



Alfalfa Seed 2007

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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2007 Acreage, Production, Value, and Leaf Cutter Bees

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Alfalfa seed production in Montana for 2007 was estimated at 4.4 million pounds, up 3% from the 2006 production. Harvested acreage at 12,200 was up 1,500 acres from last year's acreage of 10,700 acres. The average yield was estimated at 360 pounds per acre, down from the 399 pounds per acre a year ago. Irrigated yields averaged 533 pounds per acre, up from 518 pounds in 2006, and non-irrigated yields averaged 127 pounds per acre, down from 215 pounds last year.

Producers who used leaf cutter bees in 2007 used an average of 3.2 gallons of bees per acre, up 0.2 gallons from a year ago. Leaf cutter bees were used on 66% of the reported

irrigated acres at the rate of 3.2 gallons per acre. For those fields under irrigation producers who used leaf cutter bees on average saw only a negligible increase in yield. While at the same time vast majority of non-irrigated producers did not use leaf cutter bees.

Proprietary varieties made up 68% of this year's production, common uncertified varieties accounted for 26% of the production and common certified varieties represented 6%.

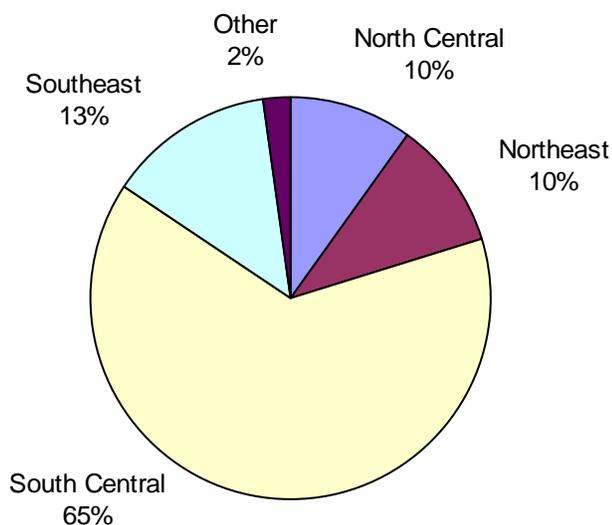
The average price received for the 2007 crop was \$1.34 per pound, up \$0.21 from last year's average price.

Montana Leaf Cutter Bees 2003-2007

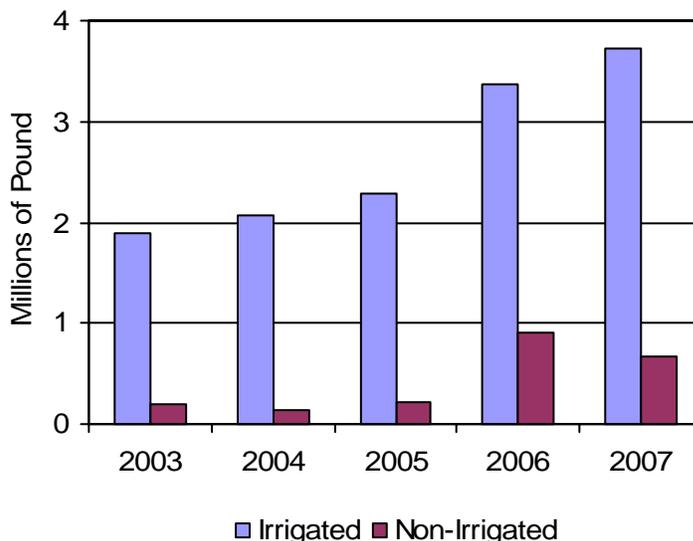
| Year | TOTAL | IRRIGATED | | NON-IRRIGATED | |
|------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| | Gallons Used per Acre | Percent of Acreage | Gallons Used per Acre | Percent of Acreage | Gallons Used per Acre |
| 2003 | 3.8 | 39% | 4.2 | 12% | 1.1 |
| 2004 | 3.8 | 33% | 4.2 | 11% | -- |
| 2005 | 3.2 | 44% | 3.3 | 24% | -- |
| 2006 | 3.0 | 45% | 3.0 | -- | -- |
| 2007 | 3.2 | 66% | 3.2 | -- | -- |

Years with no estimate have been confided to prevent the disclosure of individual information.

