

**Foreign Agricultural Service**

Global Market Analysis

International Production Assessment Division

Web: <https://ipad.fas.usda.gov>

**April 8, 2022**

# Commodity Intelligence Report

## **2021/22 Mexico Soybeans: Higher Production Than Last Year Expected Though Lower than 5-Year Average**

USDA estimates Mexico's market year (MY) 2021/22 soybean production at 290,000 metric tons (MT), up about 17 percent (44,000 MT) from last year's production. Overall, 2021/2022 soybean production is 18 percent lower than the 5-year average. Harvested area is estimated at 185,000 ha, 19 percent (29,000 ha) higher than last year, but 11 percent below the 5-year average. Many of the previous agricultural government policies supporting oilseeds have been removed, which may have influenced below average plantings. The yield is estimated slightly less than last year at 1.57 tons per hectare (t/ha) (see Figure 1).

Representing about 98 percent of production, the spring soybean crop is planted from April to July and harvested from September to December. The main soybean producing states in spring 2021 in Mexico include Campeche, Tamaulipas, San Luis Potosí, Veracruz, Chiapas, and Yucatán (see Figure 2). Although soybeans planted in the spring are mostly rainfed, soybeans in Sonora and Sinaloa are irrigated. From June to October 2021, cumulative rainfall ranged from near-average to average in most of the major spring soybean growing states, with above-average rainfall seen throughout the season in Yucatán and San Luis Potosí (see Figure 3). The mostly irrigated, minor fall soybean crop is mainly grown in Campeche, Chiapas, Tamaulipas, and Yucatán and is planted from November to March with harvest beginning in April.

As of February 28, 2022, *Servicio de Información Agroalimentaria y Pesquera* (SIAP) reported spring soybean harvested area at 182,364 ha out of 188,582 ha of area planted (about 96% harvested) and production at 282,909 tons based on yields of 1.55 mt/ha. Both spring soybean harvested area and production are higher than last year.

Higher global prices for soybeans incentivized some farmers to increase planting of soybeans for MY 2021/22 in some states. For example, in Tamaulipas, the spring soybean planted area was about 15,000 ha higher than MY 2020/21 at about 50,000 ha planted. In Campeche, the spring soy planted area was about 22,000 ha higher than MY 2020/21 at a record area of about 69,000 ha planted. In addition, in Campeche, the top soybean producing state in Mexico, MY 2021/22 soybean production was the highest reported on record at 132,549 MT (see Figure 4). Spring soybean production in Yucatán was also reported at the highest on record at 24,020 MT. Overall, in the Yucatán peninsula, spring soybean production in MY 2021/22 for the combined Mexican states of Yucatán, Campeche, and Quintana Roo was reported higher than MY 2020/21 (see

Figure 5). However, soybean harvested area in Sinaloa and Sonora in MY 2021/22 was lower than the previous three years.

Based on SIAP data, damaged soy spring area of 5,557 ha was reported in the states of Veracruz, Tamaulipas, and Yucatán. In mid-August 2021, Hurricane Grace went through southeastern Mexico and damaged soybean crops in Veracruz and Yucatán (see Figure 6). In Veracruz, 3,150 ha of soybean damage was reported in the Panuco district. In Yucatán, 863 ha of soybean damage was reported in the Ticul district.

For the fall soybean crop, 1,244 ha have been reported planted so far in Campeche, Chiapas, and Yucatán. Planted area and production for the fall soybean crop has averaged about 3,000 ha and about 6,000 tons in the past 5 years, respectively. However, both fall soybean planted area and production have declined recently (see Figure 7).

