



NEWS RELEASE

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



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CROP PRODUCTION – JULY 2021

MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

Winter wheat production in Montana, based on conditions as of July 1, 2021, is forecast at 71.40 million bushels, according to the July 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is down 15 percent from the June 1 forecast and 6 percent below the 75.99 million bushel crop produced last year. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 1.70 million acres, is 210,000 acres more than the 1.49 million acres harvested in 2020. As of July 1, the average yield is forecast at 42.0 bushels per acre, down 9.0 bushels from the June 1 forecast and from last year's final yield.

As of July 4, Montana's winter wheat crop condition was rated 14 percent very poor, 27 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 32 percent good, and 2 percent excellent, compared with 2 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 53 percent excellent last year. Winter wheat turning color was at 35 percent complete, compared with 29 percent last year and the 5-year average of 38 percent.

Durum wheat production in Montana is forecast at 14.19 million bushels, down 47 percent from the 26.72 million bushels produced last year. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 645,000 acres, is 40,000 acres less than the 685,000 acres harvested in 2020. As of July 1, the average yield is forecast at 22.0 bushels per acre, 17.0 bushels per acre below last year's final yield.

As of July 4, Montana's Durum wheat crop condition was rated 15 percent very poor, 30 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 38 percent good, and 2 percent excellent, compared with 2 percent poor, 60 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 5 percent excellent last year. Durum wheat headed was at 28 percent complete, compared with 31 percent last year and the 5-year average of 31 percent.

Spring wheat production in Montana is forecast at 63.75 million bushels, down 49 percent from the 124.64 million bushels produced last year. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 2.55 million acres, is 730,000 acres less than the 3.28 million acres harvested in 2020. As of July 1, the average yield is forecast at 25.0 bushels per acre, 13.0 bushels per acre below last year's final yield.

As of July 4, Montana's spring wheat crop condition was rated 18 percent very poor, 45 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 5 percent good, and 2 percent excellent, compared with 3 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 65 percent good, and 17 percent excellent last year. Spring wheat headed was at 50 percent complete, compared with 46 percent last year and the 5-year average of 42 percent.

Barley production is forecast at 26.72 million bushels, down 42 percent from the 2020 crop. Acreage harvested is expected to total 685,000 acres, down 40,000 acres from the 725,000 acres harvested last year. Barley yield is forecast at 39.0 bushels per acre, 24.0 bushels per acre below last year.

As of July 4, Montana's barley crop condition was rated 14 percent very poor, 32 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 13 percent good, and 7 percent excellent, compared with 3 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 39 percent excellent last year. Barley headed was at 49 percent complete, compared with 51 percent last year and the 5-year average of 44 percent.

Oat production is forecast at 1.10 million bushels, down 36 percent from the 2020 crop. Acreage harvested is expected to total 20,000 acres, 18,000 acres less than last year. Oat yield is forecast at 55.0 bushels per acre, up 10.0 bushels per acre from last year.

As of July 4, Montana's oat crop condition was rated 13 percent very poor, 55 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 7 percent good, and 1 percent excellent, compared with 5 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 72 percent good, and 3 percent excellent last year. Oats headed was at 28 percent complete, compared with 29 percent last year and the 5-year average of 31 percent.

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UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.36 billion bushels, up 4 percent from the June 1 forecast and up 16 percent from 2020. As of July 1, the United States yield is forecast at 53.6 bushels per acre, up 0.4 bushel from last month and up 2.7 bushels from last year's average yield of 50.9 bushels per acre. Area expected to be harvested for grain or seed totals 25.4 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2021, but up 11 percent from last year. Hard Red Winter production, at 805 million bushels, is up 4 percent from last month. Soft Red Winter, at 362 million bushels, is up 8 percent from the June forecast. White Winter, at 198 million bushels, is down 2 percent from last month. Of the White Winter production, 16.4 million bushels are Hard White and 181 million bushels are Soft White.

Durum wheat production is forecast at 37.2 million bushels, down 46 percent from 2020. Based on July 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 25.8 bushels per harvested acre, down 15.6 bushels from 2020. Area expected to be harvested for grain or seed totals 1.44 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2021, but down 13 percent from 2020.

Other spring wheat production for grain is forecast at 345 million bushels, down 41 percent from last year. Based on July 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 30.7 bushels per harvested acre, down 17.9 bushels from 2020. If realized, this would be the lowest yield since 2002 for the United States. Area harvested for grain or seed is expected to total 11.2 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2021, but 7 percent below 2020. Of the total production, 305 million bushels are Hard Red Spring wheat, down 42 percent from 2020.

Barley production is forecast at 114 million bushels, down 31 percent from 2020. If realized, this would be the lowest production since 1900. Based on conditions as of July 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 55.9 bushels per acre, down 21.6 bushels from last year. Barley producers are expecting the lowest yield since 2002. Area harvested for grain or seed, at 2.04 million acres is unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2021, but down 4 percent from 2020.

Oat production is forecast at 41.3 million bushels, down 37 percent from 2020. If realized, this would be the lowest production on record. Growers expect to harvest 722,000 acres for grain, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2021, but down 28 percent from 2020. Based on conditions as of July 1, the United States yield is forecast at 57.2 bushels per acre, 7.9 bushels below the 2020 average yield.

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