



NEWS RELEASE

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



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CROP PRODUCTION – OCTOBER 2022

MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

Based on October 1 conditions, **canola** production in Montana is forecast at 159.60 million pounds, up 10 percent from the 2021 crop, according to the October 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Canola producers planted an estimated 180,000 acres in 2022, down 5,000 acres from last year. Acreage harvested is expected to total 168,000 acres, up 7,000 acres from the 161,000 acres harvested last year. Canola yield is forecast at 950 pounds per acre, up from 900 pounds per acre last year.

Alfalfa hay production in Montana is forecast at 2.81 million tons, up 6 percent from the 2.64 million tons produced in 2021. Montana farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 1.65 million acres of alfalfa hay this year, up 100,000 acres from 2021. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 1.70 tons per acre, compared with last year's yield of 1.70 tons per acre and the August 1 forecast of 1.80 tons per acre. Producers expect to harvest 850,000 acres of **other hay** in 2022, up 110,000 acres from last year. Other hay production is forecast at 935,000 tons, down 3 percent from a year ago. If realized, this would be the lowest other hay production since 2000. Other hay yield is expected to average 1.10 tons per acre, compared with last year's yield of 1.30 tons per acre and the August 1 forecast of 1.30 tons per acre. If realized, this would be the lowest other hay yield since 1.00 ton per acre in 1988.

Sugarbeet production in Montana is forecast at 988,000 tons, down 24 percent from the 1.30 million tons produced in 2021. Growers expect to harvest 33,500 acres this year, compared with 43,500 acres a year ago. Yields are expected to average 29.5 tons per acre, down 0.5 ton per acre from the September 1 forecast and up from last year's yield of 29.8 tons per acre. As of October 2, Montana's sugarbeet crop condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 20 percent fair, and 78 percent good. Harvest of sugarbeets was estimated at 5 percent complete, compared to 5 percent last year.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

The first **canola** production forecast for 2022 is a record high 3.95 billion pounds, up 45 percent from the 2021 revised production of 2.72 billion pounds. Production in both North Dakota and Washington will be the highest on record, if realized. Area planted for the Nation, at a record high 2.21 million acres, is up 13 percent from the June estimate and up 3 percent from last year's area. Canola farmers expect to harvest a record high 2.16 million acres, up 13 percent from June and up 3 percent from 2021. Acreage updates were made in several States based on a thorough review of all available data. The October yield forecast, at 1,826 pounds per acre, is 524 pounds above last year's yield and will represent the third highest average yield on record for the Nation, if realized.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay** for 2022 is forecast at 48.8 million tons, down 1 percent from the August forecast, and down 1 percent from 2021. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.16 tons per acre, down 0.01 ton from the August forecast and down 0.07 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 15.5 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report, but up 1 percent from 2021.

Production of **other hay** is forecast at 63.2 million tons, down 7 percent from the August forecast, and down 11 percent from 2021. Based on October 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 1.75 tons per acre, down 0.13 ton from the August forecast and down 0.25 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 36.0 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report but up 2 percent from 2021.

Production of **sugarbeets** for the 2022 crop year is forecast at 33.1 million tons, down 1 percent from last month and down 10 percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 1.15 million acres, unchanged from last month but up 4 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 28.8 tons per acre, down 0.2 ton from last month and down 4.4 tons from last year.

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