



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE**  
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Cooperating with the Arizona Department of Agriculture



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## CROP PRODUCTION – AUGUST 2015

### ARIZONA HIGHLIGHTS

Based on August 1 conditions, **barley** production in Arizona is forecast at 2.07 million bushels, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is unchanged from the July 1 forecast but down 48 percent from last year's crop. The area for harvest in 2015, at 18,000 acres, is down 14,000 acres from the 32,000 acres harvested last year. Barley yield is forecast at 115.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from the July forecast but 10.0 bushels below last year. As of July 26, Arizona's barley harvest was 100 percent complete, compared with 99 percent last year and the 5-year average of 90 percent.

**Durum wheat** production is forecast at 13.21 million bushels, unchanged from the July 1 forecast but up 65 percent from the 7.99 million bushels produced last year. Estimated area for harvest, at 139,000 acres, is unchanged from July 1 but 67,000 acres more than the 72,000 acres harvested in 2014. As of August 1, the average yield is forecast at 95.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from the July 1 forecast but 16.0 bushels below last year's final yield. As of July 26, Arizona's durum wheat harvest was 100 percent complete, compared with 100 percent last year and the 5-year average of 96 percent.

Arizona farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 260,000 acres of **alfalfa hay** this year, unchanged from 2014. Alfalfa production is forecast at 2.34 million tons, up 6 percent from the 2.21 million tons produced in 2014. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 9.00 tons per acre, compared to last year's yield of 8.50 tons per acre.

All **cotton** production in Arizona is expected to total 302,000 480-lb bales, down 42 percent from 2014. Producers expect to harvest 259,000 bales of upland cotton and 43,000 bales of Pima cotton. Area of all cotton harvested, forecast at 97,000 acres, is down 66,500 acres from last year. The all cotton yield is forecast at 1,494 pounds per acre, down 33 pounds from 2014. As of August 2, Arizona's cotton crop condition was rated 2 percent very poor, 17 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 33 percent excellent. Cotton bolls opening were 15 percent complete, compared with 19 percent last year and the 5-year average of 20 percent.

**Dry bean** production for 2015 is forecast at 174,000 hundredweight, down 18 percent from the 211,000 hundredweight produced a year earlier. Yields are expected to average 1,950 pounds per acre, up from 1,940 pounds per acre last year. Growers expect to harvest 8,900 acres this year, down 1,000 acres from last year.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Barley** production is forecast at 210 million bushels, up 1 percent from the July forecast and up 19 percent from 2014. Based on conditions as of August 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 71.8 bushels per acre, up 0.5 bushel from the previous forecast but down 0.6 bushel from last year. Area harvested for grain or seed, at 2.92 million acres, is unchanged from the previous forecast but up 19 percent from 2014.

**Durum wheat** production is forecast at 76.8 million bushels, up 2 percent from July and up 45 percent from 2014. The United States yield is forecast at 40.2 bushels per acre, up 0.6 bushel from last month and 0.5 bushel from last year. Expected area to be harvested for grain totals 1.90 million acres, unchanged from last month but up 43 percent from last year.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture** dry hay for 2015 is forecast at 62.1 million tons, up 1 percent from 2014. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.39 tons per acre, up 0.06 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 18.3 million acres, unchanged from June but down slightly from 2014.

All **cotton** production is forecast at 13.1 million 480-pound bales, down 20 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 795 pounds per harvested acre, down 43 pounds from last year. Upland cotton production is forecast at 12.7 million 480-pound bales, down

20 percent from 2014. Pima cotton production is forecast at 432,000 bales, down 24 percent from last year. All cotton planted area for the Nation is estimated at 8.90 million acres, down 1 percent or 100,000 acres from June.

Production of **dry edible beans** is forecast at 29.3 million cwt, up less than 1 percent from last year. Planted area is estimated at 1.75 million acres, up 2 percent from 2014. Harvested area is forecast at 1.70 million acres, 2 percent above the previous year. The average United States yield is forecast at 1,721 pounds per acre, a decrease of 32 pounds from last season.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production* report please visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).