United States Department of Agriculture

Economic Research Service | Situation and Outlook Report

OCS-25i | September 16, 2025

Next release is October 14, 2025

Oil Crops Outlook: September 2025

Maria Bukowski

Bryn Swearingen

In this report:

U.S. 2025/26 Soybean Production Is Raised on Higher Acreage

The USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) *Crop Production* report this month indicated the marketing year (MY) 2025/26 soybean production is at 4.3 billion bushels, 8.0 million bushels higher than the previous month's forecast. The production forecast is raised on higher acreage. The soybean yield forecast for MY 2025/26 stands at 53.5 bushels per acre, 0.1 bushels per acre lower than the previous estimate. The U.S. soybean export forecast is reduced this month to 1.69 billion bushels. Soybean crush is raised to 2.56 billion bushels, on higher soybean meal demand. Ending stocks for MY 2025/26 are projected at 300 million bushels, 10 million bushels higher than last month's forecast. The MY 2025/26 soybean season-average farm price forecast is lowered by 10 cents to $10 per bushel. The soybean meal and soybean oil prices are forecast to be unchanged, at $280 per short ton and 53 cents per pound, respectively.

Global rapeseed and sunflowerseed production forecasts for MY 2025/26 are increased this month by 1.4 million metric tons and 0.2 million metric tons to nearly 91 million metric tons and 55.3 million metric tons, respectively. Larger rapeseed production is forecast for Canada, Australia, Kazakhstan, and Russia. The marginal increase in the global sunflowerseed production is mainly due to higher sunflowerseed output in Russia and Kazakhstan, while production in the European Union and Ukraine is reduced from last month's forecast.

Domestic Outlook

Higher Output Is Forecast for U.S. Soybeans in MY 2025/26

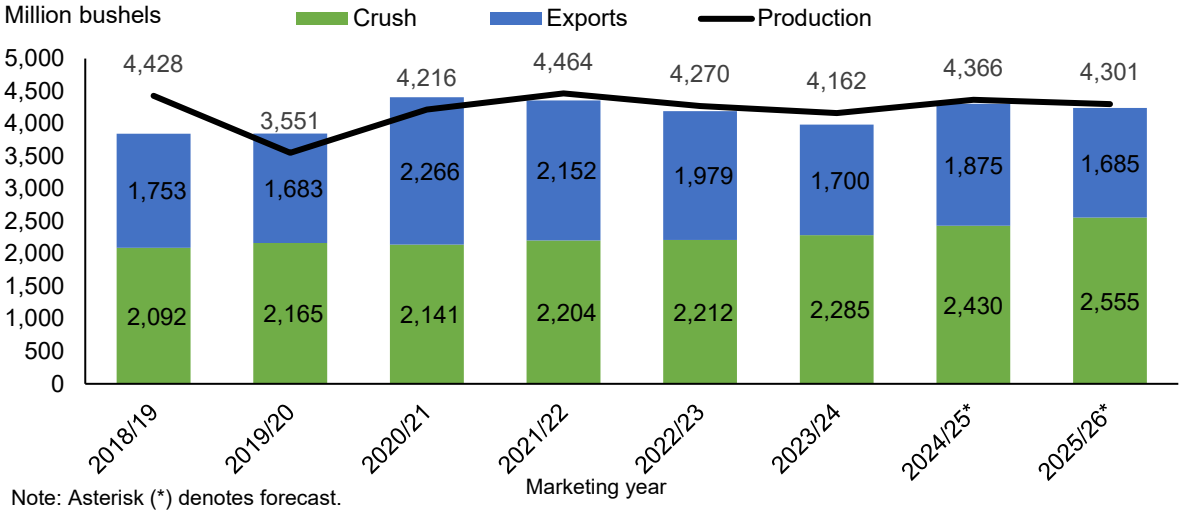
Based on a higher soybean acreage forecast, this month's USDA, NASS *Crop Production* report forecast the MY 2025/26 soybean production up 8 million bushels to 4.3 billion bushels. This season's national average yield is forecast at 53.5 bushels per acre. The outlook for higher soybean production is based on higher production projections in the following U.S. States: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. The higher production forecast in those States is partially offset by reduced production projections mainly in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee. The harvested soybean acreage is forecast at 80.3 million acres, up 0.2 million acres from last month, with most of the increase in Minnesota. The higher soybean production (combined with unchanged beginning stocks) brings total soybean supply for MY 2025/26 at 4.7 billion bushels, up 8 million bushels from last month and down 85 million bushels from last year.

