

# Colorado Bean News

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## DRINK YOUR BEANS

Agricultural Research, Nov. 1999

**C**alcium, that bone building nutrient so important to growing kids, can't always come from cows. For example, dairy products won't do as a calcium source for children who can't tolerate lactose - milk sugar. Green beans are also a good source of calcium, and some beans are better than others.

Plant physiologists Michael Grusak and Kirk Pomper, who are with Children's Nutrition Research Center at Houston, Texas, evaluated six bean varieties for calcium content. A variety named 'Hystyle' had about twice the calcium as the 'Labrador' variety, and these researchers figured out why: Hystyle is better at conserving water. Water dilutes the calcium moving through a bean plant, reducing the amount reaching the pods that people eat.

The speed at which water gets in and out of a plant depends largely on how quickly it is transpired from leaves and other surfaces. The opening and closing of tiny pores called stomates regulate transpiration. The action is both genetically and environmentally controlled.

"We found the whole plant transpiration rate to be twice as high in Labrador as in Hystyle, even though the amount of water transpired from the pod itself is the same for both," says Grusak. The researchers found that the higher transpiration rate in Labrador plants resulted in lower concentrations of calcium moving in the plant's xylem stream. Xylem transports liquid and nutrients throughout the plant, somewhat as arteries in a \*person carry oxygen-rich blood.

Green beans like Hystyle could also be good news for farmers and environmentalists. These beans require less water, so they reduce irrigation costs. Taking less water from area lakes, streams, or aquifers helps the environment in two ways. It conserves water in drier areas, and it reduces the amount of farm chemical runoff going back into the environment.

## BLACK BEANS PACK FLAVOR, NUTRITION

Patricia Talorico, Wilmington (Del.) News Journal  
Reprinted in the Fort Collins Coloradoan, December 1, 1999

**B**lack beans, also called turtle beans, are staples in Mexican, Central and South American, and Caribbean cultures. The skin of the beans is inky, with a white dot along one edge, while the flesh inside is creamy, slightly sweet and meaty. They are good and good for you.

Black beans are like little sponges, eager to soak up seasonings. They marry well with onions, garlic and smoked ham hocks, and retain their hue when cooked. They also are excellent sources of protein and fiber, and are low in calories. One half cup of boiled black beans has 113 calories, 7.6 grams of protein, and 3.6 grams of fiber.

According to the USDA, consumer interest in black beans has been a 1990s phenomenon in the United States. Earlier, black bean crops, grown primarily in North Dakota and Michigan, had been targeted for export, with few of the beans consumed domestically. Mexico buys about 76 % of all U. S. black beans. But now, the average U. S. resident eats about a half pound of the beans per year, and the USDA predicts the trend will continue.

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**COLORADO DRY BEAN ADMINIS-  
TRATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE**



**November Meeting – Lakewood:**

Robert Schork provided minutes from the last meeting of the CDBAC at the offices of the Colorado Dept. of Agriculture. Highlights included lunch with Don Ament, Commissioner of Agriculture, and his wife. They presented plaques to Bud Pekarek, Richard Folot, and Robert Taylor in appreciation of their service to the Committee and the Colorado agricultural community. He noted that all three were founding directors and said how much he and the Department of Agriculture appreciated their work.

**CALL FOR RESEARCH TOPICS** – CDBAC and CSU personnel discussed the desirability of receiving input from bean growers and others on research and education topics that they would like to see addressed by the resources available from the CDBAC, Colorado State University and elsewhere. CDBAC-sponsored topics during recent years have continued to focus on variety development, seed quality, agronomic practices, technology transfer, newsletters, educational meetings & products, in addition to weed, insect and plant disease management strategies. Please share your ideas and concerns with your CDBAC officials, CBN directors or CSU personnel.

CSU personnel are coordinating future regional meetings during 2001 with scientists from Nebraska and Wyoming. Another cooperative project will be an updated and expanded version of the popular regional Handbook on Bean Production and IPM for release during 2001.

The CDBAC heard from representatives of the Colorado Department of Agriculture about: (1) the 1999 Ag Statistics estimate of 2.635 million cwt which was down 8 % from last year; (2) Ag Inspection program of bean dealers to insure that assessments of Colorado grown beans sold in-state and out-of-state are being handled properly; (3) the success of the ACF Culinarians program with sponsorship provided by the bean program. Members were reminded that Colorado is fortunate to have Chef Robert Sherlock, national chef of the year, as the Committee's spokesman.

Bob reviewed the Committee's financial statement, and thought that the year would end very close to the budget, leaving the CDBAC with a surplus of approximately \$ 90,000. The directors reconfirmed their preference of maintaining this surplus in case of a crop failure. They felt this would allow the Committee to continue its core programs of being members of the National Dry Bean Council and American Dry Bean Board.

**NATIONAL DRY BEAN COUNCIL**



**NDBC Mexico Update:**

Due to the long drought during 1999 in the Zacatecas state, recent estimates indicate that more than 40 % of the planted area was lost. The average yield estimate from harvested fields is 453 Kg/Hectare (403 lb/Acre), and total production is 217,500 MT. However, some feel that these estimates should be lowered an additional 5 – 10 %. Trading is taking place normally by local buyers, who are paying depending on quality and bean variety. The Mexican quality standard without deduction is: seed with 13 %

## CDBAC Budget as of December 31, 1999

Budget Item	Budget (\$)	YTD – Actual \$	Remaining FY 1999 Commitments	Remaining Budgeted Funds
Assessments	160,000	160,283		
Interest	2,500	3,588		
TOTAL Income	162,500	163,872		
Research	44,800	44,800	0	0
Administrative	18,000	10,000	0	8,000
Promotional	20,200	19,931	0	269
Meetings & Travel	12,000	9,910	0	2,090
Dues	50,000	43,750	6,250	0
CBN Newsletter	8,000	8,000	0	0
Accounting/legal	2,500	1,850	0	644
Refunds	2,000	2,644	0	408
Telephone, postage	2,000	3,457	0	(1,457)
TOTAL Expense	159,500	144,341	6,250	11,010
Excess (Shortage)	3,000	19,530		

[Dues include membership in the National Dry Bean Council & American Dry Bean Board]

NDBC from page 2

moisture, 2 % impurities, 3 % broken, 9 % with stains and color defects, and 5 % mixed. Prices paid to producers are between \$2900 and \$5750 pesos per MT, and product is being shipped to Mexico City, Guadalajara and other consumption centers.

