USDA
United States Department of Agriculture

Outlook

Economic Research Service | Situation and Outlook Report

OCS-25h | August 14, 2025

Next release is September 16, 2025

Oil Crops Outlook: August 2025

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U.S. 2025/26 Soybean Supply Forecast Declines on Lower Beginning Stocks and Production

U.S. 2025/26 soybean supply forecast is reduced this month by 63 million bushels on lower carry over from MY 2024/25 and lower soybean production. Soybean production is forecast at 4.3 billion bushels, 43 million bushels down from the previous month's forecast on lower harvested acres, partially offset by higher yield. The soybean planted and harvested acreage declined this month by 3 percent from the July projection. This month, the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) published its first survey-based soybean yield forecast for the marketing year (MY) 2025/26 at 53.6 bushels per acre, 1.1 bushels per acre higher than the previous estimate. With the lower soybean supply, the U.S. soybean export forecast is reduced this month to 1.7 billion bushels. Ending stocks for MY 2025/26 are projected at 290 million bushels. The MY 2025/26 season-average soybean price forecast is unchanged this month at $10.10 per bushel. The soybean meal price and soybean oil price are forecast at $280 per short ton and 53 cents per pound, respectively.

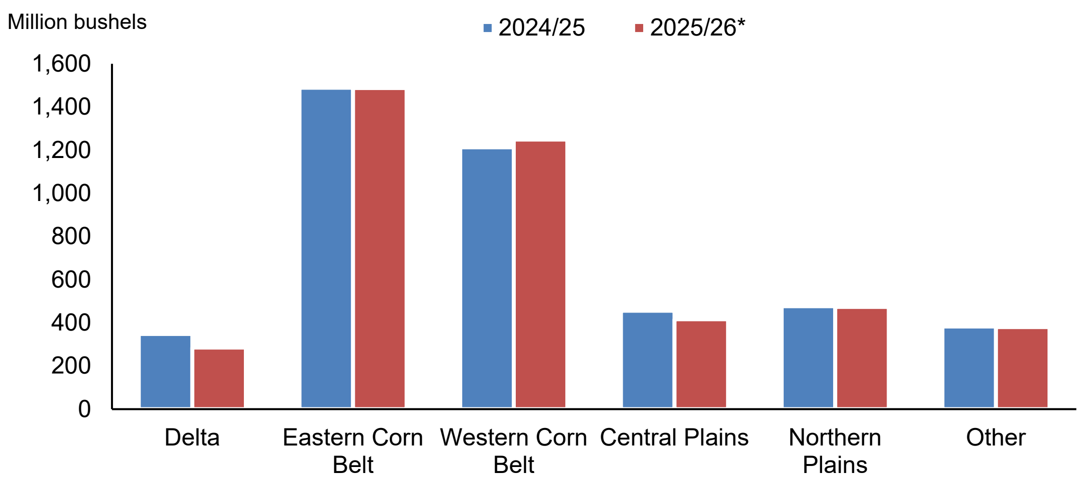
Global oilseed production forecast for MY 2025/26 is reduced this month by 3.3 million metric tons to 690.1 million metric tons on lower sunflowerseed, cottonseed, and soybean production only partially offset by a higher rapeseed crop. The global oilseed export forecast is lowered marginally this month, while the global oilseed crush is reduced by 1.3 million metric tons to 580.5 million metric tons, as lower sunflowerseed and cottonseed crush is only partially offset by higher rapeseed crush. The global total oilseed ending stocks for MY 2025/26 are forecast lower than last month due to lower soybean stocks.

