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News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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2007 Crop Values

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The value of Montana's 2007 **all wheat** crop rose 63 percent from 2006 to \$1.14 billion. All wheat production was up 1 percent from last year, and the season average price increased \$3.06 per bushel, setting a new record high at \$7.60 per bushel.

The value of Montana's **winter wheat** crop set a new record high with an increase of 64 percent from last year to \$607.5 million. The preliminary season average price was \$2.81 higher than last year at \$7.30 per bushel, also setting a new record high. **Spring wheat's** value of production was up 44 percent from 2006 to \$419.5 million. The season average price increased \$3.02 per bushel to \$7.60, setting a new record high. **Durum wheat's** season average price rose \$5.14 from 2006 to a record high \$9.75 per bushel. The value of the durum wheat crop was \$111.2 million, setting a new record high, up from \$31.0 million in 2006, due to increased production and prices.

The value of Montana's **oat** crop was \$4.6 million, up from \$2.5 million in 2006 due to an increase in production and price from the previous year. The season average price was up \$0.33 to \$2.55 per bushel, setting a new record. Total value of production for **barley** was estimated at \$134.6 million, up 45 percent from the previous year due to an increase in production and price. The 2007 season average price, at \$4.25 per bushel was up \$1.25 from 2006, setting a new record. **Corn for grain** value of production for 2007 was estimated at \$26.2 million dollars, up from \$10.3 million in 2006, setting a new record high. The average price per bushel increased \$0.82 to \$4.75, also setting a new record.

Montana's value of production for **flaxseed** increased 29 percent from 2006 to \$2.4 million dollars in 2007, due to an increase in price. The season average price jumped \$6.97 per bushel from last year to \$13.10, setting a new record. The value of the canola crop in 2007 was \$1.6 million, up 27 percent due to an increase in price. **Canola's** season average price increased \$4.50 per cwt from last year to \$16.20, setting a new record high. The value of production for **safflower** increased 33 percent from 2006 to \$5.0 million dollars in 2007, setting a new record high, due to an increase in production and price. The season average price increased \$3.00 per cwt from last year to \$16.50, also setting a new record high. **Dry edible beans** value of production was estimated at \$6.7 million, up 8 percent from 2006 due to higher prices. The average price rose \$3.70 per cwt to \$24.20 per cwt.

Value of production for **dry edible peas** in Montana, at \$35.0 million was a new record high, up from the 2006 value of \$13.7 million due to sharply increased prices and higher production. The average price increased \$2.86 per cwt to \$9.50, setting a new record high. **Austrian winter peas** value of production for the 2007 crop dropped to \$296 thousand from \$872 thousand in 2006 due to decreased production. The average price was \$11.40 per cwt, up \$3.47 from last year, setting a new record high. **Lentils** value of production rose to \$14.4 million from \$8.7 million in 2006 due to a large increase in price. The average price increased \$6.30 to \$17.10 per cwt, setting a new record high.

Montana's value of production for **potatoes** set a new record high at \$38.4 million, up 21 percent from the previous year due to higher prices and increased production. The average price was \$10.40 per cwt, \$1.40 above 2006. **Sugar beets** value of production for 2006 is estimated at \$54.5 million, up 5 percent from the previous year due to an increase in production. The season average price decreased \$3.70 per ton from 2005 to \$41.60 per ton.

The 2007 season average price for **all hay** decreased \$2.00 from last year to \$76.00 per ton. The value of production was up 16 percent to \$393.2 million due to increased production. **Alfalfa hay's** 2007 season average price was estimated at \$75.50, down \$2.50 per ton from last year and **other hay's** season average price decreased \$2.00 per ton to \$79.00.

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