farm Prices Received Index Decreased 2.5 Percent From July

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August, at 155, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 2.5 percent from July. The Crop Index is down 3.8 percent and the Livestock Index also fell by 0.7 percent. Lower prices were received for corn, soybeans, broilers, and milk. Producers received higher commodity prices for wheat, hogs, eggs and strawberries. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities a producer sells. Increased average marketings of cattle, grapes, potatoes and sweet corn offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, milk and broilers.

Preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 12.0 percent from August 2007. The Food Commodities Index, at 153, decreased 1.9 percent from last month but increased 7.7 percent from August 2007.

Prices Paid Index Increased 1.0 Percent From July

The August Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 194 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is up 1.0 percent from July and 20.0 percent above August 2007. Higher prices in August for complete feeds, nitrogen fertilizer, mixed fertilizer and potash & phosphate materials more than offset lower prices for diesel fuel, feed grains, LP gas and gasoline.

Average Prices Received by Farmers: United States

Item	Entire Month		Preliminary
	Aug 2007	July 2008	Aug 2008
- - Dollars - -			
Field Crops			
Barley, per bushel	3.55	5.11	5.00
Corn, per bushel	3.26	5.24	4.90
Hay, all, baled, per ton ¹	124.00	164.00	165.00
Soybeans, per bushel	7.72	13.30	12.10
Fruit, Fresh			
Apples, per lb ²	.344	.446	.534
Strawberries, per cwt	79.30	65.90	91.00
Vegetables, Fresh			
Corn, Sweet, per cwt	22.80	28.10	24.80
Lettuce, per cwt	23.10	17.30	17.20
Tomatoes, per cwt	28.60	38.60	30.00
Livestock			
Beef Cattle, per cwt	91.40	95.10	96.10
Steers and Heifers, per cwt	95.70	99.60	100.00
Cows, per cwt ³	51.50	56.40	57.60
Calves, per cwt	127.00	115.00	114.00
Broilers, live, per lb ⁴	.460	.500	.470
Eggs, all, per dozen ¹	.866	.841	.965
Milk, all, per cwt ^{5, 6}	21.60	19.40	18.50

Source: NASS – Agricultural Prices, July 2008

¹ Mid-month price.

² Equivalent packinghouse-door returns for CA, MI, and NY (apples only), and WA (apples, peaches, and pears). 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 August 2008 Fat test percent: all milk 3.56, fluid milk 3.56, and mfg grade 3.85.

To obtain other agricultural statistics, visit the USDA, NASS, New Jersey Field Office at www.nass.usda.gov/nj/ or call 1-800-328-0179.