

<http://www.MSCNews.net/news/index.cfm?nk=15289>

Drought Slashes Size of Ks Farm Crops

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) - Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service is forecasting the smallest corn crop in Kansas since 2006 amid a deepening drought.

The agency reported Friday that it expects Kansas growers to bring in 390.6 million bushels of corn. That is down 13 percent from last year.

Kansas farmers planted 4.7 million acres of corn and are expected to harvest grain from 4.2 million of those acres. Thousands of corn acres have been abandoned or baled for silage.

The service estimated average yields this year of 93 bushels per acre, the lowest Kansas corn yield since 1983.

Sorghum production is forecast at 88 million bushels, down 20 percent from a year ago and the smallest crop since 1956.

The soybean crop is estimated to come in at 73.7 million bushels, down 27 percent.

Associated Press