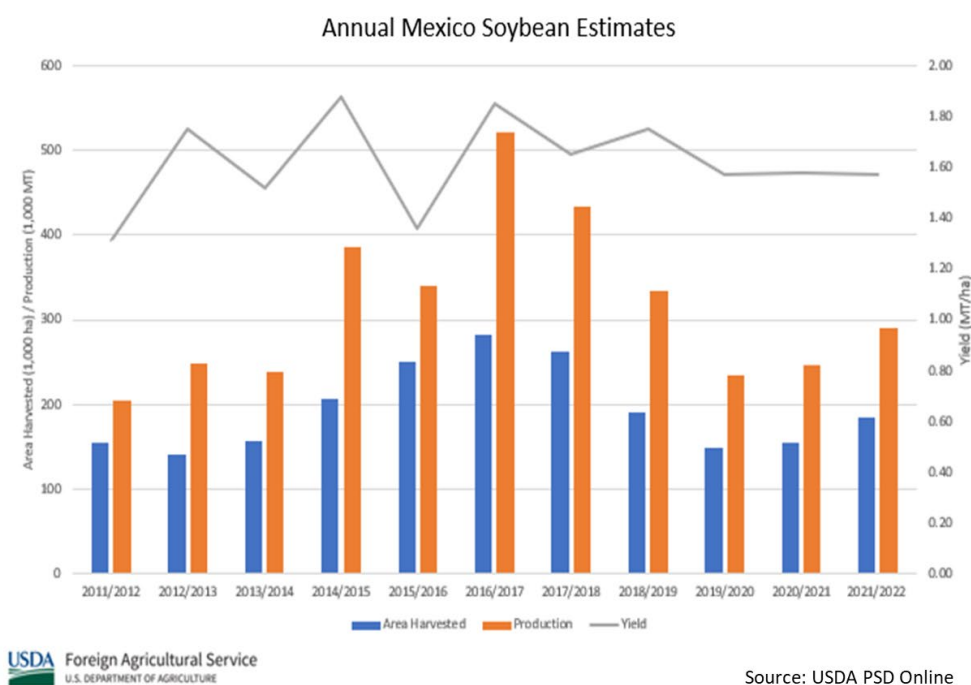


Figure 1. Annual Mexico Soybean Area, Yield, and Production Estimates from 2011-2021. Source: USDA PSD Online.

## Mexico: Soybean Production

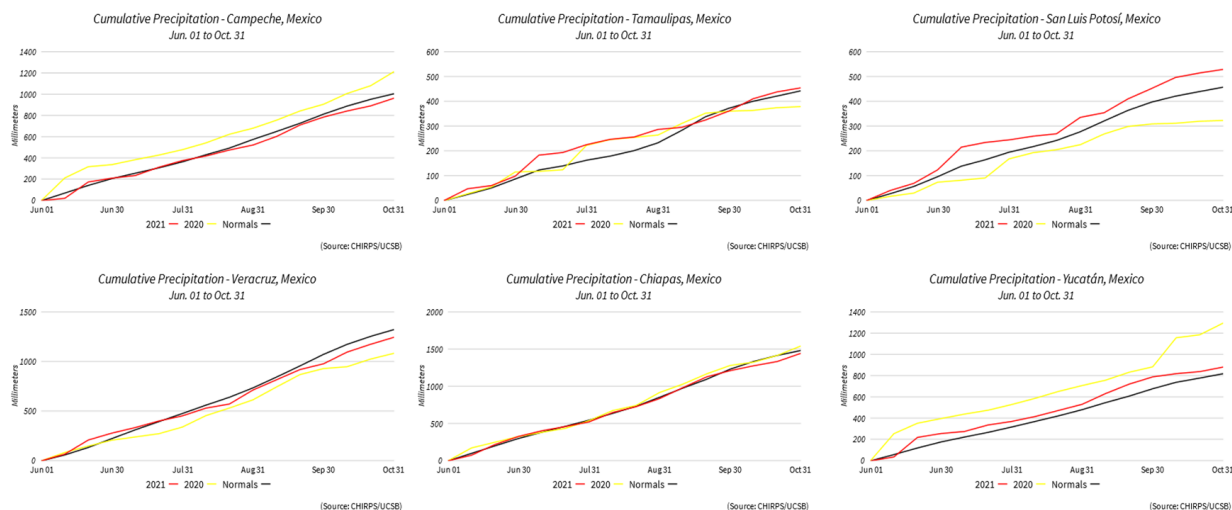


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Sources: Mexico Agrifood and Fisheries Information Service (SIAP), 2018-2020 Agricultural Production Statistics

Figure 2. Map of Average Mexico Soybean Production, 2018-2020. Source: SIAP.

## Monthly Cumulative Precipitation in Major Mexico Soybean Areas



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Sources: UCSB CHIRPS, Monthly Cumulative Precipitation

Figure 3. Monthly Cumulative Precipitation from June to October in 2020 and 2021 and Normals. Source: UCSB CHIRPS.

