



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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ANNUAL CROP SUMMARY – 2014

COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

The 2014 **corn** for grain crop was estimated at 147.46 million bushels, 15 percent above last year's production of 128.38 million bushels, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The average yield of 146.0 bushels per acre was 15.0 bushels per acre above the yield realized last year. Area harvested for grain in 2014, at 1.01 million acres, was 30,000 acres above last year. Acreage cut for corn silage was estimated at 110,000 acres, up 10,000 acres from last year, with production estimated at 2.75 million tons, compared with 2.30 million tons produced last year.

Sorghum for grain production was estimated at 8.40 million bushels, up 46 percent from the previous year. Average yield was estimated at 30.0 bushels per acre, up 6.0 bushels per acre from last year. Producers harvested 280,000 acres for grain, up 40,000 acres from last year's area harvested. Acreage cut for sorghum silage was estimated at 10,000 acres, down 20,000 acres from last year, with production estimated at 110,000 tons compared with 390,000 tons produced last year.

Oat seedings in Colorado totaled 45,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from last year. Producers harvested 9,000 acres for grain or seed, down 3,000 acres from 2013. Oat production totaled 540,000 bushels in 2014, down 31 percent from last year. Oat yield is 60.0 bushels per acre in 2014, down 5.0 bushels per acre from the previous year.

Colorado's **barley** seeded area, at 57,000 acres, is down 6,000 acres from last year. Harvested area, at 54,000 acres, is down 4,000 acres from 2013. Barley yield, at 124.0 bushels per acre, is down 9.0 bushels per acre from last year. Barley production in 2014 is estimated at 6.70 million bushels, down 13 percent from the previous year.

All wheat production in Colorado, estimated at 89.8 million bushels, is up 116 percent from 2013. All wheat yield was 38.1 bushels per acre, up 12.8 bushels per acre from a year ago. **Winter wheat** producers seeded 2.75 million acres in the fall of 2013 for harvest in 2014, up from 2.30 million acres seeded for the previous year's crop. Acreage harvested for grain increased 720,000 acres to 2.35 million acres in 2014. Winter wheat production is estimated at 89.3 million bushels, up 119 percent from last year. Winter wheat yield, at 38.0 bushels per acre, is up 13.0 bushels per acre from last year. **Spring wheat** seedings, at 9,000 acres, are down 1,000 acres from last year. Acreage harvested totaled 8,000 acres, down from 9,000 acres harvested last year. Spring wheat production is estimated at 512,000 bushels, down 31 percent from last year. Spring wheat yield, at 64.0 bushels per acre, is down 18.0 bushels per acre from last year.

Proso millet production in the state was estimated at 8.13 million bushels, down from 8.25 million bushels produced last year. Farmers harvested 250,000 acres of proso millet, down 80,000 acres from the previous year. Yield increased 7.5 bushels per acre from last year to 32.5 bushels per acre.

All hay production for 2014 is estimated at 3.57 million tons, up 21 percent from the 2013 total. **Alfalfa hay** production was estimated at 2.52 million tons from 740,000 acres harvested, up 631,000 tons from 2013. Average yield for the 2014 crop was 3.40 tons per acre, 0.50 ton per acre above last year. **All other hay** production totaled 1.05 million tons from 600,000 acres harvested, down 6,000 tons from 2013. The average yield of 1.75 tons per acre was 0.15 ton per acre above last year. New **seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in Colorado were estimated at 95,000 acres, up 12 percent from 2013.

As of December 1, producers in Colorado were storing 1.80 million tons of **all hay**, up 29 percent from the 1.40 million tons stored last year.

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All **sunflower** production was estimated at 63.3 million pounds from 42,000 acres harvested. Yield was estimated at 1,507 pounds per acre, up from the 860 pounds attained last year. Production of oil varieties increased 56 percent from the previous year to 46.2 million pounds and production of non-oil varieties increased 7 percent to 17.1 million pounds.

The state's **sugarbeet** crop of 917,000 tons for 2014 was up 7 percent from the 861,000 tons produced in 2013. Producers harvested 29,100 acres in 2014, up from 25,700 acres in 2013. Average yield was estimated at 31.5 tons per acre, 2.0 tons per acre below 2013.

Colorado **potato** growers produced 23.7 million hundredweight of potatoes this year, up 17 percent from last year's crop. Average yield, at 397 hundredweight per acre, was up 25 hundredweight per acre from last year's yield. Harvested area of 59,800 acres this year was 5,200 acres more than last year's harvested area.

Dry edible bean production was set at 835,000 hundredweight, 55 percent above the 2013 crop of 540,000 hundredweight. Average yield was estimated at 1,900 pounds per acre, 400 pounds above last year. Harvested area, at 44,000 acres, was 8,000 acres more than last year.

Winter wheat seedings last fall for the 2015 crop year are estimated at 2.50 million acres, down 9 percent from last year.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn for grain production is estimated at a record 14.2 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the November forecast but 3 percent above the revised 2013 estimate. The average yield in the United States is estimated at a record high of 171.0 bushels per acre. This is down 2.4 bushels from the November forecast but 12.9 bushels above the revised 2013 average yield of 158.1 bushels per acre. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 83.1 million acres, up slightly from the November forecast but down 5 percent from the revised 2013 acreage. Corn **silage** production is estimated at 128 million tons for 2014, up 8 percent from 2013 and represents the highest production on record for the United States. The United States silage yield is estimated at 20.1 tons per acre, up 1.3 tons from 2013. Area harvested for silage is estimated at 6.37 million acres, up 1 percent from a year ago.

