

AGRICULTURE COMMERCE



Mississippi Cotton and Corn Statistics

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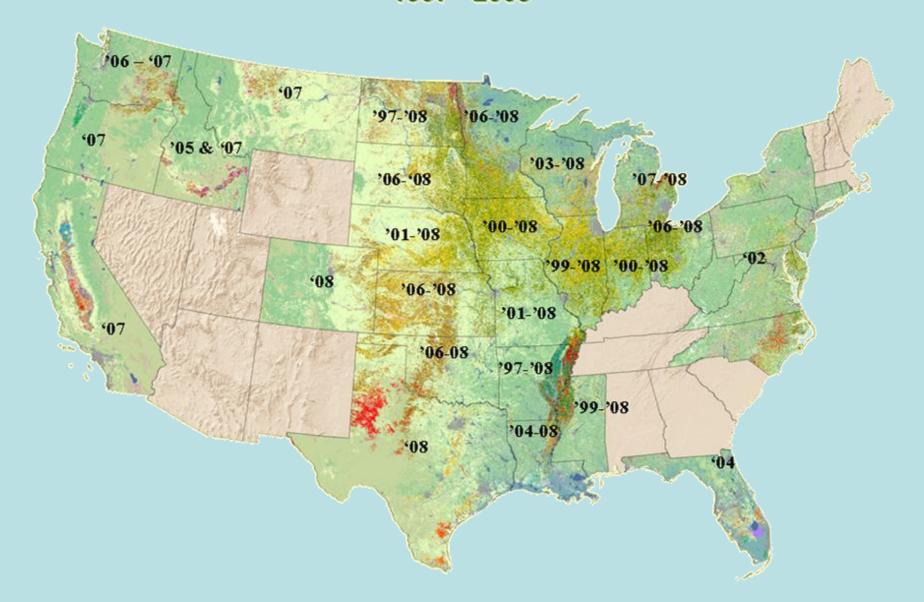
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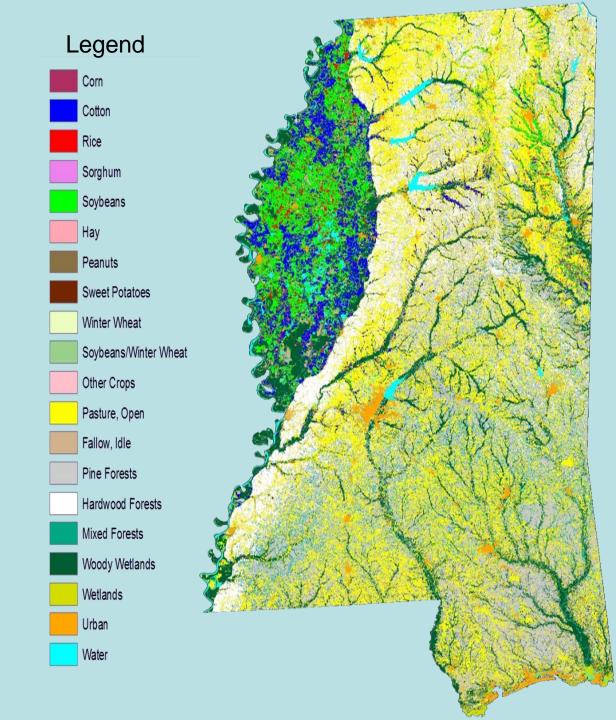
Cropland Data Layers 1997 - 2008





