

Discussion of USDA/NASS August Crop Production Report

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Abstract¹

This reports discusses the USDA/NASS August Crop Production Report and compares it to Ibendahl's *Estimates of Corn Production and Yields Based on 8//4/24 Crop Condition* Article. Ibendahl's estimate of a national corn yield of 182.9 bu/ac is only 0.2 bu/ac below the USDA/NASS estimate.

Introduction

USDA/NASS issues a crop production report each month but there are a couple of reports that hold more interest to traders and producers of corn and soybeans than others. The first is the June Crop Report. This is the first report with an estimate of harvested acres on a state by state basis for corn and soybeans. The second is the August crop report which has an update to harvested acres as well as a state by state estimate of corn yields.

Ibendahl, by contrast, has been estimating state yields each week starting with the first weekly crop condition report just after Memorial day. Ibendahl starts estimating total corn production when the USDA/NASS estimate of harvested acres becomes available in June. While Ibendahl estimates the state yield based on USDA weekly crop condition reports, he uses the USDA June estimate of harvested acres in the total production calculation.

Results

USDA/NASS has revised their harvest acres down by 1% but is forecasting a record national yield of 183.1 bu/ac. If the USDA/NASS estimate is accurate this would be the third largest corn crop ever and down only 1% from last year. Total estimated corn production from NASS is 15.1 billion bushels.

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Ibendahl has been estimating a national US corn yield in the 180 bu/ac range since the beginning of June (See Figure 1). His current (8/4/24 estimate) of 182.9 is only 0.2 bu/ac lower than the USDA/NASS estimate.

On a state by state basis, Ibendahl's estimates aren't quite as close but still within the confidence interval for most states. Figure 2 has the individual state comparison.

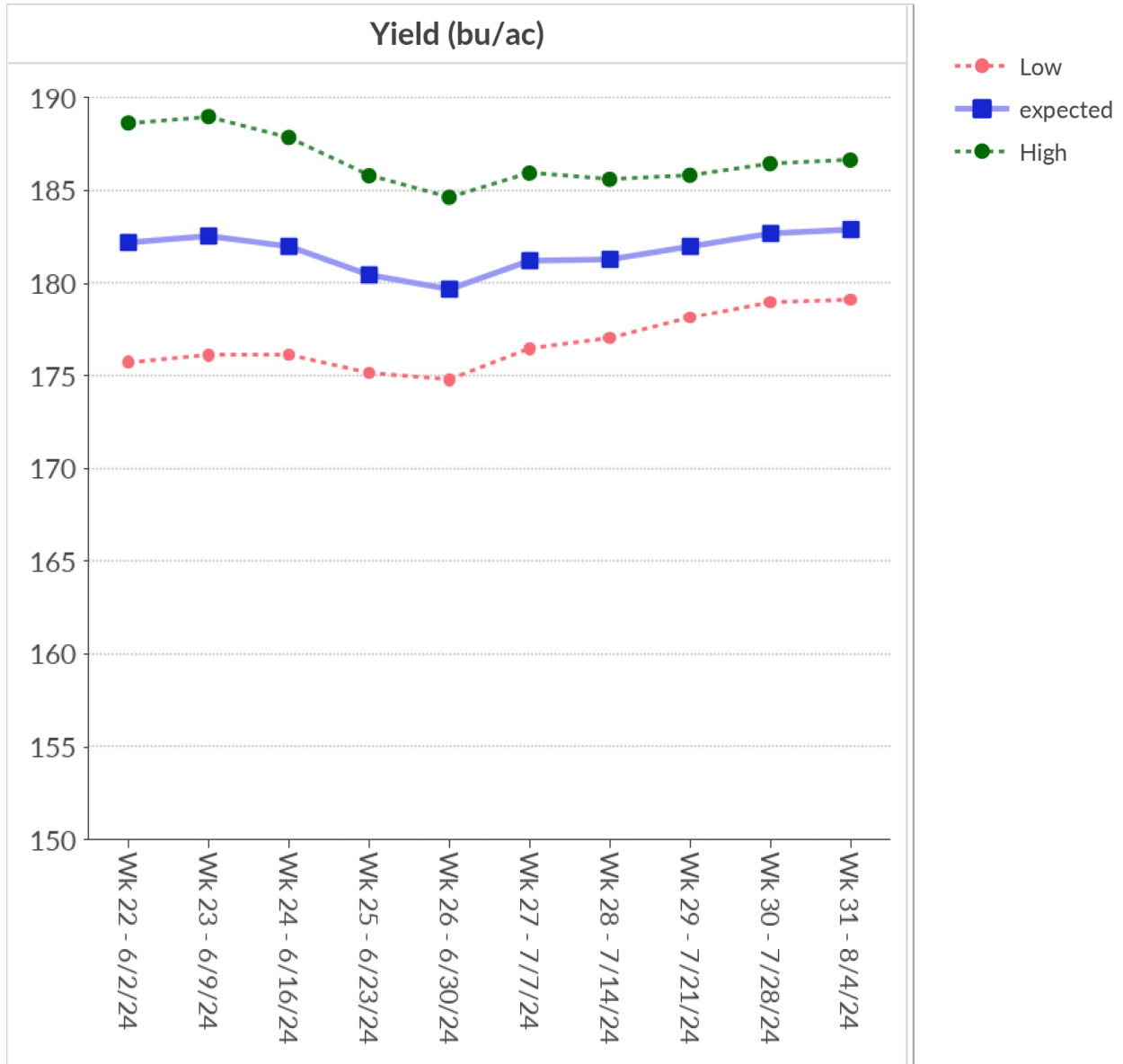


Figure 1: Estimated National Corn Yield per Acre

State	Ibendahl 8/4 estimate	USDA/NASS	
		estimate from 8/12 Crop Production report	difference
Colorado	128.5	128.0	0.5
Illinois	216.7	225.0	-8.3
Indiana	201.0	207.0	-6.0
Iowa	208.5	209.0	-0.5
Kansas	123.7	128.0	-4.3
Kentucky	178.4	187.0	-8.6
Michigan	176.7	177.0	-0.3
Minnesota	192.4	185.0	7.4
Missouri	181.1	181.0	0.1
Nebraska	194.5	194.0	0.5
North Carolina	97.4	100.0	-2.6
North Dakota	143.2	144.0	-0.8
Ohio	193.6	188.0	5.6
Pennsylvania	145.0	135.0	10.0
South Dakota	160.3	162.0	-1.7
Tennessee	163.3	160.0	3.3
Texas	120.5	117.0	3.5
Wisconsin	176.9	183.0	-6.1
U.S	182.9	183.1	-0.2

Figure 2: Comparison of USDA estimate to Ibendahl's estimate