



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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ANNUAL CROP SUMMARY - 2015

UTAH HIGHLIGHTS

The 2015 **corn** for grain crop was estimated at 2.60 million bushels, 42 percent below last year's production of 4.48 million bushels, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The average yield of 173.0 bushels per acre was 13.0 bushels per acre above the yield achieved last year. Area harvested for grain in 2015, at 15,000 acres, was 13,000 acres below last year. Acreage cut for **corn silage** was estimated at 42,000 acres, down 3,000 acres from last year, with production estimated at 966,000 tons compared with 990,000 tons produced last year.

Oat seedings in Utah totaled 20,000 acres, unchanged from last year. Producers harvested 2,000 acres for grain or seed, down 1,000 acres from 2014. Oat production totaled 170,000 bushels in 2015, down 18 percent from last year. Oat yield is 85.0 bushels per acre in 2015, up 16.0 bushels per acre from the previous year.

Utah's **barley** seeded area, at 27,000 acres, is down 5,000 acres from last year. Harvested area, at 16,000 acres, is down 4,000 acres from 2014. Barley yield, at 84.0 bushels per acre, is up 1.0 bushel per acre from last year. Barley production in 2015 is estimated at 1.34 million bushels, down 19 percent from the previous year.

All wheat production in Utah, estimated at 5.78 million bushels, is down 2 percent from 2014. All wheat yield was 48.5 bushels per acre, down 1.8 bushels per acre from a year ago. **Winter wheat** producers seeded 115,000 acres in the fall of 2014 for harvest in 2015, down from 120,000 acres seeded for the previous year's crop. Acreage harvested for grain increased 1,000 acres from last year to 110,000 acres in 2015. Winter wheat production is estimated at 5.28 million bushels, down 3 percent from last year. Winter wheat yield, at 48.0 bushels per acre, is down 2.0 bushels per acre from last year. **Spring wheat** seedings, at 10,000 acres, are unchanged from last year. Acreage harvested totaled 9,000 acres, up from 8,000 acres harvested last year. Spring wheat production is estimated at 495,000 bushels, up 15 percent from last year. Spring wheat yield, at 55.0 bushels per acre, is up 1.0 bushel per acre from last year.

All hay production for 2015 is estimated at 2.46 million tons, up 3 percent from the 2014 total. **Alfalfa hay** production was estimated at 2.09 million tons from 510,000 acres harvested, up 63,000 tons from 2014. Average yield for the 2015 crop was 4.10 tons per acre, 0.20 ton per acre above last year. **All other hay** production totaled 368,000 tons from 160,000 acres harvested, unchanged from 2014. The average yield of 2.30 tons per acre was unchanged from last year. New **seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in Utah were estimated at 65,000 acres, up 8 percent from 2014.

As of December 1, producers in Utah were storing 1.15 million tons of **all hay**, down 3 percent from the 1.19 million tons stored last year.

Production of **safflower** in 2015 was 14.11 million pounds, compared with 17.82 million pounds in 2014. Planted acres were 16,000, down 3,000 acres from last year. Harvested acres were 15,500, compared with 18,000 acres in 2014. Safflower yields averaged 910 pounds per acre in 2015, down 80 pounds from last year.

Winter wheat seedings last fall for the 2016 crop year are estimated at 125,000 acres, up 9 percent from last year.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn for grain production is estimated at 13.6 billion bushels, down slightly from the November forecast and down 4 percent from the 2014 estimate. The average yield in the United States is estimated at 168.4 bushels per acre. This is down 0.9 bushel from the

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November forecast and 2.6 bushels below the 2014 average yield of 171.0 bushels per acre. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 80.7 million acres, up slightly from the November forecast but down 3 percent from the 2014 acreage. **Corn silage** production is estimated at 127 million tons for 2015, down less than 1 percent from 2014. The United States silage yield is estimated at 20.4 tons per acre, up 0.3 ton from 2014. Area harvested for silage is estimated at 6.22 million acres, down 2 percent from a year ago.

Oats production in 2015 is estimated at 89.5 million bushels, up 27 percent from the revised 2014 total of 70.2 million bushels. Yield is estimated at 70.2 bushels per acre, up 2.3 bushels from the previous year, and represents a new record high for the United States. Harvested area, at 1.28 million acres, is 23 percent above the previous year.

Barley production is estimated at 214 million bushels, up 18 percent from the revised 2014 total. Average yield per acre, at 68.9 bushels, is down 3.8 bushels from the previous year. Producers seeded 3.56 million acres in 2015, up 17 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 3.11 million acres, is up 25 percent from 2014.

All wheat production totaled 2.05 billion bushels in 2015, up 1 percent from the 2014 total. Area harvested for grain totaled 47.1 million acres, up 2 percent from the previous year. The United States yield is estimated at 43.6 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushel from the previous year. **Winter wheat** production for 2015 totaled 1.37 billion bushels, down less than 1 percent from the 2014 total. The United States yield, at 42.5 bushels per acre, is down 0.1 bushel from 2014. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 32.3 million acres, down slightly from the previous year. **Other spring wheat** production for 2015 is estimated at 599 million bushels, up less than 1 percent from the 2014 total. Harvested area totaled 12.9 million acres, up 2 percent from 2014. The United States yield is estimated at 46.3 bushels per acre, down 0.4 bushel below the 2014 average yield. Of the total production, 564 million bushels are Hard Red Spring wheat, up 2 percent from 2014.

Production of **all dry hay** for 2015 is estimated at 134 million tons, down 6 percent from the October 1 forecast and down 4 percent from the revised 2014 total. Area harvested is estimated at 54.4 million acres, down 4 percent from the October 1 forecast and down 5 percent from 2014. The average yield, at 2.47 tons per acre, is down 0.05 ton from the October 1 forecast but up 0.02 ton from the previous year. Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in 2015 is estimated at 59.0 million tons, down 7 percent from the October 1 forecast and down 4 percent from the revised 2014 total. Harvested area, at 17.8 million acres, is down 3 percent from the October 1 forecast and down 3 percent below the previous year. Average yield is estimated at 3.32 tons per acre, 0.13 ton below the October 1 forecast and down 0.02 ton from 2014. Production of **all other hay** in 2015 totaled 75.4 million tons, down 5 percent from the October forecast and down 4 percent from the revised 2014 total. Harvested area, at 36.7 million acres, is down 4 percent from the October 1 forecast and down 5 percent from last year. Average yield is estimated at a record 2.06 tons per acre, down 0.01 ton from the October 1 forecast but up 0.03 ton from the previous year. Growers seeded 2.54 million acres of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** during 2015, down slightly from 2014.

All hay stored on United States farms as of December 1, 2015 totaled 95.0 million tons, up 3 percent from the previous December. Disappearance from May 1, 2015 - December 1, 2015 totaled 63.9 million tons, compared with 67.0 million tons for the same period a year earlier.

Production of **safflower** in 2015, at 214 million pounds, is up 3 percent from 2014 and is the highest since 2010. Growers planted 168,200 acres in 2015, a decrease of 7 percent from 2014. Harvested area, at 159,100 acres, is also down 7 percent from the previous year. Average yield, at 1,347 pounds per acre, increased 121 pounds from 2014 and is the highest since 2009.

Winter wheat seeded area for 2016 is expected to total 36.6 million acres, down 7 percent from 2015. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 26.5 million; Soft Red Winter, 6.72 million; and White Winter, 3.43 million.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production 2015 Summary* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.

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