



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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CROP PRODUCTION – NOVEMBER 2018

MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

Based on November 1 conditions, **sugarbeet** production in Montana is forecast at 1.32 million tons, down 5 percent from the 1.40 million tons produced in 2017, according to the November 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Growers expect to harvest 42,500 acres this year, compared with 42,700 acres a year ago. Yields are expected to average 31.1 tons per acre, down 2.1 tons per acre from the October 1 forecast and down from last year's yield of 32.7 tons per acre. As of November 4, Montana's sugarbeet harvest was estimated at 99 percent complete, compared with 93 percent last year and the 5-year average of 91 percent.

Fall potato growers in Montana produced an estimated 3.80 million hundredweight of potatoes this year, up 1 percent from last year's crop. Average yield, at 345 hundredweight per acre, increased 5 hundredweight per acre from last year. The harvested area, estimated at 11,000 acres, is down from the 11,100 acres harvested last year.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Production of **sugarbeets**, for the 2018 crop year, is forecast at 33.5 million tons, down 5 percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 1.10 million acres, down 1 percent from last year. Expected yield is forecast at 30.5 tons per acre, a decrease of 1.2 tons from last year.

Production of **fall potatoes** for 2018 is forecast at 417 million cwt, up 4 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 913,100 acres, is up 1 percent from the previous year. The average yield forecast, is a record high 457 cwt per acre, is up 13 cwt from last year's yield.

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