



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

2507 North Telshor Blvd · Las Cruces, NM 88011
Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



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Contact: Longino Bustillos
(800) 530-8810

ANNUAL CROP SUMMARY – 2018

NEW MEXICO HIGHLIGHTS

The 2018 **corn** for grain crop is estimated at 6.55 million bushels, 14 percent above last year's production of 5.76 million bushels, according to the December 1 Agricultural Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The average yield of 187.0 bushels per acre is 53.0 bushels per acre above the yield achieved last year. Area harvested for grain in 2018, at 35,000 acres, is 8,000 acres below last year. Acreage cut for **corn silage** is estimated at 95,000 acres, up 15,000 acres from last year, with production estimated at 2.09 million tons compared with 2.00 million tons produced last year.

Sorghum for grain production is estimated at 1.79 million bushels, up 6 percent from the previous year. Average yield is estimated at 38.0 bushels per acre, up 3.0 bushels per acre from last year. Producers harvested 47,000 acres for grain, down 1,000 acres from last year's area harvested. Acreage cut for **sorghum silage** is estimated at 18,000 acres, up 1,000 acres from last year, with production estimated at 198,000 tons compared with 187,000 tons produced last year.

Winter wheat production in New Mexico, estimated at 1.58 million bushels, is down 61 percent from 2017. Winter wheat producers seeded 315,000 acres in the fall of 2017 for harvest in 2018, down from 330,000 acres seeded for the previous year's crop. Acreage harvested for grain decreased 30,000 acres from last year to 105,000 acres in 2018. Winter wheat yield, at 15.0 bushels per acre, is down 15.0 bushels per acre from last year.

All hay production for 2018 is estimated at 932,000 tons, down 18 percent from the 2017 total. **Alfalfa hay** production is estimated at 752,000 tons from 160,000 acres harvested, down 198,000 tons from 2017. Average yield for the 2018 crop is 4.70 tons per acre, 0.30 ton per acre below last year. **All other hay** production totaled 180,000 tons from 90,000 acres harvested, down 10,000 tons from 2017. The average yield of 2.00 tons per acre is unchanged from last year. New **seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in New Mexico are estimated at 30,000 acres, up 100 percent from 2017.

As of December 1, producers in New Mexico were storing 250,000 tons of **all hay**, down 38 percent from the 400,000 tons stored last year.

Peanut production is estimated at 16.50 million pounds, down 38 percent from the 26.60 million pounds produced in 2017. Growers harvested 5,500 acres this year, compared with 7,600 acres a year ago. Average yield is estimated at 3,000 pounds per acre, down 500 pounds per acre from last year.

Based on December 1 conditions, **all cotton** production in New Mexico is expected to total 122,000 480-lb bales, 3 percent below 2017. Area of all cotton harvested, at 64,000 acres, is up 10,600 acres from last year. The all cotton yield is forecast at 915 pounds per acre, down 220 pounds from 2017. **Upland cotton** planted acres are estimated at 77,000 for 2018, with 57,000 acres expected to be harvested. Upland cotton production is expected to total 110,000 bales, down 3 percent from the 2017 crop. Yield is estimated at 926 pounds per acre, down 253 pounds from last year. **American-Pima** planted cotton acres are estimated at 7,000 for 2018, with 7,000 acres expected to be harvested. New Mexico's 2018 American-Pima production is estimated at 12,000 bales with an average yield of 823 pounds per acre.

Winter wheat seedings last fall for the 2019 crop year are estimated at 325,000 acres, up 3 percent from 2018.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn for grain production in 2018 was estimated at 14.4 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the 2017 estimate. The average yield in the United States was estimated at 176.4 bushels per acre, 0.2 bushel below the 2017 record yield of 176.6 bushels per acre. Area

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harvested for grain was estimated at 81.7 million acres, down 1 percent from the 2017 estimate. **Corn silage** production was estimated at 121 million tons for 2018, down 5 percent from 2017. The United States silage yield was estimated at 19.9 tons per acre, down 0.1 ton from 2017. Area harvested for silage was estimated at 6.11 million acres, down 4 percent from a year ago.

Sorghum grain production in 2018 was estimated at 365 million bushels, up 1 percent from the 2017 total. Planted area for 2018 was estimated at 5.69 million acres, up 1 percent from the previous year. Area harvested for grain, at 5.06 million acres, was up less than 1 percent from 2017. Grain yield was estimated at 72.1 bushels per acre, up 0.4 bushel from 2017. **Sorghum silage** production was estimated at 3.33 million tons, down 12 percent from 2017. Area harvested for silage was estimated at 264,000 acres, down 6 percent from the previous year. Silage yield averaged 12.6 tons per acre, down 0.8 ton per acre from 2017.

Winter wheat production for 2018 totaled 1.18 billion bushels, down 7 percent from the 2017 total of 1.27 billion bushels. The United States yield, at 47.9 bushels per acre, was down 2.3 bushels from 2017. Area harvested for grain was estimated at a record low 24.7 million acres, down 2 percent from the previous year.

Production of **all dry hay** for 2018 was estimated at 124 million tons, down 4 percent from the revised 2017 total. Area harvested was estimated at 52.8 million acres, up less than one percent from 2017. The average yield, at 2.34 tons per acre, was down 0.09 ton from the previous year. Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in 2018 was estimated at 52.6 million tons, down 6 percent from the revised 2017 total. Harvested area, at 16.6 million acres, was 2 percent below the previous year. Average yield was estimated at 3.17 tons per acre, down 0.11 ton from 2017. Production of **all other hay** in 2018 totaled 71.0 million tons, down 2 percent from the revised 2017 total. Harvested area, at 36.2 million acres, was up 1 percent from the previous year. Average yield was estimated at 1.96 tons per acre, down 0.06 ton from 2017. Growers seeded 2.22 million acres of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** during 2018, up less than 1 percent from 2017. The new seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures will normally be harvested for the first time in the year following planting.

All hay stored on United States farms as of December 1, 2018 totaled 79.1 million tons, down 6 percent from the previous December. Disappearance from May 1, 2018 - December 1, 2018 totaled 59.9 million tons, compared with 68.2 million tons for the same period a year earlier. This marks the lowest December 1 hay stocks since the drought of 2012 and second lowest since 1977.

Peanut production was estimated at 5.46 billion pounds, down 23 percent from 2017. Planted area was estimated at 1.43 million acres, down 24 percent from 2017. Harvested area was estimated at 1.37 million acres, down 23 percent from 2017. The average yield was estimated at 3,991 pounds per acre, down 16 pounds from 2017.

All cotton production is estimated at 18.4 million 480-pound bales, down 12 percent from 2017. The United States yield is estimated at 838 pounds per acre, down 67 pounds from last year. Harvested area, at 10.5 million acres, is down 5 percent from last year. **Upland cotton** production was estimated at 17.6 million 480-pound bales, down 13 percent from the previous year. The United States yield for Upland cotton is estimated at 821 pounds per acre, down 74 pounds from 2017. Upland planted area, estimated at 13.9 million acres, was up 11 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 10.3 million acres, was down 5 percent from the previous year. **American Pima** producers planted 249,000 acres in 2018, down 1 percent from 2017. Harvested area, at 247,500 acres, was down 1 percent from the previous year. Production was estimated at 794 thousand 480-pound bales, up 14 percent from 2017. The United States yield is estimated at 1,540 pounds per acre, up 199 pounds from the previous year.

Winter wheat planted area for harvest in 2019 is estimated at 31.3 million acres, down 4 percent from 2018 and down 4 percent from 2017. This represents the second lowest United States acreage on record.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production 2018 Summary* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.