Mississippi Cotton and Corn Fields in 2006

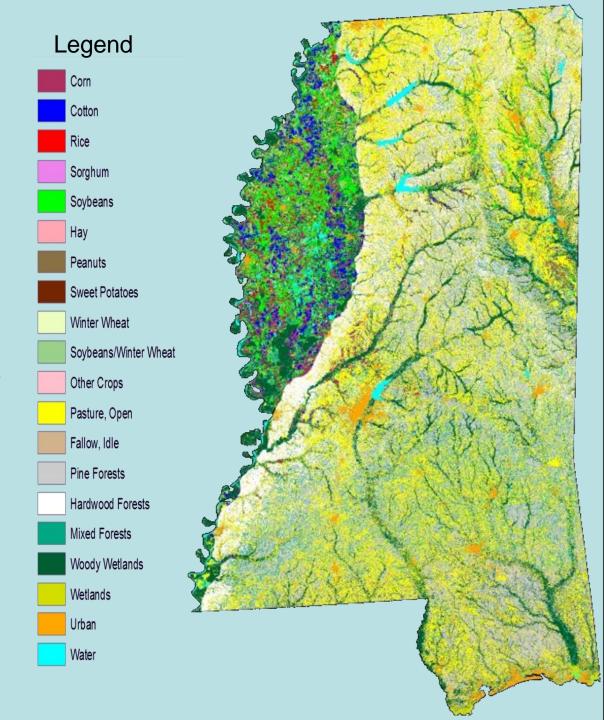
Cotton is grown mainly beside ancient and existing creek beds in the Delta region of Mississippi.



Mississippi Cotton and Corn Fields in 2007

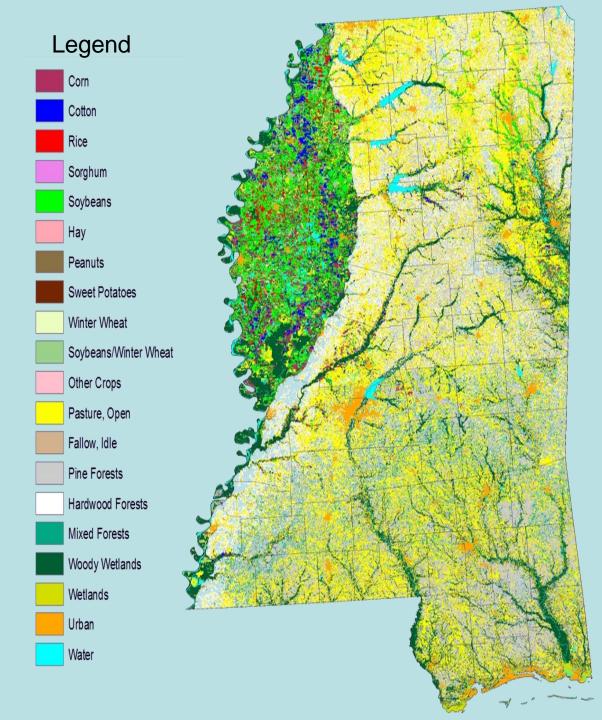
Many of the cotton fields in 2006 were planted to corn in 2007, particularly in the lower Delta near Vicksburg.

Construction started in October, 2006 on the Mississippi's first corn to ethanol plant in Vicksburg.

