



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
January 10, 2020

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ANNUAL CROP SUMMARY – 2019

MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

The 2019 **corn** for grain crop is estimated at 5.70 million bushels, 1 percent below last year's production of 5.78 million bushels, according to the December 1 Agricultural Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The average yield of 95.0 bushels per acre is 10.0 bushels per acre above the yield realized last year. Area harvested for grain in 2019, at 60,000 acres, is 8,000 acres below last year. Acreage cut for **corn silage** is estimated at 50,000 acres, up 13,000 acres from last year, with production estimated at 1.15 million tons, compared with 740,000 tons produced last year.

Oat seedings in Montana totaled 70,000 acres, unchanged from last year. Producers harvested 24,000 acres for grain or seed, up 1,000 acres from 2018. Oat production totaled 1.32 million bushels in 2019, up 33 percent from last year. Oat yield is 55.0 bushels per acre in 2019, 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 up 140,000 acres from 2018. Barley yield, at 59.0 bushels per acre, is up 3.0 bushels per acre from last year. Barley production in 2019 is estimated at 43.66 million bushels, up 30 percent from the previous year.

All wheat production in Montana, estimated at 219.27 million bushels, is up 11 percent from 2018. All wheat yield was 42.4 bushels per acre, up 4.1 bushels per acre from a year ago. **Winter wheat** producers seeded 2.00 million acres in the fall of 2018 for harvest in 2019, up from 1.65 million acres seeded for the previous year's crop. Acreage harvested for grain increased 330,000 acres from last year to 1.90 million acres in 2019. Winter wheat production is estimated at 95.00 million bushels, up 21 percent from last year. Winter wheat yield, at 50.0 bushels per acre, is unchanged from last year's record high yield. **Spring wheat** seedings, at 2.90 million acres, are unchanged from last year. Acreage harvested totaled 2.76 million acres, down from 2.82 million acres harvested last year. Spring wheat production is estimated at 102.12 million bushels, up 7 percent from last year. Spring wheat yield, at 37.0 bushels per acre, is 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 from 775,000 acres harvested last year. Durum wheat production is estimated at 22.15 million bushels, down 5 percent from last year. Durum wheat yield, at a record 43.0 bushels per acre, is 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.

All hay production for 2019 is estimated at 6.23 million tons, up 11 percent from the 2018 total. **Alfalfa hay** production is estimated at 4.52 million tons from 2.10 million acres harvested, up 620,000 tons from 2018. Average yield for the 2019 crop is 2.15 tons per acre, up 0.10 ton per acre from last year. **All other hay** production totaled 1.71 million tons from 900,000 acres harvested, up 10,000 tons from 2018. The average yield of 1.90 tons per acre is up 0.20 ton per acre from last year. New **seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in Montana are estimated at 130,000 acres, up 13 percent from 2018.

As of December 1, producers in Montana were storing 5.10 million tons of **all hay**, up 21 percent from the 4.20 million tons stored last year.

Montana **canola** growers planted 150,000 acres in 2019, up 30,000 acres from 2018. Harvested area totaled a record high 138,000 acres, up 22,000 acres from last year. The 2019 canola yield is 1,450 pounds per acre, up 330 pounds per acre from a year ago. Canola production totaled a record high 200.10 million pounds, up from 129.92 million pounds in 2018. Montana's **flaxseed** production in 2019 is 1.34 million bushels, up from 629,000 bushels a year ago. Growers planted 99,000 acres and harvested 89,000 acres in 2019, compared with 39,000 acres planted and 37,000 acres harvested in 2018. The average yield for 2019 is 15.0 bushels per acre, down 2.0 bushels per acre from a year ago. Production of **safflower** in 2019 totaled 36.12 million pounds, compared with 35.64 million pounds in 2018.

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Planted acres are 53,000, up 11,000 acres from last year. Harvested acres are 43,000, compared with 36,000 acres in 2018. Safflower yield averaged 840 pounds per acre in 2019, down 150 pounds per acre from last year.

