



News Release

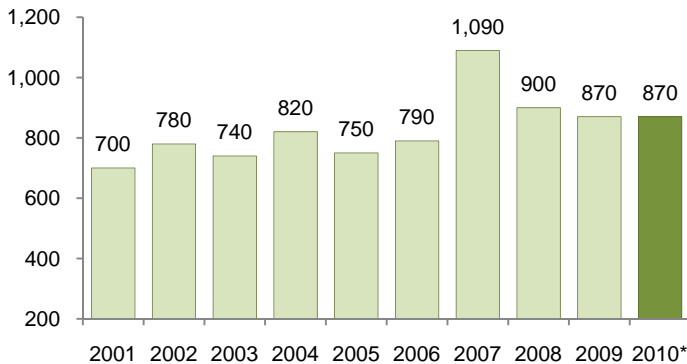
Cooperating with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
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March 31, 2010

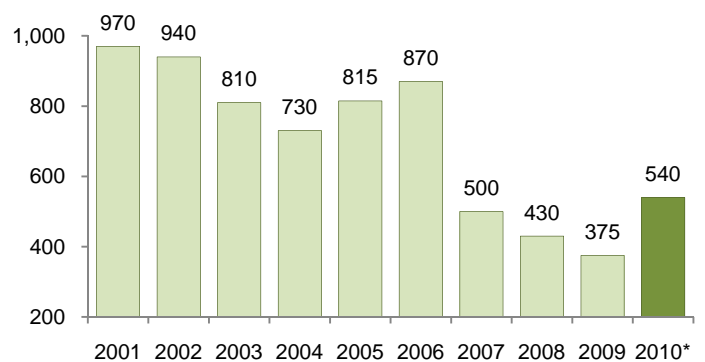
NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS INTEND TO PLANT MORE COTTON & PEANUTS IN 2010*

- ◆ **Corn** plantings are expected to total 870,000 acres in 2010, unchanged from 2009.
- ◆ **Cotton** growers intend to plant 540,000 acres in 2010, 44% higher than last year.
- ◆ **Flue-cured tobacco** growers expect to harvest 164,000 acres in 2010, down 6% from 2009.
- ◆ **Burley tobacco** growers expect to harvest 3,600 acres in 2010, up 200 acres from 2009.
- ◆ **Soybean** plantings, at 1.65 million acres, are expected to decrease 8% from 2009.
- ◆ **Peanut** growers intend to plant 80,000 acres in 2010, up 19% from the planted acreage in 2009.
- ◆ **Sweet potato** growers intend to plant 50,000 acres, up 3,000 acres from 2009 and the largest since 1950.
- ◆ **Hay** producers expect to cut 860,000 acres in 2010, up 2% from 2009.
- ◆ **Winter wheat** plantings totaled 550,000 acres, down 21% from last year.

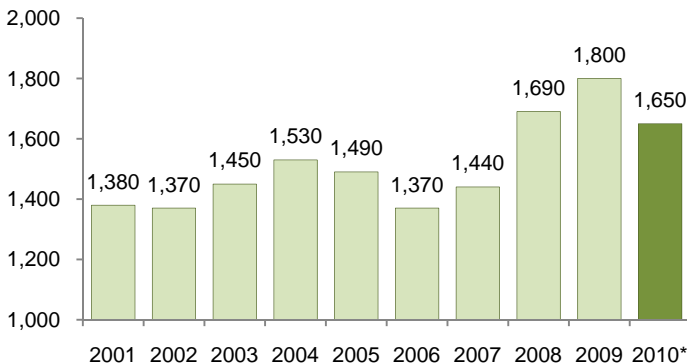
Corn Plantings- (Thousand Acres)



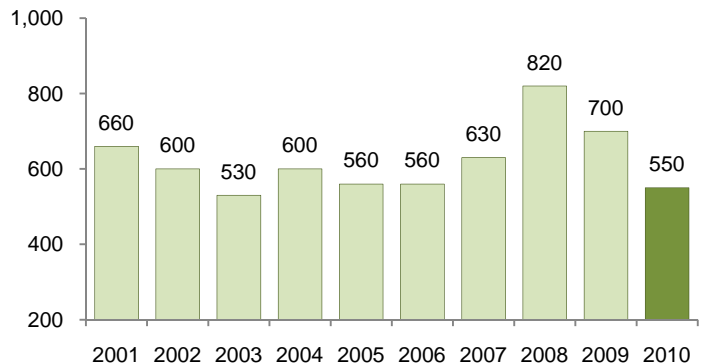
Upland Cotton Plantings - (Thousand Acres)



