



NEWS RELEASE

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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 8, 2019

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CROP PRODUCTION – NOVEMBER 2019

MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

Based on November 1 conditions, **sugarbeet** production in Montana is forecast at 1.32 million tons, up less than one-half percent from the 1.32 million tons produced in 2018, 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 41,600 acres this year, compared with 42,400 acres a year ago. Yields are expected to average 31.8 tons per acre, up 0.5 ton per acre from the October 1 forecast and up from last year's yield of 31.1 tons per acre. As of November 3, Montana's sugarbeet harvest was estimated at 45 percent complete, compared with 97 percent last year and the 5-year average of 89 percent. The sugarbeet crop was rated 9 percent very poor, 12 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 14 percent excellent as of November 3.

Oat seedings in Montana totaled 70,000 acres, unchanged from last year. Producers harvested 24,000 acres for grain or seed, down 6,000 acres from the September estimate, but up 1,000 acres from 2018. Oat production totaled 1.32 million bushels in 2019, down 2 percent from the September estimate but up 33 percent from last year. Oat yield is 55.0 bushels per acre in 2019, up 10.0 bushels per acre from the September estimate and up 12.0 bushels per acre from the previous year.

Montana's **barley** seeded area, at 920,000 acres, is up 130,000 acres from last year. Harvested area, at 740,000 acres, is down 25,000 acres from the September estimate, but up 140,000 acres from 2018. Barley yield, at 59.0 bushels per acre, is up 1.0 bushel per acre from the September estimate and up 3.0 bushels per acre from last year. Barley production in 2019 is estimated at 43.66 million bushels, down 2 percent from the September estimate, but up 30 percent from the previous year.

Spring wheat seedings, at 2.90 million acres, are unchanged from last year. Acreage harvested totaled 2.76 million acres, down 100,000 acres from the September estimate and down from 2.82 million acres harvested last year. Spring wheat production is estimated at 102.12 million bushels, down 3 percent from the September estimate, but up 7 percent from last year. Spring wheat yield, at 37.0 bushels per acre, is unchanged from the September estimate and up 3.0 bushels per acre from last year.

Durum wheat seedings, at 550,000 acres, are down 290,000 acres from last year. Acreage harvested totaled 515,000 acres, down 20,000 acres from the September estimate and down from 775,000 acres harvested last year. Durum wheat production is estimated at 22.15 million bushels, down 1 percent from the September estimate and down 5 percent from last year. Durum wheat yield, at a record 43.0 bushels per acre, is up 1.0 bushel per acre from the September survey, up 13.0 bushels per acre from last year, and 2.0 bushels per acre above the previous record yield of 41.0 bushels per acre set in 2016.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Production of **sugarbeets** for the 2019 crop year is forecast at 29.5 million tons, down 12 percent from last month and down 11 percent from last year. Sugarbeet producers expect to harvest 971,200 acres, down 13 percent from the previous forecast and down 11 percent from 2018. Yield is forecast at 30.4 tons per acre, an increase of 0.3 ton from the previous forecast and an increase of 0.1 ton from last year.

Survey respondents who reported barley, oats, Durum wheat, and other spring wheat acreage as not yet harvested during the surveys conducted in preparation for the *Small Grains 2019 Summary*, released September 30, 2019, were re-contacted in late October to determine how many of those acres were actually harvested and record the actual production from those acres. When the small grains producers were surveyed in September there were a significant number of unharvested acres of barley in Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, and Washington; significant unharvested acreage of oats in Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, and South Dakota; significant unharvested acreage of Durum wheat in Idaho, Montana, and North

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Dakota; and a large proportion of other spring wheat acreage not yet harvested in Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Washington. Based on this updated information, several changes were made to the estimates previously published in the *Small Grains 2019 Summary*. Unharvested production is a component of on-farm stocks, therefore, changes were made to the September 1 on-farm stocks levels comparable with the production adjustments.

Oat harvested area was reduced from the *Small Grains 2019 Summary* in Montana and North Dakota. As a result of this change and yield changes in Idaho, Maine, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, and South Dakota, oat production in the United States is estimated at 53.1 million bushels, down 2 percent from the *Small Grains 2019 Summary*.

Barley harvested area was reduced from the *Small Grains 2019 Summary* in Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, and Washington. As a result of these changes and yield changes Idaho, Maine, Montana, and South Dakota, barley production in the United States is estimated at 170 million bushels, down 1 percent from the *Small Grains 2019 Summary*.

Other spring wheat harvested area was reduced from the *Small Grains 2019 Summary* in all estimating States, except Washington. As a result of these changes and a yield change in South Dakota, other spring wheat production in the United States is estimated at 562 million bushels, down 6 percent from the *Small Grains 2019 Summary*. Due to late season precipitation and a mid-October snow, producers in Montana and North Dakota reported difficulties completing harvest activities and noted quality concerns.

Durum wheat harvested area was reduced from the *Small Grains 2019 Summary* in Montana and North Dakota. As a result of this change and yield changes in Idaho, Montana, and North Dakota, Durum wheat production in the United States is estimated at 53.8 million bushels, down 7 percent from the *Small Grains 2019 Summary*. Due to late season precipitation and a mid-October snow, producers in Montana and North Dakota reported difficulties completing harvest activities and noted quality concerns.

All wheat production in the United States is estimated at 1.92 billion bushels, down 2 percent from the *Small Grains 2019 Summary*.

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