



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
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## CROP PRODUCTION – SEPTEMBER 2019

### COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

Based on September 1 conditions, **corn** production in Colorado is forecast at 180.56 million bushels, according to the September 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is down 1 percent from the August 1 forecast but up 16 percent from the 156.00 million bushels produced last year. The 1.22 million acres expected to be harvested for grain this year are unchanged from the August 1 forecast and 20,000 acres above the 1.20 million acres harvested a year ago. Corn yield is estimated at 148.0 bushels per acre, down 2.0 bushels from the August 1 forecast but 18.0 bushels above last year's final yield. As of September 1, Colorado's corn crop condition was rated 2 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. Corn in the dent stage was 22 percent complete, compared with 42 percent last year and the 5-year average of 44 percent.

**Sorghum** production in 2019 is forecast at 16.08 million bushels, down 4 percent from the August 1 forecast and down 7 percent from the 17.23 million bushels harvested last year. Growers expect to harvest 335,000 acres this year, unchanged from the August 1 forecast and up from the 325,000 acres harvested last year. Average yield is forecast at 48.0 bushels per acre, down 2.0 bushels from the August 1 forecast and down 5.0 bushels from last year. As of September 1, Colorado's sorghum crop condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 69 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Sorghum turning color was 19 percent complete, compared with 57 percent last year and the 5-year average of 44 percent.

**Sugarbeet** production is forecast at 809,000 tons, down 3 percent from the 831,000 tons produced in 2018. Growers expect to harvest 24,500 acres this year compared with 25,500 acres a year ago. Yields are expected to average 33.0 tons per acre, up 1.7 tons per acre from the August 1 forecast and up from last year's yield of 32.6 tons per acre. As of September 1, Colorado's sugarbeet crop condition was rated 1 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 82 percent good, and 7 percent excellent.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Corn** production for grain is forecast at 13.8 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the previous forecast and down 4 percent from last year. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 168.2 bushels per harvested acre, down 1.3 bushels from the previous forecast and down 8.2 bushels from 2018. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 82.0 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast but up less than 1 percent from 2018.

**Sorghum** production is forecast at 352 million bushels, down 1 percent from the previous forecast and down 4 percent from last year. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 4.74 million acres, down 1 percent from the previous forecast and down 6 percent from 2018. Based on September 1 conditions, yield is forecast at 74.3 bushels per acre, 0.4 bushel higher than the previous forecast and 2.2 bushels per acre above the 2018 yield of 72.1 bushels per acre.

Production of **sugarbeets** for the 2019 crop year is forecast at 33.5 million tons, down 3 percent from last month but up 1 percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 1.12 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 30.0 tons per acre, a decrease of 1.1 tons from the previous forecast and 0.3 ton from last year.

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