



Weekly Farm Economics: 2013 Projected Soybean Yields Compared to Trend Yields

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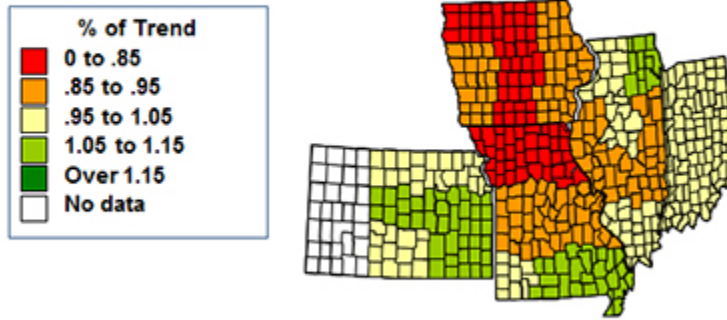
On September 12th, the USDA released revised projections of 2013 state soybeans yields. Also released were 2013 projected crop reporting district (CRD) yields for Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri. These projected yields are compared to 2013 trend yields to assess which areas of the country are having better relative yields than other areas. A similar post on Friday evaluated corn yields (click [here](#) for that post).

State Projections

Figure 1 shows projected state yields divided by trend yields, hereafter referred to as relative yields. Illinois' relative yield is .96. This means that the USDA's projected yield for 2013 of 46 bushels per acre is .96 of the 48 bushel trend yield (i.e. $.96 = 46 \text{ yield in 2013} / 48 \text{ trend yield}$). The 2013 trend yields were calculated by fitting a trend line through state level yield data from 1975 through 2012, and then projecting 2013 yields. Relative yields above 1.0 indicate that yields are above trend. Relative yields below 1.0 indicate that the projected yield is below trend. Overall, higher values indicate better yields relative to expectations.

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Figure 2. 2013 CRD Soybean Yields Divided by 2013 Trend Yields.



Calculated using 2013 CRD yields projected by USDA in September 2013.

Summary

Within the corn-belt, the eastern corn-belt is having higher yields relative to trend than the western corn-belt. The worst relative yields are in Iowa and Missouri.