



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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ACREAGE – JUNE 2016

MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

Montana principal crop planted acreage, which includes acres planted to all major crops and those expected to be cut for all hay, is down 1 percent from 2015 to 9,280,000 acres, according to the June 1 Agricultural Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Montana **corn** producers planted 120,000 acres of corn this year of which they intend to harvest 60,000 acres for grain, up from 50,000 acres harvested in 2015. This is an increase of 20 percent from last year's harvested grain acreage and a 14 percent increase in planted acreage for all purposes. **Oat** seedings are set at 65,000 acres, an increase of 15,000 acres from last year, with producers planning to harvest 29,000 acres for grain, up 7,000 acres from acreage harvested for grain in 2015. **Barley** planted area, at 930,000 acres, is 4 percent less than last year's acreage. Expected harvested acres, at 770,000 acres are 9 percent below 2015.

Winter wheat producers planted 2,300,000 acres in the fall of 2015 for harvest in 2016, down from 2,350,000 acres planted for the previous year's crop. Acreage expected to be harvested for grain is down 1 percent from last year at 2,200,000 acres. **Durum wheat** seedings, at 680,000 acres, are up 60,000 acres compared with a year ago. Acreage for harvest is expected to total 665,000 acres, up from 605,000 acres harvested last year. **Spring wheat** seedings, at 2,300,000 acres, are down 250,000 acres compared with a year ago. Acreage for harvest is expected to total 2,240,000 acres, down from 2,440,000 acres harvested last year.

The area to be harvested for **hay** is expected to increase 150,000 acres from a year ago to 2,650,000 acres. **Alfalfa hay** harvested acreage is expected to be unchanged at 1,700,000 acres and **all other hay** harvested acreage is expected to increase 150,000 acres to 950,000 acres.

Canola growers planted an estimated 95,000 acres this year, up 13,000 acres from last year. Harvested acres are expected to total 92,000 acres, up from 78,000 harvested in 2015. **Flaxseed** planted area, at 32,000 acres, is 1,000 acres above last year. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 29,000 acres, down 1,000 acres from last year. **Safflower** growers planted an estimated 35,000 acres this year, down 15,000 acres from last year. Harvested acres are expected to total 33,000 acres, down from 44,000 acres harvested in 2015.

Sugarbeet plantings increased 1,400 acres from last year to 45,400 acres. The expected harvested area, at 45,100 acres, is 1,400 acres above last year. Acres planted to **dry beans**, at 83,000 acres, are up 69 percent from last year. Harvested acres are expected to total 81,000 acres.

Dry edible pea growers planted an estimated 550,000 acres this year, down 45,000 acres from last year. Harvested acres are expected to total 510,000 acres, down from 550,000 acres harvested in 2015. **Lentil** planted area, at 540,000 acres, is 305,000 acres above last year. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 510,000 acres, up from 222,000 acres harvested last year. **Austrian winter pea** growers planted an estimated 12,000 acres this year, down 3,000 acres from last year. Harvested acres are expected to total 6,000 acres, up from 5,000 acres harvested in 2015.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn: The 2016 corn planted area for all purposes is estimated at 94.1 million acres, up 7 percent from last year and the third highest planted acreage since 1944. Growers expect to harvest 86.6 million acres for grain, up 7 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the third highest acres harvested for grain since 1933.

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Oats: Area seeded to oats for the 2016 crop year is estimated at 3.03 million acres, down 2 percent from 2015. Record low planted acreage is estimated in Arkansas, California, Oregon, and Pennsylvania. Growers expect to harvest 1.17 million acres, down 9 percent from last year. Record low harvested acreage is expected in Alabama, Arkansas, California, Minnesota, and South Carolina.

Barley: Producers seeded 2.97 million acres of barley for the 2016 crop year, down 17 percent from the previous year. This represents the third-lowest seeded area on record. Harvested area, forecast at 2.58 million acres, is down 17 percent from 2015. Record low planted acreage is estimated in California.

