

Corn crop forecast beats 2012 by 24%

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Based on Sept. 1 conditions, Nebraska's corn crop is forecast at 1.61 billion bushels, up 24% from last year, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Acreage harvested for grain is estimated at 9.80 million acres, up 8% from a year ago. Average yield is forecast at 164 bushels per acre, up 22 bushels from last year.

Soybean production in Nebraska is forecast at 223 million bushels, 8% above last year. Area for harvest, at 4.75 million acres, is down 5% from 2012. Yield is forecast at 47 bushels per acre, up 5.5 bushels from last year.

Sorghum yield is forecast at 62 bushels per acre, up 3 bushels from last year. Production of 4.96 million bushels is up 40% from a year ago.

Sugarbeet production is forecast at 1.30 million tons, down 11% from last year. Yield, at 29.5 tons per acre, is down from 29.8 tons an acre in 2012.