

Tennessee Farmers Express Early Plans For 2010

NASHVILLE, TENN.

According to a recent survey of producers conducted by the Tennessee Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, farmers have given a preliminary snapshot of their planting intentions for this upcoming season. Soybean acreage is projected at 1.43 million acres, down 140,000 acres from last year's 1.57 million acre crop. Winter wheat acreage is forecast to decrease to 290,000 acres, down 140,000 acres from the previous year. Cotton and corn acreage are expected to absorb most of the slack for the decline in wheat and soybean acreage. Debra Kenerson, Director, explained that the survey

results are a snapshot as of March 1, and are subject to change. "This survey is our first look at what farmers intend to grow during the upcoming crop year. However, economic changes and weather conditions both play major roles in the final outcome." The March 1 survey showed the following results: corn acreage, up 6 percent from last year to 710,000 acres; soybeans, down 9 percent to 1,430,000 acres; cotton intentions, 380,000 acres, up 27 percent from last year's planted acreage of 300,000; winter wheat seedings, at 290,000 acres, down 140,000 acres or 33 percent from the previous year; and hay acreage, down slightly to 1.90 million acres. Δ