

TALL FESCUE SEED OREGON

Released: August 9, 1979
3:00 P.M. ET



Economics, Statistics, &
Cooperatives Service

U.S. Department
of Agriculture

Washington, D.C.
20250

OREGON TALL FESCUE SEED CROP UP 2 PERCENT

OREGON: The 1979 tall fescue seed crop in Oregon is forecast at 6.80 million pounds (3080 metric tons), up 2 percent from last year. Acreage is up 5 percent from last year, but yield per acre is expected to average 680 pounds, down 20 pounds from 1978. The growing season was good, but showers during harvest reduced yields.

UNITED STATES: The U.S. production forecast, at 110 million pounds (50.0 thousand metric tons), is down 33 percent from 1978. This estimate combines the current forecast of production for Oregon and Missouri with the July forecast for the remaining five Southern States. Acreage for harvest this year is estimated at 396 thousand acres (160 thousand hectares), 30 percent below 1978. Average yield per acre is forecast at 278 pounds, down 14 pounds from last year. The update survey in Missouri resulted in an August 1 forecast for Missouri of 81.2 million pounds, down 35 percent from last year and 13 percent below the July 1, 1979 forecast.

A special August 1 survey of growers, cleaners, and dealers was conducted in Missouri. Results are included in this report. The update was a one time survey and will not be a part of the ongoing estimating program for tall fescue seed.

CARRYOVER AND SUPPLY

Carryover of old-crop tall fescue seed on June 30, 1979 is estimated at 50.8 million pounds (30.2 million by dealers and 20.6 million by growers). The initial supply (production plus carryover) is indicated to be 161 million pounds, 10 percent below a year earlier. Imports of tall fescue seed during the year ended June 30, 1979 totaled 51.9 thousand pounds compared with 4000 pounds the previous year.

TALL FESCUE SEED: AREA HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, 1977, 1978, AND 1979

STATE 1/	AREA HARVESTED			YIELD			PRODUCTION (CLEAN SEED)		
	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979
	ACRES			POUNDS			1,000 POUNDS		
ALA 2/	4,000			130			520		
ARK	17,000	25,500	18,000	290	310	305	4,930	7,905	5,490
GA	10,000	14,000	8,000	205	210	230	2,050	2,940	1,840
KANS	30,000	37,000	26,000	150	200	200	4,500	7,400	5,200
KY	21,000	42,000	30,000	190	270	230	3,990	11,340	6,900
MO	349,000	415,000	290,000	235	280	280	82,015	124,500	81,200
OREG	9,500	9,500	10,000	650	700	680	6,175	6,650	6,800
S C 2/	6,000			170			1,020		
TENN	13,000	23,000	13,800	190	200	200	2,470	4,600	2,760
TOTAL ABOVE STATES	459,500	566,000	395,800	234	292	278	107,670	165,335	110,190

1/ ESTIMATES CARRIED FORWARD FROM JUL 13 SOUTHERN STATES TALL FESCUE SEED REPORT EXCEPT FOR OREG AND MO.

2/ ESTIMATES DISCONTINUED AFTER THE 1977 CROP.

TALL FESCUE SEED SUPPLY: UNITED STATES: 1977, 1978, AND 1979

ITEM	1977	1978	1979
	1,000 POUNDS		
PRODUCTION	1/107,670	165,335	110,190
FARM CARRYOVER 2/	1/1,615	2,007	20,589
DEALER CARRYOVER	9,850	10,890	30,240
SUPPLY (PRODUCTION PLUS CARRYOVER)	1/119,135	178,232	161,019

1/ INCLUDES STATES DISCONTINUED AFTER THE 1977 CROP.

2/ INCLUDES GROWER OWNED SEED STORED IN DEALER WAREHOUSES.