



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
WYOMING FIELD OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 1148 · Cheyenne, WY 82003



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 11, 2018

Contact: Rhonda Brandt  
(800) 892-1660

## CROP PRODUCTION – OCTOBER 2018

### WYOMING HIGHLIGHTS

Based on October 1 conditions, **alfalfa hay** production in Wyoming is forecast to total 1.74 million tons this year, up from 1.60 million tons produced in 2017, according to the October 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Wyoming farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 560,000 acres of alfalfa hay this year, up 10,000 acres from 2017. Alfalfa hay yield is expected to average 3.10 tons per acre, compared with last year's yield of 2.90 tons per acre and the August forecast of 3.10 tons per acre. Producers expect to harvest 500,000 acres of **other hay** in 2018, down 20,000 from last year. Other hay production is forecast at 850,000 tons, down 4 percent from a year ago. Other hay yield is expected to average 1.70 tons per acre, compared with last year's yield of 1.70 tons per acre and the August forecast of 1.80 tons per acre.

**Sugarbeet** production in Wyoming is forecast at 998,000 tons, up 12 percent from the 891,000 tons produced in 2017. Growers expect to harvest 30,900 acres this year, compared with 31,600 acres a year ago. Yields are expected to average 32.3 tons per acre, down 0.1 ton per acre from the September 1 forecast but up from last year's yield of 28.2 tons per acre. As of September 30, Wyoming's sugarbeet crop condition was rated 12 percent fair, 77 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Harvest of sugarbeets was estimated at 19 percent complete, compared with 11 percent last year and the 5-year average of 16 percent.

**Dry bean** production for 2018 is forecast at 672,000 hundredweight, down 28 percent from the 933,000 hundredweight produced a year earlier. Yields are expected to average 2,400 pounds per acre, up 190 pounds per acre from the August 1 forecast and up from 2,390 pounds per acre last year. Growers expect to harvest 28,000 acres this year, down 11,000 acres from the 39,000 acres harvested last year. As of September 30, Wyoming's dry bean harvest was estimated to be 78 percent complete, compared with 61 percent last year and the 5-year average of 51 percent.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture** dry hay for 2018 is forecast at 59.5 million tons, up 3 percent from the August forecast and up 8 percent from 2017. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.43 tons per acre, up 0.10 ton from the August forecast and up 0.11 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 17.4 million acres up 5 percent from 2017.

Production of **other hay** is forecast at 74.9 million tons, up 6 percent from the August forecast but down 2 percent from 2017. Based on October 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 1.98 tons per acre, up 0.10 ton from the August forecast but down 0.07 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 37.7 million acres up 1 percent from 2017.

Production of **sugarbeets**, for the 2018 crop year, is forecast at 35.2 million tons, down slightly from last year. Producers expect to harvest 1.10 million acres, down 1 percent from last year. Expected yield is forecast at 32.0 tons per acre, an increase of 0.3 ton from last year.

United States **dry edible bean** production is forecast at 37.8 million cwt for 2018, up 6 percent from last year. If realized, this will be a record high production. Planted area is estimated at 2.08 million acres, down 1 percent from 2017. Harvested area is forecast at 2.01 million acres, down less than 1 percent from the previous year. The average United States yield is forecast at 1,884 pounds per acre, an increase of 103 pounds from 2017.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production* report please visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

NASS provides accurate, timely, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you to provide occasional feedback on our products and services. Sign up at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions> and look for "NASS Data User Community."

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).