



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
UTAH FIELD OFFICE
350 S Main St, Ste 100 · Salt Lake City, UT 84101



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: John Hilton
(800) 747-8522

ANNUAL CROP SUMMARY - 2017

UTAH HIGHLIGHTS

The 2017 **corn** for grain crop is estimated at 3.52 million bushels, 31 percent below last year's production of 5.08 million bushels, according to the December 1 Agricultural Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The average yield of 176.0 bushels per acre is 1.0 bushel per acre above the yield achieved last year. Area harvested for grain in 2017, at 20,000 acres, is 9,000 acres below last year. Acreage cut for **corn silage** is estimated at 56,000 acres, up 7,000 acres from last year, with production estimated at 1.40 million tons compared with 1.18 million tons produced last year.

Utah's **barley** seeded area, at 25,000 acres, is down 4,000 acres from last year. Harvested area, at 18,000 acres, is down 1,000 acres from 2016. Barley yield, at 75.0 bushels per acre is down 7.0 bushels per acre from last year. Barley production in 2017 is estimated at 1.35 million bushels, down 13 percent from the previous year.

All wheat production in Utah, estimated at 6.24 million bushels, is down 13 percent from 2016. All wheat yield is 52.0 bushels per acre, down 7.9 bushels per acre from a year ago. **Winter wheat** producers seeded 120,000 acres in the fall of 2016 for harvest in 2017, unchanged from the acres seeded for the previous year's crop. Acreage harvested for grain decreased 4,000 acres from last year to 108,000 acres in 2017. Winter wheat production is estimated at 5.62 million bushels, down 16 percent from last year. Winter wheat yield, at 52.0 bushels per acre, is down 8.0 bushels per acre from last year. **Spring wheat** seedings, at 14,000 acres, are up 5,000 acres from last year. Acreage harvested totaled 12,000 acres, up from 8,000 acres harvested last year. Spring wheat production is estimated at 624,000 bushels, up 34 percent from last year. Spring wheat yield, at 52.0 bushels per acre, is down 6.0 bushels per acre from last year.

All hay production for 2017 is estimated at 2.58 million tons, down 1 percent from the 2016 total. **Alfalfa hay** production is estimated at 2.23 million tons from 530,000 acres harvested, unchanged from 2016. Average yield for the 2017 crop is 4.20 tons per acre, unchanged from last year. **All other hay** production totaled 357,000 tons from 170,000 acres harvested, down 17,000 tons from 2016. The average yield of 2.10 tons per acre is down 0.10 ton per acre from last year. New **seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in Utah are estimated at 60,000 acres, up 9 percent from 2016.

As of December 1, producers in Utah were storing 1.15 million tons of **all hay**, down 4 percent from the 1.20 million tons stored last year.

Production of **safflower** in 2017 is 14.50 million pounds, compared with 10.94 million pounds in 2016. Planted acres are 15,500, up 1,500 acres from last year. Harvested acres are 14,500, compared with 13,500 acres in 2016. Safflower yields averaged a record high 1,000 pounds per acre in 2017, up 190 pounds per acre from last year.

Winter wheat seedings last fall for the 2018 crop year are estimated at 120,000 acres, unchanged from last year.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn for grain production in 2017 was estimated at 14.6 billion bushels, down 4 percent from the 2016 estimate. The average yield in the United States was estimated at a record high 176.6 bushels per acre, 2.0 bushels above the 2016 average yield of 174.6 bushels per acre. Area harvested for grain was estimated at 82.7 million acres, down 5 percent from the 2016 estimate. **Corn silage** production was estimated at 128 million tons for 2017, up 2 percent from 2016. The United States silage yield was estimated at 19.9 tons per acre, down 0.4 ton from 2016. Area harvested for silage was estimated at 6.43 million acres, up 4 percent from a year ago.

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Barley production was estimated at 142 million bushels, down 29 percent from the 2016 total of 200 million bushels. Average yield per acre, at 72.6 bushels, was down 5.3 bushels from the previous year. Producers seeded 2.48 million acres in 2017, down 19 percent from 2016, and the lowest acreage planted on record since estimates began in 1866. Harvested area, at 1.95 million acres, was down 24 percent from 2016.

All wheat production totaled 1.74 billion bushels in 2017, down 25 percent from the 2016 total of 2.31 billion bushels. Area harvested for grain totaled 37.6 million acres, down 14 percent from the previous year. The United States yield was estimated at 46.3 bushels per acre, down 6.4 bushels from the previous year. The levels of production and changes from 2016 by type are winter wheat, 1.27 billion bushels, down 24 percent; other spring wheat, 416 million bushels, down 22 percent; and Durum wheat, 54.9 million bushels, down 47 percent. **Winter wheat** production for 2017 totaled 1.27 billion bushels, down 24 percent from the 2016 total of 1.67 billion bushels. The United States yield, at 50.2 bushels per acre, was down 5.1 bushels from 2016. Area harvested for grain was estimated at 25.3 million acres, down 16 percent from the previous year. **Other spring wheat** production for 2017 was estimated at 416 million bushels, down 22 percent from the 2016 total of 532 million bushels. Harvested area totaled 10.2 million acres, down 10 percent from 2016. The United States yield was estimated at 41.0 bushels per acre, 6.3 bushels below 2016.

Production of **all dry hay** for 2017 was estimated at 131 million tons, down 3 percent from the revised 2016 total. Area harvested was estimated at 53.8 million acres, up one percent from 2016. The average yield, at 2.44 tons per acre, was down 0.08 ton from the previous year. Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in 2017 was estimated at 55.1 million tons, down 5 percent from the 2016 total. Harvested area, at 16.6 million acres, was 2 percent below the previous year. Average yield was estimated at 3.32 tons per acre, down 0.13 ton from 2016. Production of **all other hay** in 2017 totaled 76.4 million tons, down less than 1 percent from the revised 2016 total. Harvested area, at 37.2 million acres, was up 2 percent from the previous year. Average yield was estimated at 2.05 tons per acre, down 0.05 ton from the previous year's revised record high. Growers seeded 2.21 million acres of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** during 2017, down 3 percent from 2016.

All hay stored on United States farms as of December 1, 2017 totaled 86.2 million tons, down 10 percent from the previous December. Disappearance from May 1, 2017 - December 1, 2017 totaled 69.6 million tons, compared with 64.3 million tons for the same period a year earlier.

Production of **safflower** in 2017, at 180 million pounds, was down 18 percent from 2016 and was the third lowest production since records began in 1991. Growers planted 162,000 acres in 2017, an increase of 1 percent from 2016. Harvested area, at 143,200 acres, was down 6 percent from the previous year. Average yield, at 1,256 pounds per acre, declined 176 pounds from 2016.

Winter wheat seeded area for 2018 is expected to total 32.6 million acres, down less than 1 percent from 2017. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 23.1 million; Soft Red Winter, 5.98 million; and White Winter, 3.56 million.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production 2017 Summary* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.

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