



# 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 864,000 tons, down 10 percent from the August 1 forecast of 960,000 tons, and down 2 percent from the 2018 crop. All other hay harvested acreage is expected to total 480,000 acres in 2019, this is unchanged from the August 1 forecast, but down 8 percent from 2018. Yield is expected to average 1.80 tons per acre, down 0.20 ton per acre from the August 1 forecast, but up 0.10 ton per acre from 2018. The October 1 production forecast for alfalfa hay is not published for West Virginia. The next alfalfa hay estimate will be published in January 2020.

**United States - Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures dry hay** production for 2019 is forecast at 54.2 million tons, down 2 percent from the previous forecast, but up 3 percent from 2018. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.22 tons per acre, down 0.07 ton from the previous forecast, but up 0.05 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 16.8 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but up 1 percent from 2018. Record high yields are expected in Nevada and New Mexico.

**Other hay** production is forecast at 76.7 million tons, up 1 percent from the previous forecast and up 8 percent from 2018. Based on October 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 2.13 tons per acre, up 0.02 ton from the previous forecast and up 0.17 ton from last year. If realized, this would represent a new record high for the United States, surpassing the previous record of 2.09 tons per acre in 2016. Harvested area is forecast at 35.9 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but down 1 percent from 2018.

Much of the country has received significant precipitation this year. While moisture has hindered fieldwork at times, it has encouraged forage growth. Favorable conditions in Iowa, Missouri, and Tennessee have producers expecting record high yields in 2019.

**Corn** production for grain is forecast at 13.8 billion bushels, down less than 1 percent from the previous forecast and down 4 percent from last year. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 168.4 bushels per harvested acre, up 0.2 bushel from the previous forecast, but down 8.0 bushels from 2018. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 81.8 million acres, down less than 1 percent from the previous forecast, but up slightly from 2018. Acreage updates were made in several States based on a thorough review of all available data.

**Soybean** production for beans is forecast at 3.55 billion bushels, down 2 percent from the previous forecast and down 20 percent from last year. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 46.9 bushels per acre, down 1.0 bushel from the previous forecast and down 3.7 bushels from 2018. Area harvested for beans in the United States is forecast at 75.6 million acres, down less than 1 percent from the previous forecast and down 14 percent from 2018. Acreage updates were made in several States based on a thorough review of all available data.