



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
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Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



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## CROP PRODUCTION – MAY 2022

### MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

**Winter wheat** production in Montana, based on conditions as of May 1, 2022, is forecast at 74.10 million bushels, according to the May 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is 38 percent above last year's production of 53.63 million bushels but 2 percent below the 75.99 million bushel crop produced two years ago. Acreage for harvest, forecast at 1.90 million acres, is 170,000 acres more than a year ago. Average yield is forecast at 39.0 bushels per acre, up 8.0 bushels per acre from last year's yield.

As of May 1, Montana's winter wheat crop condition was rated 25 percent very poor, 24 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 11 percent good, and 1 percent excellent, compared with 2 percent very poor, 20 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 6 percent excellent last year.

**Hay stocks** on Montana farms and ranches as of May 1, 2022 totaled 450,000 tons, down 54 percent from stocks of 970,000 million tons on hand last year, and the lowest ending stocks since 449,000 tons in 2001. Hay production for 2021 was 3.60 million tons, 39 percent lower than 2020 production. Disappearance from December 1, 2021 to May 1, 2022 was 2.45 million tons, compared with 3.83 million tons the same period a year earlier.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Winter wheat** production is forecast at 1.17 billion bushels, down 8 percent from 2021. As of May 1, the United States yield is forecast at 47.9 bushels per acre, down 2.3 bushels from last year's average yield of 50.2 bushels per acre. Area expected to be harvested for grain or seed is forecast at 24.5 million acres, down 4 percent from last year. Hard Red Winter production, at 590 million bushels, is down 21 percent from a year ago. Soft Red Winter, at 354 million bushels, is down 2 percent from 2021. White Winter, at 230 million bushels, is up 38 percent from last year. Of the White Winter production, 15.7 million bushels are Hard White and 214 million bushels are Soft White.

**All hay stored** on United States farms as of May 1, 2022, totaled 16.8 million tons, down 7 percent from May 1, 2021. Disappearance from December 1, 2021 – May 1, 2022, totaled 62.2 million tons, down 6 percent from the same period a year earlier.

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