



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
MONTANA FIELD OFFICE  
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Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



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## ACREAGE – JUNE 1, 2024

### MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

Montana's **principal crop** planted area, which includes acreage planted to all major crops and those expected to be cut for all hay, is up 2 percent from 2023 to 9.86 million acres, according to the June 1 Agricultural Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Producers in Montana planted 110,000 acres of **corn** this year of which, they intend to harvest 59,000 acres for grain, down from the 68,000 acres harvested in 2023. This is a decrease of 13 percent from last year's harvested grain acreage, and a 19 percent decrease in acreage planted for all purposes.

**Oat** seedings, at 60,000 acres, are down 8 percent from the previous year, while the area expected to be harvested for grain, at 25,000 acres, is up 14 percent, or 3,000 acres, from 2023.

**Barley** planted area, at 1.02 million acres, is down 170,000 acres, or 14 percent, from last year's final acreage. Expected harvested area, at 790,000 acres, is down 225,000 acres from 2023.

**Winter wheat** producers planted 1.95 million acres in the fall of 2023 for harvest in 2024, up from 1.85 million acres planted during the previous crop year. Of this, 1.90 million acres are expected to be harvested for grain, an increase of 220,000 acres, or 13 percent, from last year. Area seeded to **Durum wheat**, at 880,000 acres, is up 175,000 acres when compared with a year ago. Area harvested for grain is expected to total 850,000 acres, up 175,000 acres from last year. **Spring wheat** seedings, at 2.45 million acres, are down 250,000 acres when compared with 2023. Of this, producers expect to harvest 2.33 million acres for grain, down 340,000 acres, or 13 percent from last year.

The area expected to be harvested for **all dry hay** is forecast at 2.93 million acres. **Alfalfa hay** is expected to be harvested from 1.83 million acres, up 180,000 acres, or 11 percent, from 2023. **All other hay** harvested area is expected to total 1.10 million acres, up 50,000 acres, or 5 percent, from last year's final estimate. If realized, this would represent the largest area of other hay harvested since 2005.

**Canola** growers planted a record high 200,000 acres this year, up 35,000 acres from last year's final estimate. Harvested area is expected to total 190,000 acres, up from the 160,000 acres harvested in 2023, and also a record high. **Flaxseed** planted area, at 45,000 acres, is 23,000 acres below last year. Area expected for harvest, at 39,000 acres, is down 18,000 acres from last year. Producers in Montana planted 38,000 acres of **safflower** in 2024, down 9,000 acres from last year. At 33,000 acres, harvested area is down from the 46,000 acres harvested in 2023.

**Sugarbeet** plantings increased 300 acres from last year to 24,000 acres. The expected harvested area, at 23,500 acres, is 200 acres above last year.

The area planted to **all chickpeas**, at 234,000 acres, is up 34 percent from last year, with 220,000 acres expected to be harvested. **Small chickpeas** were planted on 65,000 acres, with 60,000 acres expected to be harvested, and **large chickpeas** were planted on 169,000 acres, with 160,000 acres expected to be harvested. Producers planted 650,000 acres to **lentils** in 2024, an increase of 260,000 acres from last year. At 610,000 acres, harvested area is up from 373,000 acres harvested last year. **Dry edible pea** growers planted an estimated 620,000 acres this year, up 40,000 acres from last year. Harvested area is expected to total 590,000 acres, up from 570,000 acres harvested in 2023.

### UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Corn** planted area for all purposes in 2024 is estimated at 91.5 million acres, down 3 percent or 3.17 million acres from last year. This represents the eighth highest planted acreage in the United States since 1944. Compared with last year, planted acreage is expected to

be down or unchanged in 31 of the 48 estimating States. Area harvested for grain, at 83.4 million acres, is down 4 percent from last year.

Area seeded to **oats** for the 2024 crop year is estimated at 2.30 million acres, up 1 percent from 2023 for comparable States. Planted acreage is up or unchanged in 10 of the 19 major producing States compared to last year. Harvested acres, forecast at 872,000 acres, is up 9 percent from 2023 for comparable States.

Producers seeded 2.56 million acres of **barley** for the 2024 crop year, down 18 percent from the previous year. Harvested area, forecast at 2.01 million acres, is down 21 percent from 2023.

**All wheat** planted area for 2024 is estimated at 47.2 million acres, down 5 percent from 2023. The 2024 winter wheat planted area, at 33.8 million acres, is down 8 percent from last year and down 1 percent from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 24.1 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 6.14 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 estimate. Of this total, about 10.6 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. **Durum** planted area for 2024 is expected to total 2.17 million acres, up 29 percent from the previous year.

Producers intend to harvest 51.5 million acres of **all hay** in 2024, down 2 percent from 2023. **Alfalfa** harvested acreage is expected to be 15.6 million acres, down slightly from 2023 in comparable States. All **other hay** (excluding alfalfa) is expected to be down 3 percent from last year, at 35.9 million acres.

Planted area of **canola** is estimated at a record high 2.66 million acres in 2024, up 10 percent from last year's planted area in comparable States. Area for harvest is forecast at 2.62 million acres, up 9 percent from last year in comparable States.

Growers intend to plant 140,000 acres of **flaxseed** in 2024, a decrease of 21 percent from 2023 and will represent the lowest total for the Nation since 1996, if realized. Area for harvest is forecast at 125,000 acres, down 22 percent from last year.

Area planted to **safflower** in 2024 is estimated at 127,000 acres, down 10 percent from 2023 in comparable States and represents the lowest planted area for the Nation since records began in 1991. Area for harvest is forecast at 117,000 acres, down 14 percent from last year in comparable States.

Area planted to **sugarbeets** for the 2024 crop year is estimated at 1.11 million acres, down 2 percent from 2023. Area expected to be harvested at 1.09 million acres, down 3 percent from last year.

Area planted for **all chickpeas** for the 2024 crop year is 502,000 acres, up 36 percent from the previous year for comparable States. Area expected to be harvested for all chickpeas is 485,900 acres, 37 percent above 2023 for comparable States. **Small chickpeas** area planted is 145,000 acres. Area expected to be harvested for small chickpeas is 139,200 acres. Area planted for **large chickpeas** in 2024 is 357,000 acres. Large chickpeas area expected to be harvested is 346,700 acres.

Area planted to **lentils** for the 2024 crop year is 836,000 acres, up 58 percent from the previous season for comparable States. Area expected to be harvested is 790,000 acres, up 56 percent from the previous season for comparable States.

Area planted to **dry edible peas** for the 2024 crop year is 1.03 million acres, up 9 percent from the previous season for comparable States. Area expected to be harvested is 988,000 acres, up 6 percent from the previous season for comparable States.

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