



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MONTANA FIELD OFFICE
10 West 15th Street, Suite 3100, Helena, MT 59626
Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 12, 2016

Contact: Eric Sommer
(800) 835-2612

CROP PRODUCTION – JULY 2016

MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

Winter wheat production in Montana, based on conditions as of July 1, 2016, is forecast at 99.00 million bushels, according to the July 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is up 5 percent from the June 1 forecast and 9 percent above the 91.02 million bushel crop produced last year. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 2.20 million acres, is 20,000 acres less than the 2.22 million acres harvested in 2015. As of July 1, the average yield is forecast at 45.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from the June 1 forecast and 4.0 bushels above last year's final yield.

As of July 3, Montana's winter wheat crop condition was rated 2 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 24 percent excellent, compared with 2 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 35 percent good, and 20 percent excellent last year. Winter wheat turning color was at 55 percent complete, compared with 67 percent last year and the 5-year average of 22 percent.

Durum wheat production in Montana is forecast at 22.61 million bushels, up 21 percent from the 18.76 million bushels produced last year. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 665,000 acres, is 60,000 acres more than the 605,000 acres harvested in 2015. As of July 1, the average yield is forecast at 34.0 bushels per acre, 3.0 bushels above last year's final yield.

As of July 3, Montana's durum wheat crop condition was rated 2 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 43 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 5 percent excellent, compared with 8 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 47 percent fair, 35 percent good, and 1 percent excellent last year. Durum wheat headed was at 25 percent complete, compared to 38 percent last year.

Spring wheat production in Montana is forecast at 76.16 million bushels, up 1 percent from the 75.64 million bushels produced last year. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 2.24 million acres, is 200,000 acres less than the 2.44 million acres harvested in 2015. As of July 1, the average yield is forecast at 34.0 bushels per acre, 3.0 bushels above last year's final yield.

As of July 3, Montana's spring wheat crop condition was rated 2 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 14 percent excellent, compared with 4 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 9 percent excellent last year. Spring wheat headed was at 40 percent complete, compared to 56 percent last year and the 5-year average of 31 percent.

Barley production is forecast at 42.35 million bushels, down 4 percent from the 2015 crop. Acreage harvested is expected to total 770,000 acres, down 80,000 acres from the 850,000 harvested last year. Barley yield is forecast at 55.0 bushels per acre, 3.0 bushels per acre above last year.

As of July 3, Montana's barley crop condition was rated 3 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 41 percent good, and 24 percent excellent, compared with 2 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 13 percent excellent last year. Barley headed was at 55 percent complete, compared to 85 percent last year and the 5-year average of 47 percent.

Oat production is forecast at 1.45 million bushels, up 24 percent from the 2015 crop. Acreage harvested is expected to total 29,000 acres, up 7,000 acres from the 22,000 harvested last year. Oat yield is forecast at 50.0 bushels per acre, 3.0 bushels per acre below last year.

As of July 3, Montana's oat crop condition was rated 3 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 6 percent excellent, compared with 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 10 percent excellent last year. Oats headed was at 55 percent complete, compared to 54 percent last year and the 5-year average of 30 percent.

NASS provides accurate, timely, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you to provide occasional feedback on our products and services. Sign up at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions> and look for "NASS Data User Community."

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.63 billion bushels, up 8 percent from the June 1 forecast and up 19 percent from 2015. Based on July 1 conditions, the United States yield is forecast at a record high 53.9 bushels per acre, up 3.4 bushels from last month and up 11.4 bushels from last year. The area expected to be harvested for grain or seed totals 30.2 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2016 but down 6 percent from last year. As of July 3, sixty-two percent of the winter wheat crop in the 18 major producing States was rated in good to excellent condition, 22 percentage points better than at the same time last year.

Durum wheat production is forecast at 82.8 million bushels, up less than 1 percent from 2015. The United States yield is forecast at 39.8 bushels per acre, down 3.7 bushels from last year. Expected area to be harvested for grain totals 2.08 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2016 but up 10 percent from last year.

Other spring wheat production is forecast at 550 million bushels, down 8 percent from last year. The United States yield is forecast at 46.5 bushels per acre, up 0.2 bushel from 2015. Of the total production, 511 million bushels are Hard Red Spring wheat, down 9 percent from last year. Area harvested for grain is expected to total 11.8 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2016 but down 9 percent from last year.

Barley production is forecast at 183 million bushels, down 15 percent from 2015. Based on conditions as of July 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 70.9 bushels per acre, up 2 bushels from last year. Area harvested for grain or seed, at 2.58 million acres, is unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2016 but down 17 percent from 2015.

Oats production is forecast at 76.6 million bushels, down 14 percent from 2015. Growers expect to harvest 1.17 million acres for grain or seed, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2016, but down 9 percent from last year. Based on conditions as of July 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 65.8 bushels per acre, down 4.4 bushels from 2015.

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