



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
UTAH FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PRODUCTION – AUGUST 2015

UTAH HIGHLIGHTS

Based on August 1 conditions, **barley** production in Utah is forecast at 1.44 million bushels, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is up 7 percent from the July 1 forecast but down 13 percent from last year's crop. The area for harvest in 2015, at 18,000 acres, is down 2,000 acres from the 20,000 acres harvested last year. Barley yield is forecast at 80.0 bushels per acre, up 5.0 bushels from the July forecast but 3.0 bushels below last year. As of August 2, Utah's barley harvest was 74 percent complete, compared with 39 percent last year and the 5-year average of 28 percent.

Utah farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 510,000 acres of **alfalfa hay** this year, down 10,000 acres from 2014. Alfalfa production is forecast at 2.14 million tons, up 6 percent from the 2.03 million tons produced in 2014. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 4.20 tons per acre, compared to last year's yield of 3.90 tons per acre.

Utah **peach** production for 2015 is forecast at 3,900 tons, down 40 percent from last year's production of 6,500 tons. Spring freezes in major fruit growing areas caused significant crop losses.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Barley production is forecast at 210 million bushels, up 1 percent from the July forecast and up 19 percent from 2014. Based on conditions as of August 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 71.8 bushels per acre, up 0.5 bushel from the previous forecast but down 0.6 bushel 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.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture** dry hay for 2015 is forecast at 62.1 million tons, up 1 percent from 2014. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.39 tons per acre, up 0.06 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 18.3 million acres, unchanged from June but down slightly from 2014.

United States **peach** production is forecast at 804,600 tons, down 6 percent from 2014.

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

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