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Tennessee 2023 Wheat Forecast and May Hay Stocks

Tennessee farmers expect to harvest 28.8 million bushels of **winter wheat** during 2023 according to the Tennessee Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The expected crop for 2023 would be up 18% from the previous year. Farmers seeded 470,000 acres last fall with 400,000 acres to be harvested for grain. Based on crop conditions as of May 1 and assuming a normal growing season, farmers expect a yield of 72.0 bushels per acre, down 1.0 bushels from 2022. Acres for other uses totaled 70,000 acres and will be used as cover crop or cut as silage or hay.

As of May 7, winter wheat was rated 2% very poor, 6% poor, 23% fair, 53% good and 16% excellent. Crop progress was 85% headed compared to 78% at this time last year which equals the five-year average.

Winter wheat production for the **Nation** was forecast at 1.13 billion bushels, up 2% from 2022. The expected area to be harvested for grain or seed totals 25.3 million acres, up 8% from last year. As of May 1, the U.S. yield was forecast at 44.7 bushels per acre, down 2.3 bushels from last year.

As of May 1, **Tennessee** on-farm **hay stocks** totaled 400,000 tons, down 130,000 from May 1, 2022 stocks. Farmers have used 85% of their hay stocks since December 1, 2022.

U. S. hay stocks were at 14.5 million tons, down 2.24 million tons from 2022.

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