The 1999-2000 Fall-Winter Cycle plantings are nearly complete in Nayarit (65,495 HA with an anticipated production of 78,493 MT) and Sinaloa (75,000 HA with an anticipated production of 112,000 MT of Mayocobas and Azufrados).

### **NDBC Participation:**

NDBC representatives have the following events marked on their calendars to promote U. S. dry beans around the world.

Alimentaria Trade Show in Barcelona, Spain March 6 – 10, 2000. The NDBC will be part of the U.S. Pavilion and will share a USA Legumes booth with the USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council (USADPLC).

Spain Legume Trade Conference in Barcelona, Spain March 7, 2000. The NDBC and USADPLC will host a

Legume Trade Conference where invitees will include legume trade members from Spain, Portugal, Italy, Algeria and France.

French Trade Seminar for June 23, 2000 (tentative). Mexico Harvest Tour for October 3 – 8, 2000 (tentative). U.S. representatives will visit the Zacatecas, Durango and Chihuahua growing regions of Mexico to determine how the crop is shaping up.

SIAL Trade Show in Paris, France October 20 – 27, 2000. SIAL is the largest regional food show in Europe in 2000. NDBC traditionally exhibits at this event that occurs every two years. NDBC will be part of the U. S. Pavilion and will cooperate with a large three-booth side-by-side space with the U.S. Rice Federation and the U.S.A. Dry Pea & Lentil Council.

3rd Annual Mexico Bean Congress in Mexico City November 11, 2000 (tentative). This activity provides a venue for all of the bean producing, trading, importing and government sectors to come together with the U. S. industry. The event provides for exchanges of information on crop production, as well as a forum to discuss common problems with the Mexican Government.

Table 1 – NDBC Monthly Report as of January 2000 (SAGAR Estimates)

State	Planted Hectares	Damaged HA	Harvested HA	Metric Tons
Zacatecas	793,533	313,350	351,227	195,165
Durango	305,142	55,123	212,411	96,515
Chihuahua	195,193	16,296	175,903	86,120
Other States	677,114	279,734	174,544	261,179
Spring/Summer	1,970,982	664,503	914,085	638,979
TOTAL:				
Fall/Winter	273,940			296,000
TOTAL:				
GRAND TOTAL	2,244,922			934,979

{ To convert: Hectares to Acres, multiply by 2.471; Metric Ton to cwt, multiply by 22.05 }



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**Advertising Material Deadlines and Rates for the Colorado Bean News**

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**Three Year Summary of Pinto Trials in Colorado**



By Mark A. Brick and Jerry J. Johnson, Dept. of Soil and Crop Sciences, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523

The Crop Variety Testing Program at Colorado State University conducts multi-location dry bean trials in Colorado each year. This research provides a wealth of information regarding performance and adaptation of commercial and experimental pinto lines in eastern Colorado. To identify the top commercial varieties, we summarized the results over the past three years. During this time, 15 trials were conducted, including seven in 1999, four in 1998 and four in 1997, however not all varieties were tested in all trials. Valid comparisons among varieties across trials are difficult because the observed yield is relative to the specific environments in which the variety was tested. To alleviate this problem, we used rank performance of varieties to determine how often a variety placed among the top five. This method provides more dependable comparisons of varieties across a range of diverse environments. Furthermore, because all varieties were not represented in all trials, ranking eliminates confounding yield performance with environmental effects.

Eleven varieties ranked three or more times among the top five commercial varieties in the 15 trials (Table 1). Only one variety, Montrose, ranked among the top five in every trial it was tested. Four additional varieties Buster, Cisco, Chase, and Bill Z rank among the top five 60% of the time or greater. The remaining six varieties ranked among the top five in 50% or less of the trials.

**Table 1. Pinto bean varieties tested by the Colorado Crop Testing Program at CSU that ranked among the top five commercial varieties three or more times during 1997, 98 and 99.**

Variety	Source	# of Trials	#of Trials in Top 5	% in top 5	Rust Rx.†	Relative Maturity	Growth Habit‡
Montrose	CSU	14	14	100	R	94-96	SV
Buster	Seminis	11	8	73	R	95-98	SV
Cisco	Novartis	7	5	71	S	95-97	SV
Chase	UNebr	15	10	66	R	96-98	SV
Bill Z	CSU	15	9	60	S	97-99	U
Vision	Seminis	15	7	47	R	97-99	U
Poncho	Novartis	10	4	40	S	95-97	SV
Kodiak	MSU	11	4	37	R	98-100	U
Othello	USDA/WSU	11	3	27	S	90-92	SV
Elizabeth	Fox	13	3	23	R	94-96	SV
Burke	USDA/WSU	14	3	21	R	94-96	SV

† R = resistant, S = susceptible to the prevalent rust races in Colorado

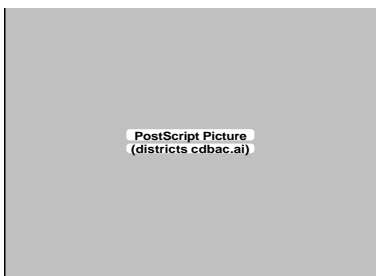
‡ SV = semivine Type III, U= upright Type II

Of course yield is not the only criterion that should be used to select a variety. Each variety responds differently to diseases and has attributes that make them unique. Consequently, it is not possible to recommend just one or two varieties for all growers or regions of eastern Colorado. For example, all but two of the varieties are resistant to the prevalent strains of rust in the High Plains. However, they possess different genes that confer resistance that is currently effective against our most prevalent races of rust. Therefore, as long as the races of rust that are present in the High Plains remain stable, the resistance reactions among varieties will remain the same. If a new race of rust is introduced (by windblown spores) or develops by mutation or genetic recombination, the varieties would likely differ in their reaction to the new race(s). Some may retain their

