



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**MONTANA FIELD OFFICE**  
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## SMALL GRAINS – SEPTEMBER 2020

### MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

**All wheat** production in Montana, estimated at 227.35 million bushels, is up 4 percent from 2019, according to the September 1 Agricultural Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. All wheat yield was 41.7 bushels per acre, down 0.7 bushel per acre from a year ago.

**Winter wheat** producers seeded 1.55 million acres in the fall of 2019 for harvest in 2020, down from 2.00 million acres seeded for the previous year's crop and is the lowest seeded acreage since 1.45 million acres were planted in 2002. Acreage harvested for grain decreased 410,000 acres from last year to 1.49 million acres in 2020 and is the lowest harvested acreage since 780,000 acres were harvested in 2002. Winter wheat production is estimated at 75.99 million bushels, down 20 percent from last year. Winter wheat yield, at a record high 51.0 bushels per acre, is up 1.0 bushel per acre from last year and 1.0 bushel per acre above the previous record of 50.0 bushels per acre set in 2018 and 2019.

**Spring wheat** seedings, at 3.30 million acres, are up 400,000 acres from last year. Acreage harvested totaled 3.28 million acres, up from 2.73 million acres harvested last year. Spring wheat production is estimated at 124.64 million bushels, up 23 percent from last year and the second highest production on record behind 1995. Spring wheat yield, at 38.0 bushels per acre, is up 1.0 bushel per acre from last year and equals the previous record of 38.0 bushels per acre set in 2010.

**Durum wheat** seedings, at 690,000 acres, are up 140,000 acres from last year. Acreage harvested totaled 685,000 acres, up from 505,000 acres harvested last year. Durum wheat production is estimated at 26.72 million bushels, up 23 percent from last year and the second highest production on record behind 2016. Durum wheat yield, at 39.0 bushels per acre, is down 4.0 bushels per acre from last year.

**Oat** seedings in Montana totaled 70,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from last year. Producers harvested 38,000 acres for grain or seed, up 12,000 acres from 2019 and the highest oat harvested acreage in Montana since 40,000 acres were harvested in 2004. Oat production totaled 1.71 million bushels in 2020, up 20 percent from last year. Oat yield is 45.0 bushels per acre in 2020, down 10.0 bushels per acre from the previous year.

Montana's **barley** seeded area, at 890,000 acres, is down 60,000 acres from last year. Harvested area, at 725,000 acres, is down 35,000 acres from 2019. Barley yield, at a record high 63.0 bushels per acre, is up 4.0 bushels per acre from last year and 1.0 bushel per acre above the previous record of 62.0 bushels per acre set in 2010. Barley production in 2020 is estimated at 45.68 million bushels, up 2 percent from the previous year.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**All wheat** production totaled 1.83 billion bushels in 2020, down 5 percent from the revised 2019 total of 1.93 billion bushels. Area harvested for grain totaled 36.7 million acres, down 2 percent from the previous year. The United States yield was estimated at 49.7 bushels per acre, down 2.0 bushels from the previous year. The levels of production and changes from 2019 by type were: winter wheat, 1.17 billion bushels, down 11 percent; other spring wheat, 586 million bushels, up 4 percent; and Durum wheat, 68.8 million bushels, up 28 percent.

**Winter wheat** production for 2020 totaled 1.17 billion bushels, down 11 percent from the revised 2019 total of 1.32 billion bushels. The United States yield, at 50.9 bushels per acre, was down 2.7 bushels from 2019. Area harvested for grain was estimated at a record low 23.0 million acres, down 6 percent from the previous year. A record low harvested acreage is estimated in California. Record high yields were estimated in Idaho, Montana, New Jersey, Oklahoma, and South Dakota for 2020.

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**Other spring wheat** production for 2020 was estimated at 586 million bushels, up 4 percent from the revised 2019 total of 561 million bushels. Harvested area totaled 12.1 million acres, up 4 percent from 2019. The United States yield was estimated at a record high 48.6 bushels per acre, up 0.3 bushel from the previous record high of 48.3 bushels per acre in 2019. A record high yield was estimated in Montana and North Dakota for 2020.

**Durum wheat** production for 2020 was estimated at 68.8 million bushels, up 28 percent from the revised 2019 total of 54.0 million bushels. Area harvested for grain totaled 1.66 million acres, up 41 percent from the previous year. The United States yield was estimated at 41.4 bushels per acre, down 4.4 bushels from the 2019 yield.

**Oat** production was estimated at 65.4 million bushels, up 23 percent from 2019. Yield was estimated at 65.1 bushels per acre, up 0.8 bushel from the previous year. Harvested area, at 1.00 million acres, was 21 percent above last year.

**Barley** production was estimated at 165 million bushels, down 4 percent from the revised 2019 total of 172 million bushels. The average yield, at 77.5 bushels per acre, was down 0.2 bushel from the previous year. Producers seeded 2.62 million acres in 2020, down 5 percent from 2019. Harvested area, at 2.13 million acres, was down 4 percent from 2019.

For a full copy of the *Small Grains Summary* report please visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).