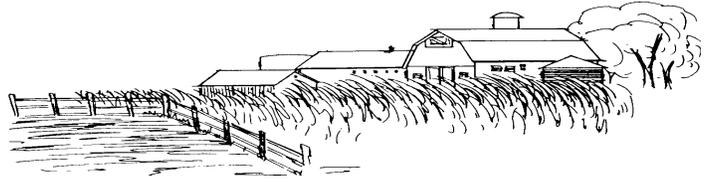




UTAH  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

# News Release

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## Planting Intentions

**UTAH**, farm operators, as of March 1, 2004, intend to plant the same level of oats, but less barley, spring wheat, winter wheat, and all wheat than last year. Corn, and dry edible beans will see an increase according to the Utah Agricultural Statistics Service.

If growers current intentions are realized, Utah farmers will plant 50,000 acres of barley, down 5,000 acres from 2003. Intentions for corn at 61,000 acres, were up 6,000 acres from 2003. Oat intentions were estimated at 65,000 acres, same level as 2003. All wheat was estimated at 153,000 acres, 22,000 acres less than last year. Other spring wheat planting is expected to total 13,000 acres, 2,000 acres less than the previous year's level. Winter wheat planted, at 140,000 acres, is down 20,000 acres from last year. Planting intentions for dry edible beans are 6,000 acres, an increase of 400 acres from last year. Harvesting intentions for all hay are 700,000 acres, the same as last year.

**UNITED STATES**, corn growers intend to plant 79.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2004, up fractionally from both 2002 and 2003. Acres seeded and to be seeded for oats in 2004 are expected to total 4.31 million acres, down 6 percent from last year's planted area. Growers expect to harvest 2.07 million acres for grain, down 7 percent from the 2003 harvested acreage of 2.22 million. Growers intend to plant 4.68 million acres of barley in 2004, down 12 percent from last year. Planted area of winter wheat for the 2004 crop is 43.4 million acres, down 3 percent from 2003. Growers intent to plant 13.3 million acres of other spring wheat this year, down 4 percent from 2003. Producers expect to harvest 63.7 million acres of all hay in 2004, up 1 percent from last year. Prospective 2004 planting of dry beans in the U.S. totals 1.33 million acres, down 5 percent from last year and 31 percent below two years ago.