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Virginia Winter Wheat Production Forecast down 17 percent from 2018

Virginia farmers expect to harvest 7.71 million bushels of **winter wheat** during 2019 according to the Virginia field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The expected crop for 2019 would be down 17 percent from the previous year. The forecast was based on crop conditions as of June 1 and increased 8 percent from the May forecast. Growers expect a yield of 67.0 bushels per acre, up 7.0 bushels from 2018 and up 5.0 bushels from May. Farmers seeded 180,000 acres last fall with 115,000 acres to be harvested for grain. Acres for other uses totaled 65,000 acres and will be used as cover crop for tobacco or cut as silage or hay.

As of June 1, the winter wheat crop in the state was rated mostly fair to good with little harvested yet.

Winter wheat production for the **Nation** was forecast at 1.27 billion bushels, up slightly from the May 1 forecast and up 8 percent from 2018. Based on June 1 conditions, the United States yield is forecast at 50.5 bushels per acre, up 0.2 bushels from last month and up 2.6 bushels from last year. The expected area to be harvested for grain or seed totals 25.2 million acres, up 2 percent from last year.