



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 12, 2024

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CROP PRODUCTION – JULY 1, 2024

MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

Winter wheat production in Montana, based on conditions as of July 1, 2024, is forecast at 91.20 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 down 3 percent from the June 1 forecast but is 6 percent above the 85.68-million-bushel crop produced last year. Harvested area, forecast at 1.90 million acres, is 220,000 acres, or 13 percent, above last year. Average yield is forecast at 48.0 bushels per acre, down 3.0 bushels from the June 1 forecast and from last year's final yield.

As of June 30, Montana's winter wheat crop condition was rated 2 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 35 percent good, and 25 percent excellent, compared with 1 percent poor, 50 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 10 percent excellent last year. The winter wheat crop was 75 percent headed, compared with 78 percent last year and a 5-year average of 76 percent.

Durum wheat production in Montana is forecast at 27.20 million bushels, up 30 percent from the 20.93-million-bushel crop produced last year. Harvested area, forecast at 850,000 acres, is 175,000 acres, or 26 percent, above last year. Based on conditions as of July 1, average yield is forecast at 32.0 bushels per acre, up 1.0 bushel from last year's final yield.

As of June 30, Montana's Durum wheat crop condition was rated 5 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 3 percent excellent, compared with 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 67 percent fair, and 28 percent good last year. The Durum wheat crop was 8 percent headed. Previous year and 5-year average comparisons were not available.

Spring wheat production in Montana is forecast at 81.55 million bushels, up 2 percent from the 80.10-million-bushel crop produced last year. Harvested area is expected to total 2.33 million acres, down 340,000 acres, or 13 percent, from the 2.67 million acres harvested in 2023. Based on conditions as of July 1, average yield is forecast at 35.0 bushels per acre, up 5.0 bushels from last year's final yield.

As of June 30, Montana's spring wheat crop condition was rated 4 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 4 percent excellent, compared with 2 percent poor, 40 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 1 percent excellent last year. The spring wheat crop was 33 percent headed, compared with 32 percent last year and a 5-year average of 26 percent.

Barley production in Montana is forecast at 41.87 million bushels, down 16 percent from the 49.74-million-bushel crop produced in 2023. Harvested area is expected to total 790,000 acres, down 225,000 acres, or 22 percent, from last year. Barley yield is forecast at 53.0 bushels per acre, up 4.0 bushels from last year's final yield.

As of June 30, Montana's barley crop condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 43 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 1 percent excellent, compared with 1 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 59 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 1 percent excellent last year. The barley crop was 32 percent headed, compared with 16 percent last year and a 5-year average of 28 percent.

Oat production in Montana is forecast at 1.08 million bushels, up 32 percent from the 814,000-bushel crop produced in 2023. Harvested area, forecast at 25,000 acres, is 3,000 acres, or 14 percent, above last year. Based on conditions as of July 1, average yield is forecast at 43.0 bushels per acre, up 6.0 bushels from last year's final yield.

As of June 30, Montana's oat crop condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 4 percent excellent, compared with 1 percent very poor, 15 percent poor, 41 percent fair, 36 percent good, and 7 percent excellent last year. The oat crop was 11 percent headed. Previous year and 5-year average comparisons were not available.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.34 billion bushels, up 4 percent from the June 1 forecast and up 7 percent from 2023. As of July 1, the United States yield is forecast at 52.0 bushels per acre, up 0.6 bushel from last month and up 1.4 bushels from last year's average yield of 50.6 bushels per acre. Hard Red Winter production, at 763 million bushels, is up 5 percent from last month. Soft Red Winter, at 344 million bushels, is up less than 1 percent from the June forecast. White Winter, at 234 million bushels, is up 4 percent from last month. Of the White Winter production, 19.0 million bushels are Hard White and 215 million bushels are Soft White.

Durum wheat production is forecast at 89.3 million bushels, up 50 percent from 2023. Based on July 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 42.7 bushels per harvested acre, up 5.7 bushels from 2023. Area expected to be harvested for grain or seed totals 2.09 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 28, 2024, but up 30 percent from 2023.

Other spring wheat production for grain is forecast at 578 million bushels, up 14 percent from last year. Based on July 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 53.1 bushels per harvested acre, up 7.1 bushel from 2023. If realized, the United States yield would be a record high. Area harvested for grain or seed is expected to total 10.9 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 28, 2024, but 1 percent below 2023. Of the total production, 532 million bushels are Hard Red Spring wheat, up 14 percent from 2023.

Barley production is forecast at 150 million bushels, down 19 percent from 2023. Based on conditions as of July 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 74.2 bushels per acre, up 1.8 bushels from last year. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 2.02 million acres, is unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 28, 2024, but down 21 percent from last year.

Oat production is forecast at 61.9 million bushels, up 13 percent from 2023 in comparable States. Growers expect to harvest 872,000 acres for grain, unchanged from the previous forecast but up 9 percent from 2023 in comparable States. Based on conditions as of July 1, the United States yield is forecast at a record high 70.9 bushels per acre, 2.1 bushels above the 2023 average in comparable States.

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