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Kentucky Corn Production Lower, Soybeans Higher

Corn production in **Kentucky** is forecast at 239 million bushels, down 15% from the previous crop. Yield was estimated at 187 bushels per acre, unchanged 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 August forecast and down 1% from last year's record production. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 183.6 bushels per acre, up 6.3 bushels from 2023. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 82.7 million acres, down 4% from 2023.

Soybean production for **Kentucky** is forecast at 106 million bushels, up 6% from 2023. Yield was estimated at 52.0 bushels per acre, down 3.0 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 4.59 billion bushels, down slightly from the August forecast but up 10% from last year. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 53.2 bushels per acre, up 2.6 bushels from last year. Area for harvest is forecast at 86.3 million acres, up 5% from 2023.

Kentucky burley tobacco production is forecast at 50.0 million pounds, down 12% from 2023. Yield was projected at 2,000 pounds per acre, 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 55.4 million pounds, down 14% from last year. Burley growers plan to harvest 28,600 acres, down 9 percent from 2023. Yields were expected to average 1,937 pounds per acre, down 122 pounds from last year.

Production of **Kentucky dark fire-cured** tobacco is forecast at 13.6 million pounds, down 31% from the previous year. **Dark air-cured** tobacco production is forecast at 8.68 million pounds, down 5% from last year.