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Virginia Winter Wheat Production Forecast up 55% from 2019

Virginia farmers expect to harvest 10.1 million bushels of **winter wheat** during 2020 according to the Virginia Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The expected crop for 2020 would be up 55% from the previous year. The forecast was based on crop conditions as of July 1 and decreased 8% from the June forecast. Growers expect a yield of 61.0 bushels per acre, down 1.0 bushels from 2019 and unchanged bushels from June. Farmers seeded 235,000 acres last fall with 165,000 acres to be harvested for grain. Acres for other uses totaled 70,000 acres and will be used as cover crop for tobacco or cut as silage or hay.

Winter wheat production for the **Nation** was forecast at 1.22 billion bushels, down 4% from the June 1 forecast and down 7% from 2019. Based on July 1 conditions, the United States yield is forecast at 52.0 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushels from last month and down 1.6 bushels from last year. The expected area to be harvested for grain or seed totals 23.4 million acres, down 4% from last year.

Barley producers in **Virginia** forecast harvesting 594 thousand bushels for 2020, up 31% from last year. Acres expected to be harvested for grain total 9,000 acres, 2,000 above last year. Producers expect a yield of 66.0 bushels per acre, up 1.0 bushels from 2019. **U. S.** production is expected to total 170 million bushels. Acres harvested is forecast at 2.23 million acres, up 2% from last year. Growers nationwide anticipate a yield of 76.1 bushels per acre, decreased 1.6 bushels from 2020.

Flue-cured tobacco production in **Virginia** is forecast at 28.0 million pounds, 2% lower than the 28.5 million pounds produced in 2019. Acres for harvest are estimated at 14,000, down 1,000 acres from the 15,000 acres harvested last year. Yield per acre is forecast at 2,000 pounds, up 100 pounds from last year. **U. S.** production is forecast at 231 million pounds down 22% from 2019. Acres harvested is estimated at 120,500 acres, down 19% from last year. Yield per acre is forecast at 1,919 pounds, down 71.0 pounds from the previous year.