

POPCORN

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1980 POPCORN ACREAGE UP SHARPLY; PRODUCTION DOWN 2 PERCENT

Producers harvested 528 million pounds (240 thousand metric tons) of shelled popcorn in 1980, 2 percent less than the 1979 production of 537 million pounds (243 thousand metric tons), but 33 percent more than was produced in 1978. The large increase in popcorn acreage in 1980 was more than offset by much lower average yields. Ohio was the only major producing State with a higher yield in 1980 than in 1979. The two largest producing States, Indiana and Nebraska, accounted for about 57 percent of the total U.S. production.

In 1980, growers harvested 214 thousand acres (86.7 thousand hectares), 20 percent more than in 1979. Yields averaged 2465 pounds per acre, a decrease of 528 pounds from 1979. About 88 percent of acreage was field shelled compared with 83 percent in 1979. Yellow varieties amounted to 91 percent of the total compared with 94 percent a year earlier.

The 1980 popcorn crop was planted under generally favorable conditions in the spring but hot, dry weather in most of the major producing States during pollination adversely affected yield prospects. Although relieving rains came to parts of the producing areas in late July and August, it was too late to be of much help in some areas. Nebraska, the major producing State, reported yields that averaged the lowest since 1974. Excellent weather conditions prevailed during the harvest period, allowing the producers to harvest the crop rapidly and well ahead of normal.

POPCORN

STATE	AREA						YIELD ^{1/}			PRODUCTION ^{1/}		
	PLANTED			HARVESTED			1978	1979	1980	1978	1979	1980
	1978	1979	1980	1978	1979	1980	1978	1979	1980	1978	1979	1980
	1,000 ACRES						POUNDS			1,000 POUNDS		
ILL	11.9	17.0	15.8	11.6	16.2	14.8	2,030	2,950	2,000	23,550	47,790	29,600
IND	45.0	51.0	50.0	44.0	50.0	49.0	3,000	2,950	2,500	132,000	147,500	122,500
IOWA	12.0	18.0	30.0	11.5	17.0	29.0	2,450	2,550	2,200	28,180	43,350	63,800
KANS	5.9	4.0	5.5	5.8	3.9	4.2	2,270	3,300	2,140	13,170	12,870	8,990
KY	9.7	11.0	21.1	9.4	10.0	20.0	1,370	2,820	1,490	12,880	28,200	29,800
MICH	2.2	5.5	7.0	2.1	5.4	6.9	3,450	3,400	2,750	7,250	18,360	18,980
MO	3.1	4.4	12.0	3.0	4.3	11.0	2,300	3,250	1,530	6,900	13,980	16,830
NEBR	39.0	58.0	63.0	38.0	55.0	61.0	3,400	3,100	2,950	129,200	170,500	179,950
OHIO	13.0	14.1	15.6	12.6	13.9	15.4	3,050	3,200	3,300	38,430	44,480	50,820
OTH STS ^{2/}	3.1	4.0	3.2	3.1	3.6	3.0	2,113	2,646	2,343	6,550	9,530	7,030
U S	144.9	187.0	223.2	141.1	179.3	214.3	2,821	2,993	2,465	398,110	536,560	528,300
	PRICE PER CWT ^{1/}						VALUE OF PRODUCTION					
	1978	1979	1980	1978	1979	1980	1978	1979	1980	1978	1979	1980
	DOLLARS						1,000 DOLLARS					
ILL	8.10	8.80	9.50	1,908	4,206	2,812						
IND	9.90	10.90	11.40	13,068	16,078	13,965						
IOWA	7.40	8.30	9.10	2,085	3,598	5,806						
KANS	7.75	8.80	9.55	1,021	1,133	859						
KY	7.75	8.90	9.80	998	2,510	2,920						
MICH	8.20	9.00	9.60	595	1,652	1,822						
MO	8.20	8.90	9.70	566	1,244	1,633						
NEBR	7.70	8.30	10.20	9,948	14,152	18,355						
OHIO	7.55	8.50	9.30	2,901	3,781	4,726						
OTH STS ^{2/}	7.69	8.85	11.00	504	843	773						
U S	8.44	9.17	10.20	33,594	49,197	53,671						

^{1/} SHELLED CORN BASIS.
^{2/} ALA, COLO AND TENN.