

Winter Wheat and Rye Seedings



USDA
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Planted Acres Lowest Since 1972

Winter wheat seeded area for 1999 is expected to total 43.4 million acres, down 7 percent from 1998. This is the smallest area since 1972. Class breakdowns approximate: Hard Red Winter, 30.9 million; Soft Red Winter, 9.0 million; White Winter, 3.5 million.

Winter Wheat and Rye: Area Seeded, United States, 1997-99
(Domestic Units)

Item	Crop Year			1999 as Pct. of 1998
	1997	1998	1999	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat	47,985	46,449	43,354	93
Rye	1,400	1,571	1,590	101
	(Metric Units)			
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat	19,419,050	18,797,446	17,544,930	93
Rye	566,566	635,768	643,457	101

Winter Wheat: Planted area for harvest in 1999 is estimated at 43.4 million acres. This is down 7 percent from 1998 and is the lowest level since 1972. Seeding started last August in the Pacific Northwest, some Mountain states, and Minnesota. Progress moved forward by fits and spurts through the fall, hampered by dryness in some locations and wetness in others. Seeding should finish sometime next month in California. About 99 percent of the U.S. acreage was seeded by December 1. Most remaining intended area is in the southeast, California, and Texas.

Hard Red Winter (HRW) wheat seeded area is about 30.9 million acres, down 5 percent from 1998. Most HRW states have planted less wheat. Nebraska and Texas are notable exceptions; Minnesota and New Mexico also have increased. In the rest of the Great Plains up into Montana, the declines total more than 1.6 million acres. The Montana level is the smallest since 1937.

Soft Red Winter area is down 12 percent from last year, or about 1.2 million acres. Drops in planting from Arkansas through Missouri, across Illinois, Indiana and into Ohio account for about three-fourths of this total. Nearly all of the southeastern Soft red growers seeded less acreage this fall.

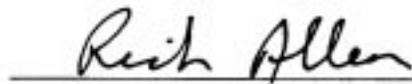
White Winter wheat seeded area totals 3.48 million acres, down 11 percent from 1998. The Idaho number is the lowest since 1962. Oregon and Washington's acreage is the least since 1988.

Durum Wheat: Arizona - California seeded area for 1999 harvest is placed at 190,000 acres. This total is down 42 percent from their final 1998 planting. Seeding had made good progress in California's San Joaquin Valley during October into early November. Seeding in the Imperial Valley started in late November delayed by late vegetable harvests.

This report was approved on January 12, 1999.



Acting Secretary of
Agriculture
Keith J. Collins



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
Rich Allen

Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, by State and United States, 1997-99

State	Crop Year			1999 as Pct. of 1998
	1997	1998	1999	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	130	120	115	96
AZ	10	8	10	125
AR	880	980	910	93
CA	510	500	500	100
CO	3,000	2,750	2,600	95
DE	75	75	75	100
FL	20	15	10	67
GA	400	290	240	83
ID	910	820	760	93
IL	1,150	1,250	1,050	84
IN	700	700	550	79
IA	27	40	30	75
KS	11,400	10,700	10,000	93
KY	650	750	650	87
LA	130	100	120	120
MD	215	225	215	96
MI	530	600	620	103
MN	65	60	65	108
MS	200	160	160	100
MO	1,150	1,350	1,020	76
MT	1,600	1,400	1,050	75
NE	2,000	1,900	2,000	105
NV	15	7	11	157
NJ	40	48	42	88
NM	430	415	445	107
NY	135	140	120	86
NC	730	730	650	89
ND	75	70	60	86
OH	1,180	1,200	1,050	88
OK	6,700	6,600	6,400	97
OR	830	810	710	88
PA	180	195	210	108
SC	310	265	240	91
SD	1,650	1,500	1,300	87
TN	550	570	520	91
TX	6,300	6,100	6,200	102
UT	170	155	150	97
VA	280	280	280	100
WA	2,250	2,200	1,900	86
WV	13	11	11	100
WI	155	140	125	89
WY	240	220	180	82
US	47,985	46,449	43,354	93

Rye: Area Seeded, by State and United States, 1997-99

State	Crop Year			1999 as Pct. of 1998
	1997	1998	1999	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
CO	28	33	15	45
GA	300	250	230	92
IL	55	50	40	80
IN	15	15	30	200
KS	50	80	100	125
MD	25	25	35	140
MI	75	65	105	162
MN	20	30	30	100
NE	35	35	45	129
NJ	20	38	20	53
NY	40	50	45	90
NC	80	90	100	111
ND	22	65	45	69
OH	30	35	35	100
OK	200	300	300	100
PA	50	60	70	117
SC	35	30	25	83
SD	30	40	20	50
TX	130	120	140	117
VA	80	80	80	100
WI	80	80	80	100
US	1,400	1,571	1,590	101

Durum Wheat: Area Seeded, by State and United States, 1997-99

State	Crop Year			1999 as Pct. of 1998
	1997	1998	1999 1/	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	90	145	80	55
CA	145	180	110	61
MN	5	5		
MT	300	450		
ND	2,750	3,000		
SD	20	25		
US	3,310	3,805		

¹ Indicated 1999 area seeded for all six states will be published in "Prospective Plantings" released March 31, 1999.

The next "Winter Wheat and Rye Seedings" report will be released at 8:30 a.m. ET on January 12, 2000.

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