



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
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## **NASS publishes winter wheat county estimates**

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released the first of its county estimates from the 2020 production year. These estimates are based on farmer-reported information from the Small Grains County Agricultural Production Survey and the September Agricultural Survey.

Christian County is the leading wheat producing county in Kentucky for 2020, with production totaling 3,629,000 bushels, harvested from 56,000 acres. The top five counties, which account for 53 percent of Kentucky’s wheat production, include:

Christian County – 3,629,000 bushels  
Logan County – 3,053,000 bushels  
Todd County – 1,869,000 bushels  
Simpson County – 1,704,000 bushels  
Warren County – 1,102,000 bushels

Union County had the highest yield at 80.0 bushels per acre. The top five counties for yield include:

Union County – 80.0 bushels per acre  
Caldwell County – 74.6 bushels per acre  
Trigg County – 71.9 bushels per acre  
Ballard County – 70.3 bushels per acre  
Daviess County – 68.6 bushels per acre

Production was lower than 2019 for most counties, because yields were significantly lower in 2020. “Two spring frosts cut yields by 17% on average across the state,” said David Knopf, director of the NASS Eastern Mountain Regional Office in Kentucky. “Growing conditions had been good until that point, which made the smaller harvest that much more disappointing.”

Farmers harvested 21.4 million bushels of winter wheat in the Commonwealth during the summer of 2020. This was down 15% from the previous year. Average yield is 63.0 bushels per acre, down 13.0 bushels from 2019. Farmers seeded 510,000 acres last fall, up 50,000 acres from 2019. Area harvested for grain totaled 340,000 acres. Acres for other uses totaled 170,000 acres and was used as cover crop, cut as hay, chopped for silage or abandoned. Kentucky ranks 15th in U.S. winter wheat production.

The complete listing of winter wheat county estimates for each county is available online at

[https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Kentucky/Publications/County\\_Estimates/coest/2020/index.php](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Kentucky/Publications/County_Estimates/coest/2020/index.php).

For more information, call the NASS Kentucky Field Office at (800) 928-5277.

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