*Colorado Dry Bean Administrative Committee  
Variety/Crop Year CWT Summary*

	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Total
Pinto	1,966,727	2,524,825	3,580,857	2,494,438	2,346,493	2,387,224	2,487,128	2,227,880	1,689,193	1,865,658	2,383,680	502,023	26,456,126
LRK	38,113	72,934	16,475	41,874	70,784	63,776	129,064	232,610	79,360	228,202	109,946	16,189	1,099,327
GN	785	3,722	4,648	2,415	30,170	320	3,228	36,645	40,762	0	0	0	122,695
Navy	8,529	3,467	25,454	12,948	3,333	12,929	1,686	8,153	344	1,888	3,089	0	81,820
Blacks	0	0	0	394	16,634	17,830	5,998	9,125	0	0	0	0	49,981
Pinks	21,783	13,495	435	2,484	985	4,873	388	1,287	0	905	0	0	46,635
Anasazi	3,879	762	14	1,222	3,157	4,531	3,616	7,906	18	0	0	0	25,105
Sm White	11,957	7,672	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19,626
Reds	0	3,525	138	1,853	8,456	30	0	308	5,909	912	0	0	21,131
Cranberry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	798	0	0	0	0	798
Mayo Cuba	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	275	0	0	275
Total Assessments	2,051,773	2,630,402	3,628,021	2,557,628	2,480,012	2,491,513	2,631,108	2,524,712	1,815,586	2,097,840	2,496,715	518,212	27,923,522
Crop Estimate	2,558,000	3,108,000	4,275,000	3,300,000	2,608,000	2,609,000	3,140,000	2,558,000	2,250,000	2,280,000	2,868,000	2,635,000	
% of Estimate	80.21%	84.63%	84.87%	77.50%	95.09%	95.50%	83.79%	98.70%	80.69%	92.01%	87.05%	19.67%	

*CDBAC Membership*



**AMERICAN DRY BEAN  
BOARD HIGHLIGHTS**

115 Railway Plaza, Scottsbluff, NE 69341 - Sue Hays, Executive Secretary

**October 21 Bean Flash:**



BEAN [Bean Education and Awareness Network] announces a placement in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, with a readership of more than 850,000. The feature story appeared on the front page of the food section on October 6. The article includes soaking and preparation tips, nutritional profiles and bean history. BEAN recipes in the story include Roasted Vegetable Soup, Greek Hero (both with photos), and Baked Bean Stew.


750 food editors and the BEAN food service contact list are receiving the second recipe release in this year's omnibus survey series. Millennium Confetti Bean Salad, using blackeyes, kidneys and pintos, is the featured recipe going to editors this month.

**November 16 Bean Flash:**

April to October 1999 early results show our media coverage is outstanding with over 440 stories reaching more than 84 million people. This coverage is due in large part to the distribution of timely, creative recipe releases and media relations, which have resulted in national media placements, magazine feature stories, and newspaper features nationwide.

Program components included in the year-to-date results include: recipe release & sidebar series to 39 million;

See FLASH on page 10



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**BEAN BYTES**

**20th Century Facts**

The U. S. Census Bureau Public Information Office released the following profile of our country to commemorate the close of the 20th century:

- As a country, the United States became more crowded during the 20th century as its resident population nearly quadrupled from 76 million on July 1, 1900 to 273 million on July 1, 1999.
- Our population became older; in 1900, the median age for males was 23.3 years and for females it was 22.4 years; in 1999, the median for each had increased by more than 10 years to 34.3 and 36.6 years, respectively.
- The proportion of the population that is elderly (65 and over) more than tripled over the period, from 4.1% to 12.7%.
- The life expectancy at birth jumped from 46.3 years for men in 1900 to 73.6 years in 1997; women experienced a similar increase from 48.3 years in 1900 to 79.2 years in 1997.
- Men outnumbered women in the U. S. in 1900 by 38.8 million versus 37.2 million; but by July 1, 1999 the situation had reversed to 139.5 million women versus 133.4 million men.
- The nation's foreign-born resident population totaled 10.3 million (13.6% of the total U.S. population) at the start of the century. The numerical total in 1998 was 25.2 million (9.3%).
- 100 years ago, most immigrants were from Europe; by 1997, Latin America and Asia accounted for 8 of the top 10 countries of birth for the foreign-born population.
- One of the most dramatic sociological changes this century has been the participation of women (age 16 and over) in the nation's workforce; the proportion of women in the workplace tripled from 19% in 1900 to 60% in 1998. The rate for men, meanwhile, dipped from 80% to 75%.
- In 1900, only 6% of 17-year-olds graduated from high school; by 1940, 25% of people age 25 and over had at least a high school diploma; today, 83% of people age 25 and over had at least a high school diploma in 1998.
- Diseases that terrorized the U. S. at the beginning of the 20th century no longer pose much, if any, threat today. For instance, 194 people out of 100,000 died from tuberculosis in 1900, while typhoid fever and diphtheria claimed 31 and 40 victims, respectively, per 100,000 population. In 1997, there were 0.4 deaths per 100,000 population from tuberculosis; the other two diseases had been eradicated in this country.
- At the start of the century, motor vehicles were few and far between; a mere 8,000 of them were registered across the United States in 1900. Today, they are a vital part of our nation; by 1997, the number of registrations had skyrocketed to 208 million.
- As the century began, the Spanish-American War of 1898 had left a standing army, navy and marine corps of 125,000 men. As of 1997, the total number of active-duty U.S. military personnel, men and women, exceeded 1.4 million. The century's peak, 12.1 million, was recorded in 1945, the last year of World War II.

**WTO and Agriculture**

The USDA Foreign Agricultural Service developed a Fact Sheet on the WTO and Agriculture – What's at Stake for Colorado? prior to last year's negotiations in Seattle [www.fas.usda.gov/itp/wto]. Some highlights include the following:

See WTO on page 7

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Cynthia Johnson	Variety Testing	970-491-1914
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Jessica Davis	Soil Science	970-491-1913
Scott Nissen	Weed Science	970-491-3489
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Brent Young	Delta Cnty.	970-874-2195

**Websites of interest to bean growers**

**www.csuag.com**

[www.colostate.edu/Orgs/VegNet/beanlinks](http://www.colostate.edu/Orgs/VegNet/beanlinks)

WTO from page 6

- Colorado is an important producer of agricultural products and exports products worldwide.
- In 1998, the state's total farm cash receipts totaled \$ 4.3 billion, and exports were estimated at \$ 821 million.
- These exports helped boost farm prices and income, while supporting about 12,500 jobs both on and off the farm in food processing, transportation, and manufacturing.
- Measured as exports divided by farm cash receipts, the state's reliance on agricultural exports has risen from 17 to 19 % since 1991.
- The top 5 agricultural exports in 1998 were: live animals and red meats (\$ 272 million), wheat and products (\$ 111 million), feed grains and products (\$ 103 million), hides and skins (\$ 94 million), and vegetables (\$ 89 million).
- World demand for these products is increasing, but so is competition among suppliers. If Colorado's farmers, ranchers, and food processors are to compete successfully for the export opportunities of the 21st century, they need fair trade and fair access to growing global markets.

