



# OREGON GRASS SEED FORECAST

## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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### OREGON GRASS SEED ACRES DECREASE

Growers of Oregon annual ryegrass seed indicated that acres available for harvest in 2016 will decrease 4 percent from 2015 at 118,000 acres. The number of acres of perennial ryegrass available for harvest in 2016 is estimated to be 97,000 acres, unchanged from 2015. Acreage totals for 2015 were revised from preliminary intentions based on 2016 survey data, for all grass seed types.

Growers of Oregon tall fescue acreage indicated a slight decrease in total acreage from 2015. The number of acres of turf-type tall fescue and forage-type tall fescue are unchanged from last year. Acres of K-31 and other types of tall fescue are expected to be down 10 percent from 2015 and are estimated at 9,000 acres.

Grass seed growers reported that 2015 yields were lower due to drought conditions. Damage from the lack of water was very apparent in the fall and some fields were slow to recover. Growers reported damage from winter cut worms, mice, and slugs. This spring seems promising with adequate moisture and growers are hoping for a break from the dry weather of last year.

The 2016 survey resulted in responses from 74 percent of those contacted. This report wouldn't be possible without the support and cooperation of the growers providing information and from the organizations that funded the survey. Special thanks go to the Oregon Ryegrass Growers Seed Commission, Oregon Tall Fescue Commission, Oregon Grass Seed Bargaining Association, and Oregon Seed Association for support of the survey.

Type of Seed	Acres Harvested in 2015	Acres Available for Harvest in 2016
Ryegrass Seed - Annual	123,000	118,000
Ryegrass Seed - Perennial	97,000	97,000
Tall Fescue Seed - Turf Type	115,000	115,000
Tall Fescue Seed - Forage Type	15,000	15,000
Tall Fescue Seed - K-31 & Other	10,000	9,000