

OKLAHOMA CROP PRODUCTION

2002 CROP REVIEW

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Over half of the soil moisture supplies were rated either poor or very poor as wheat was coming out of dormancy for the season. During the course of the year, northwestern Oklahoma received very little precipitation and much of their dryland wheat acreage suffered greatly. Insurance adjusters declared most of the Panhandle dryland wheat crop a disaster. Only 3.5 million acres of wheat was harvested for grain, the lowest amount in 45 years. For only the second time in the past 30 years, production was less than 100 million bushels.

Production of other small grains increased from last year. Oat production nearly tripled last year's record low. Rye production increased 16 percent from the previous year and exceeded one million bushels for the sixth straight year.

Average yield for all summer crops increased from last year. Peanut yield set a new record-high of 2,800 pounds per acre. Cotton yield was only 3 pounds off from the record high level. Soybean yield was the third highest on record. Production of corn, sorghum, and peanuts was down from 2001 only because of fewer harvested acres. Cotton production was the highest since 1994.

Hay production totaled 5.03 million tons, up 25 percent from 2001 and reached 5 million for only the 4th time in history. Alfalfa production increased 26 percent from 2001 while production of all other hay, at 3.84 million tons, was the highest on record.

Minor crop production decreased from last year. Production of watermelons decreased 5 percent from 2001 to 715,000 cwt. Harvested acres for watermelons were the lowest on record but a record high yield of 130 cwt. per acre was set. Pecans, at 10 million pounds, was down 50 percent from 2001 and well below the record high of 63 million pounds set in 1999. Peach production, at 7 million pounds, decreased for the fourth straight year.