

Sunflower

Highlights

July 6, 2015



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Markets

USDA released planted acres and June 1 stocks estimates last week. USDA's estimate of US June 1 soybean and corn stocks were less than traders expected. USDA estimated US 2015 planted soybean acres near 85.1 million up slightly from March's Prospective Plantings estimate of 84.6. Area planted to sunflower in 2015 totals 1.68 million acres, up 8 percent from 2014. Harvested area is expected to increase 7 percent from last year to 1.61 million acres. Planted area of oil type varieties, at 1.40 million acres, is up 19 percent from 2014. Planted acreage of non-oil sunflower varieties, estimated at 283,000 acres, is down 27 percent from last year. Stats Canada gave their 2015 planted acre estimates last week as well. Canadian farmers reported seeding 120,000 acres of sunflower, up 60 percent from 2014. With the release of the USDA reports, the market will focus on weather and guessing where US 2015/16 crop and end stocks will end up. Some hot and dry weather would be beneficial to crop development in most growing areas. Upcoming USDA reports and weather/crop conditions going forward will drive price direction.

CROP PROGRESS

This year's sunflower crop is 100% planted in North Dakota, and so far, the crop there is off to a good start – 79% of North Dakota's sunflowers are rated in good to excellent condition. 73 % of South Dakota's sunflowers are rated in good to excellent condition and in Minnesota, 59% of the crop is rated good to excellent, which is up slightly from a week ago. Sunflowers look good in Colorado as well, where 80% are rated good to excellent.

State	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 yr Av
N. Dakota				
Planted	100	99	100	96
Emerged	97	93	---	---
S. Dakota				
Planted	96	80	---	---
Emerged	72	49	67	---
Texas				
Planted	93	91	99	94
Colorado				
Planted	95	87	91	94
Kansas				
Planted	90	81	96	98
Emerged	73	62	78	79

Source: USDA NASS

SUNFLOWER CROP CONDITIONS

State	VP	Poor	Fair	Good	Ex
N. Dakota	0	4	17	74	5
S. Dakota	0	1	26	70	3
Minnesota	0	3	38	53	6
Colorado	0	0	20	41	39
Kansas	0	2	31	59	8

Source: USDA NASS (not all states reporting)

GROWER REPORT

There's been a lot of severe weather roll through North Dakota in recent weeks, but so far it's all missed Ben Vig's crops. The Sharon, ND producer says he's received only light rain, while nearby areas have had heavy rainfall. Vig cultivated his 200 acres of sunflowers at the end of June and says his high oleic flowers are waist high and look good. He says his sunflowers need some warm, sunny weather. He says the wildfires in Canada have made skies cloudy the past week and blocked the sunshine.

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS DAY AT USDA-ARS MANDAN SITE

The public is invited to celebrate Friends and Neighbors Day at the USDA-ARS Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory from 2 to 5:30 p.m. on July 16. You can learn about local ag research, take a tour, and check out the exhibits researchers have been working on. The laboratory is located south of the Heart River on ND Highway 6 at 1701 10th Ave. SW in Mandan ND.

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