



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
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## CROP PRODUCTION – SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

### MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

Based on September 1 conditions, **sugarbeet** production in Montana is forecast at 775,000 tons, according to the September 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is up 6 percent from the August 1 forecast and up 5 percent from the 736,000 tons produced in 2023. Planted area, estimated at 24,500 acres, is down 500 acres from last month but up 800 acres from 2023. Harvested area, forecast at 24,000 acres, is unchanged from last month but up 700 acres from a year ago. Yields are expected to average 32.3 tons per acre, up 1.8 tons from the August 1 forecast and up from 31.6 tons a year ago. As of September 1, the sugarbeet crop was rated 7 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 5 percent excellent.

**Lentil** production is expected to total 7.04 million hundredweight, up 73 percent from last year's 4.07-million-hundredweight crop. Planted area, estimated at 720,000 acres, is up 70,000 acres from the June *Acreage* report and up 330,000 acres from 2023. Harvested area, forecast at 690,000 acres, is up 80,000 acres from June and up 317,000 acres from last year. Yield is forecast at 1,020 pounds per acre, down 70 pounds from last year. As of September 1, producers had harvested 78 percent of the lentil crop.

Montana's **dry edible pea** production, forecast at 10.68 million hundredweight, is up 8 percent from last year. Planted area, estimated at 590,000 acres, is down 30,000 acres from the June *Acreage* report but up 10,000 acres from 2023. Harvested area, forecast at 565,000 acres, is down 25,000 acres from June and down 5,000 acres from last year. Yield is forecast at 1,890 pounds per acre, up 150 pounds from last year. As of September 1, producers had harvested 96 percent of the dry edible pea crop.

**All chickpea** production for 2024 is forecast at 2.21 million hundredweight, up 11 percent from the 1.99 million hundredweight crop produced a year earlier. Planted area, estimated at 221,000 acres, is down 13,000 acres from the June *Acreage* report but up 47,000 acres from 2023. Harvested area, forecast at 216,000 acres, is down 4,000 acres from June but up 51,500 acres from last year. Yield is forecast at 1,020 pounds per acre, down 190 pounds from last year. Small chickpea production is expected to total 495,000 hundredweight, up 20 percent from last year, while large chickpea production is expected to total 1.71 million hundredweight, up 9 percent from last year. As of September 1, Montana's dry bean harvest (including Chickpeas) was 81 percent complete, compared with 78 percent last year and the five-year average of 61 percent.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Production of **sugarbeets** for the 2024 crop year is forecast at 35.4 million tons, down 1 percent from last month but up less than 1 percent from last year. Acreage updates were made based on a thorough review of all available data. Total planted area, at 1.10 million acres, is down 1 percent from the previous estimate and down 3 percent from 2023. Producers expect to harvest 1.08 million acres, down 1 percent from last month and down 5 percent from last year. Yield is forecast at 32.9 tons per acre, unchanged from last month but up 1.7 tons from last year.

Production of **lentils** in 2024 is forecast at 9.54 million cwt, up 72 percent from last year in comparable States. Acreage updates were made based on a thorough review of all available data. Planted area, at 936,000 acres, is up 12 percent from the previous forecast and up 77 percent from last year in comparable States. Harvested area at 900,000 acres is up 14 percent from the previous forecast and up 78 percent from last year in comparable States. The average yield is expected to be 1,060 pounds per acre, down 38 pounds per acre from last year in comparable States.

Production in 2024 of **dry edible peas** was estimated at 19.3 million cwt, up 8 percent from last year in comparable States. Acreage updates were made based on a thorough review of all available data. Planted area, at 988,000 acres, is down 4 percent from the previous forecast but up 4 percent from last year in comparable States. Harvested area, at 947,000 acres, is down 4 percent from the previous forecast but up 2 percent from last year in comparable States. The average yield for dry edible peas for the 2024 season is 2,036 pounds per acre, up 116 pounds from 2023 in comparable States.

Production of **all chickpeas** is forecast at 6.13 million cwt, up 33 percent from 2023 in comparable States. Acreage updates were made based on a thorough review of all available data. Area planted for all chickpeas for the 2024 crop year is estimated at 504,000 acres, up slightly from the previous forecast and up 37 percent from the previous year, in comparable States. Area harvested for all chickpeas is forecast at 496,900 acres, up 2 percent from the previous forecast and up 40 percent from 2023 in comparable States. The average United States yield is expected to be 1,234 pounds per acre, down 62 pounds from 2023, in comparable States.

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