Domestic Outlook

U.S. Soybean Production Declines This Month

USDA, NASS conducted the first yield survey of the 2025 soybean crop. The results indicated a national average soybean yield of 53.6 bushels per acre. If realized, the MY 2025/26 U.S. soybean yield will be at a record high, which reflects this season's growing conditions. It is worth noting that USDA, NASS reviewed all available data, including survey data and the latest certified acreage information from USDA, Farm Service Agency. U.S. soybean planted and harvested acreage is forecast down from last month to 80.9 million acres and 80.1 million acres, respectively. As a result, U.S. soybean production for MY 2025/26 is projected at 4.3 billion bushels, 43 million bushels down from last month's forecast. Regionally, soybean production is forecast to decline year over year (mainly in the Delta and Central Plains), partially offset by higher production in the Western Corn Belt region (figure 1).

Figure 1
U.S. soybean production by region



Note: Delta: Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi; Eastern Corn Belt: Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and Wisconsin; Western Corn Belt: Iowa, Minnesota, and Missouri; Central Plains: Kansas and Nebraska; Northern Plains: North Dakota and South Dakota; and "Other" includes remaining States. Asterisk (*) denotes August forecast. Marketing years begin September 1 and end August 31.
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service Quickstats database.

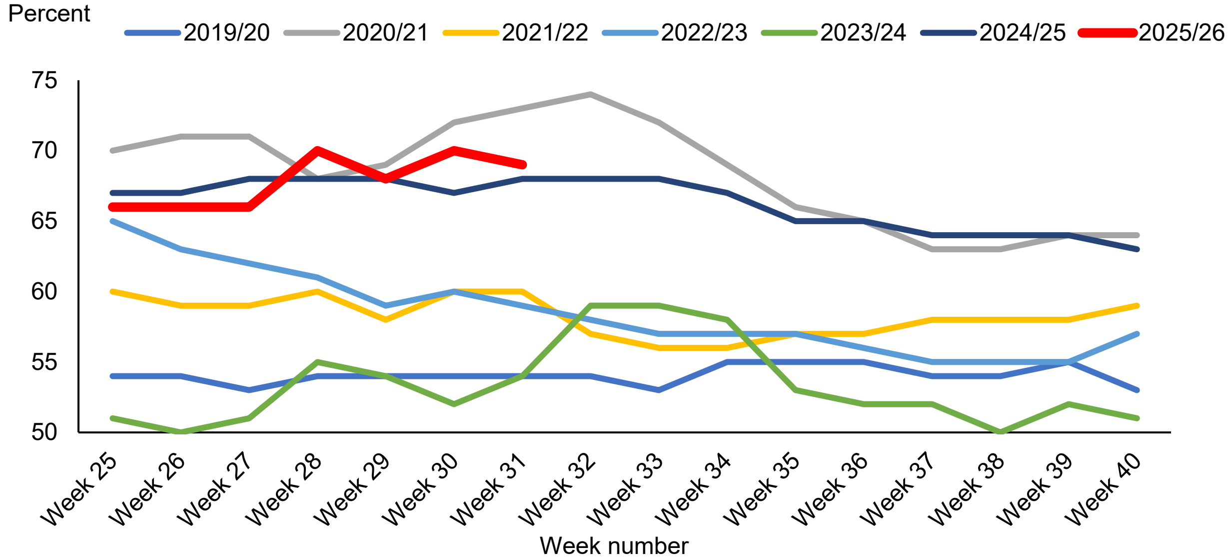
The Central Plains, Western Corn Belt, and Eastern Corn Belt saw substantial precipitation in the June and July period compared to last year. While these regions received rains early in the growing season, the finishing weather in August and September is a determining factor in overall yield.

Based on conditions as of August 1, USDA, NASS's *Crop Production* report indicated record soybean yield in the following producing U.S. States of: Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Arkansas, Georgia, North Carolina, Delaware, and Virginia. Soybean yields are forecast above last year's level for nearly all remaining States—except for Texas, Nebraska, New York, New Jersey, and North Dakota.

As of August 3, the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service's *Crop Progress* report indicated 69 percent of the total U.S. soybean crop is rated in good-to-excellent condition, above last year's conditions (figure 2). Fifty-eight percent of the soybean crop is setting pods, marginally above last year and at the same level as the 5-year average.