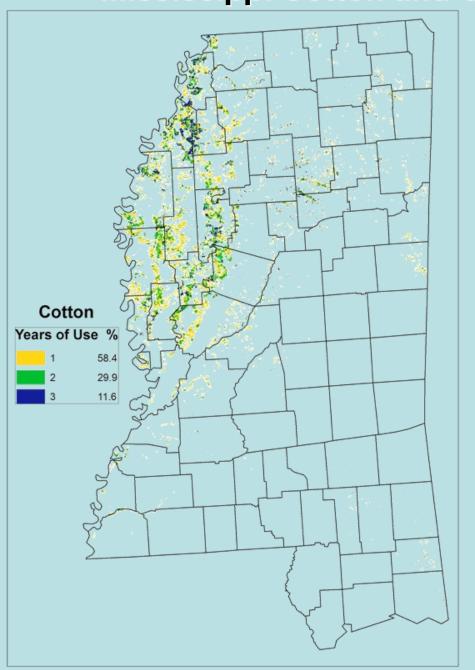


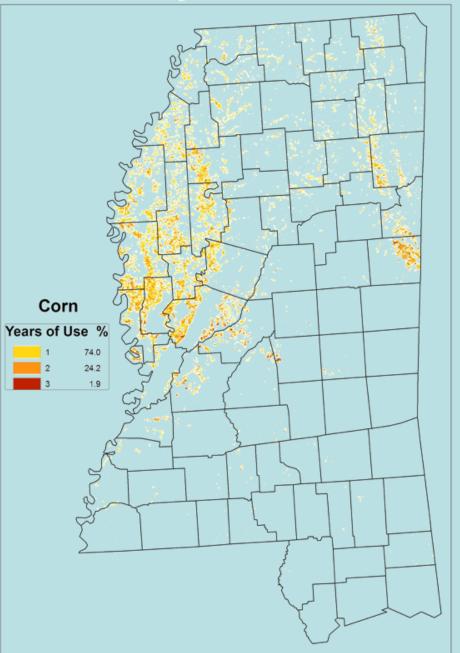
Mississippi Cotton and Corn Fields in 2008

Cotton acreage in 2008 was only 360,000 acres, the lowest acreage since official records started in 1866. Corn acreage was also down from 2007. Soybeans made up over half of the total cultivated crop acres.



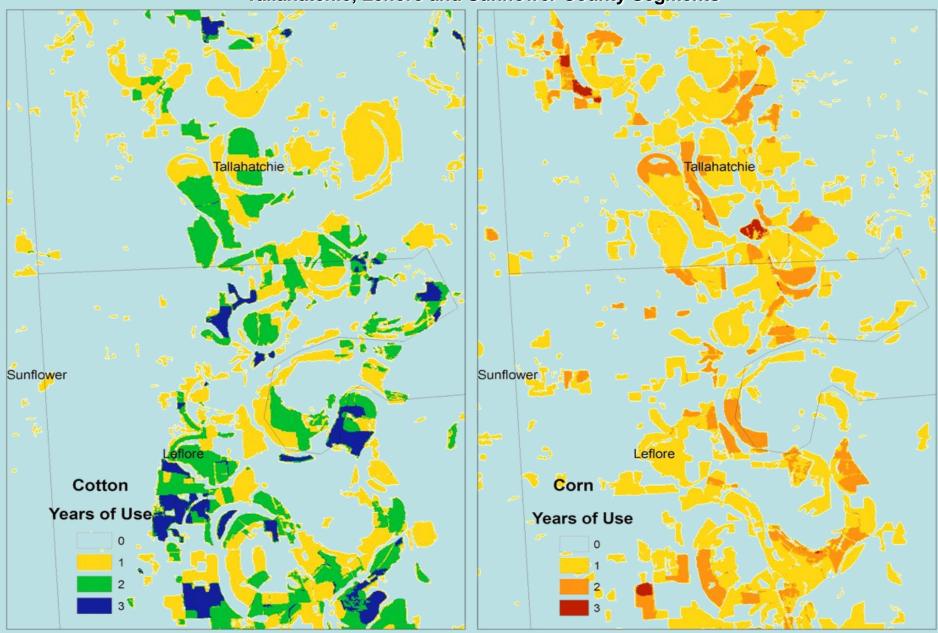
Mississippi Cotton and Corn Intensity, 2006-2008





