



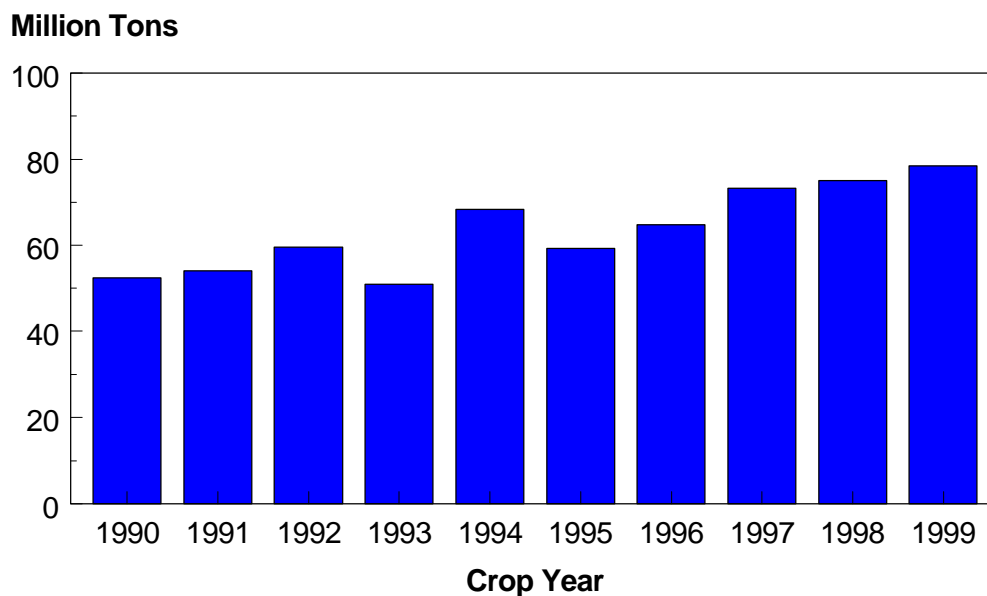
United States
Department of
Agriculture

Foreign
Agricultural
Service

Circular Series
FOP 05-99
May 1999

Oilseeds: World Markets and Trade

Record U.S. Soybean Production Expected in 1999



U.S. soybean production is forecast to rise 4 percent to a record 78.4 million tons or nearly 2.9 billion bushels. Significant gains will also be recorded for other oilseeds except peanuts, which are likely to decline modestly. The U.S. soybean production forecast is based on intended record soybean planting of 73.1 million acres and a trend yield of 40 bushels per acre. Record production, combined with the third largest carryin stocks point to a soybean supply of 90.2 million tons. Supply growth is expected to outpace gains in exports and domestic crush resulting in a projected record ending stocks of 16.2 million tons. This would exceed the prior record set in 1985/86. The 25.3-million-ton export forecast and the 44.5-million-ton crush will be new highs if achieved. Exports of both soybeans and soybean meal are forecast to expand sharply, helped by stagnation in foreign oilseed supplies and a likely significant drop in foreign soybean production. In contrast, U.S. soybean oil exports are projected to decline in 1999/2000 to 1.0 million tons as expected production of palm oil rebounds and rapeseed oil production grows.