Winter wheat: The 2016 winter wheat planted area is estimated at 36.5 million acres, up less than 1 percent from the previous estimate but down 7 percent from last year. Of the total acreage, about 26.5 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 6.58 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.42 million are White Winter. Record low planted acreages are expected in Nebraska and Utah.

Durum wheat: Area seeded to Durum wheat is estimated at 2.15 million acres, up 11 percent from 2015. Planted area in North Dakota, the largest producing Durum wheat State, is estimated at 1.30 million acres, an increase of 19 percent from last year. Area harvested for grain is expected to total 2.08 million acres, 10 percent above 2015. As of June 26, the crop was 47 percent headed in North Dakota, 28 percentage points ahead of last year. Record low planted and harvested acreage is expected in South Dakota.

Other spring wheat: Area seeded to other spring wheat is estimated at 12.1 million acres, down 8 percent from 2015. Of this total, about 11.4 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. North Dakota, the largest producing spring wheat State, is estimated at 6.30 million acres, down 6 percent from last year. As of June 26, fifty-six percent of the spring wheat crop was headed, 14 percentage points ahead of last year. Record low planted acreages are expected in Colorado and South Dakota. Harvested area is expected to total 11.8 million acres, 9 percent below 2015. Record low harvested acreage is expected in Colorado. As of June 26, seventy-two percent of the crop was rated in good to excellent condition, identical to the same time last year.

Hay: Producers intend to harvest 56.1 million acres of all hay in 2016, up 3 percent from 2015. The expected harvested area of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures, at 18.1 million acres, is up 2 percent from 2015. All other types of hay harvested are expected to total 38.1 million acres, up 4 percent from 2015. Harvested area of all hay is expected to increase or hold steady in most southern and western States. Meanwhile, the most significant declines are expected in the Northern Plains States.

Canola: Producers planted 1.70 million acres in 2016, down 4 percent from 2015. Despite the decline, estimated planted area in the Nation is the fourth largest on record. Planted area in North Dakota, the leading canola-producing State, is estimated at 1.40 million acres, down less than 1 percent from last year. The harvested area for the Nation is forecast at 1.66 million acres, down 3 percent from last year.

Flaxseed: Area planted to flaxseed in 2016 is estimated at 342,000 acres, down 121,000 acres, or 26 percent, from last year. The harvested area is forecast at 333,000 acres, down 123,000 acres or 27 percent. Planted acreage in North Dakota, the largest flaxseed-producing State, is down 27 percent, or 110,000 acres, from 2015. Favorable field conditions allowed flaxseed planting to begin in mid-April. In North Dakota, flaxseed was 99 percent planted by mid-June, ahead of both the previous year and 5-year average progress.

Safflower: Planted area of safflower decreased 11 percent from 2015, to 150,000 acres in 2016. This is the second lowest planted area for the Nation since records began in 1991. Area for harvest is forecast at 144,700 acres, down 9 percent from last year. Growers in Montana, the second largest State in terms of planted area in 2015, planted only 35,000 acres this year, a decline of 30 percent from last year.

Sugarbeets: Area planted to sugarbeets for the 2016 crop year is estimated at 1.17 million acres, up less than 1 percent from 2015. Harvested area is forecast at 1.15 million acres, up slightly from last year.

Dry beans: United States dry edible bean planted area is estimated at 1.69 million acres for 2016, down 4 percent from 2015. Harvested area is forecast at 1.63 million acres, down 5 percent from the previous year. Planted area is lower than last year in 5 of the 11 estimating States.

Dry Edible Peas: Area planted to dry edible peas for the 2016 crop year is estimated at 1.27 million acres, up 11 percent from 2015. Harvested area is forecast at 1.20 million acres, up 11 percent from last year.

Lentils: Area planted to lentils for the 2016 crop year is estimated at 930,000 acres, up 87 percent from 2015. Harvested area is forecast at 888,000 acres, up 87 percent from last year.

Austrian Peas: Area planted to Austrian winter peas for the 2016 crop year is estimated at 34,000 acres, unchanged from 2015. Harvested area is forecast at 24,000 acres, up 3,000 acres from last year.

For a full copy of the *Acreage* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.

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