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# COUNTY ESTIMATES

## Barley – 2006 Crop

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Colorado's barley production decreased 37 percent from last year's output due to a 22 percent reduction in seeded acreage and a 15.0 bushel per acre decline in yield. The 2006 crop totaled 4,830,000 bushels compared with 7,670,000 bushels produced in 2005 as producers planted 47,000 acres, down 13,000 acres from the previous year. The area harvested, at 42,000 acres, was down 29 percent from the 59,000 acres harvested a year earlier. Statewide, growing conditions were typical but irrigation restrictions and unfavorable harvest conditions in the San Luis Valley reduced the state's average yield to 115.0 bushels per acre.

**Saguache County** led all barley producing areas of the state by producing 1,230,000 bushels in 2006. The latest crop was 32 percent smaller than the 1,810,000 bushels produced in 2005 and represented 25 percent of the state's total output. Producers harvested 7,600 acres in 2006 compared with 11,500 acres the previous year, a decrease of 34 percent. The average yield of 162.0 bushels per acre for 2006 was 4.5 bushels above the 2005 crop average of 157.5 bushels per acre.

**Rio Grande County** dropped to the second largest barley producing area of the state with a total production of 1,225,000 bushels in 2006, down 35 percent from the 1,880,000 bushels produced a year earlier. The 7,800 acres harvested in 2006 were down 36 percent from the previous year. However, the average yield of 157.0 bushels per acre was 1.5 bushels per acre above the average for the previous year's crop.

**Alamosa County** continued in third place for the 2006 crop by producing 650,000 bushels, down 50 percent from the 1,300,000 bushels produced in 2005. The harvested area of 5,400 acres decreased 33 percent from the 8,100 acres harvested the previous year. The average yield for the county, at 120.5 bushels per acre, was 40.0 bushels per acre below the previous year's average of 160.5 bushels per acre.

**Weld County** remained fourth as its 2006 barley output of 642,300 bushels was down 27 percent compared with 878,000 bushels produced the previous year. The harvested area of 8,200 acres was 1,200 acres below a year earlier. Per acre yields in the county were also lower than the previous year, averaging 78.5 bushels for the 2006 crop compared with 93.5 bushels per acre from the 2005 crop.

**Conejos County** maintained fifth place in barley producing counties in the state with a total production of 300,000 bushels in 2006. The latest crop was 59 percent smaller than the previous year's output of 740,000 bushels. The harvested area of 3,000 acres was 1,600 acres less than the previous year. However, the average yield for the county, at 100.0 bushels per acre, was 61.0 bushels per acre below the previous year's average of 161.0 bushels.

The top five producing counties accounted for 84 percent of the state's total barley crop of 4,830,000 bushels produced in 2006. Other top producing counties with the percent change in production from the previous year and the 2006 output were as follows: **Costilla County**, down 22 percent to 235,000 bushels; **Boulder County**, down 5 percent to 154,000 bushels; **Larimer County**, down 39 percent to 82,000 bushels.

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**Barley: Acreage and production by county and district, Colorado, 2006**

County and District	Total				Non-Irrigated			Irrigated		
	Acreage planted	Acreage harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Acreage harvested	Yield per acre	Production	Acreage harvested	Yield per acre	Production
	Acres	Acres	Bu.	Bu.	Acres	Bu.	Bu.	Acres	Bu.	Bu.
Boulder	2,000	2,000	77.0	154,000	...	...	...	2,000	77.0	154,000
Larimer	1,900	1,400	58.5	82,000	...	...	...	1,400	58.5	82,000
Weld	9,100	8,200	78.5	642,300	100	23.0	2,300	8,100	79.0	640,000
Combined Counties	1,000	400	65.5	26,200	100	22.0	2,200	300	80.0	24,000
<b>Northeast</b>	<b>14,000</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>75.5</b>	<b>904,500</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>11,800</b>	<b>76.5</b>	<b>900,000</b>
Combined Counties	3,800	2,800	63.0	177,000	1,000	17.0	17,000	1,800	89.0	160,000
<b>East Central</b>	<b>3,800</b>	<b>2,800</b>	<b>63.0</b>	<b>177,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>89.0</b>	<b>160,000</b>
Delta	200	200	75.0	15,000	...	...	...	200	75.0	15,000
Garfield	100	100	20.0	2,000	100	20.0	2,000	...	...	...
Montrose	500	500	90.0	45,000	...	...	...	500	90.0	45,000
Combined Counties	600	400	80.0	32,000	100	20.0	2,000	300	100.0	30,000
<b>Southwest</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>78.5</b>	<b>94,000</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>90.0</b>	<b>90,000</b>
Alamosa	5,900	5,400	120.5	650,000	...	...	...	5,400	120.5	650,000
Conejos	3,900	3,000	100.0	300,000	...	...	...	3,000	100.0	300,000
Costilla	1,600	1,600	147.0	235,000	...	...	...	1,600	147.0	235,000
Rio Grande	7,800	7,800	157.0	1,225,000	...	...	...	7,800	157.0	1,225,000
Saguache	7,800	7,600	162.0	1,230,000	...	...	...	7,800	162.0	1,230,000
<b>San Luis Valley</b>	<b>27,000</b>	<b>25,400</b>	<b>143.5</b>	<b>3,640,000</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>25,400</b>	<b>143.5</b>	<b>3,640,000</b>
<b>Combined Districts <sup>1/</sup></b>	<b>800</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>14,500</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>14,500</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>
<b>State Total</b>	<b>47,000</b>	<b>42,000</b>	<b>115.0</b>	<b>4,830,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>120.0</b>	<b>4,790,000</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Combined Districts include Northwest/Mountains and Southeast.