



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PRODUCTION – JULY 2015

UTAH HIGHLIGHTS

Based on July 1 conditions, **barley** production in Utah is forecast at 1.35 million bushels, down 19 percent from the 2014 crop. Acreage harvested is expected to total 18,000 acres, down 2,000 acres from the 20,000 harvested last year. Barley yield is forecast at 75.0 bushels per acre, 8.0 bushels per acre below last year.

As of June 28, Utah's barley crop condition was rated 4 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 66 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Barley headed was at 91 percent, compared to 87 percent last year and the 5-year average of 80 percent.

Utah **apricot** production for 2015 is forecast at 8.0 tons compared to 228.0 tons produced in 2014. Spring freezes in the major apricot growing areas caused significant crop losses.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Barley production is forecast at 208 million bushels, up 18 percent from 2014. Based on conditions as of July 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 71.3 bushels per acre, down 1.1 bushels from last year. Area harvested for grain or seed, at 2.92 million acres, is unchanged from the previous forecast but up 19 percent from 2014. When compared with last year, yields are expected to increase in Colorado and Minnesota due to favorable spring weather. Dry conditions have led to expected yield decreases in Montana and Washington. Record barley yields are expected in Colorado and Idaho.

The 2015 **apricot** crop is forecast at 53,008 tons, down 17 percent from last year. The California crop represents 85 percent of the total United States production. Harvest in California began in early May. Growers reported the early season varieties to be lighter than normal. Washington's harvest began about two weeks sooner than normal due to an early spring with quality reported to be very good. In Utah early warm weather led to early blooming however the crop was damaged by late freezes.

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

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