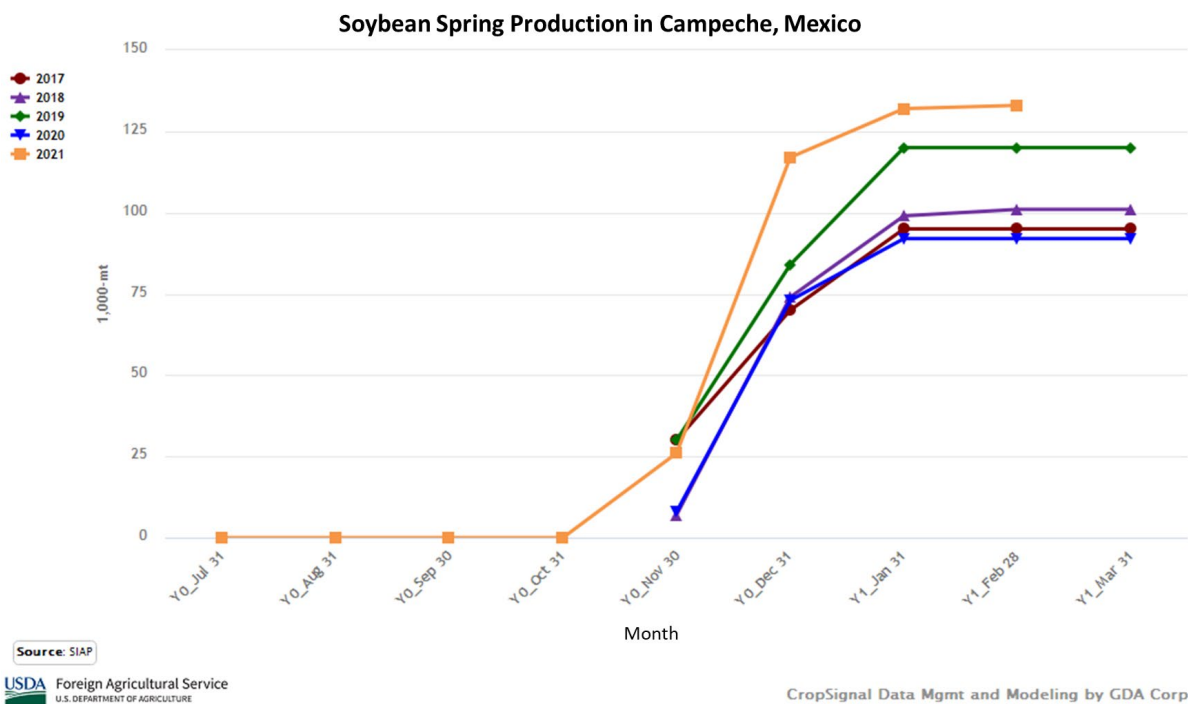


Figure 4. Annual Production for Spring Soybeans in Campeche for 2017-2021. Source: SIAP.