### **History of the Nebraska Dry Bean Commission**

In 1987, the Nebraska Legislature created the Dry Bean Commission under the provisions of the Dry Bean Resource Act.

Comprised of 9 members, 3 processors and 4 producers are appointed by the Governor, and the Commission selects 2 producers as at-large members.

Primary function is to adopt and devise a dry bean program consisting of research, education, advertising, publicity, and promotion to increase total consumption of dry beans on a state, national and international basis. A fee assessed on dry edible beans grown in Nebraska and sold through commercial channels funds the Commission.

The check-off fee is 7.5 cents per hundredweight. The grower pays 5 cents per cwt and the purchaser pays 2.5 cents per cwt.

The Commission works in cooperation with the Nebraska Dept. of Agriculture to effectively administer check-off program funds.

The NDBC will cooperate and participate with other groups and states whenever possible to provide Nebraska's bean industry with cost effective promotion, research and educational programs.

### **New Combines Debut**

Excerpts from Northharvest Bean Grower, January 2000 Issue

High capacity is the hallmark of the new Amadas Dry Bean Combine. Amadas Industries, Suffolk, VA, is a leading peanut and specialty crop combine manufacturer. It recently introduced Amadas Self Propelled (SP) and Pull-Type (PT) combines for dry edible beans.

According to the company, farmers who used the Amadas SP last year averaged more than 16 acres per separator hour, while maintaining a high quality grade in bean varieties ranging from dark red kidney to pinto. An adjustable speed multi-cylinder threshing system allows thorough threshing with minimal damage, and has the ability to handle drastic changes in conditions. The Amadas Combines thresh by hitting the bean pods more times at a generally slower speed, gently shelling with minimum damage and rerunning any beans which don't shell, rather than losing them out the back of the machine. Approximate price: \$ 235,000 for self propelled and \$ 99,900 for the pull-type combine. For more information, contact: Jimmy Adams III, Amadas Industries, 1100 Holland Road, Suffolk, VA 23434; telephone: 757-539-0231; email: jadams3@amadas.com

Pickett Equipment recently announced its plans to introduce a new dry edible bean combine to the North American dry bean industry. The combine, developed

See Combines on page 10



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resistance, while other previously resistant varieties may be susceptible. Even among susceptible varieties, the severity of the response to specific races of rust varies.

Growth habit also differs among varieties. Like reaction to disease, varieties that are classified as having similar growth habit vary in canopy structure. For example, Chase and Montrose are both classified as having Type III semi-vine (SV) architecture. However, because Chase produces a more porous canopy than Montrose, it is less susceptible to white mold disease in addition to its genetic resistance. The porous canopy allows air to circulate more readily to reduce canopy humidity and provide a less favorable environment for development of white mold disease. This subtle difference in plant morphology causes a dramatic difference in response to white mold infection. There are many other examples of subtle differences among varieties that contribute to their overall reaction to the environment or diseases. These subtle differences in disease reaction can only be observed through extensive testing and observation across a range of environments.

Producers should consider planting more than one variety. This procedure diversifies the risk associated with crop failure due to susceptibility to one specific disease or environmental disaster. It can also distribute the planting or harvest season by planting varieties that differ in maturity, and reduce the risk of crop loss in

quality or quantity due to a lengthy rainy period during harvest. Planting several varieties also enables the producer to observe the performance and response of different varieties to cultural and environmental conditions in their production system. Avoid varieties that have a history of poor performance in your region or that have poor seed quality that limits marketing potential. Refer to the Colorado Dry Bean Variety Performance Trial bulletin published each year by the Colorado State University Crop Testing Team, or go on-line and obtain this information on the world wide web at: <http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/SoilCrop/extension/CropVar/index.html>.

Note: For specific yield data, visit the Colorado Pinto Bean Variety Performance Trial web site at

<http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/SoilCrop/extension/CropVar/beans/99pinto.html>

## BEANS, ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF RESEARCH

Excerpts from Article in The Bean Bag, Winter 1999 Issue  
By Clay Carlson & Robert Hawley, Univ. of Nebr. at Scottsbluff

The authors attended the 1999 Bean Improvement Cooperative Meeting (BIC) at Calgary in Alberta Canada last year. The following are insights that they gained from the meeting. The BIC meetings were on a variety of topics this year: Marketing, Genetics and Breeding, Seed Quality, and Plant Pathology.

- Colin Leakey, son of anthropologist Louis Leakey and half-brother of conservationist Richard Leakey was present at the meetings. Leakey, over the last two decades, has succeeded in developing a low-flatulence yellow bean known as Prim.
- Production of yellow beans in Colorado has increased the last few years as they try to tap into newly discovered markets.
- Farmers in Africa are struggling with the problems of establishing a soil that is fertile enough to produce a sufficient amount of beans to feed themselves. Farmers in North America are struggling to sell four to five rows of every ten abroad to survive financially.
- A new health market for beans evolves around research at Michigan State University where various flavonoids are genetically controlled and act as antioxidants which reduce the chances of cancer.
- Gordon Bacon with Pulse Canada discussed the problems he faces in selling abroad – tariff rates, taxes, currency exchange rates, and issues of quality. A quality example would be one optical company has a classification system for color that they have established. Other makers of color measuring devices use

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different value scales. Gordon finds he is spending a lot of time explaining the various color measuring systems and how they differ instead of being able to talk about the product.

