



# OREGON GRASS SEED FORECAST

## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250  
Northwest Regional Field Office • Olympia, WA 98507



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### Regional Contacts

- Phone: 1-800-435-5883      Email: [nassrfonwr@usda.gov](mailto:nassrfonwr@usda.gov)
- Washington – Christopher Mertz, NW Regional Director
  - Idaho – Randy Welk, State Statistician
  - Oregon – Dave Losh, State Statistician
  - Alaska – Sue Benz, State Statistician

### OREGON GRASS SEED ACRES DOWN SLIGHTLY FROM 2019

Total acreage of Oregon grown Ryegrass and Tall Fescue decreased slightly to 329,000 acres for harvest in 2020, from 331,000 acres harvested in 2019. Acreage totals for 2019 were revised from preliminary intentions based on 2020 survey data for all grass seed types. Growers of tall fescue seed indicated an increase of 5 percent in total acreage from 2019.

The data series for acres of seed under contract and irrigated acres started in 2019. Growers indicated that 59 percent of the 2020 ryegrass acres to be harvested are under contract, while 69 percent of the tall fescue acres are under contract. Total irrigated acreage of ryegrass are estimated to be 18 percent of the 2020 crop. Total irrigated acreage of tall fescue are estimated to be 27 percent of the 2020 crop.

Grass seed growers indicated that the 2019 harvest improved from the 2018 crop. The upcoming 2020 crop was reported to be in fair to good condition. Early fall rains aided both ryegrass and fescue fields. Cutworms and slugs were tough on early plantings of some ryegrass acres. Voles, geese, and mice were also prevalent in some fields.

Special thanks go to the Oregon Ryegrass Growers Seed Commission, Oregon Tall Fescue Commission, and the Oregon Grass Seed Bargaining Association for support of the survey.

Type of Seed	Acres Harvested in 2019	Acres Available for Harvest in 2020	Acres of Seed Under Contract in 2020	Acres Irrigated or to be Irrigated in 2020
<b>Ryegrass Seed:</b>				
Annual	122,000	113,000	48,000	2,000
Perennial	60,000	60,000	54,000	30,000
<b>Tall Fescue Seed:</b>				
Turf Type	112,000	116,000	98,000	36,000
Forage Type	20,000	20,000	6,000	2,000
K-31 & Other	17,000	20,000	4,000	4,000