



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
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## ANNUAL CROP SUMMARY – 2022

### COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

The 2022 **corn for grain** crop is estimated at 118.58 million bushels, down 20 percent from last year's production of 148.35 million bushels, and the lowest production total since 2002, according to the December 1 Agricultural Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The average yield of 121.0 bushels per acre is 8.0 bushels per acre below the yield realized last year. Area harvested for grain in 2022, at 980,000 acres, is 170,000 acres below last year. Acreage cut for **corn silage** is estimated at 190,000 acres, up 10,000 acres from last year, with production estimated at 3.71 million tons, compared with 4.41 million tons produced last year.

**Sorghum for grain** production is estimated at 7.60 million bushels, down 49 percent from the previous year. Average yield is estimated at 20.0 bushels per acre, down 17.0 bushels per acre from last year. Producers harvested 380,000 acres for grain, down 20,000 acres from last year's area harvested. Acreage cut for **sorghum silage** is estimated at 50,000 acres, up 11,000 acres from last year, with production estimated at 700,000 tons, compared with 546,000 tons produced last year.

Colorado's **barley** seeded area, at 61,000 acres, is up 9,000 acres from last year. Harvested area, at 40,000 acres, is down 7,000 acres from 2021 and the lowest harvested acreage since 37,000 acres in 1904. Barley yield, at 111.0 bushels per acre, is unchanged from last year and is the lowest yield since 109.0 bushels per acre in 2003. Barley production in 2022 is estimated at 4.44 million bushels, down 15 percent from the previous year and the lowest production since 1934.

**Winter wheat** production in Colorado, estimated at 35.75 million bushels, is down 49 percent from 2021. Winter wheat producers seeded 1.95 million acres in the fall of 2021 for harvest in 2022, down from 2.20 million acres seeded for the previous year's crop. Acreage harvested for grain decreased 450,000 acres from last year to 1.43 million acres in 2022. Winter wheat yield, at 25.0 bushels per acre, is down 12.0 bushels per acre from last year, and is the lowest yield since 25.0 bushels per acre in 2013.

**Proso millet** production in the state is estimated at 6.57 million bushels, down from 9.35 million bushels produced last year. Farmers harvested 355,000 acres of proso millet, down 70,000 acres from the previous year. Yield decreased 3.5 bushels per acre from last year to 18.5 bushels per acre.

**All hay** production for 2022 is estimated at 2.75 million tons, down 39 percent from the 2021 total. **Alfalfa hay** production is estimated at 1.77 million tons from 610,000 acres harvested, down 1,351 million tons from 2021, and the lowest production since 1956. Harvested area is the lowest since 1947. Average yield for the 2022 crop is 2.90 tons per acre, 1.10 tons per acre below last year. **All other hay** production totaled 981,000 tons from 530,000 acres harvested, down 384,000 tons from 2021. Harvested area is the lowest since 2000. The average yield of 1.85 tons per acre is 0.10 ton per acre below last year. New **seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in Colorado are estimated at 55,000 acres, up 5,000 acres from 2021.

As of December 1, producers in Colorado were storing 1.35 million tons of **all hay**, down 33 percent from the 2.00 million tons stored last year. This represents a record low December 1 hay stocks level.

All **sunflower** production is estimated at 31.14 million pounds from 49,500 acres harvested. Yield is estimated at 629 pounds per acre, down from the 935 pounds attained last year. Production of **oil varieties** decreased 38 percent from the previous year to 22.36 million pounds and production of **non-oil varieties** decreased 20 percent from the previous year to 8.78 million pounds.

The state's **sugarbeet** crop of 588,000 tons for 2022 is down 26 percent from the 795,000 tons produced in 2021. Producers harvested 20,500 acres in 2022, down from 23,600 acres in 2021. Average yield is estimated at 28.7 tons per acre, 5.0 tons per acre below 2021.

Colorado **potato** growers produced an estimated 21.12 million hundredweight of potatoes this year, down 2 percent from last year's crop. Average yield, at 400 hundredweight per acre, decreased 10 hundredweight per acre from the yield attained last year. The harvested area, estimated at 52,800 acres, is up from the 52,400 acres harvested last year.

**Dry edible bean** production is set at 676,000 hundredweight, 12 percent above the 2021 crop of 602,000 hundredweight. Average yield is estimated at 2,030 pounds per acre, 150 pounds per acre above last year. Harvested area, at 33,300 acres, is 1,300 acres more than last year. **Pinto bean** production in 2022 is 452,000 hundredweight, up 27 percent from last year.

**Winter wheat seedings** last fall for harvest during the 2023 crop year are estimated at 2.20 million acres, up 13 percent from last year.

## UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Corn for grain** production in 2022 was estimated at 13.7 billion bushels, down 9 percent from the 2021 estimate. The average yield in the United States was estimated at 173.3 bushels per acre, 3.4 bushels below the 2021 record high yield of 176.7 bushels per acre. Area harvested for grain was estimated at 79.2 million acres, down 7 percent from the 2021 estimate. **Corn silage** production was estimated at 129 million tons for 2022, down 1 percent from the 2021 estimate. The United States silage yield was estimated at 18.7 tons per acre, down 1.4 tons from 2021.

