

# POPCORN

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## 1979 POPCORN PRODUCTION INCREASED 35 PERCENT

Producers harvested 538 million pounds (244 thousand metric tons) of shelled popcorn in 1979, 35 percent more than the 1978 production of 399 million pounds (181 thousand metric tons) and 25 percent more than was produced in 1977. The increased production resulted from both improved yields and more acres harvested. All major producing States showed increased production ranging from 13 percent in Indiana to 153 percent in Michigan. The two largest producing States, Indiana and Nebraska, accounted for about 60 percent of the total U.S. production.

Growers harvested 179 thousand acres (72.3 thousand hectares), 27 percent more than in 1978. Yields averaged 3012 pounds per acre, an increase of 184 pounds from 1978. About 83 percent of the acreage was field shelled compared with 78 percent in 1978. Yellow varieties amounted to 94 percent of the total, the same as a year earlier.

Above normal precipitation and below normal temperatures throughout most of the Corn Belt during April delayed land preparation and planting. Improved conditions during May allowed planting to catch up to normal. Heavy rains in Illinois during July caused flooding and loss of some popcorn acreage. Nebraska yields averaged the lowest since 1975 because of late plantings, storm and insect losses as well as harvesting problems. Ohio growers harvested much of the crop at above normal moisture with dry-down a problem in northern areas. Generally, the crop was of good to excellent quality.

POPCORN

STATE	AREA						YIELD 1/			PRODUCTION 1/		
	PLANTED			HARVESTED			1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979
	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979						
ILL	9.5	11.9	17.2	9.1	11.6	16.4	2,590	2,030	2,950	23,570	23,550	48,380
IND	44.0	45.0	51.0	43.0	44.0	49.0	2,750	3,000	3,050	118,250	132,000	149,450
IOWA	16.0	12.0	18.0	15.0	11.5	17.0	2,150	2,450	2,550	32,250	26,180	43,350
KANS	10.3	5.9	5.0	10.1	5.8	4.9	2,590	2,270	3,270	26,160	13,170	16,020
KY	13.2	9.7	10.4	12.8	9.4	9.7	2,230	1,370	2,890	28,540	12,880	28,030
MICH	2.0	2.2	5.5	1.9	2.1	5.4	3,750	3,450	3,400	7,125	7,250	18,360
MO	4.8	3.1	4.2	4.6	3.0	4.1	1,700	2,600	2,600	7,820	7,800	10,660
NEBR	44.0	39.0	58.0	42.0	38.0	55.0	3,250	3,400	3,100	136,500	129,200	170,500
OHIO	13.2	13.0	13.4	12.7	12.6	13.4	3,350	3,050	3,300	42,550	38,430	44,220
OTH STS 2/	3.8	3.1	4.1	3.6	3.1	3.7	2,457	2,113	2,435	8,845	6,550	9,010
U S	160.8	144.9	186.8	154.8	141.1	178.6	2,788	2,828	3,012	431,610	399,010	537,980
	PRICE PER CWT 1/						VALUE OF PRODUCTION					
	1977	1978		1979		1977	1978		1979			
	DOLLARS						1,000 DOLLARS					
ILL	8.60	8.10		8.75		2,027	1,908		4,233			
IND	10.40	9.90		10.30		12,298	13,068		15,393			
IOWA	8.30	7.40		8.30		2,677	2,085		3,598			
KANS	8.00	7.75		8.45		2,093	1,021		1,354			
KY	8.00	7.75		8.80		2,283	998		2,467			
MICH	8.55	8.20		8.90		609	595		1,634			
MO	8.75	8.20		8.85		684	640		943			
NEBR	8.10	7.70		8.40		11,057	9,948		14,322			
OHIO	8.10	7.55		8.70		3,447	2,901		3,847			
OTH STS 2/	7.97	7.69		8.70		705	504		784			
U S	8.78	8.44		9.03		37,880	33,668		48,575			

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