



Alfalfa Seed 2013

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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2013 Acreage, Production, Value, and Leaf Cutter Bees

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Alfalfa seed production in Montana for 2013 was estimated at 3.06 million pounds, up 242,000 pounds from last year's production estimate. The harvested acreage was 8,800 acres, up 1,800 acres from 2012. The average yield was 348 pounds per acre, down from 403 pounds in 2012. Irrigated yields were down from a year ago at 438 pounds per acre, while non-irrigated yields were up slightly from last year at 93 pounds per acre.

Producers who used leaf cutter bees used an average of 3.6 gallons of bees per acre, up from the rate of bees used in 2012. Leaf cutter bees were used on 82 percent of the reported irrigated acreage this year compared to 95 percent last year.

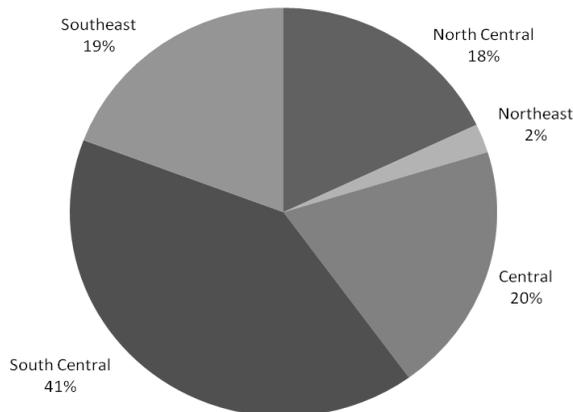
Proprietary varieties made up 22.5 percent of this year's production, while common varieties accounted for 77.5 percent. Of the proprietary varieties cleaned in 2013, 31.3 percent of the seed cleaned was certified.

The average price received for the 2013 crop was \$1.54 per pound, down 57 cents from last year's average price.

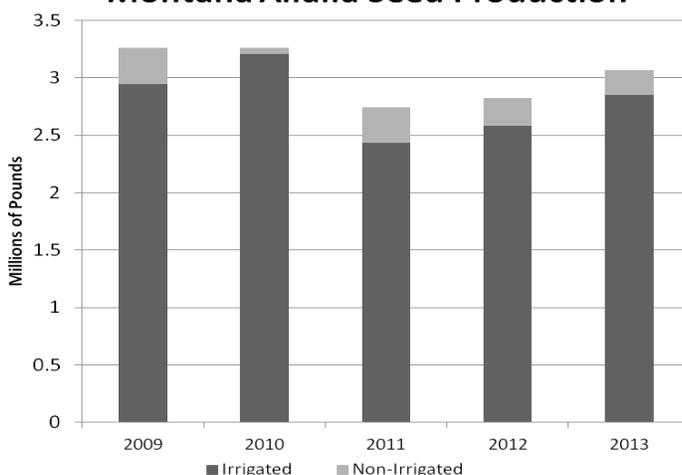
Montana Leaf Cutter Bees 2009-2012

Year	Total	Irrigated	
	Gallons of Bees per Acre	Percent of Acreage	Gallons Used per Acre
2010	3.3	97%	3.4
2011	3.3	74%	3.5
2012	3.3	95%	3.4
2013	3.6	82%	2.7

2013 Alfalfa Seed Production by District



Montana Alfalfa Seed Production



Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, and Production by District, 2013

District	TOTAL			IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production
		Pounds			Pounds			Pounds	
North Central	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Northeast	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Central	1,100	550	605,000	1,100	550	605,000	--	--	--
South Central	3,700	337	1,247,000	3,000	385	1,155,000	700	131	92,000
Southeast	2,300	257	590,000	900	539	485,000	1,400	75	105,000
Other	1,700	365	620,000	1,500	402	603,000	200	85	17,000
Montana	8,800	348	3,062,000	6,500	438	2,848,000	2,300	93	214,000

Districts with no value have either limited reported acreage or have been confided to prevent the disclosure of individual information.

Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, and Production by District, 2012

District	TOTAL			IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production	Acres	Yield	Production
		Pounds			Pounds			Pounds	
North Central	700	323	226,000	500	396	198,000	200	140	28,000
Northeast	300	503	151,000	300	503	151,000	--	--	--
Central	500	586	293,000	500	586	293,000	--	--	--
South Central	2,800	501	1,404,000	2,300	600	1,381,000	500	46	23,000
Southeast	2,700	276	746,000	700	796	557,000	2,000	95	189,000
Montana	7,000	403	2,820,000	4,300	600	2,580,000	2,700	89	240,000

Districts with no value have either limited reported acreage or have been confided to prevent the disclosure of individual information.

Alfalfa Seed Acreage, Yield, Production, and Value for Montana from 2002-2012

Year	TOTAL					IRRIGATED			NON-IRRIGATED		
	Harvested Acres	Yield	Total Production	Price per Pound	Total Value	Harvested Acres	Yield	Total Production	Harvested Acres	Yield	Total Production
		Pounds					Pounds			Pounds	
2002	6,700	296	1,983,000	\$1.15	\$2,280,450	5,000	370	1,850,000	1,700	78	133,000
2003	6,200	335	2,075,000	\$1.01	\$2,095,750	4,100	460	1,886,000	2,100	90	189,000
2004	5,800	382	2,214,000	\$0.99	\$2,191,860	3,900	532	2,075,000	1,900	73	139,000
2005	6,100	413	2,519,000	\$1.13	\$2,846,470	5,100	450	2,295,000	1,000	224	224,000
2006	10,700	399	4,270,000	\$1.13	\$4,825,100	6,500	518	3,367,000	4,200	215	903,000
2007	12,200	360	4,391,000	\$1.34	\$5,883,940	7,000	533	3,731,000	5,200	127	660,000
2008	8,900	383	3,407,000	\$1.95	\$6,643,650	6,100	507	3,093,000	2,800	112	314,000
2009	7,100	459	3,258,000	\$1.94	\$6,320,520	5,900	499	2,944,000	1,200	262	314,000
2010	7,000	465	3,258,000	\$1.66	\$5,408,280	6,600	486	3,208,000	400	125	50,000
2011	6,600	415	2,741,000	\$2.02	\$5,536,820	4,900	496	2,430,000	1,700	183	311,000
2012	7,000	403	2,820,000	\$2.11	\$5,950,200	4,300	600	2,580,000	2,700	89	240,000
2013	8,800	348	3,062,000	\$1.54	\$4,715,480	6,500	438	2,848,000	2,300	93	214,000

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Ron Schumacher
Statistician

Eric Sommer
State Statistician

The Alfalfa Seed Survey is funded by the Montana Alfalfa Seed Committee in cooperation with the Montana Dept. of Agriculture.

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