



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
MONTANA FIELD OFFICE  
10 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 3100, Helena, MT 59626  
Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 10, 2020

Contact: Eric Sommer  
(800) 835-2612

## CROP PRODUCTION – JULY 2020

### MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

**Winter wheat** production in Montana, based on conditions as of July 1, 2020, is forecast at 71.05 million bushels, according to the July 1 Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. This forecast is down 8 percent from the June 1 forecast and 25 percent below the 95.00 million bushel crop produced last year. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 1.45 million acres, is 450,000 acres less than the 1.90 million acres harvested in 2019. As of July 1, the average yield is forecast at 49.0 bushels per acre, down 1.0 bushel from the June 1 forecast and from last year's final yield.

As of June 28, Montana's winter wheat crop condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 47 percent excellent, compared with 7 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 28 percent excellent last year. Winter wheat turning color was at 1 percent complete, compared with 11 percent last year and the 5-year average of 26 percent.

**Durum wheat** production in Montana is forecast at 20.06 million bushels, down 9 percent from the 22.15 million bushels produced last year. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 590,000 acres, is 75,000 acres more than the 515,000 acres harvested in 2019. As of July 1, the average yield is forecast at 34.0 bushels per acre, 9.0 bushels below last year's final yield.

As of June 28, Montana's Durum wheat crop condition was rated 81 percent fair, 13 percent good, and 6 percent excellent, compared with 4 percent poor, 56 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 1 percent excellent last year. Durum wheat headed was at 5 percent complete, compared with 4 percent last year and the 5-year average of 13 percent.

**Spring wheat** production in Montana is forecast at 108.30 million bushels, up 6 percent from the 102.12 million bushels produced last year. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 2.85 million acres, is 90,000 acres more than the 2.76 million acres harvested in 2019. As of July 1, the average yield is forecast at 38.0 bushels per acre, 1.0 bushel above last year's final yield.

As of June 28, Montana's spring wheat crop condition was rated 3 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 68 percent good, and 13 percent excellent, compared with 2 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 2 percent excellent last year. Spring wheat headed was at 24 percent complete, compared with 12 percent last year and the 5-year average of 25 percent.

**Barley** production is forecast at 50.22 million bushels, up 15 percent from the 2019 crop. Acreage harvested is expected to total 810,000 acres, up 70,000 acres from the 740,000 acres harvested last year. Barley yield is forecast at 62.0 bushels per acre, 3.0 bushels per acre above last year.

As of June 28, Montana's barley crop condition was rated 2 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 27 percent excellent, compared with 2 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 6 percent excellent last year. Barley headed was at 30 percent complete, compared with 15 percent last year and the 5-year average of 34 percent.

**Oat** production is forecast at 1.25 million bushels, down 5 percent from the 2019 crop. Acreage harvested is expected to total 25,000 acres, 1,000 acres more than last year. Oat yield is forecast at 50.0 bushels per acre, down 5.0 bushels from last year.

As of June 28, Montana's oat crop condition was rated 3 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 3 percent excellent, compared with 1 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 66 percent good, and 3 percent excellent last year. Oats headed was at 10 percent complete, compared with none last year and the 5-year average of 18 percent.

NASS provides accurate, timely, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you to provide occasional feedback on our products and services. Sign up at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions> and look for "NASS Data User Community."

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

## UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Winter wheat** production is forecast at 1.22 billion bushels, down 4 percent from the June 1 forecast and down 7 percent from 2019. As of July 1, the United States yield is forecast at 52.0 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushel from last month and down 1.6 bushels from last year's average yield of 53.6 bushels per acre. The area expected to be harvested for grain or seed totals 23.4 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2020, but down 4 percent from last year. Hard Red Winter production, at 710 million bushels, is down 4 percent from last month. Soft Red Winter, at 280 million bushels, is down 6 percent from the June forecast. White Winter, at 227 million bushels, is up 1 percent from last month. Of the White Winter production, 15.5 million bushels are Hard White and 212 million bushels are Soft White.

**Durum wheat** production is forecast at 55.6 million bushels, up 3 percent from 2019. The United States yield is forecast at 38.5 bushels per acre, down 7.2 bushels from last year. Area expected to be harvested for grain or seed totals 1.44 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2020, but up 23 percent from 2019.

**Other spring wheat** production for grain is forecast at 550 million bushels, down 2 percent from last year. Area harvested for grain or seed is expected to total 11.8 million acres, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2020, but 1 percent above 2019. The United States yield is forecast at 46.6 bushels per acre, down 1.6 bushels from last year. Of the total production, 502 million bushels are Hard Red Spring wheat, down 4 percent from last year.

**Barley** production is forecast at 170 million bushels, up less than 1 percent from 2019. Based on conditions as of July 1, the average yield for the United States is forecast at 76.1 bushels per acre, down 1.6 bushels from last year. A record high yield is forecast in Montana. Area harvested for grain or seed, at 2.23 million acres is unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2020, but up 2 percent from 2019.

**Oat** production is forecast at 65.0 million bushels, up 22 percent from 2019. Growers expect to harvest 998,000 acres for grain, unchanged from the Acreage report released on June 30, 2020, but up 21 percent from 2019. Based on conditions as of July 1, the United States yield is forecast at 65.2 bushels per acre, 0.9 bushel above the 2019 average yield.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production* report please visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).