



Immediate Release

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SMALL GRAIN PRODUCTION INCREASED FROM LAST YEAR

WYOMING: Final estimates of the season for small grain production indicate larger crops in 2008 for winter wheat, spring wheat, barley, and oats, according to Nancy Hussey with the Wyoming Field Office of USDA NASS. Compared with last year, production of winter wheat was up 16 percent, spring wheat was up 159 percent, barley increased 46 percent, and oats jumped up 60 percent. Harvested acreage also increased from last year for all the small grain row crops.

Winter wheat production in 2008 is estimated at 3.78 million bushels, up 16 percent from 2007 and up 4 percent from 2006. The estimated yield of 28 bushels per acre is up 2 bushels from last year and up 1 bushel per acre from 2006. There were 135,000 acres harvested, up 10,000 acres from 2007 and unchanged from 2006.

Spring wheat production in 2008 is estimated at 506,000 bushels, up 159 percent from 2007 and up 116 percent from 2006. Average yield, at 46 bushels per acre, was up 7 bushels per acre from 2007 and 2006. Acreage harvested for spring wheat in 2008 totaled 11,000 acres, up 6,000 acres from last year and 5,000 acres above 2006.

Wyoming **Barley** production during 2008 totaled 6.90 million bushels, up 46 percent from last year and up 42 percent from 2006. The harvested acreage increased to 75,000 acres, up 22,000 acres from last year and 18,000 acres above 2006. Yields averaged 92 bushels per harvested acre, up 3 bushels per acre from last year and 7 bushels per acre above the 2006 yield.

Oats production is estimated at 600,000 bushels, up 60 percent from 2007, but down 13 percent from 2006. The average yield, at 50 bushels per acre, was 3 bushels above last year, but 7 bushels below the 2006 crop. There were 30,000 acres of oats planted this year, down 10,000 acres from 2007 and down 18,000 acres from 2006. There were 12,000 acres harvested, up 4,000 acres from the record low in 2007, but unchanged from 2006.

UNITED STATES: All wheat Production totals 2.50 billion bushels in 2008, up 2 percent from the August forecast and up 21 percent from 2007. Grain area is 55.7 million acres, up 9 percent from last year. The U.S. yield is 44.9 bushels per acre, up 1.4 bushels from the last forecast and up 4.4 bushels from last year. The levels of production and changes from last year by type are: winter wheat, 1.87 billion bushels, up 23 percent; other spring wheat, 547 million bushels, up 14 percent; Durum wheat, 84.9 million bushels, up 18 percent.

Oats production is estimated at a record low 88.6 million bushels, 1 percent below the August 1 forecast and down 3 percent from last year. The estimated yield is 63.5 bushels per acre, up 1.2 bushels from the last forecast and up 2.6 bushels from the previous year. Compared with last year, yields increased in the central and southern Great Plains, Pacific Northwest, and most States in the eastern half of the country. Harvested area, at 1.40 million acres, is 3 percent and 7 percent below August and last year, respectively. This is the smallest acreage harvested for grain on record, continuing a steady downward trend.

Barley production is estimated at 239 million bushels, 10 percent above the August forecast and 13 percent above 2007. Average yield per acre, at 63.6 bushels, is up 3.7 bushels from August and 3.2 bushels from last year. The area harvested for grain is estimated at 3.77 million acres, up 7 percent from a year ago.