



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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ANNUAL CROP SUMMARY - 2023

UTAH HIGHLIGHTS

Production of the 2023 **corn for grain** crop in Utah is estimated at 5.00 million bushels, up 116 percent, or 2.67 million bushels, from last year's production of 2.31 million bushels, according to the December 1 Agricultural Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The average yield of 185.0 bushels per acre is 20.0 bushels below last year. Planted area totaled 75,000 acres, compared with 60,000 acres last year. Area harvested for grain in 2023, at 27,000 acres, is 13,000 acres above last year. Area harvested for **corn silage** is estimated at 46,000 acres, up 1,000 acres, or 2 percent, from last year, with production estimated at 1.15 million tons, compared with 1.08 million tons produced last year.

Utah **barley** producers seeded a record low 16,000 acres in 2023, down 4,000 acres, or 20 percent, from last year. Harvested area, at 14,000 acres, is down 1,000 acres from 2022. Barley yield, at 73.0 bushels per acre, is down 9.0 bushels from last year. Barley production is estimated at 1.02 million bushels, down 17 percent from the 1.23-million-bushel crop produced in 2022.

Winter wheat production in Utah, estimated at 4.61 million bushels, is up 46 percent from the 3.17-million-bushel crop produced in 2022. Winter wheat producers seeded 105,000 acres in the fall of 2022 for harvest in 2023, down 5,000 acres from the area seeded for the previous year's crop. This represents a new record low for winter wheat seeded area in Utah. Area harvested for grain, estimated at 87,000 acres, is down 1,000 acres from last year. This establishes a new record low harvested area in Utah. Winter wheat yield, at 53.0 bushels per acre, is up 17.0 bushels from last year.

All dry hay production in Utah for 2023 is estimated at 2.49 million tons, down 4 percent from the 2022 total production of 2.60 million tons. **Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures dry hay** production is estimated at 1.96 million tons from 490,000 acres harvested, down 49,000 tons from 2022. Average yield for the 2023 crop is 4.00 tons per acre, 0.10 ton below last year. **All other dry hay** production totaled 527,000 tons from 170,000 acres harvested, down 67,000 tons from 2022. The average yield of 3.10 tons per acre is 0.20 ton below last year. New **seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** in Utah are estimated at 60,000 acres, up 10,000 acres from 2022.

As of December 1, producers in Utah were storing 1.36 million tons of **all dry hay** on farms, up 9 percent from the 1.25 million tons stored last year. This represents the largest December 1 all dry hay stocks since 2011.

Production of **safflower** in Utah for 2023 totaled 10.89 million pounds, compared with 5.30 million pounds in 2022. Planted area is estimated at 17,500 acres, up 6,500 acres from last year. Harvested area, at 16,500 acres, is 6,500 acres above 10,000 acres harvested in 2022. Safflower yield averaged 660 pounds per acre in 2023, up 130 pounds from last year.

Winter wheat seedings in Utah for the 2024 crop year are estimated at 100,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from the final seeded area realized in 2023. If realized, the forecasted 2024 winter wheat seeded area would represent a new record low seeded area for the state.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn for grain production in 2023 was estimated at a record high 15.3 billion bushels, up 12 percent from the 2022 estimate. The average yield in the United States was estimated at a record high 177.3 bushels per acre, 3.9 bushels above the 2022 yield of 173.4 bushels per acre. Area harvested for grain was estimated at 86.5 million acres, up 10 percent from the 2022 estimate. **Corn silage** production was estimated at 130 million tons for 2023, up 1 percent from the 2022 estimate. The United States silage yield was estimated at 20.1 tons per acre, up 1.4 tons from 2022. Area harvested for silage was estimated at 6.47 million acres, down 6 percent from the 2022 estimate.

Barley production was estimated at 185 million bushels, up 6 percent from the 2022 total of 175 million bushels. The average yield, at 72.4 bushels per acre, was up 0.8 bushel from the previous year. Producers seeded 3.10 million acres in 2023, up 5 percent from 2022. Harvested area, at 2.56 million acres, was up 4 percent from 2022.

All wheat production totaled 1.81 billion bushels in 2023, up 10 percent from the 2022 total of 1.65 billion bushels. Area harvested for grain totaled 37.3 million acres, up 5 percent from the previous year. The United States yield was estimated at 48.6 bushels per acre, up 2.1 bushels from the previous year. The levels of production and changes from 2022 by type were: winter wheat, 1.25 billion bushels, up 13 percent; other spring wheat, 505 million bushels, up 5 percent; and Durum wheat, 59.3 million bushels, down 7 percent. **Winter wheat** production for 2023 totaled 1.25 billion bushels, up 13 percent from the 2022 total of 1.10 billion bushels. The United States yield, at 50.6 bushels per acre, was up 3.6 bushels from 2022. Area harvested for grain was estimated at 24.7 million acres, up 5 percent from 2022. Compared with 2022, harvested acreage was up 2 percent in the major Hard Red Winter (HRW) growing States, the primary winter wheat-producing area. HRW production totaled 601 million bushels, up 13 percent from 2022. In the Soft Red Winter (SRW) growing area, planted and harvested acreage increased from 2022. Coupled with several States estimated record high yields, SRW production totaled 449 million bushels, up 34 percent from 2022. White winter wheat production totaled 198 million bushels, down 16 percent from 2022. Harvested acreage was down 3 percent from 2022.

Production of **all dry hay** for 2023 was estimated at 119 million tons, up 6 percent from the 2022 total. Area harvested was estimated at 52.8 million acres, up 8 percent from 2022. The average yield, at 2.25 tons per acre, was down 0.04 ton from 2022. Production of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures hay** in 2023 was estimated at 49.9 million tons, up 2 percent from the 2022 total. Harvested area, at 15.6 million acres, was 3 percent above 2022. Average yield was estimated at 3.19 tons per acre, down 0.03 ton from 2022. Production of **all other hay** in 2023 totaled 68.9 million tons, up 9 percent from the 2022 total. Harvested area, at 37.2 million acres, was up 11 percent from 2022. Average yield was estimated at 1.85 tons per acre, down 0.02 ton from 2022. Growers seeded 1.74 million acres of **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** during 2023, up 4 percent from 2022. New seedings of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures are normally harvested for the first time in the year following planting.

All hay stored on United States farms as of December 1, 2023, totaled 76.7 million tons, down 7 percent from December 1, 2022. Disappearance from May 1, 2023 - December 1, 2023, totaled 56.4 million tons, down 1 percent from the same period in 2022.

Production of **safflower** in 2023, at a record low 131 million pounds, was down 19 percent from 2022. Growers planted 129,500 acres in 2023, a decline of 13 percent from the previous year and represents the lowest planted acreage for the Nation since records began in 1991. Harvested area for the Nation, at 126,000 acres, was down 6 percent from 2022 and is also the lowest harvested area on record. The average yield for the Nation, at 1,036 pounds per acre, decreased 173 pounds from the 2022 average yield per acre.

Winter wheat seeded area for 2024 is expected to total 34.4 million acres, down 6 percent from 2023. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 24.0 million; Soft Red Winter, 6.86 million; and White Winter, 3.54 million.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production 2023 Summary* report, please visit www.nass.usda.gov.