



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## ACREAGE – JUNE 2016

### COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

Colorado principal crop planted acreage, which includes acres planted to all major crops and those expected to be cut for all hay, is up less than 1 percent from 2015 to 5,992,000 acres, according to the June 1 Agricultural Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Colorado **corn** producers planted 1,250,000 acres of corn this year of which they intend to harvest 1,100,000 acres for grain, up from 950,000 acres harvested in 2015. This is an increase of 16 percent from last year's harvested grain acreage and a 14 percent increase in planted acreage for all purposes. **Sorghum** plantings, at 390,000 acres, decreased 11 percent from the previous year and acreage expected to be harvested for grain, at 340,000 acres, decreased 15 percent.

**Oat** seedings are set at 45,000 acres, unchanged from last year, with producers planning to harvest 12,000 acres for grain, up 2,000 acres from acreage harvested for grain in 2015. **Barley** planted area, at 60,000 acres, is 8 percent less than last year's acreage. Expected harvested acres, at 57,000 acres, are 10 percent below 2015.

**Winter wheat** producers planted 2,250,000 acres in the fall of 2015 for harvest in 2016, down from 2,400,000 acres planted for the previous year's crop. Acreage expected to be harvested for grain is down 20,000 acres from last year to 2,120,000 acres. **Spring wheat** seedings, at 8,000 acres, are unchanged compared with a year ago. Acreage for harvest is expected to total 7,000 acres, also unchanged from last year. **Proso millet** seedings are expected to total 280,000 acres this year, up 4 percent from 2015.

The area to be harvested for **hay** is expected to increase 50,000 acres from a year ago to 1,500,000 acres. **Alfalfa hay** harvested acreage is expected to increase 50,000 acres to 750,000 acres and **all other hay** harvested acreage is expected to be unchanged at 750,000 acres. **All sunflower** planted area, at 79,000 acres, is 6,000 acres above last year. Oil type varieties totaled 70,000 acres, up 10,000 acres from 2015 while non-oil type varieties are set at 9,000 acres, down 4,000 acres. Harvested acres are expected to total 65,000 acres for oil type and 8,000 acres for non-oil.

**Sugarbeet** plantings increased 500 acres from last year to 28,000 acres. The expected harvested area, at 27,600 acres, is 300 acres above last year. Acres planted to **dry beans**, at 45,000 acres, are down 10 percent from last year. Harvested acres are expected to total 42,000 acres. **Fall potatoes** located in the San Luis Valley showed a 2 percent decrease in planted acres from 51,900 acres last year to 50,900 acres this year. Fall potatoes located outside the San Luis Valley in Colorado (included in Summer Potatoes prior to 2013) totaled 5,700 planted acres, down from 600 acres last year.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Corn:** The 2016 corn planted area for all purposes is estimated at 94.1 million acres, up 7 percent from last year and the third highest planted acreage since 1944. Growers expect to harvest 86.6 million acres for grain, up 7 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the third highest acres harvested for grain since 1933.

**Sorghum:** Area planted to sorghum in 2016 is estimated at 7.23 million acres, down 15 percent from last year. Kansas and Texas, the leading sorghum-producing States, account for 77 percent of the United States acreage. Record low planted acreage is estimated in Arkansas. Growers expect to harvest 6.46 million acres for grain, down 18 percent from last year.

**Oats:** Area seeded to oats for the 2016 crop year is estimated at 3.03 million acres, down 2 percent from 2015. Record low planted acreage is estimated in Arkansas, California, Oregon, and Pennsylvania. Growers expect to harvest 1.17 million acres, down 9 percent from last year. Record low harvested acreage is expected in Alabama, Arkansas, California, Minnesota, and South Carolina.

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**Barley:** Producers seeded 2.97 million acres of barley for the 2016 crop year, down 17 percent from the previous year. This represents the third-lowest seeded area on record. Harvested area, forecast at 2.58 million acres, is down 17 percent from 2015. Record low planted acreage is estimated in California.

**Winter wheat:** The 2016 winter wheat planted area is estimated at 36.5 million acres, up less than 1 percent from the previous estimate but down 7 percent from last year. Of the total acreage, about 26.5 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 6.58 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.42 million are White Winter. Record low planted acreages are expected in Nebraska and Utah.

**Other spring wheat:** Area seeded to other spring wheat is estimated at 12.1 million acres, down 8 percent from 2015. Of this total, about 11.4 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. North Dakota, the largest producing spring wheat State, is estimated at 6.30 million acres, down 6 percent from last year. As of June 26, fifty-six percent of the spring wheat crop was headed, 14 percentage points ahead of last year. Record low planted acreages are expected in Colorado and South Dakota. Harvested area is expected to total 11.8 million acres, 9 percent below 2015. Record low harvested acreage is expected in Colorado. As of June 26, seventy-two percent of the crop was rated in good to excellent condition, identical to the same time last year.

**Proso millet:** Area planted to proso millet in 2016 is estimated at 410,000 acres, down 35,000 acres from 2015. Planted acreage decreased from last year in Nebraska and South Dakota but increased in Colorado.

**Hay:** Producers intend to harvest 56.1 million acres of all hay in 2016, up 3 percent from 2015. The expected harvested area of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures, at 18.1 million acres, is up 2 percent from 2015. All other types of hay harvested are expected to total 38.1 million acres, up 4 percent from 2015. Harvested area of all hay is expected to increase or hold steady in most southern and western States. Meanwhile, the most significant declines are expected in the Northern Plains States.

**Sunflower:** Area planted to sunflower in 2016 totals 1.65 million acres, down 11 percent from 2015 and the fourth lowest planted area since 1976. Harvested area is expected to decrease 12 percent from last year to 1.58 million acres. Planted area of oil type varieties, at 1.43 million acres, is down 8 percent from 2015, and is the sixth lowest since 1976. In Kansas and Nebraska, planted area of oil type varieties are the lowest on record. Planted acreage of non-oil varieties, estimated at 216,400, is down 30 percent from last year and is the second lowest since 1976. In Colorado, planted area of non-oil varieties is the lowest acreage on record.

**Sugarbeets:** Area planted to sugarbeets for the 2016 crop year is estimated at 1.17 million acres, up less than 1 percent from 2015. Harvested area is forecast at 1.15 million acres, up slightly from last year.

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