The state's **sugarbeet** crop of 1.15 million tons for 2019 is down 13 percent from the 1.32 million tons produced in 2018. Producers harvested 36,500 acres in 2019, down from 42,400 acres in 2018. Average yield is estimated at 31.6 tons per acre, 0.5 ton per acre above 2018.

All chickpea production, is 2.51 million hundredweight, compared to 5.14 million hundredweight in 2018. Planted area totaled 199,000 acres, down from 390,000 planted acres last year. Harvested area is 179,000 acres, compared with 382,000 acres last year. The yield is 1,400 pounds per acre, up 50 pounds per acre from last year.

Montana's 2019 **lentil** production is 3.29 million hundredweight, compared with 4.86 million hundredweight a year ago. Planted area is 295,000 acres, with harvested area at 255,000 acres, compared with last year's 500,000 acres planted and 450,000 acres harvested. Lentil yield for 2019 is 1,290 pounds per acre, up 210 pounds per acre from 2018. **Dry edible pea** production for 2019 in Montana is 10.15 million hundredweight, up 102 percent from a year ago. Dry pea yield for 2019 is a record high 2,030 pounds per acre, up 410 pounds per acre from 2018 and 20 pounds above the previous record yield in 2004. Planted and harvested acreages are 530,000 and 500,000 acres, respectively. Last year, growers planted 335,000 acres and harvested 310,000 acres of dry peas.

Winter wheat seedings last fall for the 2020 crop year are estimated at 1.60 million acres, down 20 percent from last year. If realized, this would be the lowest winter wheat seeded acreage in Montana since 1.45 million acres were seeded in 2002.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn for grain production in 2019 was estimated at 13.7 billion bushels, down 5 percent from the revised 2018 estimate. The average yield in the United States was estimated at 168.0 bushels per acre, 8.4 bushels below the 2018 yield of 176.4 bushels per acre. Area harvested for grain was estimated at 81.5 million acres, up less than 1 percent from the revised 2018 estimate. **Corn silage** production was estimated at 133 million tons for 2019, up 9 percent from the revised 2018 estimate. The United States silage yield was estimated at 20.2 tons per acre, up 0.3 ton from 2018. Area harvested for silage was estimated at 6.59 million acres, up 8 percent from the revised 2018 estimate.

Oat production in 2019 was estimated at 53.1 million bushels, down 1 percent from 2018 for comparable States. Yield was estimated at 64.3 bushels per acre, down 1.0 bushel from the previous year for comparable States. Harvested area, at 826,000 acres, was less than 1 percent above last year for comparable States.

Barley production was estimated at 170 million bushels, up 10 percent from the 2018 total of 154 million bushels. The average yield, at 77.7 bushels per acre, was up 0.2 bushel from the previous year. Producers seeded 2.72 million acres in 2019, up 7 percent from 2018. Harvested area, at 2.18 million acres, was up 10 percent from 2018.

All wheat production totaled 1.92 billion bushels in 2019, up 2 percent from the 2018 total of 1.89 billion bushels. Area harvested for grain totaled 37.2 million acres, down 6 percent from the previous year. The United States yield was estimated at 51.7 bushels per acre, up 4.1 bushels from the previous year. **Winter wheat** production for 2019 totaled 1.30 billion bushels, up 10 percent from the 2018 total of 1.18 billion bushels. The United States yield, at 53.6 bushels per acre, was up 5.7 bushels from 2018. Area harvested for grain was estimated at a record low 24.3 million acres, down 2 percent from the previous year. **Other spring wheat** production for 2019 was estimated at 562 million bushels, down 10 percent from the 2018 total of 623 million bushels. Harvested area totaled 11.7 million acres, down 10 percent from 2018. The United States yield was estimated at 48.2 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushel from the 2018 record high of 48.3 bushels per acre. **Durum wheat** production for 2019 was estimated at 53.8 million bushels, down 31 percent from the 2018 total of 78.0 million bushels. Area harvested for grain totaled 1.18 million acres, down 40 percent from the previous year. The United States yield was estimated at a record high 45.7 bushels per acre, up 6.2 bushels from the 2018 yield.

