



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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CROP PRODUCTION – AUGUST 2022

MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

Based on August 1 conditions, **oat** production in Montana is forecast at 900,000 bushels, according to the August 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is up 50 percent from the July 1 forecast and up 61 percent from the 2021 crop. Acreage harvested is expected to total 30,000 acres, up 14,000 acres from the 16,000 acres harvested last year. Oat yield is forecast at 30.0 bushels per acre, up 10.0 bushels per acre from the July 1 forecast but down 5.0 bushels per acre from last year. If realized, this would be the lowest yield since 30.0 bushels per acre in 1960. As of July 31, Montana's oat crop condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 43 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Oat harvest was 2 percent complete, compared with 13 percent last year and the 5-year average of 9 percent.

Barley production is forecast at 35.91 million bushels, unchanged from the July 1 forecast and up 51 percent from last year's crop. Area for harvest in 2022, at 855,000 acres, is up 230,000 acres from the 625,000 acres harvested last year. Barley yield is forecast at 42.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from the July 1 forecast and 4.0 bushels per acre above last year. As of July 31, the barley crop condition was rated 6 percent very poor, 23 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 28 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Barley harvest was 10 percent complete, compared with 11 percent last year and the 5-year average of 5 percent.

Winter wheat production is forecast at 66.50 million bushels, up 3 percent from the July 1 forecast and up 24 percent from the 53.63 million bushels produced last year. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 1.90 million acres, is 170,000 acres more than the 1.73 million acres harvested in 2021. As of August 1, the average yield is forecast at 35.0 bushels per acre, up 1.0 bushel per acre from the July 1 forecast and 4.0 bushels per acre above last year's final yield of 31.0 bushels per acre. As of July 31, the winter wheat crop condition was rated 9 percent very poor, 23 percent poor, 49 percent fair, 16 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Winter wheat harvest was 32 percent complete, compared with 48 percent last year and the 5-year average of 34 percent.

Durum wheat production is forecast at 22.33 million bushels, down 3 percent from the July 1 forecast but up 119 percent from the 10.16 million bushels produced last year. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 770,000 acres, is 135,000 acres more than the 635,000 acres harvested in 2021. As of August 1, the average yield is forecast at 29.0 bushels per acre, 1.0 bushel per acre below the July 1 forecast but 13.0 bushels per acre above last year's final yield. As of July 31, the Durum wheat crop condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 43 percent fair, and 51 percent good. Durum wheat turning color was 39 percent complete, compared with 49 percent last year and the 5-year average of 49 percent.

Spring wheat production in Montana is forecast at 74.20 million bushels, unchanged from the July 1 forecast and up 100 percent from the 37.06 million bushels produced last year. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 2.65 million acres, is up 470,000 acres from the 2.18 million acres harvested in 2021. As of August 1, the average yield is forecast at 28.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from the July 1 forecast and 11.0 bushels per acre above last year's final yield. As of July 31, the spring wheat crop condition was rated 4 percent very poor, 18 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Spring wheat harvest was 5 percent complete, compared with 16 percent last year and the 5-year average of 6 percent.

Montana farmers and ranchers expect to harvest 1.65 million acres of **alfalfa hay** this year, up 100,000 acres from 2021. They also expect to harvest 850,000 acres of **other hay** in 2022, up 110,000 acres from last year. Alfalfa production is forecast at 2.97 million tons, up 13 percent from 2.64 million tons produced in 2021. Other hay production is forecast at 1.11 million tons, up 15 percent from 962,000 tons produced a year ago. Yields are expected to average 1.80 tons per acre for alfalfa hay and 1.30 tons per acre for other hay, compared to last year's yields of 1.70 tons per acre for alfalfa hay and 1.30 tons per acre for other hay.

Sugarbeet production is forecast at 1.01 million tons, down 22 percent from 1.30 million tons produced in 2021. Growers expect to harvest 33,500 acres this year compared with 43,500 acres a year ago. Yields are expected to average 30.0 tons per acre, up from 29.8 tons per acre a year ago. As of July 31, the sugarbeet crop was rated 42 percent fair and 58 percent good.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Oat production is forecast at 52.6 million bushels, up 32 percent from 2021. Growers expect to harvest 796,000 acres for grain, unchanged from the previous forecast but up 22 percent from 2021. Based on conditions as of August 1, the United States yield is forecast at 66.1 bushels per acre, unchanged from the previous forecast but 4.8 bushels above the 2021 average yield.

Barley production is forecast at 158 million bushels, up 34 percent from 2021. Based on conditions as of August 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 66.3 bushels per acre, up 5.9 bushels from last year. Area harvested for grain or seed, at 2.38 million acres is down 1 percent from the *Acreage* report released on June 30, 2022, but up 22 percent from 2021.

All wheat production for grain is forecast at 1.78 billion bushels, up less than 1 percent from the previous forecast and up 8 percent from 2021. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 47.5 bushels per harvested acre, up 0.2 bushel from the previous forecast and up 3.2 bushels from 2021. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 37.5 million acres, down less than 1 percent from the previous forecast, but up 1 percent from 2021.

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.20 billion bushels, down less than 1 percent from the July 1 forecast and down 6 percent from 2021. As of August 1, the United States yield is forecast at 47.9 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushel from last month and 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 totals 25.0 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but down 2 percent from last year. Hard Red Winter production, at 576 million bushels, is down 2 percent from last month. Soft Red Winter, at 381 million bushels, is up 2 percent from the July forecast. White Winter, at 240 million bushels, is up slightly from last month. Of the White Winter production, 14.6 million bushels are Hard White and 226 million bushels are Soft White.

Durum wheat production is forecast at 73.6 million bushels, down 5 percent from the previous estimate, but up 97 percent from 2021. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 40.4 bushels per harvested acre, up 0.1 bushel from the previous estimate and up 16.1 bushels from 2021. Area expected to be harvested for grain or seed totals 1.82 million acres, down 5 percent from the previous forecast, but up 19 percent from 2021.

Other spring wheat production for grain is forecast at 512 million bushels, up 2 percent from the previous forecast and up 55 percent from last year. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 47.8 bushels per harvested acre, up 0.8 bushel from the previous forecast and up 15.2 bushels from 2021. Area harvested for grain or seed is expected to total 10.7 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast, but 5 percent above 2021. Of the total production, 463 million bushels are Hard Red Spring wheat, up 56 percent from 2021.

Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay** for 2022 is forecast at 49.1 million tons, down less than 1 percent from 2021. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.17 tons per acre, down 0.06 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 15.5 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report, but up 1 percent from 2021. Production of **other hay** is forecast at 67.7 million tons, down 5 percent from 2021. Based on August 1 conditions, the United States yield is expected to average 1.88 tons per acre, down 0.12 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 36.0 million acres, unchanged from the *Acreage* report, but up 2 percent from 2021.

Production of **sugarbeets** for the 2022 crop year is forecast at 33.5 million tons, down 9 percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 1.15 million acres up 3 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 29.2 tons per acre, down 4.0 tons from last year.

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