



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## CROP PRODUCTION – MAY 2016

### COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

**Winter wheat** production in Colorado, based on conditions as of May 1, 2016, is forecast at 74.10 million bushels, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is six percent below last year's production of 79.18 million bushels and 17 percent below the 89.30 million bushel crop produced two years ago. Acreage for harvest, forecast at 1.95 million acres, is 190,000 acres less than a year ago. Average yield is forecast at 38.0 bushels per acre, up 1.0 bushel per acre from last year's yield. Final yield will largely be determined by the combination of moisture and temperature conditions during May and June.

As of May 1, Colorado's winter wheat crop condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 11 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 12 percent excellent, compared with 3 percent very poor, 11 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 8 percent excellent last year.

**Hay stocks** on Colorado farms and ranches as of May 1, 2016 totaled 800,000 tons, up 33 percent from stocks of 600,000 tons on hand last year. Hay production for 2015 was 4.30 million tons, 20 percent higher than 2014 production. Disappearance from December 1, 2015 to May 1, 2016 was 1.10 million tons, compared with 1.20 million tons the same period a year earlier.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Winter wheat** production is forecast at 1.43 billion bushels, up 4 percent from 2015. As of May 1, the United States yield is forecast at 47.8 bushels per acre, up 5.3 bushels from last year. If realized, this will equal the record yield set in 1999.

Hard Red Winter production, at 863 million bushels, is up 4 percent from a year ago. Soft Red Winter, at 357 million bushels, is down nearly 1 percent from 2015. White Winter, at 208 million bushels, is up 13 percent from last year. Of the White Winter production, 17.4 million bushels are Hard White and 191 million bushels are Soft White.

**All hay** stored on United States farms as of May 1, 2016 totaled 25.1 million tons, up 3 percent from a year ago. Disappearance between December 1, 2015 and May 1, 2016 totaled 69.9 million tons, compared with 67.5 million tons for the same period a year earlier.

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