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RELEASED: July 12, 2023

Virginia Winter Wheat Production Forecast up 8% from 2022

Virginia farmers expect to harvest 11.0 million bushels of **winter wheat** during 2023 according to the Virginia Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The expected crop for 2023 would be up 8% from the previous year. The forecast was based on crop conditions as of July 1 and increased 24% from the June forecast. Growers expect a yield of 71.0 bushels per acre, up 3.0 bushels from 2022 and up 10.0 bushels from June. Farmers seeded 210,000 acres last fall with 155,000 acres to be harvested for grain. Acres for other uses totaled 55,000 acres and will be used as cover crop for tobacco or cut as silage or hay.

Winter wheat production for the **Nation** was forecast at 1.21 billion bushels, up 6% from the June 1 forecast and up 9% from 2022. Based on July 1 conditions, the United States yield is forecast at 46.9 bushels per acre, up 2.0 bushels from last month and down 0.1 bushels from last year. The expected area to be harvested for grain or seed totals 25.7 million acres, up 10% from last year.

Barley producers in **Virginia** forecast harvesting 474 thousand bushels for 2023, down 21% from last year. Acres expected to be harvested for grain total 6,000 acres, 1,000 below last year. Producers expect a yield of 79.0 bushels per acre, down 7.0 bushels from 2022. **U. S.** production is expected to total 177 million bushels. Acres harvested is forecast at 2.53 million acres, up 4% from last year. Growers nationwide anticipate a yield of 70.1 bushels per acre, decreased 1.6 bushels from 2022.

Flue-cured tobacco production in **Virginia** is forecast at 27.6 million pounds, 5% lower than the 29.0 million pounds produced in 2022. Acres for harvest are estimated at 11,500, down 600 acres from the 12,100 acres harvested last year. Yield per acre is forecast at 2,400 pounds, unchanged pounds from last year. **U. S.** production is forecast at 285 million pounds down 6% from 2022. Acres harvested is estimated at 134,300 acres, down 4% from last year. Yield per acre is forecast at 2,122 pounds, down 41.0 pounds from the previous year.