



# 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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## PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS – MARCH 1, 2023

### MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

As of March 1, Montana growers intend to plant 120,000 acres of **corn** for all purposes in 2023, down 10,000 acres, or 8 percent, from last year's plantings, according to the March 1 Agricultural Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The area expected to be seeded to **oats**, at 55,000 acres, is down 30,000 acres, or 35 percent from last year. Growers intend to plant 1.09 million acres of **barley** in 2023, up 60,000 acres from last year's actual plantings, and if realized, would be the largest barley planted acreage since 2003.

**All wheat** acreage is expected to total 5.33 million acres for 2023. **Winter wheat** seeded last fall for harvest in 2023 is estimated at 2.00 million acres, down 50,000 acres from the 2022 crop. Growers intend to seed 730,000 acres of **Durum wheat** this year, up 20,000 acres from last year. Growers intend to seed 2.60 million acres of **spring wheat** this year, down 100,000 acres from last year. **Hay** producers in the State intend to harvest 2.40 million acres this year, an increase of 110,000 acres from the acreage cut for hay in 2022. Montana **canola** producers intend to plant 170,000 acres in 2023, down 10,000 acres from last year. **Flaxseed** producers intend to plant 65,000 acres in 2023, down 33,000 acres from last year.

The area planted to **sugarbeets** is expected to total 24,000 acres, down 9,600 acres from last year, and if realized, would represent a record low planted area. All **garbanzo beans** (chickpeas) area planted is expected to total 160,000 acres, down 27,000 acres from 2022. The acreage of small chickpeas is expected to total 50,000 acres, and the acreage of large chickpeas is expected to total 110,000 acres this year.

**Lentil** acres planted for 2023 are expected to total 375,000 acres, down 125,000 acres from last year. All **dry edible pea** area planted, which includes Austrian winter peas, is expected to total 570,000 acres, up 35,000 acres from last year.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Corn** planted area for all purposes in 2023 is estimated at 92.0 million acres, up 4 percent or 3.42 million acres from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage is expected to be up or unchanged in 40 of the 48 estimating States.

Area expected to be seeded to **oats** for the 2023 crop year is estimated at 2.67 million acres, up 3 percent from 2022. If realized, the United States planted area will be the fifth lowest on record.

Producers intend to seed 2.92 million acres of **barley** for the 2023 crop year, down 1 percent from the previous year.

**All wheat** planted area for 2023 is estimated at 49.9 million acres, up 9 percent from 2022. The 2023 **winter wheat** planted area, at 37.5 million acres, is up 13 percent from last year and up 2 percent from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 26.0 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 7.80 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.71 million acres are White Winter. Area expected to be planted to **other spring wheat** for 2023 is estimated at 10.6 million acres, down 2 percent from 2022. Of this total, about 9.95 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. **Durum** planted area for 2023 is expected to total 1.78 million acres, up 9 percent from the previous year.

Producers intend to harvest 50.6 million acres of **all hay** in 2023, up 2 percent from 2022.

Producers intend to plant a record high 2.27 million acres of **canola** in 2023, up 3 percent from last year's planted area. Growers intend to plant 175,000 acres of **flaxseed** in 2023, a decrease of 33 percent from 2022 planted acres and will represent the lowest total for the Nation since 1997, if realized.

Area expected to be planted to **sugarbeets** for the 2023 crop year is estimated at 1.11 million acres, down 4 percent from 2022.

Growers intend to plant 340,500 acres of **chickpeas**, down 4 percent from the previous year. **Small chickpea** expected planted area is estimated at 113,500 acres, up 42 percent from 2022. Area expected to be planted for **large chickpeas** in 2023 is estimated at 227,000 acres, a 17 percent decrease from the previous year.

Growers intend to plant 519,000 acres of **lentils** in 2023, down 21 percent from 2022. Growers intend to plant 1.00 million acres of **dry edible peas** in 2023, up 9 percent from 2022.

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