



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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SMALL GRAINS – SEPTEMBER 2021

MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

All wheat production in Montana, estimated at 100.85 million bushels, is down 56 percent from 2020, 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 22.2 bushels per acre, down 19.5 bushels per acre from a year ago.

Winter wheat producers seeded 1.95 million acres in the fall of 2020 for harvest in 2021, up from 1.55 million acres seeded for the previous year's crop. Acreage harvested for grain increased 240,000 acres from last year to 1.73 million acres in 2021. Winter wheat production is estimated at 53.63 million bushels, down 29 percent from last year and the lowest winter wheat production since 2002. Winter wheat yield, at 31.0 bushels per acre, is down 20.0 bushels per acre from last year and the lowest yield since 28.0 bushels per acre in 2002.

Spring wheat seedings, at 2.90 million acres, are down 450,000 acres from last year. Acreage harvested totaled 2.18 million acres, down from 3.31 million acres harvested last year. Spring wheat production is estimated at 37.06 million bushels, down 71 percent from last year and the lowest production since 1988. Spring wheat yield, at 17.0 bushels per acre, is down 21.0 bushels per acre from last year and is the lowest yield since 12.0 bushels per acre in 1988.

Durum wheat seedings, at 670,000 acres, are down 25,000 acres from last year. Acreage harvested totaled 635,000 acres, down from 690,000 acres harvested last year. Durum wheat production is estimated at 10.16 million bushels, down 62 percent from last year and the lowest production since 2006. Durum wheat yield, at 16.0 bushels per acre, is down 23.0 bushels per acre from last year, equal to the yield set in 2017, and is the lowest yield since 9.0 bushels per acre in 1988.

Oat seedings in Montana totaled 60,000 acres, down 15,000 acres from last year. Producers harvested 16,000 acres for grain or seed, down 25,000 acres from 2020 and the lowest oat harvested acreage in Montana since 16,000 acres were harvested in 2014. Oat production totaled 560,000 bushels in 2021, down 70 percent from last year and the lowest oat production ever recorded in Montana back to 1882. Oat yield is 35.0 bushels per acre in 2021, down 10.0 bushels per acre from the previous year and the lowest yield since 31.0 bushels per acre in 1988.

Montana's **barley** seeded area, at 940,000 acres, is down 30,000 acres from last year. Harvested area, at 625,000 acres, is down 165,000 acres from 2020. Barley yield, at 38.0 bushels per acre, is down 25.0 bushels per acre from last year and the lowest yield since 24.0 bushels per acre in 1988. Barley production in 2021 is estimated at 23.75 million bushels, down 52 percent from the previous year and the lowest barley production since 14.85 million bushels in 1953.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

All wheat production totaled 1.65 billion bushels in 2021, down 10 percent from the 2020 total of 1.83 billion bushels. Area harvested for grain totaled 37.2 million acres, up 1 percent from the previous year. The United States yield was estimated at 44.3 bushels per acre, down 5.4 bushels from the previous year. The levels of production and changes from 2020 by type were: winter wheat, 1.28 billion bushels, up 9 percent; other spring wheat, 331 million bushels, down 44 percent; and Durum wheat, 37.3 million bushels, down 46 percent.

Winter wheat production for 2021 totaled 1.28 billion bushels, up 9 percent from the revised 2020 total of 1.17 billion bushels. The United States yield, at 50.2 bushels per acre, was down 0.7 bushel from 2020. Area harvested for grain was estimated at 25.5 million acres, up 11 percent from the previous year. Hard Red Winter production totaled 749 million bushels, up 14 percent from 2020, Soft Red Winter production totaled 361 million bushels, up 35 percent from 2020, and White winter wheat production totaled 167 million bushels, down 32 percent from the previous year.

Other spring wheat production for 2021 was estimated at 331 million bushels, down 44 percent from the revised 2020 total of 588 million bushels. Harvested area totaled 10.2 million acres, down 16 percent from 2020. The United States yield was estimated at 32.6 bushels per acre, down 16.0 bushel from the record high of 48.6 bushels per acre in 2020. Of the total production, 297 million bushels were Hard Red Spring wheat, down 44 percent from the 2020 total.

Durum wheat production for 2021 was estimated at 37.3 million bushels, down 46 percent from the 2020 total of 69.1 million bushels. Area harvested for grain totaled 1.53 million acres, down 8 percent from the previous year. The United States yield was estimated at 24.3 bushels per acre, down 17.2 bushels from the 2020 yield.

Oat production was estimated at a record low 39.8 million bushels, down 39 percent from 2020. Yield was estimated at 61.3 bushels per acre, down 3.8 bushels from the previous year. Harvested area, at a record low 650 thousand acres, was 36 percent below last year.

Barley production was estimated at 118 million bushels, down 31 percent from the revised 2020 total of 171 million bushels. The average yield, at 60.4 bushels per acre, was down 16.8 bushel from the previous year. Producers seeded 2.66 million acres in 2021, down 2 percent from 2020. Harvested area, at 1.95 million acres, was down 12 percent from 2020.

For a full copy of the *Small Grains Summary* report, please visit www.nass.usda.gov.