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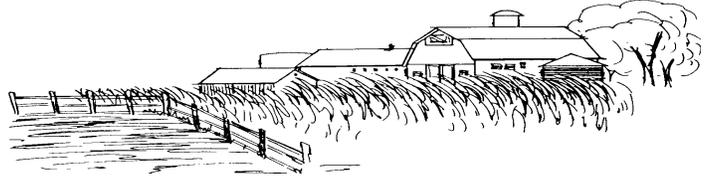
News Release

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Utah Wheat Acreage Down

Utah's planted acreage for other spring wheat, corn, oats, winter wheat, and all wheat were down from last year. Dry beans and all other hay were unchanged, while barley, alfalfa and all hay were up.

Corn planted, at 53,000 acres, is down 4 percent from 2003. Corn acres to be harvested for grain, at 13,000 acres, is the same as last year. **Oats** planted, at 55,000 acres, is 15 percent lower than the previous year. Oats harvested for grain is forecast at 6,000 acres, the same as 2003. **Barley** planted, at 50,000 acres, is 11 percent above 2003. Barley harvested for grain is forecast at 40,000 acres, up 14 percent from the previous year. **All wheat** planted acreage is estimated at 142,000, a decrease of 33,000 acres from 2003. All wheat harvested for grain is down 18 percent from last year, with 111,000 forecasted acres. **Other spring** wheat planted, at 12,000 acres, is 3,000 acres less than in 2003. Other spring wheat harvested for grain is expected to be 11,000 acres, up 1,000 acres. **Winter wheat** planted acreage in Utah for 2004, at 130,000, is down 19 percent from a year ago. Acreage to be harvested for grain is forecast at 100,000 acres, a decrease of 25,000 acres from last year.

Dry beans planted in Utah for 2004, at 5,600 acres, is the same as 2003. Dry bean acreage to be harvested also remained the same. **Alfalfa hay** acreage, at 550,000, is 5,000 acres more than last year. **All other hay**, at 155,000 acres, remained the same as 2003. **All hay**, at 705,000 acres, increased 5,000 acres from 2003.

Nationally, **Corn** planted area for all purposes is estimated at 81.0 million acres, up 3 percent from both 2002 and 2003. Growers expect to harvest 73.4 million acres for grain, up 3 percent from 2003. Farmers increased corn

plantings 1.96 million acres from their March intentions. **All wheat** planted area is estimated at 59.9 million acres, down 3 percent from 2003. Harvested area is expected to total 50.7 million acres, down 4 percent from last year. **Oats** acres seeded for the 2004 crop year totaled 4.22 million, down 8 percent from last year's planted area. Growers expect to harvest 1.94 million acres for grain, down 13 percent from the 2003 harvested acreage of 2.22 million. **Barley** growers seeded 4.67 million acres for 2004, down 12 percent from the 5.30 million acres seeded a year ago. Acres for harvest, at 4.15 million, are down 11 percent from the 2003 level. **Durum Wheat** planted area for 2004 is estimated at 2.74 million acres, down 6 percent from last year. Area to be harvested for grain is expected to total 2.67 million acres, 7 percent below last year's level. **Other Spring Wheat** acreage planted for 2004 is estimated at 13.7 million, down 1 percent from 2003. Grain area is expected to total 13.2 million acres, down 2 percent from last year. **Hay** producers expect to harvest 61.6 million acres of all hay in 2004, three percent below 2003. Harvested area of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures are forecast at 22.2 million acres, down 6 percent from last year. All other hay harvested area is expected to total 39.4 million acres, down 1 percent. **Dry Bean** growers planted 1.42 million acres for 2004, up 1 percent from last year but 26 percent below two years ago. The June planted acres estimate is 7 percent above growers plans in March. Acres to be harvested are forecast at 1.33 million, down 2 percent from last year and 24 percent below 2002. Nine of the 18 dry bean States have increased planted acreage from a year ago, 8 are down, and 1 remains the same.