CROP PRODUCTION – OCTOBER 2021

UTAH HIGHLIGHTS

Based on October 1 conditions, alfalfa hay production in Utah is forecast to total 1.81 million tons this year, down 13 percent from the 2.09 million tons produced in 2020, according to the October 1 Agricultural Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. If realized, this would be the lowest alfalfa hay production in Utah since 1.74 million tons in 1989. Utah farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 490,000 acres of alfalfa hay this year, down 60,000 acres from 2020. If realized, this would be the lowest alfalfa hay harvested acreage since 490,000 acres in 1992. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 3.70 tons per acre, compared with last year’s yield of 3.80 tons per acre and the August forecast of 3.10 tons per acre.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Production of alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay for 2021 is forecast at 48.2 million tons, up 1 percent from the August forecast, but down 9 percent from 2020. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 2.99 tons per acre, up 0.02 ton from the August forecast, but down 0.28 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 16.1 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report, but down 1 percent from 2020.

Production of other hay is forecast at 72.3 million tons, up 2 percent from the August forecast, but down 2 percent from 2020. Based on October 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 2.04 tons per acre, up 0.04 ton from the August forecast, but down 0.01 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 35.4 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report, but down 2 percent from 2020.

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