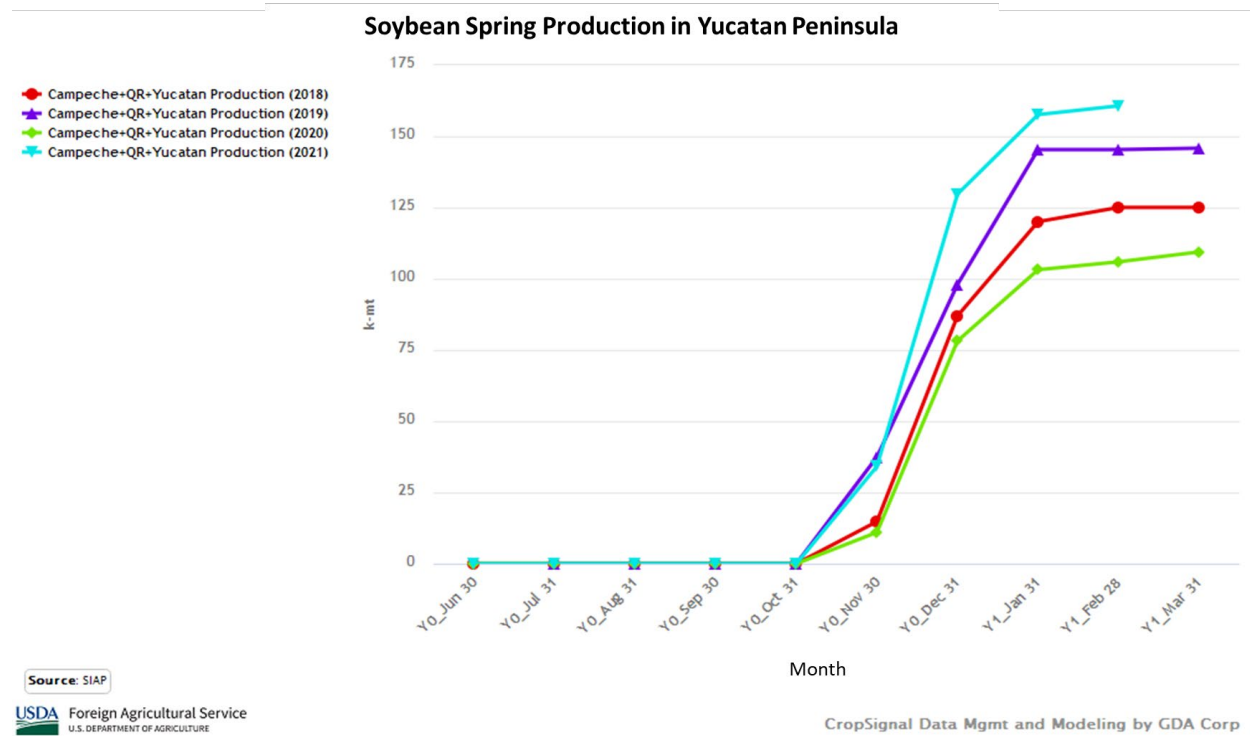
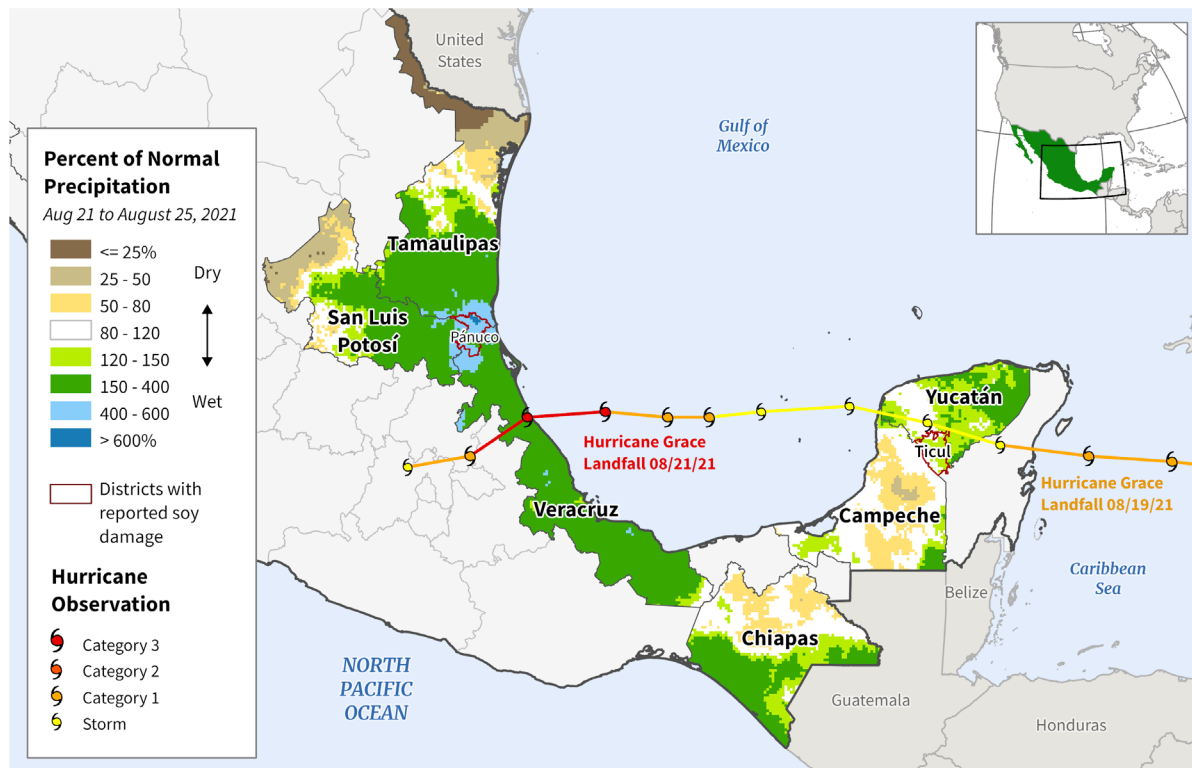


Figure 5. Annual Production for Spring Soybeans in Yucatán Peninsula for 2018-2021. Source: SIAP.