August is the key period for the development and filling of soybean pods. The second half of August was warmer and drier than average for much of the growing region. As of September 7, 64 percent of soybeans were rated in good-to-excellent condition, compared with 65 percent during the same period last year. USDA, NASS's objective yield surveys for 11 major soybean-producing States (Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, and South Dakota) found that the number of pods per 18 square feet is nearly 6 percent above final counts for 2024 and 8 percent above the last 3-year average. The finishing weather will determine the final pod weights and yield. Soybean harvesting in many areas will soon commence, as 21 percent of the U.S. crop has dropped leaves as of September 7, slightly below last year's level of 23 percent.

The U.S. soybean export forecast for MY 2025/26 is lowered this month by 20 million bushels to 1.69 billion bushels. U.S. soybean export sales have been slow to pick up in the face of international competition, especially with Brazil and Argentina shipping more soybeans in the U.S. peak window (October through December). In contrast, the U.S. soybean crush forecast for MY 2025/26 is raised by 15 million bushels, to a record-high of 2.55 billion bushels, on higher soybean meal demand (figure 1).

Figure 1

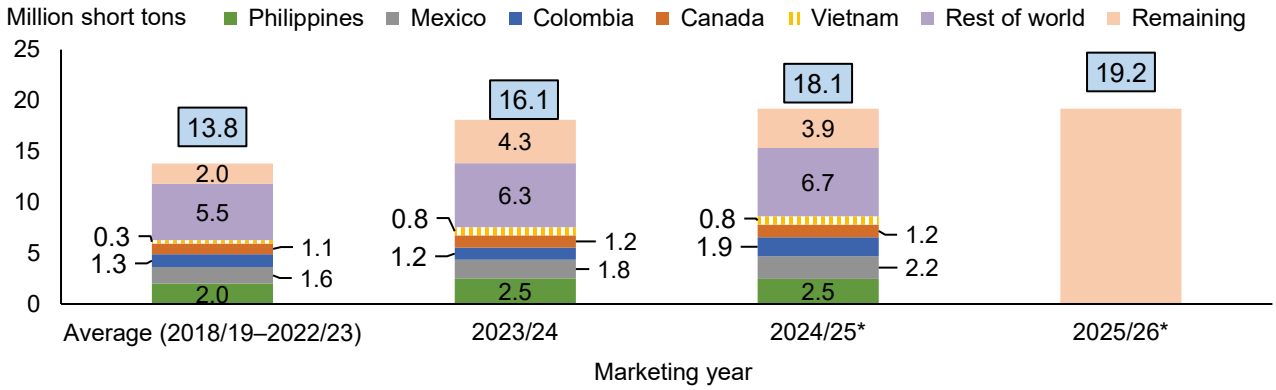
U.S. soybean production, crush, and exports



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

The soybean meal export forecast is raised to 19.2 million short tons, up 0.5 million short tons from last month's forecast and 1.1 million short tons higher than the revised MY 2024/25 forecast. From October 2024 through July 2025, soybean meal exports have totaled 15.3 million short tons, up 11 percent from MY 2023/24 and 30 percent from the previous 5-year average (figure 2). The United States has seen stronger shipments of soybean meal to Mexico and Colombia this year than in previous years. U.S. soybean meal shipments to Mexico are up 21 percent compared to last year, which reflects increasing demand in the hog and poultry sectors. In addition, U.S. soybean meal shipments to Colombia are up 48 percent from the previous 5-year average. The United States has also captured market share in other countries and is forecast to have more than 20 percent of the global soybean meal trade in MY 2024/25 and MY 2025/26, up from the previous 5-year average of 17 percent. The MY 2025/26 soybean meal domestic demand is slightly down this month, standing at 41.7 million short tons.

Figure 2
U.S. soybean meal exports by destination from October through July and remaining marketing year total



MY=Marketing year. Asterisk (*) denotes forecast.
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Global Agricultural Trade System.

With forecasted higher soybean oil production, domestic consumption of soybean oil is raised 150 million pounds from last month (with all the increase in food, feed, and other industrial use). Soybean oil export forecast for MY 2025/26 is unchanged at 700 million pounds, down 1.8 billion pounds from revised MY 2024/25. In July 2025, the United States exported 63 million pounds of soybean oil, down 34 million pounds from July 2024. As a result, the MY 2024/25 soybean oil export forecast is lowered to 2.5 billion pounds.

