



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
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## OCTOBER CROP PRODUCTION

**Charleston, West Virginia - All other hay** production is forecast at 1,140,000 tons, up 11 percent from the August 1 forecast of 1,026,000 tons and up 18 percent from the 2015 crop. All other hay harvested acreage is expected to total 570,000 acres in 2016, this is unchanged from the August 1 forecast and unchanged from 2015. Yield is expected to average 2.00 tons per acre, up 0.20 ton per acre from the August 1 forecast and up 0.30 ton per acre from 2015. The October 1 production forecast for alfalfa hay is not published for West Virginia. The next alfalfa hay estimate will be published in January 2017.

**United States - Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures dry hay** production for 2016 is forecast at 62.8 million tons, up 7 percent from 2015. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.48 tons per acre, up 0.16 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 18.1 million acres, unchanged from the August forecast but up 2 percent from 2015.

Conditions in the western United States, despite continued dryness, are better than in 2015. Favorable conditions in the Corn Belt have producers there expecting improved yields over 2015. Record high yields are expected in Indiana, Iowa, Nevada, Washington, and Wisconsin in 2016.

**Other hay** production is forecast at 78.8 million tons, up 4 percent from 2015. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 2.07 tons per acre, up 0.01 ton from last year. If realized, the 2016 average yield will be a record high for the United States and production will be the third highest on record behind only 2004 and 2003. Harvested area is forecast at 38.1 million acres, unchanged from the August forecast but up 4 percent from 2015.

Due to adequate moisture, most producers in the Heartland region are expecting improved yields compared with 2015. In many western States, production is expected to be higher than 2015 due to the combination of either increased harvested acres or higher expected yields. Producers in Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, and New York are expecting record high yields in 2016.

**Corn** production is forecast at 15.1 billion bushels, up 11 percent from last year but down slightly from the September forecast. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 173.4 bushels per acre, down 1 bushel from the September forecast but up 5 bushels from 2015. If realized, this will be the highest yield and production on record for the United States. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 86.8 million acres, up slightly from the September forecast and up 8 percent from 2015. Acreage updates were made in several States following a thorough review of all available data.

**Soybean** production is forecast at a record 4.27 billion bushels, up 2 percent from September and up 9 percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average a record 51.4 bushels per acre, up 0.8 bushel from last month and up 3.4 bushels from last year. Area for harvest in the United States is forecast at a record 83.0 million acres, up slightly from September and up 2 percent from 2015. Acreage updates were made in several States based on a thorough review of all available data.