



# 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 - 2020

### UTAH HIGHLIGHTS

The 2020 **corn** for grain crop is estimated at 4.62 million bushels, 24 percent above last year's production of 3.72 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 149.0 bushels per acre is 6.0 bushels per acre above the yield achieved last year. Area harvested for grain in 2020, at 31,000 acres, is 5,000 acres above last year. Acreage cut for **corn silage** is estimated at 55,000 acres, unchanged from last year, with production estimated at 1.27 million tons compared with 1.32 million tons produced last year.

Utah's **barley** seeded area, at a record low 17,000 acres, is down 1,000 acres from last year. Harvested area, at 10,000 acres, is down 1,000 acres from 2019. Barley yield, at 85.0 bushels per acre, is down 8.0 bushels per acre from last year. Barley production in 2020 is estimated at 850,000 bushels, down 17 percent from the previous year.

**Winter wheat** production in Utah, estimated at 5.19 million bushels, is down 17 percent from 2019. Winter wheat producers seeded a record low 110,000 acres in the fall of 2019 for harvest in 2020, down from 125,000 acres seeded for the previous year's crop. Acreage harvested for grain decreased 18,000 acres from last year to 98,000 acres in 2020, the second lowest harvested acreage on record. Winter wheat yield, at 53.0 bushels per acre, is down 1.0 bushel per acre from last year.

**All hay** production for 2020 is estimated at 2.54 million tons, down 3 percent from the 2019 total. **Alfalfa hay** production is estimated at 2.09 million tons from 550,000 acres harvested, down 103,000 tons from 2019. Average yield for the 2020 crop is 3.80 tons per acre, 0.50 ton per acre below last year. **All other hay** production totaled 450,000 tons from 180,000 acres harvested, up 25,000 tons from 2019. The average yield of 2.50 tons per acre is unchanged from last year. New **seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in Utah are estimated at 60,000 acres, down 8 percent from 2019.

As of December 1, producers in Utah were storing 1.25 million tons of **all hay**, down 4 percent from the 1.30 million tons stored last year.

Production of **safflower** in 2020 is 18.04 million pounds, compared with 13.34 million pounds in 2019. Planted acres are 23,000, up 10,000 acres from last year. Harvested acres are 22,000, compared with 12,700 acres in 2019. Safflower yields averaged 820 pounds per acre in 2020, down 230 pounds per acre from last year.

**Winter wheat seedings** last fall for the 2021 crop year are estimated at 110,000 acres, unchanged from 2020.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Corn** for grain production in 2020 was estimated at 14.2 billion bushels, up 4 percent from the 2019 estimate. The average yield in the United States was estimated at 172.0 bushels per acre, 4.5 bushels above the 2019 yield of 167.5 bushels per acre. Area harvested for grain was estimated at 82.5 million acres, up 1 percent from the 2019 estimate. **Corn silage** production was estimated at 138 million tons for 2020, up 3 percent from the 2019 estimate. The United States silage yield was estimated at 20.5 tons per acre, up 0.3 ton from 2019. Area harvested for silage was estimated at 6.72 million acres, up 2 percent from the 2019 estimate.

**Barley** production was estimated at 165 million bushels, down 4 percent from the revised 2019 total of 172 million bushels. The average yield, at 77.5 bushels per acre, was down 0.2 bushel from the previous year. Producers seeded 2.62 million acres in 2020, down 5 percent from 2019. Harvested area, at 2.13 million acres, was down 4 percent from 2019.

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**All wheat** production totaled 1.83 billion bushels in 2020, down 5 percent from the 2019 total of 1.93 billion bushels. Area harvested for grain totaled 36.7 million acres, down 2 percent from the previous year. The United States yield was estimated at 49.7 bushels per acre, down 2.0 bushels from the previous year. The levels of production and changes from 2019 by type were: winter wheat, 1.17 billion bushels, down 11 percent; other spring wheat, 586 million bushels, up 4 percent; and Durum wheat, 68.8 million bushels, up 28 percent. **Winter wheat** production for 2020 totaled 1.17 billion bushels, down 11 percent from the 2019 total of 1.32 billion bushels. The United States yield, at 50.9 bushels per acre, was down 2.7 bushels from 2019. Area harvested for grain was estimated at a record low 23.0 million acres, down 6 percent from the previous year.

Production of **all dry hay** for 2020 was estimated at 126.8 million tons, down 2 percent from the 2019 total. Area harvested was estimated at 52.2 million acres, down less than 1 percent from 2019. The average yield, at 2.43 tons per acre, was down 0.03 ton from 2019. Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in 2020 was estimated at 53.1 million tons, down 3 percent from the 2019 total. Harvested area, at 16.2 million acres, was 3 percent below 2019. Harvested area has been trending lower, but has leveled off in recent years. Average yield was estimated at 3.27 tons per acre, down 0.01 ton from 2019. Production of **all other hay** in 2020 totaled 73.7 million tons, down less than 1 percent from the 2019 total. Harvested area, at 36.0 million acres, was up 1 percent from 2019. Average yield was estimated at 2.05 tons per acre, down 0.02 ton from 2019. This is the fifth highest yield on record, with four of the five occurring in the last six years. Growers seeded 2.18 million acres of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** during 2020, down 12 percent from 2019. New seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures are normally harvested for the first time in the year following planting.

All **hay stored** on United States farms as of December 1, 2020 totaled 84.0 million tons, down 1 percent from December 1, 2019, which is the third lowest December 1 stocks since 1977. Disappearance from May 1, 2020 - December 1, 2020 totaled 63.2 million tons, up 7 percent from the same period in 2019.

Production of **safflower** in 2020, at a record low of 148 million pounds, was down 23 percent from 2019. Growers planted 136,000 acres in 2020, a decrease of 18 percent from the previous year and represents the second lowest planted area for the Nation since records began in 1991. Harvested area for the Nation, at 126,700 acres, was down 16 percent from 2019 and is the second lowest harvested area on record. The average yield for the Nation, at 1,167 pounds per acre, declined 106 pounds from the 2019 average yield per acre and represents the third lowest yield on record.

**Winter wheat** planted area for harvest in 2021 is estimated at 32.0 million acres, up 5 percent from 2020 and up 2 percent from 2019. This represents the fourth lowest United States acreage on record.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production 2020 Summary* report please visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

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