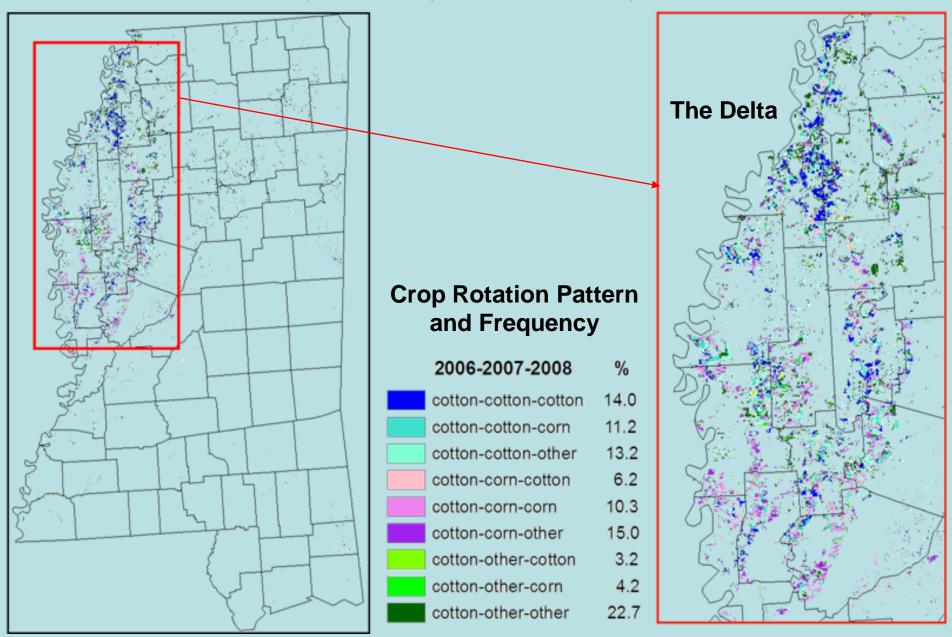
Cotton and Corn Intensity, 2006-2008

Tallahatchie, Leflore and Sunflower County Segments



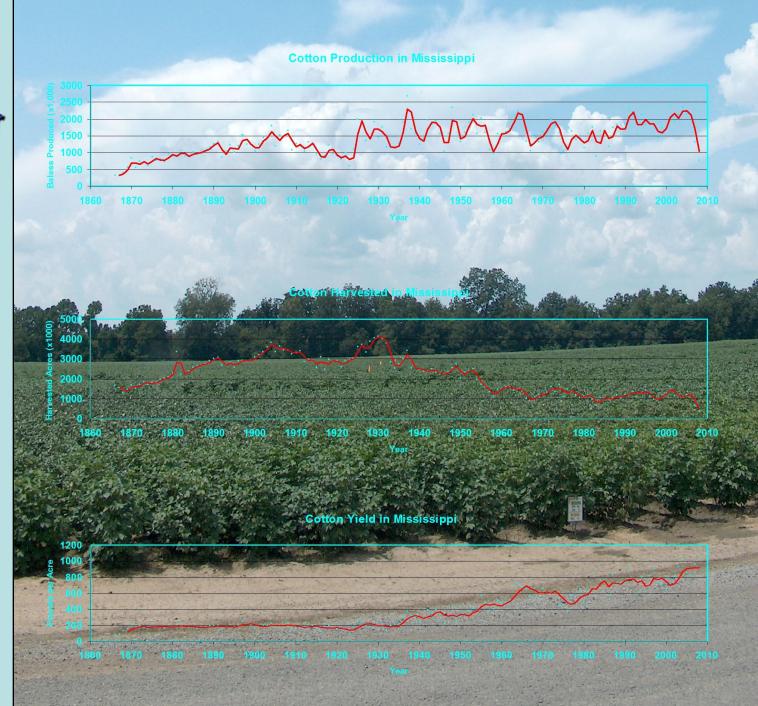
Mississippi Cotton Rotation from 2006

(82.9% of all land planted to cotton 2006-2008)



