



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS – MARCH 1, 2024

COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

As of March 1, Colorado growers intend to plant 1.40 million acres of **corn** for all purposes in 2024, up 70,000 acres, or 5 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. **Sorghum** planting intentions total 480,000 acres, down 30,000 acres from last year. Growers intend to plant 40,000 acres of **barley** in 2024, down 14,000 acres from last year's actual plantings. If realized, this would represent a record low planted area for barley.

Winter wheat seeded last fall for harvest in 2024 is estimated at 2.10 million acres, down 200,000 acres, or 9 percent, from the 2023 crop. **Hay** producers in the State intend to harvest 1.37 million acres this year. This is up 150,000 acres from the acreage cut for hay in 2023. Growers intend to plant 25,000 acres of **sunflower** this year, down 9,000 acres from what was planted in 2023. If realized, this would represent the lowest sunflower planted area on record. **Oil varieties** are expected to total 20,000 acres, down 23 percent from last year's plantings. **Non-oil varieties** are expected to total 5,000 acres, down 37 percent from last year. The planted area for both oil and non-oil varieties would represent record lows, if realized.

The area planted to **sugarbeets** is expected to total 23,000 acres, down 200 acres from 2023. **Dry edible bean** planted area is expected to total 41,000 acres, up 8,000 acres, or 24 percent, from last year.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn planted area for all purposes in 2024 is estimated at 90.0 million acres, down 5 percent or 4.61 million acres from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage is expected to be down or unchanged in 38 of the 48 estimating States.

Growers intend to plant 6.40 million acres of **sorghum** for all purposes in 2024, down 11 percent from last year.

Producers intend to seed 2.57 million acres of **barley** for the 2024 crop year, down 17 percent from the previous year.

All wheat planted area for 2024 is estimated at 47.5 million acres, down 4 percent from 2023 for comparable States. The 2024 **winter wheat** planted area, at 34.1 million acres, is down 7 percent from last year and down 1 percent from the previous estimate for comparable States. Of this total, about 24.3 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 6.26 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.59 million acres are White Winter. Area expected to be planted to **other spring wheat** for 2024 is estimated at 11.3 million acres, up 1 percent from 2023. Of this total, about 10.7 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. **Durum** planted area for 2024 is expected to total 2.03 million acres, up 22 percent from the previous year for comparable States.

Producers intend to harvest 51.6 million acres of **all hay** in 2024, down 2 percent from 2023.

Growers intend to plant 957,500 acres of **sunflower** in 2024, a decrease of 27 percent from 2023. This will represent the lowest planted area on record for the Nation since 1976, if realized. Area intended for **oil type varieties**, at 804,000 acres, is down 31 percent from 2023 and will be the lowest since 1976, if realized. Area intended for **non-oil varieties**, at 153,500 acres, is down slightly from last year and will represent the fifth lowest acreage on record for the Nation, if realized. Area expected to be planted to **sugarbeets** for the 2024 crop year is estimated at 1.13 million acres, down 1 percent from 2023. Planting intentions are expected to be the lowest since 2018. Growers intend to plant 1.32 million acres of **dry edible beans** in 2024, up 14 percent from the previous year for comparable States.

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