Figure 2

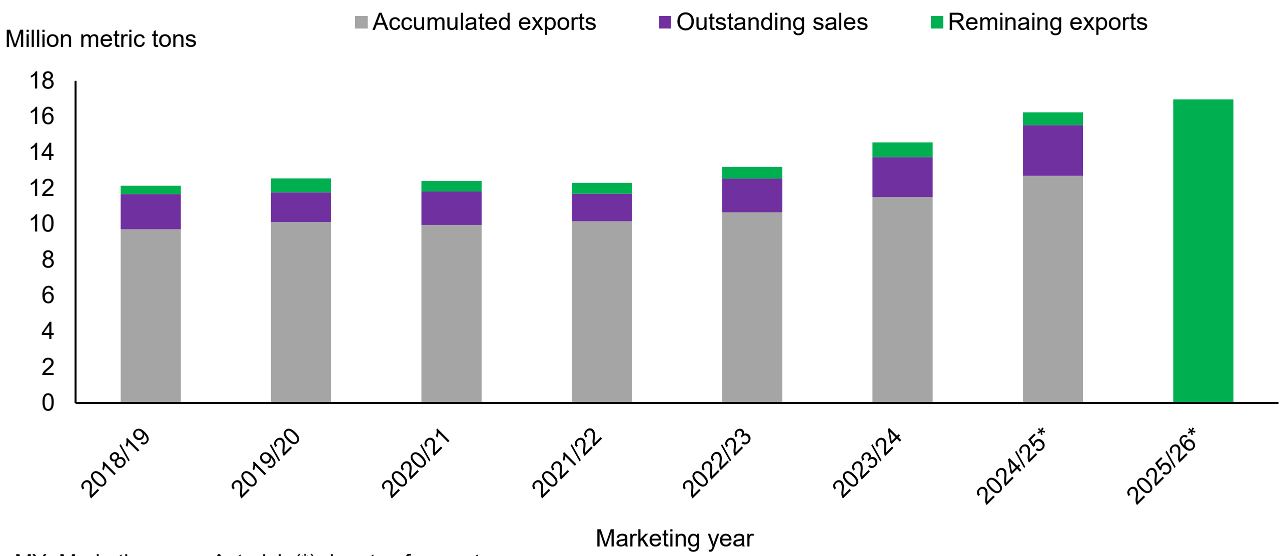
Percent of U.S. soybean crop rated good to excellent



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Crop Progress* report, August 4, 2025.

The U.S. soybean export forecast for MY 2025/26 is lowered this month to 1.7 billion bushels on lower supply. The MY 2024/25 soybean exports are forecast up to 1.9 billion bushels, on strong shipments late in the marketing year, as a result of declining prices. U.S. soybean crush is forecast for MY 2025/26 at a record-high 2.54 billion bushels, unchanged from last month's forecast, but 110 million bushels higher than the revised MY 2024/25 forecast. The MY 2024/25 soybean crush is raised this month on higher soybean meal exports and improved crush margins. From October 2024 through June 2025, soybean meal exports have totaled 13.8 million short tons, up 9 percent from MY 2023/24. In addition to a strong pace to date, outstanding sales as of July 31 were 3.1 million short tons (figure 3). The U.S. soybean meal export forecast for MY 2024/25 is revised up to 17.9 million short tons, while the MY 2025/26 is unchanged at 18.7 million short tons. The MY 2025/26 soybean meal domestic demand remains unchanged and is projected to grow by 3 percent. The growth in domestic meal demand is forecast in tandem with domestic pork and poultry production forecasts, and competitive soybean meal prices compared with other feed ingredients.

Figure 3
Cumulative U.S. soybean meal export sales through July 31 and full marketing year exports



MY=Marketing year. Asterisk (*) denotes forecast.
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, *U.S. Export Sales* report.