Soybean Plantings- (Thousand Acres)



Winter Wheat Plantings- (Thousand Acres)



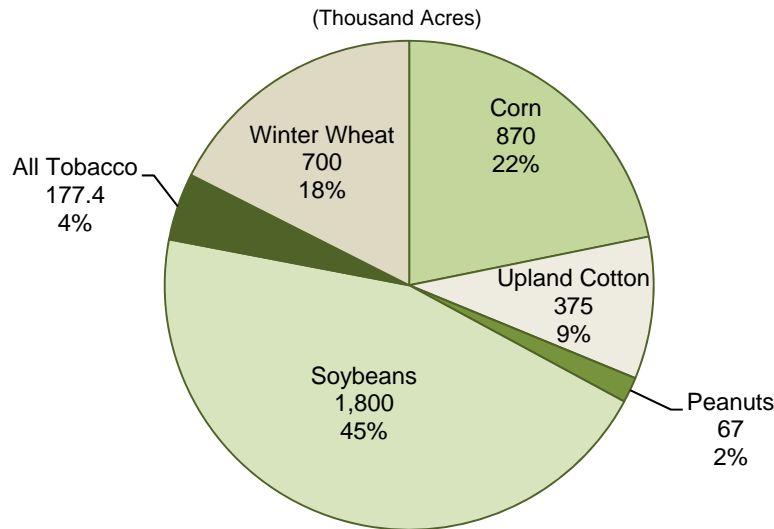
*Planting intentions as of March 1. Actual plantings may change based on weather, input costs, commodity prices, etc. and will be reflected in the Acreage report released June 30.

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

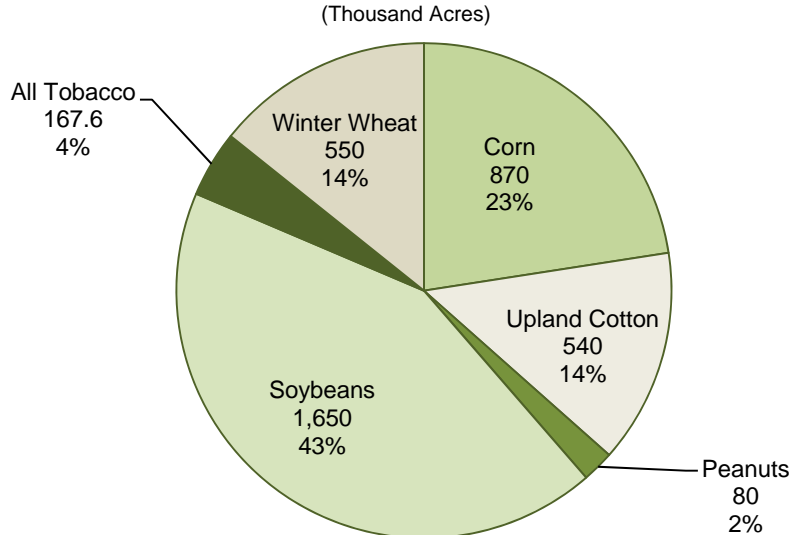
Crops	North Carolina			United States		
	2009	2010	Percent	2009	2010	Percent
		Intentions	Change		Intentions	Change
	Thousand Acres			Thousand Acres		
		+/-			+/-	
Barley ³	23	23	0	3,567	3,273	-8
Corn: All	870	870	0	86,482	88,798	+3
Cotton: Upland ¹	375	540	+44	9,149	10,505	+15
Hay: All ²	847	860	+2	59,755	60,460	+1
Oats ³	50	40	-20	3,404	3,364	-1
Peanuts	67	80	+19	1,116	1,201	+8
Soybeans	1,800	1,650	-8	77,451	78,098	+1
Sweet Potatoes	47.0	50.0	+6	109.6	117.1	+7
Tobacco: Burley ²	3.4	3.6	+6	101.9	97.8	-4
Tobacco: Flue-cured ²	174.0	164.0	-6	224.0	207.0	-8
Wheat: Winter ^{3,4}	700	550	-21	59,133	53,827	-9

¹ U.S. includes Upland and American-Pima cotton. ² Data for hay and tobacco represent harvested acres. ³ Includes acreage planted in preceeding fall. ⁴ US includes Winter, Durum and Other Spring wheat.

2009 Planted Acres and Percent Total for Select Commodities *



2010 Planted Acres and Percent Total for Select Commodities *



*Tobacco data represents harvested acres.