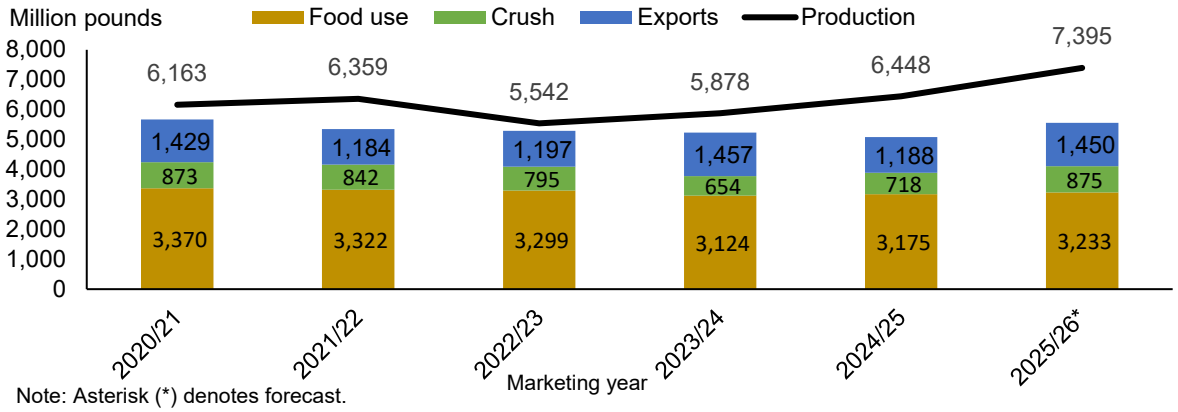
Peanut Production Remains at a Record High Level in MY 2025/26

In addition to updated soybean production, USDA, NASS also provided a forecast for the U.S. peanut crop. The MY 2025/26 peanut production is raised by 149 million pounds to a record-high 7.4 billion pounds, on higher harvested acreage and higher yield. Peanut area harvested is raised to 1.9 million acres, mainly due to higher acreage in Georgia and Texas. Meanwhile, the national average peanut yield is forecast to be up more than 1 percent from last month to 3,890 pounds per acre. As of September 7, 65 percent of the U.S. peanut crop was in good-to-excellent condition, which is above last year's conditions of 58 percent. Total peanut supplies are forecast at 9.1 billion pounds, up 33 million pounds from last month, as higher production offset the lower carryover stocks from MY 2024/25.

The USDA, NASS's *Peanut Stocks and Processing* report provided peanut ending stocks for MY 2024/25 at 1.6 billion pounds, down 116 million pounds from the previous forecast. With record supplies, total peanut use is forecast in MY 2025/26 at a record high—as food use,

crush, and exports are all forecast higher compared to the finalized MY 2024/25 distribution (figure 3).

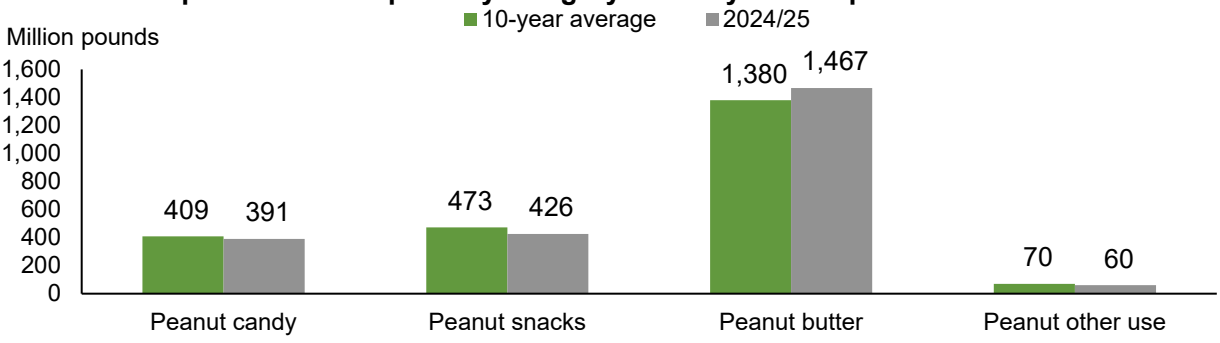
Figure 3
U.S. peanut production, food use, crush, and exports