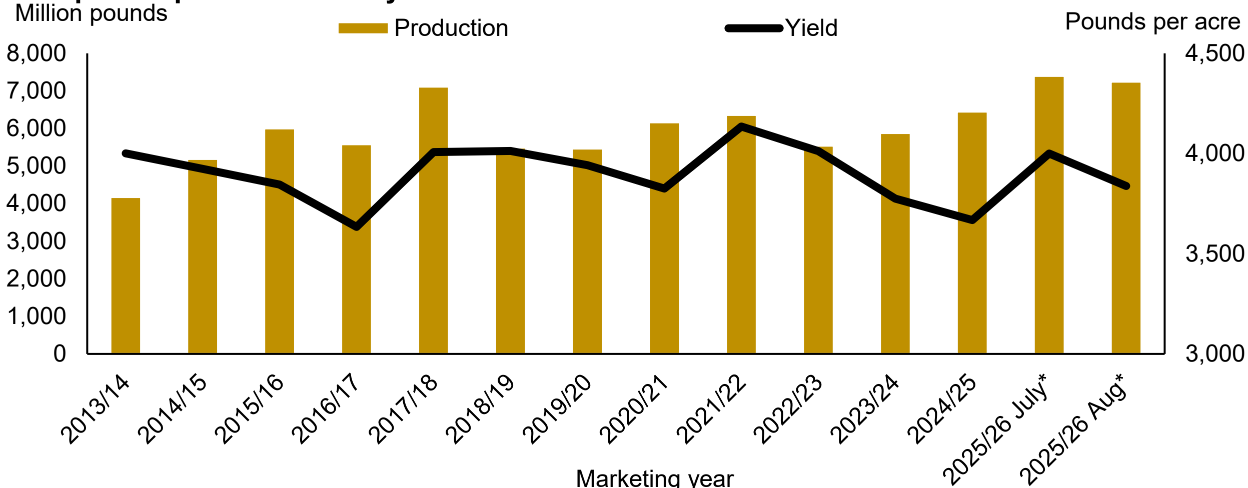
Total soybean oil demand for MY 2025/26 is unchanged this month. Noticeably, the MY 2024/25 soybean oil export forecast is reduced this month by 50 million pounds to 2.55 billion pounds on lower shipments and sales. In June, the U.S. exported 94 million pounds of soybean oil, down 220 million pounds from May. In July, the U.S. soybean oil price increased by more than 11 percent on the announcement from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the higher Renewable Volume Obligations resulting in the United States being less competitive on the global market for new sales. As of July 31, 2025, USDA, FAS *Weekly Export Sales* reports soybean oil total commitments (shipments and sales) at 2.4 billion pounds.

U.S. Peanut and Cottonseed Production

In the August NASS *Crop Production* report, peanut and cottonseed production estimates were also updated. In MY 2025/26 peanut harvested acreage is forecast at 1.9 million acres, 7 percent higher than MY 2024/25. This number is up from the USDA NASS June *Acreage* report—as farmers in Georgia, Arkansas, Virginia, and Texas planted more acres for peanuts. The national average peanut yield is forecast to be at 3,838 pounds per acre, nearly 5 percent higher than last year's yield. As of August 3, 73 percent of the U.S. peanut crop was in good-to-excellent condition, which is above last year's conditions at 71 percent. In Georgia, the largest peanut producer, good to excellent conditions were down marginally from last year at 69 percent. Georgia's peanut production estimate increased by 0.4 million pounds to a record-high 3.6 billion pounds, and accounts for 50 percent of the national peanut production. With the highest harvested acreage since MY 1991/92, and a yield of 3,838 pounds per acre, U.S. peanut production is forecasted at a record high of 7.2 billion pounds (figure 4).

Figure 4

U.S. peanut production and yield



Note: Asterisk (*) denotes forecast.
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates,* August 2025.

