



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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 31, 2025

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PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS – MARCH 1, 2025

MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

As of March 1, Montana growers intend to plant 130,000 acres of **corn** for all purposes in 2025, unchanged from last year's actual plantings, according to the March 1 Agricultural Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The area expected to be seeded to **oats**, at 75,000 acres, is up 15,000 acres, or 25 percent from last year. Growers intend to plant 800,000 acres of **barley** in 2025, down 100,000 acres, or 11 percent, from last year's actual plantings.

All wheat acreage is expected to total 5.21 million acres for 2025. **Winter wheat** seeded last fall for harvest in 2025 is estimated at 2.30 million acres, up 350,000 acres, or 18 percent, from the area seeded in 2024. If realized, this would represent the largest planted area since 2015. Growers intend to seed 760,000 acres of **Durum wheat** this year, down 120,000 acres, or 14 percent, from last year. Growers intend to seed 2.15 million acres of **spring wheat** this year, down 300,000 acres or 12 percent from 2024. Producers in the State intend to harvest 2.70 million acres of **all dry hay** this year, an increase of 140,000 acres from the acreage cut for dry hay in 2024.

Montana **canola** producers intend to plant 165,000 acres in 2025, down 50,000 acres from last year. **Flaxseed** producers intend to plant 85,000 acres in 2025, up 29,000 acres from last year. The area planted to **sugarbeets** is expected to total 24,000 acres, down 600 acres from last year.

All **garbanzo beans** (chickpeas) area planted is expected to total 270,000 acres in 2025, an increase of 50,000 acres, or 23 percent, from 2024. Area planted to **small chickpeas** is expected to total 50,000 acres, while the area planted to **large chickpeas** is expected to total 220,000 acres. Area planted to **lentils** is expected to total 820,000 acres in 2025, up 100,000 acres from last year. If realized, this will represent a record high planted area for lentils. All **dry edible pea** area planted is expected to total 550,000 acres, down 40,000 acres from last year.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn planted area for all purposes in 2025 is estimated at 95.3 million acres, up 5 percent or 4.73 million acres from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage is expected to be up or unchanged in 40 of the 48 estimating States.

Area expected to be seeded to **oats** for the 2025 crop year is estimated at 2.18 million acres, down 2 percent from 2024. If realized, the United States planted area will be the lowest on record.

Producers intend to plant a record low 2.32 million acres of **barley** for the 2025 crop year, down 2 percent from the previous year.

All wheat planted area for 2025 is estimated at 45.4 million acres, down 2 percent from 2024. If realized, this represents the second lowest all wheat planted area since records began in 1919. The 2025 **winter wheat** planted area, at 33.3 million acres, is down 2 percent from the previous estimate and down less than 1 percent from last year. Of this total, about 23.6 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 6.09 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.66 million acres are White Winter. Area expected to be planted to **other spring wheat** for 2025 is estimated at 10.0 million acres, down 6 percent from 2024 estimate. Of this total, about 9.40 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. **Durum** planted area for 2025 is expected to total 2.02 million acres, down 2 percent from the previous year.

Producers intend to harvest 48.5 million acres of **all hay** in 2025, down 2 percent from 2024.

Producers intend to plant 2.57 million acres of **canola** in 2025, down 7 percent from last year's record high planted area. If realized, planted area for the Nation will be the second largest on record. Growers intend to plant 185,000 acres of **flaxseed** in 2025, an increase of 25 percent from 2024.

Area expected to be planted to **sugarbeets** for the 2025 crop year is estimated at 1.13 million acres, up 3 percent from 2024.

Growers intend to plant 561,000 acres of **chickpeas**, up 12 percent from the previous year. Planted area for **small chickpeas** is estimated at 125,000 acres. Area expected to be planted for **large chickpeas** in 2025 is estimated at 436,000 acres.

Growers intend to plant 1.10 million acres of **lentils** in 2025, up 18 percent from the previous season. Planted area is expected to increase in all program States, with a record high expected in Montana. Growers intend to plant 895,000 acres of **dry edible peas** in 2025, down 8 percent from the previous year.

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