2007 Alfalfa Seed Production by District



2003-2007 Alfalfa Seed Production



Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, and Production by District, 2007

| District | TOTAL | | | IRRIGATED | | | NON-IRRIGATED | | |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|------------------|--------------|------------|------------------|---------------|------------|----------------|
| | Acres | Yield | Production | Acres | Yield | Production | Acres | Yield | Production |
| | | Pounds | | | Pounds | | | Pounds | |
| North Central | 1,100 | 403 | 443,000 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Northeast | 1,200 | 372 | 446,000 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| South Central | 5,200 | 543 | 2,823,000 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Southeast | 4,200 | 139 | 584,000 | 300 | 216 | 65,000 | 3,900 | 133 | 519,000 |
| Other Districts | 500 | 188 | 94,000 | 6,700 | 582 | 3,664,000 | 1,300 | 109 | 142,000 |
| Montana | 12,200 | 360 | 4,390,000 | 7,000 | 533 | 3,729,000 | 5,200 | 127 | 661,000 |

Districts with no estimate have been confided to prevent the disclosure of individual information.

Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, and Production by District, 2006

| District | TOTAL | | | IRRIGATED | | | NON-IRRIGATED | | |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|------------------|--------------|------------|------------------|---------------|------------|----------------|
| | Acres | Yield | Production | Acres | Yield | Production | Acres | Yield | Production |
| | | Pounds | | | Pounds | | | Pounds | |
| North Central | 1,500 | 390 | 585,000 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Northeast | 1,500 | 410 | 615,000 | 600 | 500 | 300,000 | 900 | 350 | 315,000 |
| South Central | 5,100 | 492 | 2,507,000 | 4,400 | 551 | 2,424,000 | 700 | 119 | 83,000 |
| Southeast | 2,400 | 197 | 473,000 | 300 | 177 | 53,000 | 2,100 | 200 | 420,000 |
| Other Districts | 200 | 450 | 90,000 | 1,200 | 492 | 590,000 | 500 | 170 | 85,000 |
| Montana | 10,700 | 399 | 4,270,000 | 6,500 | 518 | 3,367,000 | 4,200 | 215 | 903,000 |

Districts with no estimate have been confided to prevent the disclosure of individual information.

Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, Production and Value for Montana from 1998-2007

| Year | TOTAL | | | | | IRRIGATED | | | NON-IRRIGATED | | |
|------|-----------------|--------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|--------|------------------|-----------------|-------|------------------|
| | Harvested Acres | Yield | Total Production | Price per Pound | Total Value | Harvested Acres | Yield | Total Production | Harvested Acres | Yield | Total Production |
| | | Pounds | | Pounds | | | Pounds | | | | |
| 1998 | 18,000 | 275 | 4,950,000 | \$1.20 | \$5,940,000 | 11,200 | 375 | 4,202,000 | 6,800 | 110 | 748,000 |
| 1999 | 20,000 | 265 | 5,300,000 | \$1.20 | \$6,360,000 | 11,000 | 404 | 4,445,000 | 9,000 | 95 | 855,000 |
| 2000 | 19,000 | 277 | 5,260,000 | \$1.19 | \$6,259,400 | 11,500 | 391 | 4,500,000 | 7,500 | 101 | 760,000 |
| 2001 | 9,000 | 367 | 3,300,000 | \$1.27 | \$4,191,000 | 6,700 | 477 | 3,199,000 | 2,300 | 44 | 101,000 |
| 2002 | 6,700 | 296 | 1,980,000 | \$1.15 | \$2,277,000 | 5,000 | 370 | 1,848,000 | 1,700 | 78 | 132,000 |
| 2003 | 6,200 | 335 | 2,075,000 | \$1.01 | \$2,095,750 | 4,100 | 460 | 1,886,000 | 2,100 | 90 | 189,000 |
| 2004 | 5,800 | 382 | 2,214,000 | \$0.99 | \$2,191,860 | 3,900 | 532 | 2,075,000 | 1,900 | 73 | 139,000 |
| 2005 | 6,100 | 413 | 2,519,000 | \$1.13 | \$2,846,470 | 5,100 | 450 | 2,295,000 | 1,000 | 224 | 224,000 |
| 2006 | 10,700 | 399 | 4,270,000 | \$1.13 | \$4,825,100 | 6,500 | 518 | 3,367,000 | 4,200 | 215 | 903,000 |
| 2007 | 12,200 | 360 | 4,390,000 | \$1.34 | \$5,882,600 | 7,000 | 533 | 3,729,000 | 5,200 | 127 | 661,000 |

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