



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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Washington's Winter and Spring Wheat Farmers Harvest Record High Yield

Washington's 2011 winter wheat yields averaged 75.0 bushels per acre, the highest average yield on record, above the previous high 73.0 bushels in 2000. This was 6 bushels higher than last year's average yield. Production was a reported 130 million bushels, up 10 percent from last year's crop. White wheat accounted for 85 percent of the total crop the same as 2010 crop. Based on final survey data, Washington's winter wheat growers planted an estimated 1.76 million acres last fall for harvest in 2011. With combining complete for the year, 1.73 million acres were cut compared with 1.71 million acres for the 2010 crop.

Washington's spring wheat yields averaged 61 bushels per acre, the highest average yield on record, above the previous high 55 bushels in 1984. Production totaled 37.5 million bushels, up 25 percent from last year. An estimated 615,000 acres were harvested from an originally seeded 620,000 acres. White wheat varieties amounted to 51 percent of the total, unchanged from the 2010 crop.

Barley growers in Washington produced 8.28 million bushels in 2011, 42 percent above 2010. Acreage harvested, at 115,000 acres, was up 42 percent from last year while the average yield of 72 bushels per acre was the same as in 2010.

An estimated 10,000 acres of **oats** were planted in 2011 with 3,000 acres harvested for grain. Production was 183,000 bushels from an average yield of 61.0 bushels per acre compared with 84.0 bushels per acre in 2010.

The **2011 U.S. winter wheat production** totaled 1.49 billion bushels, up slightly from last year. The United States yield is 46.2 bushels per acre, down 0.6 bushels from the previous year.

Area harvested for grain is estimated at 32.3 million acres, up 2 percent from the previous year. Soft White Winter production totaled 243.7 million bushels, up 13 percent from 2010 while Hard Red Winter production totaled 780.1 million bushels, down 23 percent from last year.

U.S. production of **other spring wheat** in 2011 is estimated at 462.5 million bushels, down 25 percent from 2010. Harvested area is 12.1 million acres, down 10 percent from last year. The United States yield is 38.3 bushels, per acre, down 7.8 bushels per acre, from last years' record high.

In Washington, seeding of winter wheat in the fall of 2010 was aided with above average rainfall at beneficial times. Good established stands did not suffer much winterkill, but were slow to mature due to a prolonged cool spring. Farmers had to spray repeatedly for rust during the growing season.

The spring wheat crop planting was delayed due to cool wet conditions. Spring wheat was also sprayed several times to combat the stripe rust infection. Harvest was unusually late in most counties.

Record high yields were set in the **Pacific Northwest** for 2011 with OR and WA setting record high winter wheat yields, while ID, OR and WA growers harvested record high spring wheat yields. Total wheat production was set at 358 million bushels, 12 percent above last year. Winter wheat production reached 256 million bushels, 11 percent above 2010 and spring wheat production was a reported 100.6 million bushels compared with 87.2 million bushels last year.

The **Pacific Northwest's barley** production totaled 56.7 million bushels, up 9 percent from the 2010 crop.

SMALL GRAIN SUMMARY, SEPTEMBER 2011

CROP	WASHINGTON						PACIFIC NW 1/		UNITED STATES		
	Harvested		Unit	Yield		Production		Production		Production	
	2010	2011		2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	1,000 Acres							1,000			
All Wheat	2,285	2,345	Bu.	64.7	71.3	147,890	167,265	318,886	357,759	2,206,916	2,008,039
Winter Wheat	1,710	1,730	Bu.	69.0	75.0	117,990	129,750	230,480	256,415	1,484,861	1,493,677
Spring Wheat	575	615	Bu.	52.0	61.0	29,900	37,515	87,186	100,585	615,975	462,473
Barley	81	115	Bu.	72.0	72.0	5,832	8,280	52,032	56,680	180,268	155,050
Oats	5	3	Bu.	84.0	61.0	420	183	4,300	2,433	81,190	54,005

1/ Includes Oregon, Idaho, and Washington.



Wheat: Production by Class, United States, 2009-2011 1/

Year	Winter					Spring					Durum	Total
	Hard Red	Soft Red	Hard White	Soft White	All White	Hard Red	Hard White	Soft White	All White			
	1,000 Bushels											
2009	919,939	403,984	18,248	182,437	200,685	547,933	7,865	28,613	36,478	109,042	2,218,061	
2010	1,018,337	237,429	13,496	215,599	229,095	569,975	9,256	36,744	46,000	106,080	2,206,916	
2011	780,089	457,535	12,368	243,685	256,053	405,287	11,866	45,320	57,186	51,889	2,008,039	

1/ Wheat class estimates are based on the latest available data including both survey and administrative data.

To access the entire release, including the complete narrative and tables point to <http://www.nass.usda.gov/wa/press/smgrain11.pdf>

Find agricultural statistics for Washington State at www.nass.usda.gov/wa/