



# Winter Wheat Seedings

ISSN: 1949-1980

Released January 12, 2012, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

## Planted Acres Up 3 Percent

Winter wheat seeded area for 2012 is expected to total 41.9 million acres, up 3 percent from 2011. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 30.1 million; Soft Red Winter, 8.37 million; and White Winter, 3.49 million.

### Winter Wheat Area Seeded – United States: 2010-2012 (Domestic Units)

State	Crop year			2012 as a percent of 2011
	2010	2011	2012	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Winter wheat .....	37,335	40,646	41,947	103

### Winter Wheat Area Seeded – United States: 2010-2012 (Metric Units)

State	Crop year			2012 as a percent of 2011
	2010	2011	2012	
	(hectares)	(hectares)	(hectares)	(percent)
Winter wheat .....	15,109,100	16,449,030	16,975,530	103

**Winter wheat:** Planted area for harvest in 2012 is estimated at 41.9 million acres, up 3 percent from 2011 and 12 percent above 2010. Seeding began last September and ended the month behind the 5-year average as late row crop harvest delayed planting in many northern States. However, by the end of October, seeding had progressed slightly ahead of the 5-year average. More acres were seeded this year due to higher prices and an acreage rebound in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas where dry conditions had limited 2011 planted acres. The winter wheat crop condition at the end of November was rated 52 percent good to excellent compared with 47 percent the previous year.

Hard Red Winter (HRW) wheat seeded area is about 30.1 million acres, up 6 percent from 2011. Acreage is above last year's level in all States in the HRW growing area except California, Montana, Nebraska, and South Dakota. The dry fall limited planting in South Dakota, while winter wheat seeded area in Nebraska is a record low.

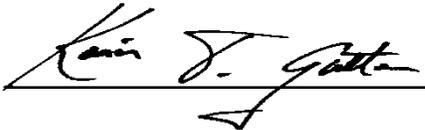
Soft Red Winter (SRW) wheat seeded area is about 8.37 million acres, down 2 percent from last year. While large acreage increases from last year are estimated in the Southeast, large acreage decreases occurred in most States in the Corn Belt and Northeast, primarily due to a late row crop harvest. In Ohio, a record low area was planted due to wet soil conditions during the fall of 2011.

White Winter wheat seeded area totals nearly 3.49 million acres, down 3 percent from 2011. Planted acreage in the Pacific Northwest (Idaho, Oregon, and Washington) is down from last year. Seeding started off slow but by the end of October was at or ahead of the 5-year average in all three States. By November 6, seeding was virtually complete in the region with 83 percent of the acreage emerged in Washington, 90 percent emerged in Idaho, and 48 percent emerged in Oregon.

**Durum wheat:** Seedings in Arizona and California for 2012 harvest are estimated at 230,000 acres, up 15 percent from the 2011 and 24 percent above 2010. Planting is ongoing in California's San Joaquin and Imperial Valleys. Weather conditions have been good for planting.

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This report was approved on January 12, 2012.



Acting Secretary of  
Agriculture  
Karis T. Gutter



Agricultural Statistics Board  
Chairperson  
Hubert Hamer

## Winter Wheat Area Seeded – States and United States: 2010-2012

State	Crop year			2012 as a percent of 2011
	2010	2011	2012	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Alabama .....	150	220	220	100
Arizona .....	9	7	8	114
Arkansas .....	200	620	520	84
California .....	660	670	660	99
Colorado .....	2,450	2,300	2,400	104
Delaware .....	50	80	90	113
Florida .....	12	12	20	167
Georgia .....	170	250	300	120
Idaho .....	750	820	780	95
Illinois .....	330	800	660	83
Indiana .....	250	430	370	86
Iowa .....	15	22	28	127
Kansas .....	8,400	8,800	9,500	108
Kentucky .....	390	540	600	111
Louisiana .....	125	240	290	121
Maryland .....	180	260	290	112
Michigan .....	530	700	570	81
Minnesota .....	65	30	50	167
Mississippi .....	125	360	500	139
Missouri .....	370	790	770	97
Montana .....	2,050	2,250	2,200	98
Nebraska .....	1,600	1,520	1,400	92
Nevada .....	19	15	19	127
New Jersey .....	28	35	28	80
New Mexico .....	470	435	460	106
New York .....	110	120	100	83
North Carolina .....	500	700	800	114
North Dakota .....	330	400	700	175
Ohio .....	780	880	580	66
Oklahoma .....	5,300	5,100	5,500	108
Oregon .....	820	830	810	98
Pennsylvania .....	165	185	165	89
South Carolina .....	145	190	220	116
South Dakota .....	1,350	1,650	1,350	82
Tennessee .....	260	420	450	107
Texas .....	5,700	5,300	5,900	111
Utah .....	135	130	145	112
Virginia .....	180	270	340	126
Washington .....	1,750	1,760	1,720	98
West Virginia .....	7	10	9	90
Wisconsin .....	240	345	265	77
Wyoming .....	165	150	160	107
United States .....	37,335	40,646	41,947	103

## Durum Wheat Area Seeded – States and United States: 2010-2012

[Blank cells indicate estimation period has not begun]

State	Crop year			2012 as a percent of 2011
	2010	2011	2012 <sup>1</sup>	
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(percent)
Arizona .....	80	80	90	113
California .....	105	120	140	117
Idaho .....	20	11		
Montana .....	540	400		
North Dakota .....	1,800	750		
South Dakota .....	15	8		
United States .....	2,560	1,369		

<sup>1</sup> Indicated 2012 area seeded for all six States and the United States will be published in *Prospective Plantings* released March 2012.

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey procedures:** The estimates in this report are based primarily on surveys conducted the first two weeks of December. The December Agricultural Survey is a probability survey that includes a sample of over 83,500 farm operators selected from a list of producers that ensures all operations in the United States have a chance to be selected. These operators were contacted by mail, internet, telephone, or personal interview to obtain information on crop acreage, yield, and production for the 2011 crop year and winter wheat and Durum wheat seedings for the 2012 crop year.

**Estimating procedures:** National, Regional, State, and grower reported data were reviewed for reasonableness and consistency with historical estimates. Each State Office submits their analysis of the current situation to the Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB). Survey data are compiled to the National level and are reviewed at this level independently of each State's review. Estimates were based on survey data and the historical relationship of official estimates to survey data.

**Revision policy:** These estimates will not be revised; instead, new forecasts will be made throughout the growing season. End-of-season estimates are made after harvest and published in the *Small Grains Annual Summary* report at the end of September.

**Reliability:** The survey used to make acreage estimates is subject to sampling and non-sampling type errors that are common to all surveys. The survey indications are subject to sampling variability because not all operations with winter wheat are included in the sample. This variability, as measured by the relative standard error at the National level, is approximately 1.0 percent for winter wheat. This means that chances are approximately 95 out of 100 that survey estimates for acres will be within plus or minus 2.0 percent for winter wheat.

Survey indications are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omission, duplication, imputation for missing data, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. These errors cannot be measured directly, but they are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

## Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

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