- White mold research in our hot dry climate can be very unpredictable, even with excessive irrigation and the use of highly susceptible companion crops such as sunflower. We found out that in New York their researchers mist the field every hour after flowering with mist nozzles on a timer to induce white mold.
- One sure hot topic was developing transgenic crops. These crops have been the center of some controversy and non-acceptance in various markets. Realizing the loss of markets for other reasons, it is fortunate that there are no transgenic beans in the marketplace at this time.

[Editor's Note: Those interested in obtaining a copy of the proceedings from this meeting and additional bean research reports from around the world can purchase a copy of the 1999 Annual Report – Volume 42 (available in April of 2000) by joining the BIC for \$ 15. Contact Dr. James D. Kelly, BIC President, Dept. of Crop & Soil Sciences, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824, telephone: 517-355-0205, fax: 517-353-3955; email: kellyj@pilot.msu.edu]



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FLASH from page 5

folate mat release to 5.5 million; folate efforts to more than 15 million; and ongoing media coverage to more than 24 million people.

### **January 3 Bean Flash:**

Associated Press (AP) distributed the Millennium Confetti Bean Salad recipe and photograph from the Y2K recipe release to newspaper food editors nationwide the week of December 20. AP describes the recipe as one that "can be made in about 10 minutes with stocked staples". The story also emphasizes this is a tasty recipe that can be used anytime.

#### **ADBB Executive Committee (1999-2000):**

- Craig Maas, Chairperson, Nebraska Dry Bean Growers
- Alan Julison, Vice Chairperson, Northarvest Bean Growers Association
- David Nall, Secretary/Treasurer, California Dry Bean Advisory Board
- Susan Hays, Executive Director, ADBB Office in Scottsbluff, NE

#### **ADBB Promotion Committee (1999-2000):**

- Jim Melban, California Dry Bean Advisory Board
- Brad Taylor, Colorado Dry Bean Administrative Committee
- Jon Holzfafter, Nebraska Dry Bean Commission
- Mark Streed, Northarvest Bean Growers Association
- Bob Turner, Bush Brothers & Co.
- Fran Carlson, Michigan Bean Commission
- Cindy Brown, Chippewa Valley Bean
- Kay Carpenter, Con-Agra Grocery Products
- Bev Smith, KBC Trading & Processing Co.

#### **ADBB Voting Members (1999-2000):**

- Nebraska Dry Bean Commission (5 votes)
- Northarvest Bean Growers Association (4 votes)
- Michigan Bean Commission (4 votes)
- California Dry Bean Advisory Board (2 votes)
- Colorado Dry Bean Administrative Committee (2 votes)
- KBC Trading & Processing Co. (1 vote)
- Bush Brothers & Co. (1 vote)

#### **ADBB Associate Members (1999-2000):**

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- Central Bean Co. - WA
- Chippewa Valley Bean Co. - WI
- Dompe Warehouse - CA
- Goya Foods, Inc. - NJ
- L.A. Hearne Co. - CA
- N. K. Hurst Co. - IN
- Idaho Bean Commission - ID
- Kelley Bean Co. - NE
- L. O. K. Commodities - ND
- Michigan Bean Shippers Association - MI
- Morgan Foods, Inc. - IN
- NYSBS Advisory Committee - NY
- Rhodes Bean & Supply - CA
- Rocky Mountain Bean Dealers Assoc. - CO
- Trinidad/Benham Corp. - CO
- Walton Bean Growers Co-op - ND
- Western Trading Co. - CA

### **February 18 Bean Flash**

Chicago Tribune - "Good Eating" Section

A great BEAN story appeared in the February 16 issue of the Chicago Tribune "Good Eating" section. BEAN reports the article highlights bean benefits and preparation tips, and emphasizes our message that any bean variety can be substituted for another in a recipe.

Under the headline Liquid Legumes - You can't beat bean soup, the article includes two recipes: Navy Bean Soup and Chicken, White Bean and Fennel Stew. The article's author also provides detailed preparation techniques for dry packaged bean products.

The Chicago Tribune has a readership of 1,895,307. We have been fortunate to receive coverage many times over the years from the Chicago Tribune.

Combines from page 7

and manufactured in Brazil, will be available throughout North America at all authorized Pickett dealers. Demanding consumers in Brazil has resulted in the development of a combine which produces clean quality beans unmatched by any combine currently available in North America. Recent field tests in Texas and New York convinced growers, dealers and warehouse operators of the superior quality of this machine which could run earlier in the mornings and later in the evenings as the threshing began to toughen. The combine is a pull-type, trailing directly behind the tractor. The threshing mechanism is an in-line center flow auger with beater pins. Approximate price will be in the low \$ 40,000s. For more information, contact your local Pickett dealer in your region or Pickett Equipment, 976 East Main, Burley, ID 83318; telephone: 800-473-3559.

### **Check Seed Coat Count**

Excerpt from Michigan Dry Bean Digest, Fall 1999 Issue

The Michigan Bean Shippers Association board of directors has approved a check seed coat procedure for the Inspection Department to perform providing an additional service to the bean industry. This service will offer a third party opinion and is available at the request of any dry bean industry member. The cost for this service is \$ 25 per lot for the service to be performed at the MBSA lab. Customers may request any of the following methods: 1) dry, 2) wet, 3) dye solution. The wet soak will be performed using cold water soaking for one and a half minutes, and is recommended for colored beans. The dye solution process works best on Navy beans.

## Kirvin Knox to Retire

Excerpts from CSU Comment, Vol. 30 - No. 18, 2000

Kirvin Knox, a longtime leader in Colorado's agricultural community, will retire at the end of 2000 after nearly a decade of heading agricultural education and outreach efforts at Colorado State. Knox, a Colorado State graduate, will step down as vice provost for agriculture and outreach and dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences. During his remaining tenure at the university, Knox will continue to serve as vice provost and will focus on a major university-wide initiative aimed at improving outreach to the citizens of the state - a top university priority.

Lee Sommers, director of Colorado State's Agricultural Experiment Station, will serve as interim dean of the college. University officials will launch an immediate search to fill the dean's position permanently and will evaluate how to fill the vice provost position at the end of the year.