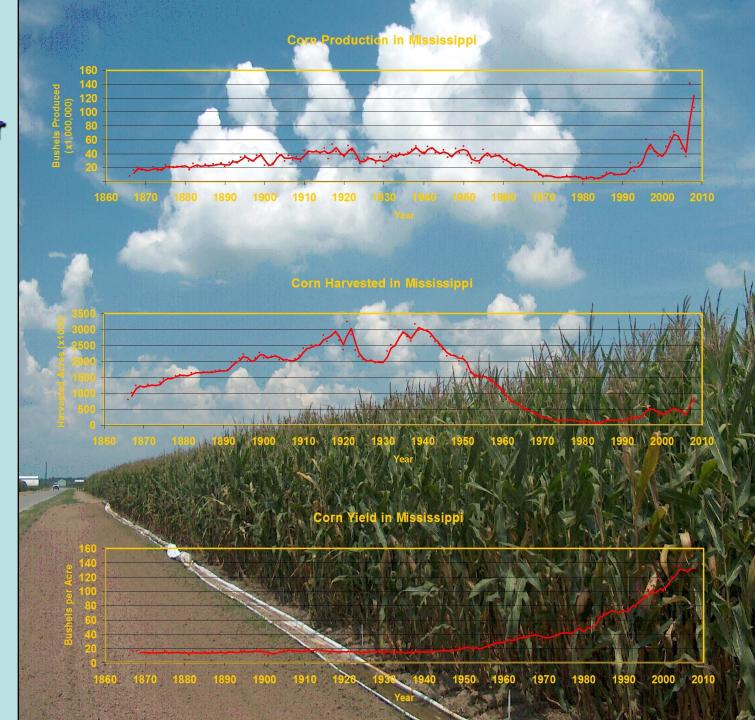
Cotton Statistics for Mississippi Farms

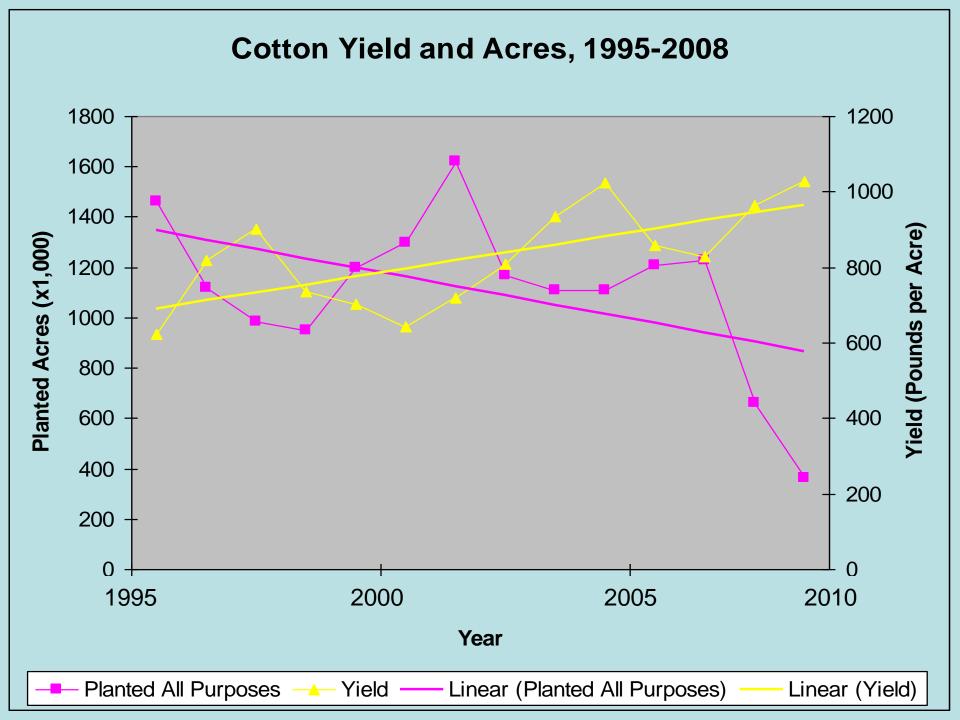
Cotton production is cyclical.
Harvested acres are at the lowest point on record, and cotton yield is at an all time high.