With record supplies, peanut food use is revised up to 3.2 billion pounds. In MY 2025/26, peanut food use is forecast to grow 1 percent from the revised MY 2024/25 food use. Peanut food use in MY 2024/25 is nearly unchanged from MY 2023/24, as lower use of peanut butter and peanut candy is offset by higher peanut snacks and other use. With almost unchanged peanut use, ending stocks for MY 2025/26 are forecast at 2.1 billion pounds, up 25 percent from MY 2024/25. The peanut season-average farm price forecast for MY 2025/26 is unchanged this month at 25 cents per pound, but lower than MY 2024/25.

The MY 2025/26 U.S. cottonseed production forecast is down 0.6 million short tons to 4.0 million short tons on lower cotton harvested acreage. With a smaller U.S. cottonseed production in MY 2025/26 the cottonseed crush, other use, and ending stocks are affected. U.S. cottonseed crush and other use is lowered this month to 1.25 million short tons and 2.6 million short tons, respectively. The MY 2025/26 cottonseed ending stocks are forecast at 380 million short tons, down from MY 2024/25. As a result of tighter ending stocks, the cottonseed season-average farm price is forecast to be up 2 dollars per short ton to 224 dollars.

International Outlook

Global Sunflowerseed Production Forecast Is Reduced for MY 2025/26

The global sunflowerseed production forecast for MY 2025/26 is reduced this month on lower production in the European Union, Serbia, Ukraine, and Turkey. Combined with the marginally higher carryover stocks from 2024/25 (which are estimated at 3.3 million metric tons) and the imports forecast of 2.4 million metric tons, the global sunflowerseed supply for MY 2025/26 is forecast at 60.8 million metric tons, 1.2 million metric tons lower than last month's forecast. With lower global supply, the global sunflowerseed crush forecast is trimmed to 50.7 million metric tons. Global sunflowerseed ending stocks for MY 2025/26 are unchanged this month and stand at 3.4 million metric tons, marginally higher than ending stocks for MY 2024/25.

With lower global sunflowerseed crush, the global sunflowerseed oil production forecast for MY 2025/26 is reduced this month by 0.5 million metric tons to 21.4 million metric tons. Consequently, the global consumption of sunflowerseed oil is reduced and partially offset by higher rapeseed oil consumption. Furthermore, the global sunflowerseed oil ending stocks for MY 2025/26 are forecast at 2.5 million metric tons, down marginally from last month's forecast and 0.1 million metric tons down from MY 2024/25.

The EU sunflowerseed production forecast for MY 2025/26 is reduced this month by 0.5 million metric tons to 9.5 million metric tons on lower yields. The sunflowerseed yield in the European Union is forecast at 2.0 metric tons per hectare, down 5 percent from last month's forecast but 14 percent higher compared with MY 2024/25. Sunflowerseed yields have been affected by dry and hot weather conditions during the growing season in Romania, Hungary, and Bulgaria. Those countries experienced dryness since June and high temperatures in July. Temperatures of over 35ºC (over 95ºF) were observed for a considerable number of days during the blooming and filling stage.

The EU's sunflowerseed crush is projected at 8.5 million metric tons, down 0.5 million metric tons from last month's forecast due to lower supply. With lower sunflowerseed crush, EU's sunflowerseed oil and meal production is reduced. The lower sunflowerseed oil and meal consumption is partially offset by higher rapeseed oil and rapeseed meal consumption due to higher rapeseed crush. The EU's rapeseed crush forecast for MY 2025/26 is increased this month on a higher rapeseed supply. The EU's rapeseed production forecast for MY 2025/26 is raised by 0.2 million metric tons to 19.7 million metric tons on higher production in France. The higher production in France is due to higher yields from favorable weather conditions during the growing season.

