

**USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office**

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Virginia 2024 Wheat Forecast and May Hay Stocks

Virginia farmers expect to harvest 7.10 million bushels of **winter wheat** during 2024 according to the Virginia Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The expected crop for 2024 would be down 33% from the previous year. Farmers seeded 155,000 acres last fall with 100,000 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 71.0 bushels per acre, down 7.0 bushels from 2023. Acres for other uses totaled 55,000 acres and will be used as cover crop or cut as silage or hay.

As of May 5, winter wheat overall was in mostly good condition with farmers currently planting crops and cutting hay. Eighty-six percent of the crop was headed compared to 69% at this time last year and 68% 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, **Virginia** on-farm **hay stocks** totaled 410,000 tons, up 90,000 tons from May 1, 2023 stocks. Farmers have used 77% of their hay stocks since December 1, 2023.

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

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