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### **Virginia Winter Wheat Production down 3 percent from 2017**

RICHMOND, Va. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released its Small Grains Summary Report today from the September Agricultural Survey conducted earlier this month.

“Virginia small grain crops experienced above average temperatures and heavy precipitation during the month of June,” said Herman Ellison, Virginia State Statistician. “Producers reported a delayed harvest due to excess moisture from heavy rains late May and early June, as well as standing water in fields. The small grain yields were lower than last year.”

**Virginia** farmers harvested 9.30 million bushels of **winter wheat** during the summer of 2018 according to the Virginia Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. This was down 3 percent from the previous year. Yield is estimated at 60.0 bushels per acre, down 6.0 bushels from 2017. Farmers seeded 230,000 acres last fall, up 20,000 acres from 2017. Area harvested for grain totaled 155,000 acres. Acres for other uses totaled 75,000 acres.

**Barley** production for **Virginia** is estimated at 630,000 bushels, down 22 percent from the 2017 total. Average yield per acre, at 70.0 bushels, is down 3.0 bushels from the previous year. Producers seeded 30,000 acres in 2018, unchanged from last year. Harvested area, at 9,000 acres, is down 2,000 acres from 2017.

Production of **all wheat** for the **U.S.** totaled 1.88 billion bushels, up slightly from the August 1 forecast and up 8 percent from 2017. Grain area harvested totaled 39.6 million acres, up 5 percent from the previous year. The United States yield is estimated at 47.6 bushels per acre, up 0.2 bushels from August 1 forecast and up 1.3 bushels from last year. The levels of production and changes from 2017 by type are winter wheat, 1.18 billion bushels, down 7 percent; other spring wheat, 623 million bushels, up 50 percent, and durum wheat, 77.3 million bushels, up 41 percent.

**Barley** production for the **United States** is estimated at 153 million bushels, up 8 percent from the revised 2017 total. Average yield per acre, at 77.4 bushels, is up 4.8 bushels from the previous year. Producers seeded 2.54 million acres in 2018, up 2 percent from last year. Harvested area, at 1.98 million acres, is up 1 percent from 2017.

“Thanks you to all the farmers for taking time to complete the NASS surveys,” Ellison said. “We appreciate their efforts during the busy growing season.”