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NEWS

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WASHINGTON'S 2004 WINTER WHEAT YIELDS UP 4 BUSHEL FROM 2003

Olympia—The August 1 forecast for the 2004 Washington winter wheat crop yield, at 69 bushels per acre, was up 3 bushels from the July forecast. Estimates in the Crop Production report released today by the Washington Agricultural Statistics Service (WASS), were based on conditions as of August 1. "As of August 1, harvest stood at 35 percent completed with ideal conditions," stated Ray Garibay, of the Washington Agricultural Statistics Service.

Washington's 1.70 million acres of **winter wheat** for harvest were in mostly fair to good condition as of the beginning of August. Harvest was progressing slightly ahead of normal, with 15 percent of the crop harvested as of July 26 and 35 percent harvested by August 2. Last year, 38 percent of the crop was harvested by the 4th of August, and the average harvest progress over the last five years was 30 percent. Head counts were above average, while weight per head was slightly below average. Producers expected to harvest 69 bushels per acre, based on conditions as of August 1, 3 bushels more than July forecast and 4 bushel per acre greater than last year's yield. Total production was expected to be 117.3 million bushels, less than 1 percent increase over last year.

Spring wheat harvest was underway with 24 percent completed as of August 2, ahead of last year's 17 percent and the 5 year average of 11 percent. Spring wheat was in mostly fair to good condition. The spring wheat crop was expected to yield 50 bushels per acre. This was unchanged from the July 1 estimate, and 9 bushels above the 2003 yield. Acres for harvest totaled 555,000 acres, 10,000 acres more than last year. Production was forecast at 27.8 million bushels, 24 percent greater than last year.

The condition of the **barley** crop was mostly fair to good. Harvest was 20 percent completed as of August 2, ahead of last year's 15 percent and the 5 year average of 11 percent. Per acre yields were expected to average 65 bushels, unchanged from the July 1 forecast but 18 bushels more than the 2003 crop. With 280,000 acres for harvest, production

would total 18.2 million bushels, 24 percent greater than the 2003 production of 14.6 million bushels.

Alfalfa hay acreage for harvest was expected to be 480,000 acres as of August 1, 6 percent below 2003. With a yield of 5.3 tons per acre, production was forecast at 2.54 million tons. **Other hay** acreage for harvest was set at 310,000 acres, 3 percent above last year. Yields were expected to average 3.0 tons per acre, with production estimated at 930,000 tons, up 3 percent from 2003.

Dry edible beans were in mostly good condition, with the average yield set at 1,900 pounds per acre. Acreage for harvest, at 29,000 acres was up 5 percent from 2003. Production for 2004 was forecast at 551,000 cwt., 5 percent greater than last year's 525,000 cwt. **Hop** production was estimated at 41.1 million pounds from 19,407 acres. Average yield was forecast at 2,120 pounds per acre compared with 2,050 pounds per acre in 2003. **Corn for grain** production was anticipated to total 19.5 million bushels from 100,000 acres. The average yield, at 195 bushels per acre, was unchanged from last year. Washington **sugarbeet** production was set at 143,000 tons from 3,800 acres. Average yield was set at 37.6 tons per acre.

Nationally, winter wheat was expected to average 42.8 bushels per acre from 34.8 million acres for harvest. Total production was expected to be 1.49 billion bushels, a 13 percent decrease from 2003's 1.71 billion bushels. Spring wheat production (other than durum), was expected to increase by 2 percent to 544.5 million bushels. Forecast productions for other crops and their change from 2003 are as follows: barley, 272.8 million bushels, 1 percent below last year; alfalfa hay, 77.3 million tons, up 1 percent; other hay, 84.5 million tons, up 5 percent; dry beans, 21.3 million cwt., down 5 percent; hops, 55.5 million pounds, up 2 percent; corn for grain, 10.9 billion bushels, up 8 percent; oats, 128.0 million bushels, down 12 percent; and sugarbeets, 28.4 million tons, down 7 percent from last year.

