Soybeans are widely grown in Tennessee. County-level harvested soybean acreage, production and yields for 2022 are shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, respectively. U.S. state-level marketing year average soybean prices from September 1 to August 31 are indicated in Figure 4. For Tennessee in 2022, the state-level marketing year average price was $13.80/bushel (USDA/NASS, 2023a).
Figure 1. County-Level Soybean Harvested Acres in Tennessee, 2022
Source: USDA/NASS, 2023a

Figure 2. County-Level Soybean Production in Tennessee, 2022
Source: USDA/NASS, 2023a

Figure 3. County-Level Soybean Yields in Tennessee, 2022
Source: USDA/NASS, 2023a
For Tennessee’s agricultural producers in 2021, soybean cash receipts at $781.3 million were the second highest (preceded by corn) for the agricultural commodities produced in the state. Compared to other states for 2021, Tennessee ranked 17th in cash receipts from soybeans (USDA/ERS, 2023).
MULTIPLIER EFFECTS

Accounting for all oilseed farming\(^1\) for the state, and including multiplier effects, the industry in 2021 contributed an estimated $1.4 billion in economic activity.\(^2\) This economic activity was comprised of an estimated 7,207 individuals working part- or full-time in industries that support oilseed farming with a labor income of $211.0 million. The 2021 economic activity and employment multipliers were 1.41 and 1.34, respectively. If soybean production increased total industry output (economic activity) by $1 million, the state’s economy would increase by an estimated $0.41 million overall, and for each job supported in the same industry, an estimated 0.34 jobs would be supported in other industries. Soybean and other oilseed processing and fats and oils refining and blending in 2021 contributed an estimated $3.6 billion in economic activity and was comprised of over 6,200 employees, with a labor income of $307.0 million (IMPLAN Group, LLC, 2021; Menard, 2023).

TRADE

Bulk agricultural trade for Tennessee’s soybeans in 2021 totaled $4.8 million. Japan and Canada are Tennessee’s largest trading partners for soybeans. Soybean oil exports totaled $4.2 million, with Panama and the Bahamas major trading partners. Data sources indicate no soybean meal exports for this time frame (USDA/FAS, 2023).\(^3\)

SOYBEAN PRODUCTION

Tennessee’s planted and harvested soybean acreage from 2012 to 2022 are displayed in Figure 5. The average total planted and harvested acreages were 1,591,818 and 1,560,909 acres, respectively. Tennessee soybean production for that same time frame is displayed in Figure 6. Average production was 72.9 million bushels. From 2012 to 2022, Tennessee soybean yields averaged 46.5 bushels per acre (Figure 7), with a marketing year average price

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\(^1\)Primarily soybeans.

\(^2\)Calculations based on IMPLAN’s direct value of production of $967.4 million, which includes on-farm consumption and is net of inventory changes. IMPLAN’s oilseed farming corresponds to NAICS codes 111110, 111120 and 1111191—establishments primarily engaged in oilseeds (e.g., soybeans, canola, sunflower, etc.) (US Census Bureau, 2023).

\(^3\)USDA/FAS state export data limitations for agricultural shipments: 1) origin of movement is not necessarily the transportation origin (inland state intermediaries shipping agricultural commodities down the Mississippi River to the port in New Orleans may report Louisiana as the state of origin of movement, resulting in understating exports from agricultural states and overstating exports for others); and 2) consolidated shipments will reflect the state of origin where consolidated (USDA/FAS, 2023).
of $11.10 per bushel (Figure 8). Compared to other states for 2022, Tennessee ranked 17th for both planted and harvested acreages. The state ranked 11th in yields and 16th in soybean production for that time frame (USDA/NASS, 2023b). Illinois ranked first in planted and harvested acreage, yields and production.

Figure 5. Tennessee Planted/Harvested Soybean Acres, 2012-2022
(Source: USDA/NASS, 2023b)

Figure 6. Tennessee Soybean Production, 2013-2023
(Source: USDA/NASS, 2023b)
Figure 7. Tennessee Soybean Yields, 2012-2022
(Source: USDA/NASS, 2023c)

Figure 8. Tennessee Marketing Year Average Soybean Prices Received, 2012-2022
(Source: USDA/NASS, 2023c)
SOYBEAN PRODUCTION SUGGESTED READING

FIELD CROP BUDGETS


Current Weekly Crop Comments and Market Highlights Information. Available at arec.tennessee.edu/extension/crop-economics.

CROP ECONOMICS


IRRIGATION


REFERENCES