"Kirvin Knox has provided innovative leadership to the university's outreach programs, and he has served a vital

role in the agricultural community of the state," said Colorado State President Albert Yates. "Our university, our state's agricultural industry and the state as a whole have benefited from Kirvin's influence. He brought scholarship, administrative skills and vision to Colorado State that helped us meet our obligations and goals as the state's land-grant university."

Provost Loren Crabtree said Knox is appropriate to lead the outreach task force because he brings a clear understanding of the needs of the state and the university's ability to meet those needs. "Kirvin has led our outreach efforts through a decade that saw tremendous change," Crabtree said. "Our outreach efforts rightly centered on such services as providing safe and reliable food supplies, improving production, protecting the environment through the application of new technologies and on providing advice on the management of small-acreage farms and ranches. His ability to anticipate and meet technological changes during this period have served Colorado and Colorado State well."



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## **BIOTECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS TO CROPS**

Excerpts from CAST Issue Paper # 12, December 1999

### **Terminology**

Biotechnology refers generally to the application of a wide range of scientific techniques to the modification and improvement of plants, animals, and microorganisms that are of economic importance. Agricultural biotechnology is that area of biotechnology involving applications to agriculture. In the broadest sense, traditional biotechnology has been used for thousands of years, since the advent of the first agricultural practices, for the improvement of plants, animals and microorganisms.

The application of biotechnology to agriculturally important crop species has traditionally involved the use of selective breeding to bring about an exchange of genetic material between two parent plants to produce offspring having desired traits such as increased yields, disease resistance, and enhanced product quality. The exchange of genetic material through conventional breeding requires that the two plants being crossed (bred) are of the same, or closely related, species. Such active plant breeding has led to the development of superior plant varieties far more rapidly than would have occurred in the wild due to random mating. However, traditional methods of gene exchange are limited to crosses between the same or very closely related species; it can take considerable time to achieve desired results; and frequently, characteristics of interest do not exist in any related species. Modern biotechnology vastly increases the precision and reduces the time with which these changes in plant characteristics can be made and greatly increases the potential sources from which desirable traits can be obtained.

### **Methods**

In the 1970s, a series of complementary advances in the field of molecular biology provided scientists with the ability to readily move DNA between more distantly related organisms. Today, this recombinant DNA technology has reached a stage where scientists can take a piece of DNA containing one or more specific genes from nearly any organism, including plants, animals, bacteria, or viruses, and introduce it into a specific crop species. The application of recombinant DNA technology frequently has been referred to as genetic engineering. An organism that has been modified, or transformed, using modern techniques of genetic exchange is commonly referred to as a genetically-modified organism (GMO). Plants that have been genetically modified using recombinant DNA technology to introduce a gene from either the same or a different species also are known as transgenic plants and the specific gene transferred is known as a transgene. Not all GMOs involve the use of

cross-species genetic exchange; recombinant DNA technology also can be used to transfer a gene between different varieties of the same species or to modify the expression of one of more of a given plant's own genes, e.g., to amplify the expression of a gene for disease resistance.

### **Conclusions**

The issues of major concern in relation to the future applications of biotechnology to crop improvement include the evaluation of any risks to human health and the environment; the need for mandatory and/or voluntary labeling of GM foods and/or agricultural commodities for international trade; the relationship between countries' responsibilities under the WTO; and international environmental treaties. These include the international protocol on biosafety being negotiated under the Convention on Biological Diversity, and whether this will provide oversight on traits and/or processes of genetic modification.

Governments and other responsible parties should effectively communicate with the public about the nature of new crop types and new crop varieties, about the unity of

**CSGA**  
**1/4 page**  
**Green**

life processes in all organisms, and about the risks and benefits of agricultural biotechnology in their own country and internationally. There also is a need to continually improve the transparency and broad participation in the decision making processes in relation to biotechnology, the release of genetically modified organisms into the environment, and the approval of genetically modified foods for commercial use.

[Note: This 8-page paper by Persely et al. can be purchased for \$ 3 + p/h from CAST, 4420 West Lincoln Way, Ames, IA 50014-3447; telephone: 515-292-2125]

Editor's Note: The use of biotechnology to improve crop plants for productivity, resistance to pests, human nutrition, pharmaceutical production and other beneficial applications to society is getting a lot of press these days. Much of this press is negative, emotionally charged and rarely based on more than a few facts; and many times the facts are distorted by the media and special interest groups. To date, no variety of dry bean is classified as a Transgenic Variety, since all have been developed by traditional breeding and selection procedures employed by public and private plant breeders around the United States and the world. However, this type of research may currently be underway that could lead to the eventual release of transgenic dry bean varieties in the next 5 to 10 years. The bean community and consumers in the U. S. and worldwide need to initiate open dialogue on the benefits and risks of this technology.

The following list of agricultural biotechnology web sites has been generated by Dr. Pat Byrne and colleagues in

the Dept. of Soil and Crop Science at Colorado State University to provide interested readers with a starting point whereby they can more objectively investigate the benefits, risks, and other background information on this controversial and far-reaching issue:

- Information Systems for Biotechnology [[www.nbiap.vt.edu](http://www.nbiap.vt.edu)]; an excellent source on agricultural biotechnology research.
- AgBioForum Magazine [[www.agbioforum.missouri.edu](http://www.agbioforum.missouri.edu)]; policy aspects of agricultural biotechnology.
- Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) [[www.cast-science.org/index.html](http://www.cast-science.org/index.html)]; policy papers on agriculture, including biotechnology risks and benefits.
- National Agricultural Biotechnology Council [[www.cals.cornell.edu/extension/nabc](http://www.cals.cornell.edu/extension/nabc)]; not-for-profit research and/or teaching institutions in Canada and the U. S.
- Iowa State University Biotechnology Homepage [[www.biotech.iastate.edu](http://www.biotech.iastate.edu)]; links to ag biotech resources.
- Biosafety Information Network and Advisory Service (BINAS) [[binas.unido.org/binas/index.shtml](http://binas.unido.org/binas/index.shtml)]; regulatory status and risk assessment strategies concerning GM crops around the world.
- Field of Genes [[whyfiles.news.wisc.edu:80/062ag\\_gene\\_eng/index.html](http://whyfiles.news.wisc.edu:80/062ag_gene_eng/index.html)]; methods and issues surrounding transgenic crops.
- Union of Concerned Scientists [[www.ucsusa.org/agriculture/index.html](http://www.ucsusa.org/agriculture/index.html)]; critical of transgenic crops.
- The Alliance for Better Foods [[www.betterfoods.org/label.htm](http://www.betterfoods.org/label.htm)]; supportive of agricultural biotechnology.
- USDA Agricultural Biotechnology Information [[www.aphis.usda.gov/biotechnology](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/biotechnology)]; regulating and monitoring biotechnology for agriculture.
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Bioengineered Foods page [[www.fda.gov/oc/biotech/default.htm](http://www.fda.gov/oc/biotech/default.htm)]; FDA's regulatory role, policy statements, and transcripts of recent public fora.



