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October 1 Kentucky Crop Production Forecast

Corn production in **Kentucky** is forecast at 238 million bushels, down 1% from the September forecast and down 15% from the previous crop. Yield was estimated at 186 bushels per acre, down 1 bushels from last month and down 1 bushels from the 2023 level. Acres for harvest as grain were estimated at 1.28 million acres, down 220,000 acres from 2023. The **U.S.** corn production is forecast at 15.2 billion bushels, up slightly from the September forecast and down 1% from 2023. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 183.8 bushels per acre, up 0.2 bushels from last month and up 6.5 bushels from 2023. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 82.7 million acres, unchanged from the September forecast and down 4% from 2023.

Soybean production for **Kentucky** is forecast at 104 million bushels, down 2% from the September forecast and up 4% from 2023. Yield was estimated at 51 bushels per acre, down 1 bushels from last month and down 4.0 bushels from a year ago. Acreage for harvest as beans was estimated at 2.04 million acres, up 220,000 acres from the previous year. **U.S.** soybean production is forecast at 4.58 billion bushels, down slightly from the September forecast and up 10% from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 53.1 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushels from last month and up 2.5 bushels from last year. Area for harvest is forecast at 86.3 million acres, unchanged from the September forecast and up 5% from 2023.

Kentucky burley tobacco production is forecast at 50.0 million pounds, unchanged from the September forecast and down 12% from 2023. Yield was projected at 2,000 pounds per acre, unchanged pounds from last month and down 100 pounds from the 2023 crop. Harvested acreage was estimated at 25,000 acres, down 2,000 acres from last year's crop. For the **burley producing states** production is forecast at 55.0 million pounds, down 15% from last year. Burley growers plan to harvest 28,600 acres, down 9% from 2023. Yields were expected to average 1,924 pounds per acre, down 135 pounds from last year.

Production of **Kentucky dark fire-cured** tobacco is forecast at 13.6 million pounds, unchanged from the September forecast and down 31% from the previous year. **Dark air-cured** tobacco production is forecast at 8.37 million pounds, down 4% from the September forecast and down 8% from last year.

Alfalfa hay production by **Kentucky** farmers is forecast at 264,000 tons, down 2% the 2023 level. **Other hay** production is estimated at 5.08 million tons, up 22% from last year.