



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MONTANA FIELD OFFICE
P.O. BOX 150969 · Lakewood, CO 80215-0969
Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



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Contact: Eric Sommer
(800) 392-3202

CROP PRODUCTION – SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

Each September, the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) has the opportunity to revise planted and harvested acreage estimates for chickpeas, corn, cotton, dry edible peas, lentils, peanuts, rice, sorghum, soybeans, and sugarbeets due to the completeness of the data for these crops. Revisions are based on all available data, including the latest certified acreage data from the Farm Service Agency (FSA). As such, **corn** planted area in Montana is estimated at 135,000 acres, up 20,000 acres from the June *Acreage* report and up 5,000 acres from 2022. Harvested area, estimated at 69,000 acres, is up 10,000 acres from June but unchanged from last year.

Based on September 1 conditions, **sugarbeet** production in Montana is forecast at 792,000 tons, according to the September 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is up 4 percent from the August 1 forecast but down 23 percent from the 1.02 million tons produced in 2022. Planted area, estimated at 24,000 acres, is unchanged from the June *Acreage* report but down 9,600 acres from 2022. Harvested area, forecast at 23,500 acres, is up 500 acres from June but down 10,000 acres from last year. Yields are expected to average 33.7 tons per acre, up 0.5 ton from the August 1 forecast and up from 30.5 tons a year ago. As of September 3, the sugarbeet crop was rated 1 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 9 percent excellent.

Lentil production is expected to total 4.36 million hundredweight, up 9 percent from last year's 4.01-million-hundredweight crop. Planted area, estimated at 390,000 acres, is down 10,000 acres from the June *Acreage* report and down 110,000 acres from 2022. Harvested area, forecast at 360,000 acres, is unchanged from June but down 90,000 acres from last year. Yield is forecast at 1,210 pounds per acre, up 320 pounds from last year. As of September 3, producers had harvested 91 percent of the lentil crop.

Montana's **dry edible pea** production, forecast at 9.02 million hundredweight, is up 27 percent from last year. Planted area, estimated at 575,000 acres, is down 15,000 acres from the June *Acreage* report but up 40,000 acres from 2022. Harvested area, forecast at 540,000 acres, is unchanged from June but up 45,000 acres from last year. Yield is forecast at 1,670 pounds per acre, up 230 pounds from last year. As of September 3, producers had harvested 95 percent of the dry edible pea crop.

All chickpea production for 2023 is forecast at 2.28 million hundredweight, up 68 percent from the 1.36 million hundredweight crop produced a year earlier. Planted area, estimated at 178,000 acres, is down 27,000 acres from the June *Acreage* report and down 9,000 acres from 2022. Harvested area, forecast at 174,000 acres, is down 20,500 acres from June and down 3,000 acres from last year. Yield is forecast at 1,310 pounds per acre, up 540 pounds from last year. As of September 3, Montana's dry bean harvest (including Chickpeas) was 84 percent complete, compared with 72 percent last year and the five-year average of 58 percent.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn production for grain is forecast at 15.1 billion bushels, up less than 1 percent from the previous forecast and up 10 percent from 2022. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 173.8 bushels per harvested acre, down 1.3 bushels from the previous forecast but up 0.5 bushel from last year. Acreage updates were made in several States based on a thorough review of all available data. Total planted area, at 94.9 million acres, is up 1 percent from the previous estimate and up 7 percent from the previous year. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 87.1 million acres, up 1 percent from the previous forecast and up 10 percent from the previous year.

Production of **sugarbeets** for the 2023 crop year is forecast at 35.3 million tons, up 3 percent from last month and up 8 percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 1.12 million acres up 1 percent from last month but down 2 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 31.5 tons per acre, up 0.6 ton from last month and up 2.9 tons from last year.

Production of **lentils** in 2023 is forecast at 5.71 million cwt, up 4 percent from last year. Planted area at 545,000 acres, is up 2 percent from the previous forecast, but down 17 percent from last year. Harvested area at 508,000 acres, is up 4 percent from the previous forecast, but down 16 percent from last year. The average yield is expected to be 1,124 pounds per acre, up 212 pounds from last year.

Production of **dry edible peas** is forecast at 17.2 million cwt, up 14 percent from last year. Area planted is estimated at 945,000 acres, down 5 percent from the previous forecast, but up 3 percent from the 2022. Area harvested is forecast at 900,000 acres, down 4 percent from the previous forecast, but up 4 percent from 2022. The average yield is expected to be 1,909 pounds per acre, up 158 pounds from 2022.

Production of **all chickpeas** is forecast at 4.96 million cwt, up 36 percent from 2022. Area planted for all chickpeas for the 2023 crop year is estimated at 380,300 acres, down 2 percent from the previous forecast but up 8 percent from the previous year. Area harvested for all chickpeas is forecast at 373,200 acres, down slightly from the previous forecast but up 9 percent from 2022. **Small chickpea** area planted is estimated at 107,200 acres, up 8 percent from the previous forecast and up 35 percent from 2022. Area harvested for small chickpeas is forecast at 103,600 acres, up 7 percent from the previous forecast but a 32 percent increase from 2022. Area planted for **large chickpeas** in 2023 is estimated at 273,100 acres, down 5 percent from the previous forecast but down slightly from the previous year. Large chickpea area harvested is forecast at 269,600 acres, down 3 percent from the previous forecast but a 2 percent increase from 2022. The average United States yield is expected to be 1,329 pounds per acre, up 259 pounds from 2022.

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