



National Agricultural  
Statistics Service

United States Department of Agriculture



Illinois Department  
of Agriculture

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Dear Friend:

We are happy to bring you another edition of the *Illinois Agricultural Statistics Annual Bulletin*. This annual bulletin represents the efforts of a large number of people all around Illinois and serves as a historical document which recaps the results from a multitude of surveys during the previous year. The basic information is supplied voluntarily by thousands of grain farmers, livestock producers, fruit and vegetable growers, grain elevators, slaughter and dairy plants, retail stores that serve farm families, and other producers and agribusinesses. Our mission is to **“serve Illinois, its agriculture and its rural communities by providing meaningful, accurate and objective statistical information.”**

The year 2009 will be remembered as one of the most challenging for most Illinois row crop farmers. An extremely wet spring and fall caused delays not only during spring planting season but also during harvest. Many producers did not finish harvest until well after Thanksgiving with a few having to wait until spring to put their combines away.

But in spite of all the delays and headaches, corn yields averaged a respectable 174 bushels per acre and soybeans came in at 46 bushels per acre. Soft red winter wheat yields averaged 56 bushels per acre. Season average prices for winter wheat, corn and soybeans came in at \$3.85, \$3.65 and \$9.70, respectively. Season average prices for all beef cattle averaged \$83.10 per hundred weight while hog prices averaged a disappointing \$44.40 per hundred weight for all of 2009.

Teamwork is important in most areas of life and business. The Illinois Field Office is no different. We are blessed with outstanding players and superior performance. We hope you find this publication helpful to you in gaining a better perspective on Illinois agriculture. Give us a call if we can be of assistance to you.

Respectfully,

Brad Schwab, Director  
NASS – Illinois Field Office

