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Released: March 28, 2024

### **More Soybeans Expected in Kentucky This Year**

Louisville, Ky. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released the Prospective Plantings report today, showing Kentucky farmers intend to grow more soybeans and less corn, wheat, hay and tobacco in 2024.

Farmers in Kentucky intend to plant 1.95 million acres of soybeans, up 120,000 acres from 2023. U.S. soybean planted area for 2024 is estimated at 86.5 million acres, up 3 percent from last year.

Corn is planned for 1.55 million Kentucky acres, 50,000 lower than last year. U.S. corn growers intend to plant 90.0 million acres in 2024, down 5 percent from last year.

Burley tobacco growers in Kentucky intend to set 23,000 acres for harvest, down 4,000 acres from 2023. For the burley producing states, growers intend to set 25,000 acres.

Producers intend to set 5,000 acres of dark-fired tobacco in Kentucky, down 1,300 acres from the previous year. Acreage set to dark-air tobacco was estimated at 3,500 acres, unchanged acres from 2023.

Winter wheat seeded by Kentucky farmers in the fall of 2023 totaled 560,000 acres, down 50,000 acres from previous year. Seeded acreage for the nation was 34.1 million acres, down 1 percent from 2023.

Farmers in the state intend to harvest 2.00 million acres of all hay, down 70,000 from 2023. U.S. farmers intend on harvesting 51.6 million acres of hay in 2024, down 2 percent from last year.

Data for the Prospective Plantings report is collected from a sample of farmers during the first two weeks of March. The Acreage report will be published June 28.