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## Dry Bean Recipes

### Basic Black Beans

From "License to Grill" by  
Chris Schlesinger and John Willoughby, William Morrow,  
1997

2	cup	dried black beans
1/4	cup	vegetable oil
2		large yellow onions, peeled, diced small
2	T	garlic, minced
1/4	cup	white vinegar
2	cup	water
1		bottle of your favorite beer
1	t	chili powder
1	t	ground cumin
4		dashes Tabasco sauce
1	t	sugar
		add salt and freshly cracked black pepper to taste

Soak the beans in cold water overnight, or for at least 5 hours, then drain and rinse well. In a saucepan, heat the oil over medium-high heat until hot but not smoking. Add the onions and saute, stirring occasionally, until transparent, 5 to 7 minutes. Add the garlic and saute, stirring, for another minute. Add the vinegar, water, beer, chili powder, cumin, Tabasco and sugar, and bring to a simmer. Add the beans and return the mixture to a simmer, then reduce the heat to low, cover well, and cook for 3 to 4 hours, or until the beans are soft to the bite. If you think that additional liquid is needed, add more beer. Finish the dish by seasoning with salt and pepper to taste. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

### Mexican Black Bean Dip

1		15-oz can black beans, drained
1	t	olive oil
1/2	cup	chopped onion
2		garlic cloves, minced
1/2	cup	diced and seeded tomato
1/3	cup	mild salsa or picante sauce
1/2	t	chili powder
1/4	cup	shredded Monterey Jack or Cheddar cheese
1/4	cup	fresh cilantro or fresh parsley, chopped
		juice from half a fresh lime
		several drops of hot sauce (optional)

Place beans in a bowl; partially mash until chunky. Set aside. Heat oil in a medium nonstick skillet over medium heat. Add onion and garlic, and saute 4 minutes or until tender. Add beans, tomato, salsa, cumin and chili powder; cook 5 minutes or until thick, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Stirring well, add cheese, cilantro or parsley, lime juice and hot sauce, if using. Transfer mixture to a serving bowl. Serve warm or at room temperature with corn or tortilla chips. Makes 1 and 2/3 cups.

[This piquant dip, slightly tweaked, was picked by the editors of Cooking Light magazine as one of the 10 best recipes ever. Make it and you'll see why. It can also be used as a filling for burritos.]

### Caribbean-Style Black Bean & Rice

#### Salad

1/2	cup	olive oil
1/4	cup	apple cider or sherry vinegar
1	T	Dijon mustard
1	t	ground cumin
1	t	garlic, minced
2.5	cup	cooked long-grain, white rice, cooled
1		15-oz can black beans, drained, rinsed
3/4	cup	chopped orange or red bell pepper
3/4	cup	chopped yellow bell pepper
3/4	cup	chopped green onions
		add salt and freshly cracked black pepper to taste

Whisk oil, vinegar, mustard, cumin and garlic in medium bowl until well blended. Season dressing to taste with salt and pepper. Combine rice, beans, peppers and onions in a large bowl. Toss salad with enough dressing to moisten. Season with salt and pepper. Can be made 6 hours ahead. Cover and refrigerate. Makes 6 servings.

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## 1999 DRY BEAN CROP

Colorado Agr. Statistics Service

Production of dry edible beans in the U.S. is estimated at 33 million cwt for 1999, 9 % above 1998 and 13 % above two years ago. Area for harvest is estimated at 1.86 million acres, down 3 % from 1998 but 6 % above 1997. Average yield, at 1781 pounds per acre, increased 195 pounds from 1998. Production is up in 1999 for all estimating states except New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming.

California and Michigan had major increases in production from 1998. Michigan had the highest production since 1982 with a record high yield of 2100 pounds per acre. Harvest in North Dakota started late due to late plantings and was slowed by wet weather during early September, but was completed ahead of schedule due to dry conditions during October. California's production was 67 % above 1998.

