



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 2018

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 up 3 percent from 2017 to 9.41 million 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 65,000 acres for grain. This is no change from last year's harvested grain acreage and a 4 percent increase in planted acreage for all purposes. **Oat** seedings are set at 75,000 acres, an increase of 5,000 from last year, with producers planning to harvest 21,000 acres for grain, up 3,000 acres from acreage harvested for grain in 2017. **Barley** planted area, at 730,000 acres, is 5 percent less than last year's acreage. Expected harvested acres, at 560,000 acres are 1 percent below 2017.

Winter wheat producers planted 1.60 million acres in the fall of 2017 for harvest in 2018, down from 1.75 million acres planted for the previous year's crop, and the lowest plantings since 1997. Acreage expected to be harvested for grain is down 9 percent from last year to 1.45 million acres. **Durum wheat** seedings, at 740,000 acres, are down 150,000 acres compared with a year ago. Acreage for harvest is expected to total 730,000 acres, down from 785,000 acres harvested last year. **Spring wheat** seedings, at 2.95 million acres, are up 450,000 acres compared with a year ago. Acreage for harvest is expected to total 2.85 million acres, up from 2.29 million acres harvested last year.

The area to be harvested for **hay** is expected to increase 150,000 acres from a year ago to 2.70 million acres. **Alfalfa hay** harvested acreage is expected to increase 200,000 acres to 1.80 million acres and **all other hay** harvested acreage is expected to decrease 50,000 acres to 900,000 acres.

Canola growers planted an estimated 145,000 acres this year, down 10,000 acres from last year. Harvested acres are expected to total 140,000 acres, up from 137,000 harvested in 2017. **Flaxseed** planted area, at 51,000 acres, is 1,000 acres below last year. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 47,000 acres, up 9,000 acres from last year. **Safflower** growers planted an estimated 55,000 acres this year, up 16,000 acres from last year. Harvested acres are expected to total 51,000 acres, up from 28,000 acres harvested in 2017.

Sugarbeet plantings increased 400 acres from last year to 43,300 acres. The expected harvested area, at 42,900 acres, is 200 acres above last year. Acres planted to **dry beans**, at 300,000 acres, are up 9 percent from last year. Harvested acres are expected to total 293,000 acres.

Dry edible pea growers planted an estimated 415,000 acres this year, down 110,000 acres from last year. Harvested acres are expected to total 385,000 acres, down from 470,000 acres harvested in 2017. **Lentil** planted area, at 530,000 acres, is 200,000 acres below last year. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 500,000 acres, down from 670,000 acres harvested last year. **Austrian winter pea** growers planted an estimated 10,000 acres this year, down 10,000 acres from last year. Harvested acres are expected to total 5,000 acres, up 1,000 acres from the acres harvested in 2017. **Fall potatoes** showed a 1 percent decrease in planted acres from 11,100 acres last year to 11,000 acres this year.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn planted area for all purposes in 2018 is estimated at 89.1 million acres, down 1 percent from last year. Compared with last year, planted acres are down or unchanged in 31 of the 48 estimating States. Area harvested for grain, at 81.8 million acres, is down 1 percent from last year.

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Area seeded to **oats** for the 2018 crop year is estimated at 2.89 million acres, up 12 percent from 2017. Compared with last year, planted acreage is up or unchanged in 23 of the 28 major producing States. Increases of 20,000 acres or more are estimated in Alabama, Colorado, Georgia, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, and Wisconsin. Area for harvest, forecast at 1.01 million acres, is up 26 percent from 2017.

Producers seeded 2.55 million acres of **barley** for the 2018 crop year, up 3 percent from the previous year. Harvested area, forecast at 2.05 million acres, is up 5 percent from 2017.

All wheat planted area for 2018 is estimated at 47.8 million acres, up 4 percent from 2017. This represents the second lowest all wheat planted area on record since records began in 1919. The 2018 **winter wheat** planted area, at 32.7 million acres, is up less than 1 percent from last year and up slightly from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 23.2 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 5.89 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.62 million acres are White Winter. Area planted to **other spring wheat** for 2018 is estimated at 13.2 million acres, up 20 percent from 2017. Of this total, about 12.7 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. **Durum** planted area for 2018 is estimated at 1.89 million acres, down 18 percent from the previous year.

Producers intend to harvest 55.1 million acres of **all hay** in 2018, up 2 percent from 2017. If realized, this will represent the highest total hay harvested area since 2014. The increase in acreage is primarily due to a 5 percent increase in **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** acreage compared to 2017. **All other types of hay** is also up 1 percent. Producers in the Upper Midwest and Northern Plains are optimistic about harvesting more acres than last year to replenish hay stocks.

Canola producers planted 2.05 million acres in 2018, just 1 percent below last year's record high planted area for the Nation. Compared with last year, planted area is expected to decline in 5 of the 8 major canola-producing States, with the largest decline occurring in Oklahoma, where planted area is down 56 percent from 2017. Planted area in Idaho, North Dakota, and Washington are record highs and the area forecast for harvest in Idaho, Montana, and North Dakota will be record highs, if realized.

Area planted to **flaxseed** in 2018 is estimated at 168,000 acres, down 135,000 acres, or 45 percent from 2017. The harvested area is forecast at 160,000 acres, down 112,000 acres, or 41 percent from last year. Planted acreage in North Dakota, the largest flaxseed-producing State, is down 55 percent from 2017.

Area planted to **safflower** increased 17 percent from 2017, to 190,000 acres in 2018. This is the highest planted area for the Nation since 2008. Area for harvest is forecast at 181,000 acres, up 26 percent from last year. Growers in California, the largest State in terms of planted area in 2017, planted 60,000 acres this year, an increase of 7 percent from last year.

Area planted to **sugarbeets** for the 2018 crop year is estimated at 1.12 million acres, down 1 percent from 2017. Harvested area is forecast at 1.09 million acres, down 2 percent from last year.

Area planted to **dry beans** in 2018 is estimated at 1.83 million acres, down 12 percent from the previous season. Area harvested is forecast to total 1.78 million acres, also down 12 percent from 2017. Seven of the 11 estimating States show a decrease in total dry bean planted acres from last year.

Dry edible peas area planted for the 2018 crop year is estimated to total 881,000 acres, down 22 percent from last year. Area for harvest is forecast at 833,500 acres, down 21 percent from the previous year. Planted acreage is down in all States except Oregon and Nebraska.

Lentils area planted for the 2018 crop year is estimated at 789,000 acres, down 29 percent from 2017. Area forecasted to be harvested, at 752,000 acres, is down 26 percent from the 2017 season. All estimating States (Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, and Washington) planted acreage is down from the previous year.

Austrian winter peas planted area for 2018 is estimated at 14,500 acres, down 45 percent from 2017. This is the lowest planted acreage since 2000. Growers in Idaho and Montana decreased plantings from a year ago.

Growers planted an estimated 911,700 acres of **fall potatoes**, up slightly from 2017. Harvested area is forecast at 904,400 acres, slightly above 2017.

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