



# 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 - 2021

### UTAH HIGHLIGHTS

The 2021 **corn** for grain crop is estimated at 3.40 million bushels, 21 percent below last year's production of 4.32 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 179.0 bushels per acre is 30.0 bushels per acre above the yield achieved last year. Area harvested for grain in 2021, at 19,000 acres, is 10,000 acres below last year. Acreage cut for **corn silage** is estimated at 47,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from last year, with production estimated at 1.13 million tons compared with 1.20 million tons produced last year.

Utah's **barley** seeded area, at a record low 17,000 acres, is down 4,000 acres from last year. Harvested area, at 9,000 acres, is down 3,000 acres from 2020 and the lowest harvested acreage since 9,000 acres were harvested in 1899. Barley yield, at 81.0 bushels per acre, is down 4.0 bushels per acre from last year. Barley production in 2021 is estimated at 729,000 bushels, down 29 percent from the previous year and the lowest production since 680,000 bushels in 1926.

**Winter wheat** production in Utah, estimated at 4.51 million bushels, is down 13 percent from 2020. Winter wheat producers seeded 110,000 acres in the fall of 2020 for harvest in 2021, equal to the record low acres seeded for the previous year's crop. Acres harvested for grain in 2021 were equal to last year's second lowest harvested acreage on record at 98,000 acres. Winter wheat yield, at 46.0 bushels per acre, is down 7.0 bushels per acre from last year.

**All hay** production for 2021 is estimated at 2.21 million tons, down 13 percent from the 2020 total. **Alfalfa hay** production is estimated at 1.81 million tons from 490,000 acres harvested, down 277,000 tons from 2020. Average yield for the 2021 crop is 3.70 tons per acre, 0.10 ton per acre below last year. **All other hay** production totaled 396,000 tons from 180,000 acres harvested, down 54,000 tons from 2020. The average yield of 2.20 tons per acre is 0.30 per acre below last year. New **seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in Utah are estimated at 45,000 acres, down 25 percent from 2020.

As of December 1, producers in Utah were storing 1.00 million tons of **all hay**, down 20 percent from the 1.25 million tons stored last year.

Production of **safflower** in 2021 is 7.36 million pounds, compared with 18.04 million pounds in 2020. Planted acres are 22,000, down 1,000 acres from last year. Harvested acres are 16,000, compared with 22,000 acres in 2020. Safflower yields averaged 460 pounds per acre in 2021, down 360 pounds per acre from last year.

**Winter wheat seedings** last fall for the 2022 crop year are estimated at 130,000 acres, up 18 percent from 2021.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Corn for grain** production in 2021 was estimated at 15.1 billion bushels, up 7 percent from the 2020 estimate. The average yield in the United States was estimated at a record high 177.0 bushels per acre, 5.6 bushels above the 2020 yield of 171.4 bushels per acre. Area harvested for grain was estimated at 85.4 million acres, up 4 percent from the 2020 estimate. **Corn silage** production was estimated at 130 million tons for 2021, down 5 percent from the 2020 estimate. The United States silage yield was estimated at 20.1 tons per acre, down 0.4 ton from 2020. Area harvested for silage was estimated at 6.48 million acres, down 3 percent from the 2020 estimate.

**Barley** production was estimated at 118 million bushels, down 31 percent from the 2020 total of 171 million bushels. The average yield, at 60.4 bushels per acre, was down 16.8 bushels from the previous year. Producers seeded 2.66 million acres in 2021, down 2 percent from 2020. Harvested area, at 1.95 million acres, was down 12 percent from 2020.

**All wheat** production totaled 1.65 billion bushels in 2021, down 10 percent from the 2020 total of 1.83 billion bushels. Area harvested for grain totaled 37.2 million acres, up 1 percent from the previous year. The United States yield was estimated at 44.3 bushels per acre,

down 5.4 bushels from the previous year. The levels of production and changes from 2020 by type were: winter wheat, 1.28 billion bushels, up 9 percent; other spring wheat, 331 million bushels, down 44 percent; and Durum wheat, 37.3 million bushels, down 46 percent. **Winter wheat** production for 2021 totaled 1.28 billion bushels, up 9 percent from the 2020 total of 1.17 billion bushels. The United States yield, at 50.2 bushels per acre, was down 0.7 bushel from 2020. Area harvested for grain was estimated at 25.5 million acres, up 11 percent from the previous year.

Production of **all dry hay** for 2021 was estimated at 120.2 million tons, down 5 percent from the 2020 total. Area harvested was estimated at 50.7 million acres, down 3 percent from 2020. The average yield, at 2.37 tons per acre, was down 0.06 ton from 2020. Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in 2021 was estimated at 49.2 million tons, down 7 percent from the 2020 total. Harvested area, at 15.2 million acres, was 6 percent below 2020. Average yield was estimated at 3.23 tons per acre, down 0.04 ton from 2020. **All other hay** production in 2021 totaled 71.0 million tons, down 4 percent from the 2020 total. Harvested area, at 35.5 million acres, was down 1 percent from 2020. Average yield was estimated at 2.00 tons per acre, down 0.05 ton from 2020. **New seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** totaled 1.65 million acres during 2021, down 25 percent from 2020. This is a record low for the Nation. 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, 2021 totaled 79.0 million tons, down 6 percent from December 1, 2020, which is the third lowest December 1 stocks since 1977. Disappearance from May 1, 2021 - December 1, 2021 totaled 59.2 million tons, down 6 percent from the same period in 2020.

Production of **safflower** in 2021, at a record low of 135 million pounds, was down 11 percent from 2020. Growers planted 152,000 acres in 2021, an increase of 10 percent from the previous year but represented the third lowest planted area for the Nation since records began in 1991.

**Winter wheat** seeded area for 2022 is expected to total 34.4 million acres, up 2 percent from 2021. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 23.8 million; Soft Red Winter, 7.07 million; and White Winter, 3.56 million.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production 2021 Summary* report, please visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

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