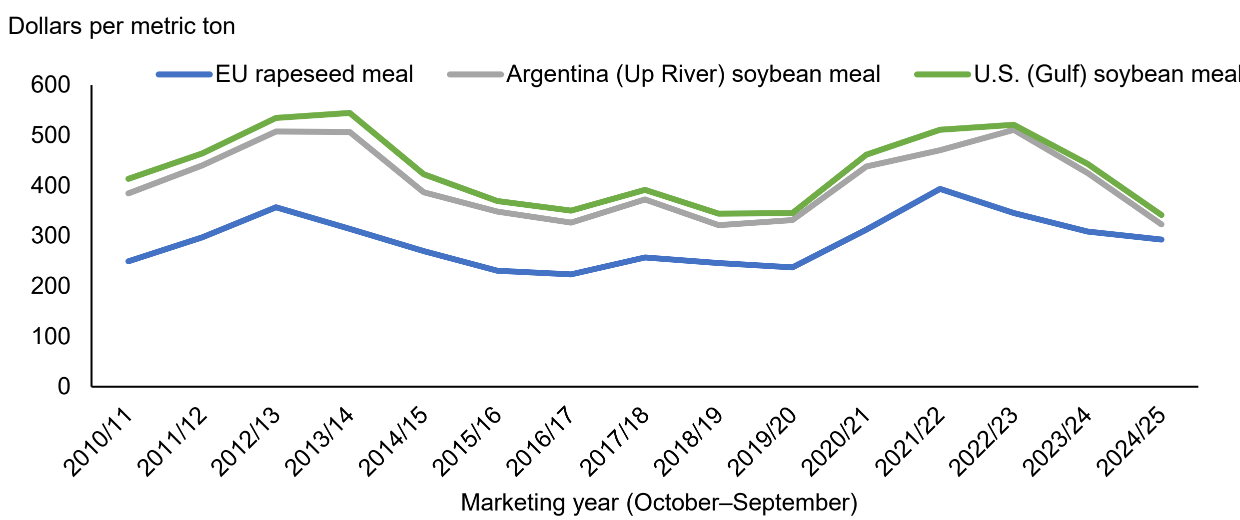
Similarly, the sunflowerseed output in Ukraine is reduced by 0.5 million metric tons to 13.5 million metric tons due to lower yield. The sunflowerseed yield is forecast at 2.33 metric tons per hectare, down nearly 4 percent from last month's forecast. The dry and hot weather impacted the yield in the southern districts of Ukraine. As a result of the lower sunflowerseed supply, the crush is reduced in Ukraine and stands at 13.1 million metric tons.

The sunflowerseed production is also reduced in Turkey and Serbia due to dryness and high temperatures during the flowering stage. These crops are in the pod-filling stage, and August weather will determine final yields.

Global Soybean Meal Trade Forecast at a Record-High in MY 2025/26

Global soybean meal trade for MY 2025/26 is forecast to reach another record-high of 82.0 million metric tons, up 0.4 million metric tons from the revised MY 2024/25. The MY 2024/25 global soybean meal trade is raised by 1.5 million metric tons, primarily driven by an increase in shipments from Argentina, Brazil, and the United States. Soybean meal prices are at some of the lowest levels since MY 2018/19, encouraging consumption and supporting demand (figure 5). Meal prices are projected to remain at this level, and global soybean meal consumption is expected to increase by 12.2 million metric tons from MY 2024/25.

Figure 5
Meal prices



Note: Annual average meal prices were calculated by averaging daily quotes from the marketing year.
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from International Grains Council.

The European Union, a major soybean meal consumer, is expected to import 19.9 million metric tons in MY 2024/25, 1.1 million metric tons higher than last month's forecast. The EU soybean meal consumption in MY 2024/25 is projected to reach a record-high level of 30.6 million metric tons, up 14 percent from MY 2023/24. The favorable soybean meal prices contributed to higher soybean meal usage in the European Union compared to other mid-proteins like rapeseed meal, sunflowerseed meal, as well as other feed grains. Tight rapeseed and rapeseed meal supplies in the European Union in MY 2024/25 kept rapeseed meal prices strong relative to soybean meal prices, incentivizing soybean meal imports.

Suggested Citation

Bukowski, M., & Swearingen, B. (2025). *Oil crops outlook: August 2025* (Report No. OCS-25h). U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service.

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