

**2009
SOYBEAN SITUATION
VICTORIA COUNTY**

Soybean acreage increased again to nearly 14,000 acres in 2009 partly due to the decreased investment needed in fertilizer due their nitrogen fixing ability and the remaining high commodity price. Soybeans yields deteriorated in the county as the season progressed due to the extended drought and minimal rainfall in the pod filling stage. Soybean flat pod syndrome was not an issue in 2008 as well as no Asian rust fungus was recorded. Stink bug insect pressures were low.

Soybean prices fell from the record levels in 2008 (over \$16.00/bushel), averaging around \$9.00 per bushel. Even with prices at just over \$9.00/bushel, profit margins were nonexistent or very low as fuel, fertilizer, seed and herbicide prices remained high and yields were very low.

YEAR	COUNTY ACREAGE	AVERAGE YIELD LBS/AC	AVERAGE PRICE \$/BU *	% OF COUNTY AG INCOME
2009	13,906	12	\$9.24	3%
2008	11,200	15	10.00	3
2007	4,235	25	7.32 (a)	2
2006	12,511	18	5.31	3
2005	17,091	24	6.15	5
2004	13,882	40	6.05	7
2003	11,436	30	5.98	5
2002	14,000	24	5.00	5
2001	18,845	32	4.82	7
2000	20,500	32	4.40	6
1999	20,131	40	4.50	7
1998	20,204	11	5.55	4
1997	15,764	20	7.25	8
1996	10,400	17	6.70	4
1995	12,580	46	5.85	6
1994	12,000	41	5.25	6
1993	12,400	17	6.35	4
1992	9,800	32	5.25	5
1991	5,500	48	5.30	3
1990	2,263	28	5.80	1
1989	1,590	32	5.60	1
1988	1,004	32	5.20	1
AVG	11,781	30	\$5.74	5

(a) Soybeans were selling for \$9 - 10 per bushel but local prices were discounted due to weather damaged beans.

The above listed selling prices are an estimated average selling price taken over a two month period during harvest. Many farmers have sold their crops above or below this average price and the prices listed above and income below does not reflect any government payments*.

2009	
Total County Agricultural Income	\$45,231,000
Income from Soybeans	\$1,542,000
Percent Income from Soybeans	3 %