**Sorghum for grain** production in 2022 was estimated at 188 million bushels, down 58 percent from the 2021 total. Planted area for 2022 was estimated at 6.33 million acres, down 13 percent from 2021. Area harvested for grain, at 4.57 million acres, was down 30 percent from 2021. Grain yield was estimated at 41.1 bushels per acre, down 27.9 bushels from 2021. **Sorghum silage** production was estimated at 5.66 million tons, up 11 percent from 2021. Area harvested for silage was estimated at 525,000 acres, up 59 percent from the previous year. Silage yield averaged 10.8 tons per acre, down 4.6 tons per acre from 2021.

**Barley** production was estimated at 174 million bushels, up 45 percent from the revised 2021 total of 120 million bushels. The average yield, at 71.7 bushels per acre, was up 11.4 bushel from the previous year. Producers seeded 2.95 million acres in 2022, up 9 percent from 2021. Harvested area, at 2.43 million acres, was up 22 percent from 2021.

**All wheat** production totaled 1.65 billion bushels in 2022, up less than 1 percent from the 2021 total of 1.65 billion bushels. Area harvested for grain totaled 35.5 million acres, down 4 percent from the previous year. The United States yield was estimated at 46.5 bushels per acre, up 2.2 bushels from the previous year. The levels of production and changes from 2021 by type were: winter wheat, 1.10 billion bushels, down 14 percent; other spring wheat, 482 million bushels, up 46 percent; and Durum wheat, 64.0 million bushels, up 70 percent. **Winter wheat** production for 2022 totaled 1.10 billion bushels, down 14 percent from the 2021 total of 1.28 billion bushels. The United States yield, at 47.0 bushels per acre, was down 3.2 bushels from 2021. Area harvested for grain was estimated at 23.5 million acres, down 8 percent from the previous year.

Production of **proso millet** in 2022 totaled 9.40 million bushels, down 39 percent from the revised 2021 production of 15.4 million bushels. Area planted to proso millet in the United States was estimated at 637,000 acres, down 88,000 acres (or 12 percent) from 2021. Area harvested in the United States, at 507,000 acres, was down 156,000 acres (or 24 percent) from the revised 2021 harvested estimate. The average yield for 2022 was estimated at 18.5 bushels per acre, down 4.7 bushels from the 2021 yield of 23.2 bushels per acre.

Production of **all dry hay** for 2022 was estimated at 112.8 million tons, down 6 percent from the 2021 total. Area harvested was estimated at 49.5 million acres, down 2 percent from 2021. The average yield, at 2.28 tons per acre, was down 0.09 ton from 2021. Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in 2022 was estimated at 48.0 million tons, down 3 percent from the 2021 total. Harvested area, at 14.9 million acres, was 2 percent below 2021. Average yield was estimated at 3.22 tons per acre, down 0.01 ton from 2021. Production of **all other hay** in 2022 totaled 64.8 million tons, down 9 percent from the 2021 total. Harvested area, at 34.6 million acres, was down 2 percent from 2021. Average yield was estimated at 1.87 tons per acre, down 0.13 ton from 2021. **New seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** totaled 1.68 million acres during 2022, up 2 percent from 2021. New seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures are normally harvested for the first time in the year following planting.

**All hay** stored on United States farms as of December 1, 2022, totaled 71.9 million tons, down 9 percent from December 1, 2021, which is the lowest December 1 stocks since 1954. Disappearance from May 1, 2022 - December 1, 2022, totaled 57.7 million tons, down 3 percent from the same period in 2021.

The 2022 **sunflower** production totaled 2.81 billion pounds, up 48 percent from 2021. The United States average yield of 1,750 pounds per acre increased 221 pounds from 2021. Planted area, at 1.69 million acres, was 31 percent above the previous year. Area harvested increased 29 percent from 2021 to 1.61 million acres. United States production of **oil-type sunflower** varieties, at 2.57 billion pounds, increased 48 percent from 2021. Compared with the previous year, harvested acres were up 30 percent and the average yield increased by 216 pounds to 1,739 pounds per acre, and represents the second highest yield on record for the Nation. Production of **non-oil**

**sunflower** varieties was estimated at 241 million pounds, an increase of 44 percent from 2021. Area harvested, at 128,000 acres, was up 23 percent from 2021. The average yield increased by 278 pounds from 2021 to a record high 1,880 pounds per acre.

**Sugarbeet** production for 2022 was estimated at 32.6 million tons, down 11 percent from the previous year's revised production. Growers in the 11 major sugarbeet-producing States planted 1.16 million acres, down slightly from the 2021 revised area. Harvested area, at 1.14 million acres, was up 3 percent from the previous year. Estimated yield, at 28.6 tons per acre, was down 4.6 tons from last year.

Production of **potatoes** in 2022 was estimated at 392 million cwt, down 4 percent from the 2021 crop. Planted area, at 901,000 acres, was down 3 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 895,600 acres, was down 3 percent from the previous year. The average yield, at 438 cwt per acre, down 6 cwt from the previous year.

United States **dry edible bean** production was estimated at 25.8 million cwt for 2022, up 14 percent from the previous year. Planted area was estimated at 1.25 million acres, down 10 percent from 2021. Harvested area was estimated at 1.22 million acres, down 8 percent from the previous year. The average United States yield for dry edible beans for the 2022 season is 2,113 pounds per acre, up 411 pounds from 2021.

**Winter wheat** seeded area for 2023 is expected to total 37.0 million acres, up 11 percent from 2022. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 25.3 million; Soft Red Winter, 7.90 million; and White Winter, 3.73 million.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production 2022 Summary* report, please visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).