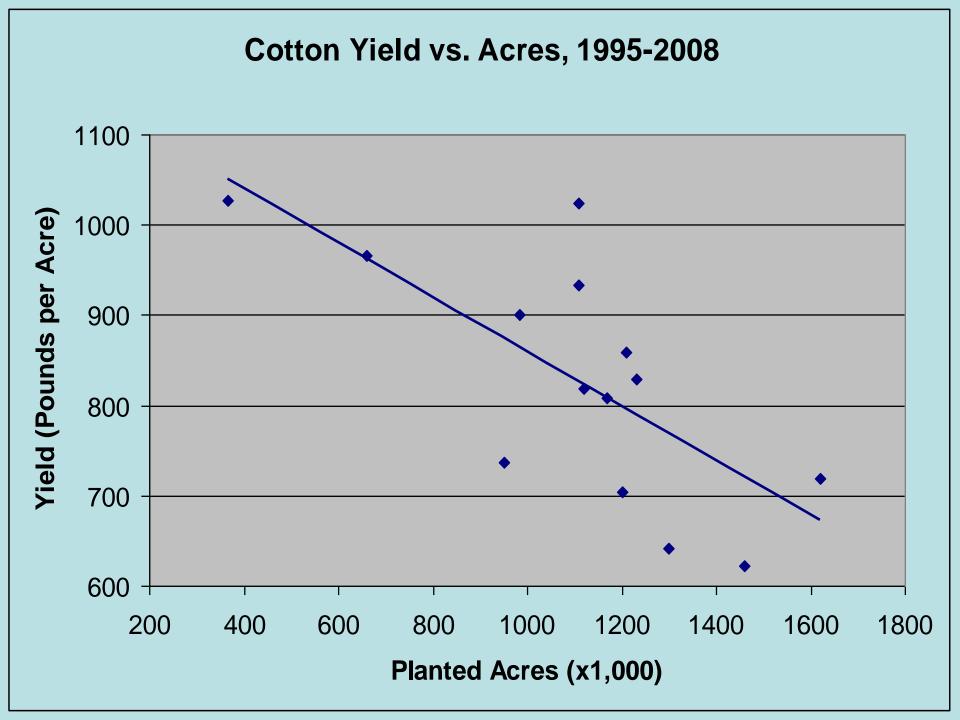


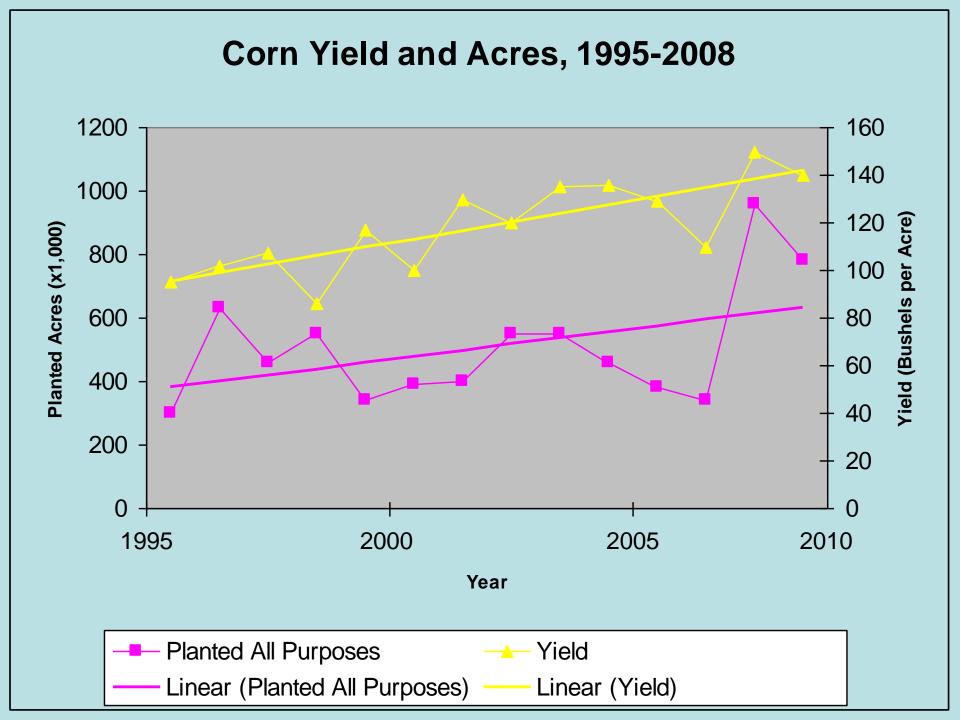
Corn Statistics for Mississippi Farms

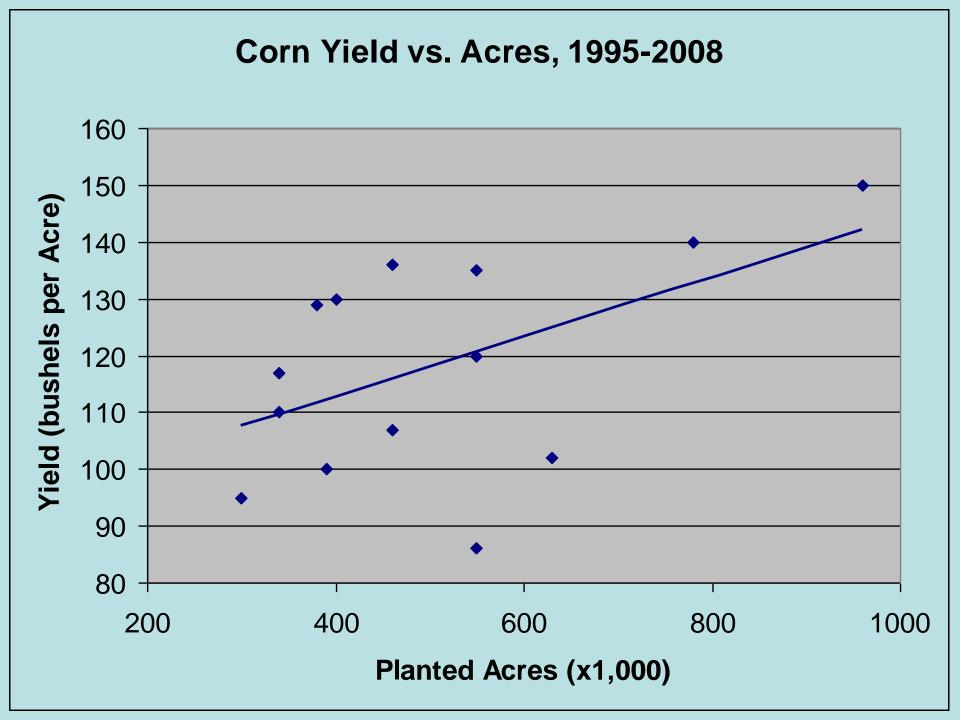
Both yield and production have increased at a faster rate than the harvested acreage, making the new ethanol production goals easier to obtain.











Mississippi Cotton and Corn Statistics Results and Conclusions

- Recent legislation, higher prices and the corn to ethanol plant in Vicksburg have favored corn over cotton in Mississippi.
- For land that was planted to cotton in 2006, 38.4% was planted to cotton in 2007, and 14% was planted to cotton in 2007 and 2008. Rotation to cotton was more common in the northern Delta.
- For land that was planted to cotton in 2006, 31.5% was planted to corn in 2007, and 10.3% was planted to corn in 2007 and 2008. Rotation to corn was more common in the southern Delta.
- The reasons for recent greater yields for cotton as the planted acres
 decreased and greater yields for corn as the acres increased include
 limiting planting to more fertile soil for each crop and crop rotations.
- Historical swings in cotton production suggest future increases are probable as demand for cotton changes.
- Recent dramatic changes in crop acreage reinforce the need for NASS annual estimates.