



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
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## CROP PRODUCTION – AUGUST 2021

### ARIZONA HIGHLIGHTS

Based on August 1 conditions, **barley** production in Arizona is forecast at 1.68 million bushels, according to the August 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is unchanged from the July 1 forecast and 72 percent above last year's crop. The area for harvest in 2021, at 14,000 acres, is up 6,000 acres from last year. Barley yield is forecast at 120.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from the July 1 forecast but 2.0 bushels per acre below last year.

**Durum wheat** production is forecast at 4.66 million bushels, unchanged from the July 1 forecast and up 9 percent from the 4.26 million bushels produced last year. Estimated area for harvest, at 49,000 acres, is 6,000 acres more than the 43,000 acres harvested in 2020. As of August 1, the average yield is forecast at 95.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from the July 1 forecast but 4.0 bushels per acre below last year's final yield.

Arizona farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 275,000 acres of **alfalfa hay** this year, up 15,000 acres from 2020. Alfalfa production is forecast at 2.37 million tons, up 7 percent from the 2.21 million tons produced in 2020. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 8.60 tons per acre, compared to last year's yield of 8.50 tons per acre. If realized, this would equal the record high yield set in 2016 and 2008.

**All cotton** production in Arizona is expected to total 344,000 480-lb bales, up 9 percent from 2020. **Upland cotton** harvested acreage is forecast at 128,000 acres, up 5,000 acres from last year. As of August 1, producers expect to harvest 330,000 480-lb bales of upland cotton, up 9 percent from last year. Upland yield is forecast at 1,238 pounds per acre, up 59 pounds per acre from last year. As of August 1, 22 percent of cotton bolls had opened, compared with 17 percent last year and the five-year average of 14 percent. The cotton crop was rated 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 31 percent excellent. **Pima cotton** harvested acreage is estimated at 8,000 acres, up 1,500 acres from last year. As of August 1, producers expect to harvest 14,000 480-lb bales of Pima cotton, compared with 14,000 bales last year. Pima yield is forecast at 840 pounds per acre, down 194 pounds per acre from last year.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Barley** production is forecast at 106 million bushels, down 8 percent from the previous forecast and down 36 percent from 2020. If realized, this would be the lowest production since 1900. Based on conditions as of August 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 51.6 bushels per acre, down 4.3 bushels from the previous forecast and down 25.9 bushels from last year. Barley producers are expecting the lowest yield since 1989. Area harvested for grain or seed, at 2.04 million acres, is unchanged from the previous forecast, but down 4 percent from 2020.

**All wheat** production for grain is forecast at 1.70 billion bushels, down 3 percent from the previous forecast and down 7 percent from 2020. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 44.5 bushels per harvested acre, down 1.3 bushel from the previous forecast and down 5.2 bushels from 2020. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 38.1 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but up 4 percent from 2020.

**Durum wheat** production is forecast at 34.7 million bushels, down 7 percent from the July 1 forecast and down 50 percent from 2020. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 24.0 bushels per harvested acre, down 1.8 bushels from last month and down 17.4 bushels from 2020. Area expected to be harvested for grain or seed totals 1.44 million acres, unchanged from last month, but down 13 percent from 2020.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay** for 2021 is forecast at 47.8 million tons, down 10 percent from 2020. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 2.97 tons per acre, down 0.3 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 16.1 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report but down 1 percent from 2020. Production of **other hay** is forecast at 70.9 million tons, down 4 percent from 2020. Based on August 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 2.00 tons per acre, down

0.05 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 35.4 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report but down 2 percent from 2020.

**All cotton** production is forecast at 17.3 million 480-pound bales, up 18 percent from 2020. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 800 pounds per harvested acre, down 47 pounds from 2020. **Upland cotton** production is forecast at 16.9 million 480-pound bales, up 20 percent from 2020. **Pima cotton** production is forecast at 371,000 bales, down 32 percent from 2020. All cotton area harvested is forecast at 10.4 million acres, up 25 percent from 2020.

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