Sorghum grain production in 2014 is estimated at 433 million bushels, up 6 percent from the November forecast and up 11 percent from the revised 2013 grain production total. Planted area is estimated at 7.14 million acres, down 11 percent from last year's revised planted acres. Area harvested for grain, at 6.40 million acres, is down 2 percent from the 2013 revised harvested acres. Average grain yield, at 67.6 bushels per acre, is up 1.5 bushels from the previous forecast and up 8.0 bushels from last year. **Silage** production is estimated at 4.12 million tons, down 24 percent from 2013. Area harvested for silage is estimated at 315,000 acres, down 17 percent from the previous year. Silage yields averaged 13.1 tons per acre, down 1.2 tons per acre from 2013.

The 2014 **oat** production is estimated at 69.7 million bushels, up 8 percent from the 2013 total but represents the fourth lowest production on record. Yield is estimated at 67.7 bushels per acre, up 3.6 bushels from the previous year. Harvested area, at 1.03 million acres, is 2 percent above the previous year.

Barley production is estimated at 177 million bushels, down 18 percent from the 2013 total. Average yield per acre, at 72.4 bushels, is up 1.1 bushels from the previous year and represents the third highest yield on record for the United States. Producers seeded 2.98 million acres in 2014, down 16 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 2.44 million acres, is down 20 percent from 2013.

All wheat production totaled 2.03 billion bushels in 2014, down 5 percent from the 2013 total. Area harvested for grain totaled 46.4 million acres, up 2 percent from the previous year. The United States yield is estimated at 43.7 bushels per acre, down 3.4 bushels from the previous year. The levels of production and changes from 2013 by type are winter wheat, 1.38 billion bushels, down 11 percent; other spring wheat, 595 million bushels, up 11 percent; and Durum wheat, 53.1 million bushels, down 8 percent.

Winter wheat production for 2014 totaled 1.38 billion bushels, down 11 percent from the 2013 total. The United States yield, at 42.6 bushels per acre, is down 4.7 bushels from 2013. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 32.3 million acres, down 1 percent from the previous year.

Production of **spring wheat** for 2014 is estimated at 595 million bushels, up 11 percent from the 2013 total. Harvested area totaled 12.7 million acres, up 12 percent from 2013. The United States yield is estimated at 46.7 bushels per acre, down slightly from 2013. Of the total production, 556 million bushels are Hard Red Spring wheat, up 13 percent from 2013.

Production of **proso millet** in 2014 totaled 13.5 million bushels, compared with the 18.4 million bushels produced in 2013. Area planted to proso millet in the United States is estimated at 505,000 acres, down 215,000 acres from 2013. Area harvested in the United States, at 430,000 acres, is down 208,000 acres from 2013. The average yield for 2014 is estimated at 31.4 bushels per acre, up 2.5 bushels from the previous year.

Production of **all dry hay** for 2014 is estimated at 139.8 million tons, down 6 percent from the October 1 forecast but up 4 percent from the revised 2013 total. Area harvested is estimated at 57.1 million acres, down less than 1 percent from the October 1 forecast and down 1 percent from 2013. The average yield, at 2.45 tons per acre, is down 0.13 ton from the October forecast but up 0.12 ton from the previous year.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in 2014 is estimated at 61.4 million tons, down 5 percent from the October forecast but up 7 percent from the revised 2013 total. Harvested area, at 18.4 million acres, is up 1 percent from the October forecast and 4 percent above the previous year. Average yield is estimated at 3.33 tons per acre, 0.22 ton below the October forecast but up 0.09 ton from 2013.

Production of **other hay** in 2014 totaled 78.4 million tons, down 7 percent from the October forecast but up less than 1 percent from the revised 2013 total. Harvested area, at 38.6 million acres, is down 2 percent from the October forecast and down 4 percent from last year. Average yield is estimated at 2.03 tons per acre, down 0.10 ton from the October forecast but up 0.10 ton from 2013.

Growers seeded 2.55 million acres of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** during 2014, up 1 percent from 2013. This represents the third consecutive year of increased seeded area. The new seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures will normally be harvested for the first time in the year following planting.

The 2014 **sunflower** production totaled 2.21 billion pounds, up 10 percent from 2013 but down 10 percent from the October forecast. The United States average yield per acre increased 89 pounds from last year to 1,469 pounds. Planted area, at 1.56 million acres, is 1 percent below last year and represents the second lowest planted area since 1976. Area harvested increased 3 percent from last year to 1.51 million acres but is the third lowest since 1976.

Sugarbeet production for 2014 is estimated at 31.4 million tons, down slightly from the November 1 forecast and down 4 percent from last year revised production. Growers in the 10 major sugarbeet-producing States planted 1.16 million acres, down 3 percent from last year revised area. Harvested area, at 1.15 million acres, is down 1 percent from the previous year. Estimated yield, at 27.4 tons per acre, is unchanged from the November forecast but 1.0 ton below last year.

Production of **fall potatoes** for 2014 is estimated at 408 million cwt, up 1 percent from the November forecast and up 3 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 929,500 acres, is up slightly from the November forecast but slightly lower than last year. The average yield is estimated at 439 cwt per acre, unchanged from the November forecast but up 14 cwt from last year's yield.

Production of **dry edible beans** is estimated at 29.2 million cwt, up 19 percent from last year. Planted area is estimated at 1.72 million acres, up 26 percent from 2013. Harvested area is estimated at 1.67 million acres, 27 percent above the previous year. The average United States yield is estimated at 1,753 pounds per acre, a decrease of 114 pounds from last year's yield.

Winter wheat seeded area for 2015 is expected to total 40.5 million acres, down 5 percent from 2014. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 29.5 million; Soft Red Winter, 7.50 million; and White Winter, 3.48 million.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production 2014 Summary* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.