



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MONTANA FIELD OFFICE
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Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



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SMALL GRAINS – SEPTEMBER 2015

MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

All wheat production in Montana, estimated at 185.42 million bushels, is down 11 percent from 2014, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. All wheat yield was 35.2 bushels per acre, down 1.9 bushels per acre from a year ago.

Winter wheat producers seeded 2.35 million acres in the fall of 2014 for harvest in 2015, down from 2.50 million acres seeded for the previous year's crop. Area harvested for grain decreased 20,000 acres from last year to 2.22 million acres in 2015. Winter wheat production is estimated at 91.02 million bushels, down 1 percent from last year. Winter wheat yield, at 41.0 bushels per acre, is unchanged from last year.

Spring wheat seedings, at 2.55 million acres, are down 500,000 acres from last year. Area harvested totaled 2.44 million acres, down from 2.98 million acres harvested last year. Spring wheat production is estimated at 75.64 million bushels, down 27 percent from last year. Spring wheat yield, at 31.0 bushels per acre, is down 4.0 bushel per acre from last year.

Durum wheat seedings, at 620,000 acres, are up 185,000 acres from last year. Area harvested totaled 605,000 acres, up from 430,000 acres harvested last year. Durum wheat production is estimated at 18.76 million bushels, up 41 percent from last year. Durum wheat yield, at 31.0 bushels per acre, is unchanged from last year.

Oat seedings in Montana totaled 50,000 acres, up 5,000 acres from last year. Producers harvested 22,000 acres for grain or seed, up 6,000 acres from 2014. Oat production totaled 1.17 million bushels in 2015, up 6 percent from last year. Oat yield is 53.0 bushels per acre in 2015, down 16.0 bushels per acre from the previous year.

Montana's **barley** seeded area, at 970,000 acres, is up 50,000 acres from last year. Harvested area, at 850,000 acres, is up 80,000 acres from 2014. Barley yield, at 52.0 bushels per acre, is down 6.0 bushels per acre from last year. Barley production in 2015 is estimated at 44.20 million bushels, down 1 percent from the previous year.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

All wheat production totaled 2.05 billion bushels in 2015, up 1 percent from the revised 2014 total. Area harvested for grain totaled 47.1 million acres, up 2 percent from the previous year. The United States yield is estimated at 43.6 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushel from the previous year. The levels of production and changes from 2014 by type are winter wheat, 1.37 billion bushels, down less than 1 percent; other spring wheat, 599 million bushels, up less than 1 percent; and Durum wheat, 82.5 million bushels, up 53 percent.

Winter wheat production for 2015 totaled 1.37 billion bushels, down less than 1 percent from the revised 2014 total. The United States yield, at 42.5 bushels per acre, is down 0.1 bushel from 2014. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 32.3 million acres, down slightly from the previous year. A record high yield is estimated in Michigan for 2015.

Planted acreage was down from 2014 in most of the major Hard Red Winter (HRW) growing States. Particularly large decreases occurred in Colorado, Kansas, Montana, and North Dakota. Harvested acres were up across the Southern HRW region, with large increases in Oklahoma and Texas compared with 2014. Nationally, HRW production totaled 827 million bushels, up 12 percent from 2014.

In the Soft Red Winter (SRW) growing area, planted and harvested acreage decreases from 2014 were experienced throughout most of the region. SRW production totaled 359 million bushels, down 21 percent from 2014.

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White winter production totaled 184 million bushels, up slightly from the previous year. Harvested acreage in the Pacific Northwest (Idaho, Oregon, and Washington) was down three percent from 2014. Yields were up from last year in Idaho and Washington.

Other spring wheat production for 2015 is estimated at 599 million bushels, up less than 1 percent from the 2014 total. Harvested area totaled 12.9 million acres, up 2 percent from 2014. The United States yield is estimated at 46.3 bushels per acre, down 0.4 bushel below the 2014 average yield. Of the total production, 564 million bushels are Hard Red Spring wheat, up 2 percent from 2014. Record high yields are estimated in North Dakota and Minnesota.

Durum wheat production for 2015 is estimated at 82.5 million bushels, up 53 percent from the revised 2014 total. Grain area harvested totaled 1.90 million acres, up 41 percent from the previous year. The United States yield is estimated at 43.5 bushels per acre, up 3.3 bushels from 2014. Production in North Dakota, the largest Durum-producing State, is up 50 percent from 2014. Durum wheat production in Montana for 2015 represents a record high for the State. A record high yield is estimated in North Dakota for 2015.

Oat production is estimated at 89.5 million bushels, up 27 percent from the revised 2014 total of 70.2 million bushels. Yield is estimated at 70.2 bushels per acre, up 2.3 bushels from the previous year and represents a new record high for the United States. Harvested area, at 1.28 million acres, is 23 percent above last year.

Barley production is estimated at 214 million bushels, up 18 percent from the revised 2014 total. Average yield per acre, at 68.9 bushels, is down 3.8 bushels from the previous year. Producers seeded 3.56 million acres in 2015, up 17 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 3.11 million acres, is up 25 percent from 2014.

For a full copy of the *Small Grains Summary* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.