



OREGON GRASS SEED FORECAST

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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OREGON GRASS SEED ACRES UP 3 PERCENT FROM 2018

Total acreage of Oregon grown Ryegrass and Tall Fescue increased to 324,000 acres for harvest in 2019, from 316,000 acres harvested in 2018. Acreage totals for 2018 were revised from preliminary intentions based on 2019 survey data for all grass seed types. Growers of tall fescue seed indicated an increase of 8 percent in total acreage from 2018.

Data for acres of seed under contract and irrigated acres are new to the survey this year. Growers indicated that 62 percent of the 2019 harvested ryegrass acres are under contract, while 73 percent of the tall fescue acres are under contract. Total irrigated acreage of ryegrass were reported to be 19 percent of the 2019 crop. Total irrigated acreage of tall fescue was not calculated due to insufficient data.

Grass seed growers indicated that it was a tough fall for fescue due to drier than normal weather. Lack of rain meant slow crop recovery from drought conditions. Some slug damage was reported on annual ryegrass. Voles, cut worms, geese, and mice were prevalent in many 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 2018	Acres Available for Harvest in 2019	Acres of Seed Under Contract in 2019	Acres Irrigated or to be Irrigated in 2019
Ryegrass Seed:				
Annual	110,000	115,000	55,000	2,000
Perennial	75,000	67,000	57,000	32,000
Tall Fescue Seed:				
Turf Type	100,000	107,000	93,000	37,000
Forage Type	21,000	23,000	9,000	5,000
K-31 & Other	10,000	12,000	1,000	(S)

(S) – Withheld due to insufficient data.