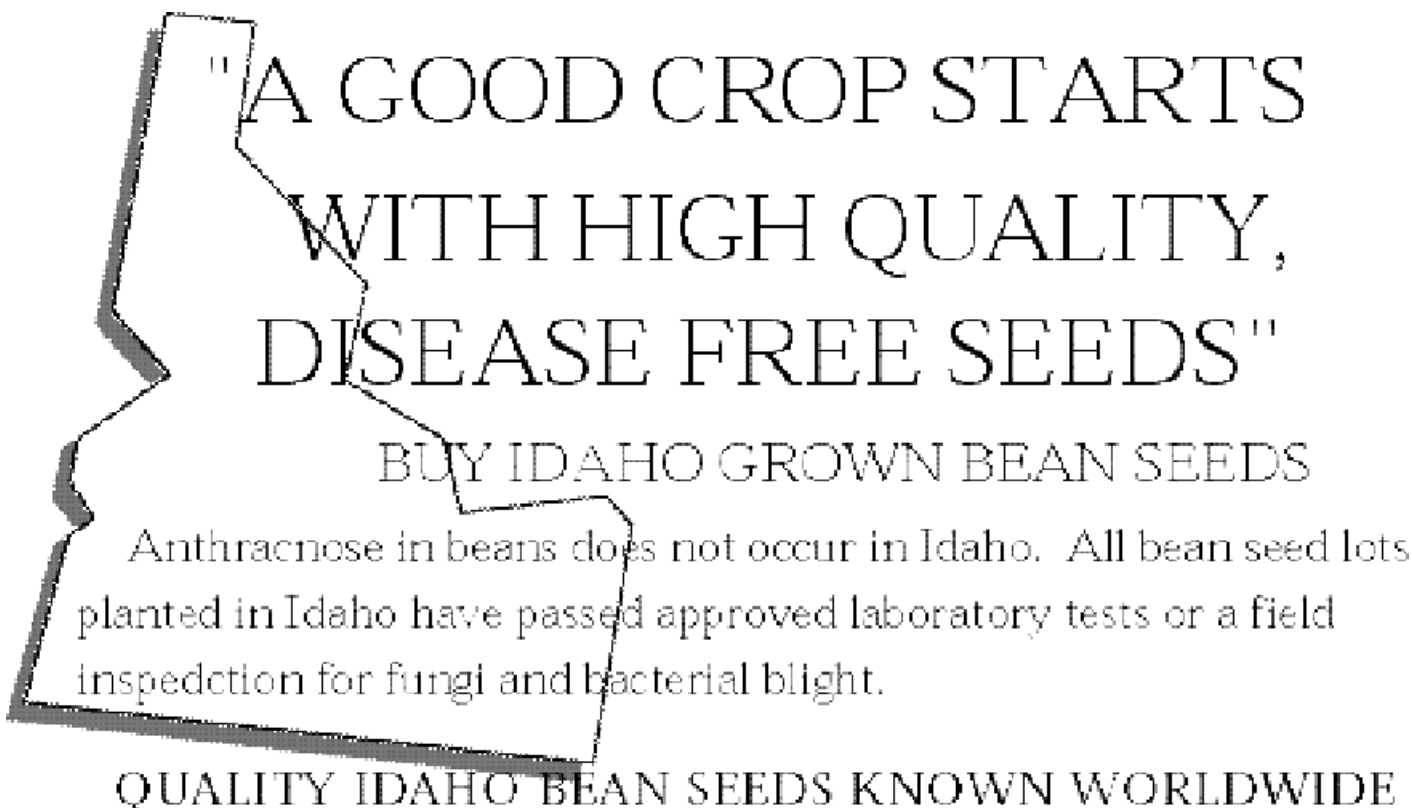
Nebraska's yield is the second highest in the decade. However, hail damage during the growing season and rain damage before harvest in some areas left a large amount of unharvested acres. In New York, some acreage was abandoned due to the effects of dry weather during the summer. Unharvested acres in Minnesota were up due to wet conditions in the Northwest District

of the state. In Wisconsin, yields were lower due to hot and dry conditions during the end of July. Utah's dry bean production is up this year due to ample rains during the growing season in their major growing area. Yield results were mixed in Montana.

Production is above 1998 levels for all varieties except black, pink, and pinto. Pinto, the largest variety, decreased 23 % from 1998, while navy, the next largest variety, increased 88 %.

Colorado growers produced 3.02 million cwt of dry beans in 1999, up 5 % from the 2.87 million cwt produced in 1998. The harvested area, at 155,000 acres, was unchanged from a year earlier while the average yield of 1950 pounds per acre was 100 pounds better than the 1998 average and a new record high for the state.

Overall, the season was very favorable for dry beans in 1999. Timely rains resulted in excellent yields in dryland areas. Except for some locally heavy rain/hail storms, most irrigated areas also experienced excellent yields. Harvest progressed favorably under good weather conditions with only a few areas affected by cool and wet weather during late September.



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Table 1. USDA Crop Report – December 1999 (from Northarvest Bean Grower, January 2000 Issue)

State	Planted Acres			Harvested Acres		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
CA	135.0	110.0	135.0	132.0	105.0	132.0
CO	135.0	170.0	165.0	120.0	155.0	155.0
ID	100.0	105.0	105.0	98.0	103.0	103.0
KS	22.0	20.0	22.0	20.0	19.0	20.9
MI	315.0	300.0	350.0	305.0	295.0	350.0
MN	175.0	190.0	205.0	165.0	175.0	165.0
MT	12.2	16.6	26.5	11.7	16.0	25.7
NE	190.0	195.0	210.0	180.0	188.0	187.0
NM	12.0	10.5	1.0	12.0	9.5	1.0
NY	44.0	31.0	31.0	43.5	30.0	30.2
ND	620.0	750.0	630.0	565.0	710.0	570.0
OR	9.0	8.7	11.5	8.9	8.6	10.8
TX	15.0	15.0	20.0	14.0	13.5	18.0
UT	5.8	6.0	6.7	5.2	5.9	6.6
WA	38.0	40.0	36.0	38.0	40.0	36.0
WI	9.8	7.3	8.3	9.5	7.2	8.0
WY	32.0	39.0	40.0	31.0	37.0	38.0
U S A	1869.8	2014.1	2003.0	1758.8	1917.7	1857.2

Table 2. USDA Crop Report – December 1999 (from Northarvest Bean Grower, January 2000 Issue)

State	Yield (lb / Acre)			Production (000 cwt)		
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998	1999
CA	2270.0	1480.0	1970.0	3000.0	1554.0	2600.0
CO	1900.0	1850.0	1950.0	2280.0	2868.0	3023.0
ID	2200.0	2050.0	2050.0	2156.0	2112.0	2112.0
KS	1900.0	2000.0	1850.0	380.0	380.0	387.0
MI	1620.0	1500.0	2100.0	4941.0	4425.0	7350.0
MN	1550.0	1450.0	1550.0	2558.0	2538.0	2558.0
MT	2200.0	2190.0	1770.0	257.0	350.0	454.0
NE	2060.0	1950.0	2000.0	3708.0	3666.0	3740.0
NM	1700.0	1800.0	1800.0	204.0	171.0	18.0
NY	1560.0	1420.0	1370.0	679.0	426.0	414.0
ND	1260.0	1380.0	1450.0	7119.0	9798.0	8265.0
OR	2040.0	1770.0	1610.0	182.0	152.0	174.0
TX	1020.0	1000.0	1490.0	143.0	135.0	268.0
UT	800.0	510.0	800.0	42.0	30.0	53.0
WA	2240.0	2230.0	2080.0	850.0	890.0	750.0
WI	1800.0	1600.0	1550.0	171.0	115.0	124.0
WY	2260.0	2180.0	2090.0	700.0	808.0	793.0
U S A	1670.0	1586.0	1781.0	29370.0	30418.0	33083.0