## Hurricane Grace: Heavy Precipitation in Soybean Production Areas



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Sources: UCSB CHIRPS, Pentad Percent of Normal Precipitation; NOAA, National Hurricane Center Tracks

Figure 6. Percent of Normal Precipitation from Hurricane Grace from August 21 – 25, 2021 in Major Spring Soybean Areas in Southeastern Mexico. Sources: UCSB CHIRPS and NOAA.

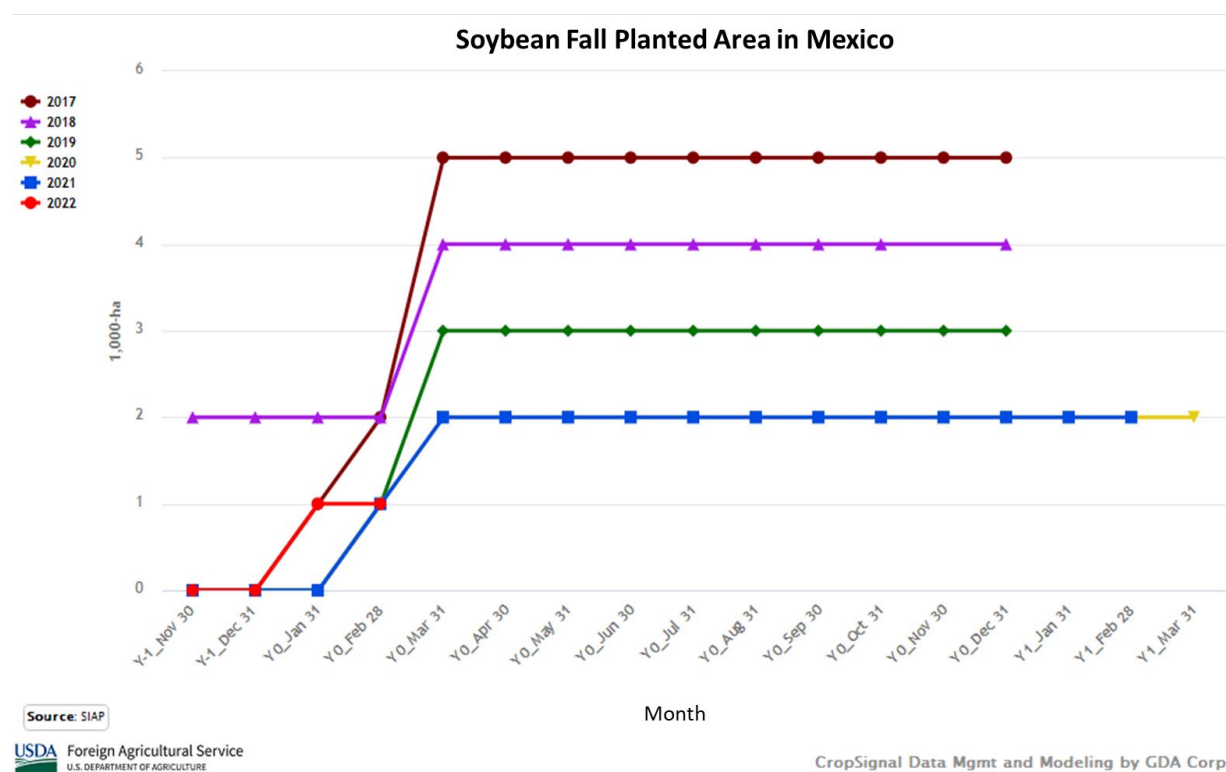


Figure 7. Annual Planted Area for Fall Soybeans for 2017-2022. Source: SIAP.

#### Author contact information:

Ifeoma Collins  
[ifeoma.collins@usda.gov](mailto:ifeoma.collins@usda.gov)

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