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

In MY 2025/26, peanut food use is forecast to grow 1 percent from the finalized MY 2024/25 estimate. Peanut food use in MY 2024/25 finished at 3,175 million pounds, up from MY 2023/24, as lower use for peanut candy is offset by higher peanut snacks and peanut butter. Over the last 10 years, peanut butter consumption has continued to trend higher, while the other consumption categories are lower than the 10-year average (figure 4). Peanut butter has typically been recognized as a low-cost protein source, while peanut candy and snacks consumption has been static and have been impacted by rising cocoa prices. In MY 2025/26, peanut exports are forecast at 1.5 billion pounds, unchanged this month. Peanut ending stocks for MY 2025/26 are forecast at more than 2 billion pounds, up 30 percent from MY 2024/25. The peanut season-average farm price forecast for MY 2025/26 is unchanged this month at 25.0 cents per pound, but lower than MY 2024/25.

Figure 4
2024/25 U.S. peanut consumption by category and 10 year comparison



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, National Agricultural Statistic Service, Peanut Stocks and Processing report.

International Outlook

Global Soybean Production Forecast Is Reduced for MY 2025/26

The global soybean production forecast for MY 2025/26 is reduced this month by 0.5 million metric tons on lower soybean production in India, the European Union, and Serbia, partially offset by higher soybean production forecasts for Russia and the United States. Combined with lower carryover stocks from MY 2024/25 (which are estimated at 123.6 million metric tons), the global soybean supply for MY 2025/26 is forecast at 735.7 million metric tons, 1.8 million metric tons lower than last month's forecast. Global soybean exports for MY 2025/26 are up 0.3 million metric tons on higher exports from Argentina, Canada, and Russia more than offsetting lower exports from the United States and Ukraine. The soybean export forecast for Argentina is revised up for MY 2024/25 and MY 2025/26 due to higher export shipments and registrations. The global soybean crush forecast for MY 2025/26 is trimmed to 366.6 million metric tons on lower crush in Argentina, India, Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, and Canada. This forecast is partially offset by higher crush in the United States, Turkey, Egypt, and Ukraine. Global soybean ending stocks for MY 2025/26 are reduced this month by 0.9 million metric tons to 124 million metric tons, marginally higher than ending stocks for MY 2024/25.

The MY 2025/26 soybean production forecasts for the European Union and Serbia are reduced this month by 0.2 million metric tons, respectively, due to lower harvested area and yields. Area harvested in the European Union is lowered 2 percent to 1.1 million hectares, primarily due to a reduced area harvested estimate for Romania. In addition, the soybean yield in the European Union is forecast at 2.6 metric tons per hectare, down 3 percent from last month's forecast. Soybean yields have been affected by dry and hot weather conditions during the growing season (especially in Romania, Hungary, France, and Croatia). The lower soybean yields in those countries are offset partially by better yield in Austria and Slovakia. The soybean yield for Serbia is forecast at 1.67 metric tons per hectare, 22 percent lower than last month's forecast, on persistent dryness since June. Area harvested in Serbia is reduced by 23 percent.

With lower domestic soybean production, EU soybean import forecast is raised this month to 14.3 million metric tons, 0.3 million metric tons lower than the revised MY 2024/25. Additionally, the EU soybean meal import forecast is increased to 17.6 million metric tons, due to higher soybean meal consumption. The soybean meal consumption forecast is increased from last month due to the lower supply of alternative protein meals and relatively low prices.

India’s 2025/26 soybean production forecast is reduced by 0.9 million metric tons this month to 11.6 million metric tons, due to lower area harvested. The area harvested is lowered this month due to the impact of flooding in July, especially in the major soybean-producing state of Madhya Pradesh. Correspondingly, with a lower domestic soybean supply, the soybean crush in India is forecast to decline. As a result of lower domestic soybean crush, the soybean meal export forecast is reduced, and lower soybean oil supplies are offset by higher palm oil imports.

Russia’s soybean production forecast is raised by 0.5 million metric tons to 8.3 million metric tons this month, on higher area harvested. If the forecast is realized, this would be a record high soybean crop for Russia. The area harvested is increased by 0.3 million hectares to 4.6 million hectares. Farmers in Russia planted more soybeans, as reported by the Russian Statistical Agency, Rosstat. With higher domestic supply, Russia’s soybean export forecast is revised up to 2.0 million metric tons.

