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### **Tennessee 2024 Wheat Forecast and May Hay Stocks**

**Tennessee** farmers expect to harvest 24.8 million bushels of **winter wheat** during 2024 according to the Tennessee Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The expected crop for 2024 would be down 21% from the previous year. Farmers seeded 380,000 acres last fall with 310,000 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 80.0 bushels per acre, unchanged bushels from 2023. Acres for other uses totaled 70,000 acres and will be used as cover crop or cut as silage or hay.

As of May 5, winter wheat was rated 1% very poor, 6% poor, 14% fair, 54% good and 25% excellent. Crop progress was 83% headed compared to 78% at this time last year and 76% for the five-year average.

Winter wheat production for the **Nation** was forecast at 1.28 billion bushels, up 2% from 2023. The expected area to be harvested for grain or seed totals 25.2 million acres, up 2% from last year. As of May 1, the U.S. yield was forecast at 50.7 bushels per acre, up 0.1 bushels from last year.

As of May 1, **Tennessee** on-farm **hay stocks** totaled 410,000 tons, up 10,000 from May 1, 2023 stocks. Farmers have used 85% of their hay stocks since December 1, 2023.

**\*\*Producers are cutting and baling hay in the state as conditions for curing are better. Reports are mixed on both quality and quantity of the new crop so far this season.\*\***

**U. S.** hay stocks were at 21.0 million tons, up 6.68 million tons from 2023.