

# NEWS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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## NEBRASKA MAY 1 WHEAT PRODUCTION FORECAST AND HAY STOCKS

LINCOLN, Neb., May 12, 2004 -- Based on May 1 conditions, Nebraska's 2004 **winter wheat** crop is forecast at 72.2 million bushels, down 14 percent from last year's crop, according to the USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Average yield is forecast at 39 bushels per acre, down 7 bushels from last year's yield and near the ten-year average.

Acreage to be harvested for grain is estimated at 1.85 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. This would be 95 percent of the planted acres, down from 96 percent last year but above the ten-year average of 94 percent. As of May 4, topsoil moisture supplies were rated short to very short in the major wheat growing areas. Disease and insect pressure to date has been light.

May 1 **hay stocks** of 1.6 million tons are up 83 percent from last year and are at the highest level since 1987.

Access the National publication for this release at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/field/pcp-bb/2004/crop0504.pdf>

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