Global Rapeseed Supply Is Forecast Higher

The global rapeseed production forecast for MY 2025/26 increased this month by 1.4 million metric tons to nearly 91 million metric tons. This number is primarily driven by higher rapeseed output for Canada, Australia, Kazakhstan, and Russia—which more than offset lower production in Ukraine. Global rapeseed exports are reduced this month on lower exports from Canada and Ukraine. Canada rapeseed exports for MY 2025/26 are lowered to 6.7 million metric tons, on lower global demand and higher crush. With a higher global production, global rapeseed crush is increased this month by 0.4 million metric tons on higher crush in Canada, the European Union, and Russia (while crush in China is reduced). China's rapeseed crush is forecast lower due to lower rapeseed imports from Canada. China imposed tariffs on Canadian rapeseed starting in August and rapeseed products since March 2025. Consequently, China is projected to import less rapeseed and import more rapeseed meal from other countries, such as Russia and India. Global rapeseed ending stocks are projected to increase to 11.4 million metric tons, mainly on higher ending stocks in Canada.

The MY 2025/26 Australian rapeseed crop is raised this month by 0.3 million metric tons to 6.4 million metric tons, on a higher yield. The yield is raised slightly on favorable weather conditions and official crop estimates from ABARES (Australian Bureau of Agriculture and Resource Economics and Sciences). Following the higher supply, the Australian rapeseed export projection is increased to 4.9 million metric tons, marginally lower than exports in MY 2024/25.

Kazakhstan’s rapeseed production forecast increased by 0.2 million metric tons to 0.5 million metric tons on record area harvested. The area harvested is 86 percent higher than last month’s forecast and more than double the area harvested in MY 2024/25. The higher production is projected to be exported and crushed.

Russia’s rapeseed production is forecast to increase by 0.2 million metric tons to 5.5 million metric tons on higher area harvested. The additional supply of rapeseed is forecast to be crushed domestically and the products will likely be exported to cover global demand. In contrast, Ukraine's rapeseed production is lowered to 3.3 million metric tons, due to lower yields. The rapeseed yield is reduced 6 percent to 2.54 metric tons per hectare due to dry and hot weather during the growing season. As a result of the lower rapeseed supply, Ukraine’s rapeseed exports are projected to decrease to 2.8 million metric tons.

Global Sunflowerseed Crush Forecast Is Trimmed This Month

The global sunflowerseed crush forecast for MY 2025/26 is trimmed this month by 0.1 million metric tons to 50.6 million metric tons. Lower sunflowerseed crush in Ukraine and the European Union is only partially offset by the higher crush in Russia and Kazakhstan. Higher supply of sunflowerseed oil and sunflower meal in Russia and Kazakhstan is forecast to be exported and offset a loss of supply from Ukraine and the European Union. The sunflowerseed crush forecast for Ukraine and the European Union is reduced this month due to lower supply. Ukraine’s sunflowerseed crop is forecast at 12.7 million metric tons, down 0.8 million metric tons from last month’s forecast due to lower yield. The dry and hot weather in the southern districts of Ukraine impacted the yield during the filling stage. Similarly, the dry weather in the Balkans impacted the sunflowerseed yield estimate for the European Union, which is reduced by 6 percent to 1.88 metric tons per hectare. This results in sunflowerseed production forecast of 8.9 million metric tons, down 0.7 million metric tons from last month’s forecast. With lower production, the sunflowerseed crush in the European Union is down 0.4 million metric tons this month and is projected at 8.1 million metric tons. With the lower domestic sunflowerseed crush in the European Union, the sunflowerseed oil import forecast is raised this month. In contrast, sunflowerseed crush in Russia is projected to increase to 17.9 million metric tons, on the higher domestic sunflowerseed supply. Russia’s sunflowerseed production forecast is raised by 1.0 million metric tons to a record high of 19.0 million metric tons on higher area. The farmers planted a higher area to sunflowerseed, and the area harvested is estimated at 10.7 million hectares, up 0.7 million hectares from last month’s forecast and 1.1 million hectares from MY 2024/25.

Note: Starting October 1, 2025, ERS historical reports and data previously hosted on the Mann Library site will remain fully accessible through the National Agricultural Library's platform. New reports and data updates will be released on the ERS website.

Suggested Citation

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