



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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CROP PRODUCTION – JULY 1, 2023

MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

Winter wheat production in Montana, based on conditions as of July 1, 2023, is forecast at 80.85 million bushels, according to the July 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is up 5 percent from the June 1 forecast, and is 36 percent above the 59.40-million-bushel crop produced last year. Estimated harvested area, at 1.65 million acres, is unchanged from the *Acres* report released on June 30, 2023, but is 150,000 acres below the 1.80 million acres harvested in 2022. As of July 1, the average yield is forecast at 49.0 bushels per acre, up 5.0 bushels from the June 1 forecast and 16.0 bushels above last year's final yield.

As of July 2, Montana's winter wheat crop condition was rated 1 percent poor, 50 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 10 percent excellent, compared with 14 percent very poor, 25 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 19 percent good, and 13 percent excellent last year. Eighty percent of the winter wheat crop was at or beyond the headed stage, compared with 76 percent last year and a 5-year average of 81 percent.

Durum wheat production in Montana is forecast at 21.08 million bushels, up 12 percent from the 18.90-million-bushel crop produced last year. Estimated harvested area, at 620,000 acres, is 55,000 acres less than the 675,000 acres harvested in 2022. As of July 1, the average yield is forecast at 34.0 bushels per acre, up 6.0 bushels from last year's final yield.

As of July 2, Montana's Durum wheat crop condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 67 percent fair, and 28 percent good, compared with 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 65 percent good, and 1 percent excellent last year. Durum wheat headed was 7 percent complete, compared with 20 percent last year and the 5-year average of 21 percent.

Spring wheat production in Montana is forecast at 86.70 million bushels, up 42 percent from the 61.00-million-bushel crop produced last year. Estimated area for harvest, at 2.55 million acres, is 110,000 acres above the 2.44 million acres harvested in 2022. As of July 1, the average yield is forecast at 34.0 bushels per acre, 9.0 bushels above last year's final yield.

As of July 2, Montana's spring wheat crop condition was rated 2 percent poor, 40 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 1 percent excellent, compared with 8 percent very poor, 18 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 34 percent good, and 2 percent excellent last year. One-third of the spring wheat crop was at or beyond the headed stage of development, compared with 18 percent last year and the 5-year average of 32 percent.

Barley production in Montana is forecast at 38.87 million bushels, up 13 percent from the 34.44-million-bushel crop produced in 2022. Harvested area is expected to total 845,000 acres, up 5,000 acres from last year. Barley yield is forecast at 46.0 bushels per acre, up 5.0 bushels from last year's final yield.

As of July 2, Montana's barley crop condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 59 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 1 percent excellent, compared with 9 percent very poor, 24 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 30 percent good, and 5 percent excellent last year. The barley crop was 17 percent headed, compared with 36 percent last year and the 5-year average of 36 percent.

Oat production in Montana is forecast at 1,500,000 bushels, up 64 percent from the 912,000-bushel crop produced in 2022. Harvested area is expected to total 30,000 acres, 6,000 acres more than last year. Oat yield is forecast at 50.0 bushels per acre, up 12.0 bushels from last year's final yield.

As of July 2, Montana's oat crop condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 46 percent fair, 41 percent good, and 3 percent excellent, compared with 6 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 44 percent fair, 38 percent good, and 6 percent excellent last year. Forty-two percent of the oat crop was at or beyond the boot stage, compared with 69 percent last year and the 5-year average of 53 percent.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.21 billion bushels, up 6 percent from the June 1 forecast and up 9 percent from 2022. As of July 1, the United States yield is forecast at 46.9 bushels per acre, up 2.0 bushels from last month but down 0.1 bushel from last year's average yield of 47.0 bushels per acre. Area expected to be harvested for grain or seed totals 25.7 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report released on June 30, 2023, but up 10 percent from last year. Hard Red Winter production, at 577 million bushels, is up 10 percent from last month. Soft Red Winter, at 422 million bushels, is up 5 percent from the June forecast. White Winter, at 207 million bushels, is down 1 percent from last month. Of the White Winter production, 11.4 million bushels are Hard White and 196 million bushels are Soft White.

Durum wheat production is forecast at 54.0 million bushels, down 16 percent from 2022. Based on July 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 37.9 bushels per harvested acre, down 2.6 bushels from 2022. Area expected to be harvested for grain or seed totals 1.43 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report released on June 30, 2023, but down 10 percent from 2022.

Other spring wheat production for grain is forecast at 479 million bushels, down 1 percent from last year. Based on July 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 45.2 bushels per harvested acre, down 1.0 bushel from 2022. Area harvested for grain or seed is expected to total 10.6 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report released on June 30, 2023, but 1 percent above 2022. Of the total production, 441 million bushels are Hard Red Spring wheat, down 1 percent from 2022.

Barley production is forecast at 177 million bushels, up 2 percent from 2022. Based on conditions as of July 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 70.1 bushels per acre, down 1.6 bushels from last year. Area harvested for grain or seed, at 2.53 million acres, is unchanged from the *Acreage* report released on June 30, 2023, but up 4 percent from 2022.

Oat production is forecast at 49.9 million bushels, down 13 percent from 2022. Growers expect to harvest 794,000 acres for grain, unchanged from the previous forecast, but down 11 percent from 2022. Based on conditions as of July 1, the United States yield is forecast at 62.8 bushels per acre, 2.0 bushels below the 2022 average yield.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production* report, please visit www.nass.usda.gov.