SOYBEAN ACRES AND YIELDS IN THE U.S. AND MIDSOUTH

Today's conventional soybean production in the Midsouth is based on the Early Soybean Production System [ESPS]. This, along with improved varieties and improved options for weed and pest control, has resulted in midsouthern U.S. soybean yields being near of above the U.S. average yield over the last several years [see below table]. In fact, Arkansas and Mississippi, the two midsouthern states with the most soybean acres in the region, had average yields that were greater than the national average in the 2017-2024 period.

Harvested acreage in the four Midsouthern states and total harvested acreage in the U.S. shown in the below table were lower in 2019 than in the previous 5 years and in the following years. This is attributed to the adverse weather/excessive rainfall during normal planting time in all soybean-producing areas of the U.S. that resulted in a significant amount of unplanted acres. Also, the national average soybean yield in 2019 was below the national average yields of the previous and following years, while Midsouth states' average yields in 2019 were below those of a majority of the years during the same periods.

It is obvious that the Midsouth states' soybean acreage is only a small portion of the national acreage. In fact, total soybean acreage in the 4 states was only 9.3% of the total U.S. acreage in the 2020-2024 period. However, the above narrative that is supported by the tabled data indicates that the Midsouth acreage, though small in relation to that in the U.S. as a whole, is well-managed, and this has subsequently resulted in the continued high average yields in the region.

In the last 5 years, Mississippi average soybean yields have been 2.3-5.4 bu/acre greater than the national average. Also, average soybean yields in Mississippi in the last 5 years have been greater than those for the other midsouthern states shown in the below table.

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SOYBEAN ACRES AND YIELDS IN MIDSOUTH AND U.S.*			
Year	**State**	**Harvested acres**	**Yield**
		million acres	*bu/acre*
2024	Arkansas	3.02	55.0
2024	Louisiana	1.06	52.0
2024	Mississippi	2.27	56.0
2024	Tennessee	1.80	45.0
2024	National	86.271	51.7
2023	Arkansas	2.95	54.0
2023	Louisiana	0.98	40.0
2023	Mississippi	2.13	56.0
2023	Tennessee	1.57	51.0
2023	National	82.271	50.6
2022	Arkansas	3.15	52.0
2022	Louisiana	1.21	47.0
2022	Mississippi	2.29	54.0
2022	Tennessee	1.62	48.0
2022	National	86.336	49.5
2021	Arkansas	3.00	52.0
2021	Louisiana	1.06	52.0
2021	Mississippi	2.17	54.0
2021	Tennessee	1.52	50.0
2021	National	86.312	51.7
2020	Arkansas	2.80	51.5
2020	Louisiana	1.02	53.0
2020	Mississippi	2.06	54.0
2020	Tennessee	1.62	50.0
2020	National	82.603	51.0
2019	Arkansas	2.61	49.0
2019	Louisiana	0.86	48.0
2019	Mississippi	1.63	50.0
2019	Tennessee	1.37	47.0
2019	National	74.939	47.4
2018	Arkansas	3.21	50.5
2018	Louisiana	1.19	51.5
2018	Mississippi	2.19	54.0
2018	Tennessee	1.67	45.5
2018	National	87.594	50.6
2017	Arkansas	3.50	51.0
2017	Louisiana	1.25	54.0
2017	Mississippi	2.17	53.0
2017	Tennessee	1.66	50.0
2017	National	89.542	49.3
2016	Arkansas	3.09	47.0
2016	Louisiana	1.19	48.5
2016	Mississippi	2.02	48.0

2016	Tennessee	1.63	45.0
2016	National	82.706	51.9
2015	Arkansas	3.17	49.0
2015	Louisiana	1.39	41.0
2015	Mississippi	2.27	46.0
2015	Tennessee	1.72	46.0
2015	National	81.742	48.0
*NASS			

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