Production of **all dry hay** for 2019 was estimated at 128.9 million tons, up 4 percent from the 2018 total. Area harvested was estimated at 52.4 million acres, down 1 percent from 2018. The average yield, at 2.46 tons per acre, was up 0.12 ton from the previous year. Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in 2019 was estimated at 54.9 million tons, up 4 percent from the 2018 total. Harvested area, at 16.7 million acres, was 1 percent above the previous year. Average yield was estimated at 3.28 tons per acre, up 0.11 ton from 2018. Production of **all other hay** in 2019 totaled 74.0 million tons, up 4 percent from the 2018 total. Harvested area, at 35.7 million acres, was down 2 percent from the previous year. Average yield was estimated at 2.07 tons per acre, up 0.11 ton from 2018. Growers seeded 2.47 million acres of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** during 2019, up 11 percent from 2018. New seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures are normally harvested for the first time in the year following planting.

All **hay stored** on United States farms as of December 1, 2019 totaled 84.5 million tons, up 7 percent from the previous December. Disappearance from May 1, 2019 - December 1, 2019 totaled 59.3 million tons, compared with 59.9 million tons for the same period a year earlier.

Canola production in 2019 was estimated at 3.40 billion pounds, down 6 percent from 2018. Despite the decline from last year, production for the Nation represents the second largest total on record. The average yield, at 1,781 pounds per acre, is down 80 pounds from last year's average yield but is the fourth highest average yield on record for the Nation. Planted area was estimated at 2.04 million acres, 2 percent above the previous year's acreage. Harvested area, at 1.91 million acres, was down 2 percent from 2018.

Production of **flaxseed** in 2019 totaled 6.40 million bushels, up 43 percent from the previous year. Harvested area totaled 319,000 acres in 2019, up 61 percent from the previous year. Harvested acreage in North Dakota, the largest flaxseed-producing State, was estimated at 230,000 acres, up 46 percent from 2018. The average United States yield for 2019, at 22.0 bushels per acre, was down 2.6 bushels from 2018.

Production of **safflower** in 2019, at 194 million pounds, was down 14 percent from 2018 in comparable States. Growers planted 165,800 acres in 2019, an increase of 5 percent from 2018 in comparable States. Harvested area, at 152,700 acres, was up 4 percent from the previous year for comparable States. Average yield, at 1,272 pounds per acre, a decline of 266 pounds from the 2018 average yield for comparable States of 1,538 pounds per acre.

Sugarbeet production for 2019 was estimated at 28.6 million tons, down 14 percent from the previous year's revised production. Growers in the 11 major sugarbeet-producing States planted 1.13 million acres, up 2 percent from the 2018 revised area. Harvested area, at 979,300 acres, was down 11 percent from the previous year. Estimated yield, at 29.2 tons per acre, was down 1.2 tons from last year.

Production of **lentils** is estimated at 5.39 million cwt, down 36 percent from a year ago. Planted area, at 486,000 acres, is down 38 percent from last year, while harvested acreage, at 431,000 acres, is down 40 percent from 2018. The average yield is expected to be 1,250 pounds per acre, up 79 pounds from last year. This is the lowest production on record since 2015.

Production of **dry edible peas** was estimated at 22.3 million cwt, up 37 percent for comparable States from last year. Planted area, at 1.10 million acres, and harvested area, at 1.05 million acres, increased by 26 percent and 28 percent, respectively, for comparable States. The average United States yield is expected to total 2,124 pounds per acre, up 143 pounds from 2018 for the comparable States. This is the highest yield on record since 2004.

Winter wheat planted area for harvest in 2020 is estimated at 30.8 million acres, down 1 percent from 2019 and down 5 percent from 2018. This represents the second lowest United States acreage on record.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production 2019 Summary* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.