FIELD CROP SUMMARY, AUGUST 1, 2004

| CROP | WASHINGTON | | | | | | PACIFIC NW 1/ | | UNITED STATES | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------|------|-------|----------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| | Harvested | | Unit | Yield | | Production | | Production | | Production | |
| | 2003 | 2004 | | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 |
| | Thousand Acres | | | | Thousand | | Thousand | | Thousand | | |
| All Wheat | 2,345 | 2,255 | Bu. | 59.4 | 64.3 | 139,345 | 145,050 | 280,185 | 301,350 | 2,239,889 | 2,033,943 |
| Winter Wheat | 1,800 | 1,700 | Bu. | 65.0 | 69.0 | 117,000 | 117,300 | 222,540 | 228,310 | 1,707,069 | 1,489,408 |
| Spring Wheat | 545 | 555 | Bu. | 41.0 | 50.0 | 22,345 | 27,750 | 57,645 | 73,040 | 532,820 | 544,535 |
| Barley | 310 | 280 | Bu. | 47.0 | 65.0 | 14,570 | 18,200 | 65,930 | 84,948 | 276,087 | 272,824 |
| Corn, Grain | 70 | 100 | Bu. | 195.0 | 195.0 | 13,650 | 19,500 | NA | NA | 10,113,887 | 10,923,099 |
| Hops | 19.49 | 19.41 | Lbs. | 2,050 | 2,120 | 39,951 | 41,143 | 54,565.1 | 55,537.9 | 54,565.1 | 55,537.9 |
| Sugarbeets | 4.0 | 3.8 | Tons | 40.3 | 37.6 | 161 | 143 | 6,506 | 5,611 | 30,583 | 28,378 |
| All Hay | 810 | 790 | Tons | 4.4 | 4.4 | 3,603 | 3,474 | 12,182 | 11,998 | 157,123 | 161,763 |
| Alfalfa Hay | 510 | 480 | Tons | 5.3 | 5.3 | 2,703 | 2,544 | 9,397 | 8,890 | 76,307 | 77,264 |
| Other Hay | 300 | 310 | Tons | 3.0 | 3.0 | 900 | 930 | 2,785 | 3,108 | 80,816 | 84,499 |
| Dry Edible Beans | 27.5 | 29.0 | Cwt. | 19.1 | 19.0 | 525 | 551 | 2,121 | 2,296 | 22,515 | 21,323 |
| Potatoes, Fall | 162 | 160 | Cwt. | 575.0 | 2/ | 93,150 | 2/ | 237,321 | 2/ | 411,386 | 2/ |

1/ Includes Oregon, Idaho, and Washington.

2/ First production forecast November 12, 2004.

Winter Wheat Harvested Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2002-2004

| State | Acres Harvested | | Yield | | | | Production | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
| | | | | | Jul 1 | Aug 1 | | | |
| | 1,000 | | Bushels | | | | 1,000 Bushels | | |
| Washington | 1,800 | 1,700 | 58 | 65 | 66 | 69 | 104,400 | 117,000 | 117,300 |
| Oregon | 940 | 850 | 42 | 51 | 59 | 61 | 29,820 | 47,940 | 51,850 |
| Idaho | 720 | 680 | 77 | 80 | 85 | 87 | 48,510 | 57,600 | 59,160 |
| Pacific NW | 3,460 | 3,230 | 58.2 | 64.3 | 68.2 | 70.7 | 182,730 | 222,540 | 228,310 |
| Kansas | 10,000 | 8,700 | 33 | 48 | 36 | 36 | 270,600 | 480,000 | 313,200 |
| Oklahoma | 4,600 | 4,600 | 28 | 39 | 36 | 36 | 103,600 | 179,400 | 165,600 |
| Montana | 1,720 | 1,550 | 28 | 37 | 38 | 40 | 21,840 | 63,640 | 62,000 |
| Nebraska | 1,820 | 1,800 | 33 | 46 | 32 | 32 | 50,160 | 83,720 | 57,600 |
| Colorado | 2,200 | 1,750 | 22 | 35 | 27 | 27 | 36,300 | 77,000 | 47,250 |
| Texas | 3,450 | 3,700 | 29 | 28 | 31 | 31 | 78,300 | 96,600 | 114,700 |
| Ohio | 1,000 | 880 | 62 | 68 | 64 | 62 | 50,220 | 68,000 | 54,560 |
| 10 States | 28,250 | 26,210 | 35.3 | 45.0 | 39.4 | 45.6 | 793,750 | 1,270,900 | 1,043,220 |
| U.S. Total | 36,541 | 34,825 | 38.2 | 46.7 | 42.2 | 42.8 | 1,137,001 | 1,707,069 | 1,489,408 |

Wheat: Production by Class, United States, August 1, 2000-2004, 1/

| Year | Winter | | | Spring | | | Total |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| | Hard Red | Soft Red | White | Hard Red | White | Durum | |
| | 1,000 Bushels | | | | | | |
| 2000 | 846,036 | 468,856 | 246,831 | 502,318 | 54,314 | 109,805 | 2,228,160 |
| 2001 | 765,898 | 397,098 | 190,123 | 475,085 | 35,693 | 83,556 | 1,947,453 |
| 2002 | 620,328 | 320,968 | 195,705 | 351,439 | 37,478 | 79,960 | 1,605,878 |
| 2003 | 1,062,889 | 379,196 | 264,984 | 499,926 | 32,894 | 96,637 | 2,336,526 |
| 2004 | 853,081 | 380,231 | 256,096 | 502,490 | 42,045 | 88,951 | 2,122,894 |

1/ Wheat class estimates are based on varietal acreage survey data. The previous end-of-season class percentages are used throughout the forecast season.