



Winter Wheat Seedings

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Planted Acres Lowest Since 1971

Winter wheat seeded area for 2002 is expected to total 41.0 million acres, down fractionally from 2001. This is the smallest area since 1971. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 29.3 million; Soft Red Winter, 8.3 million; and White Winter, 3.4 million.

Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, United States, 2000-2002 (Domestic Units)

Item	Crop Year			2002 as Pct. of 2001
	2000	2001	2002	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat	43,393	41,078	41,031	100

Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, United States, 2000-2002 (Metric Units)

Item	Crop Year			2002 as Pct. of 2001
	2000	2001	2002	
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat	17,560,710	16,623,860	16,604,840	100

Winter Wheat: Planted area for harvest in 2002 is estimated at 41.0 million acres. This is down fractionally from 2001 and is the lowest level since 1971. Seeding began last August and advanced well ahead of the previous year's slow pace throughout the fall. Seeding should finish sometime next month in California. Nearly all of the U.S. acreage was seeded by December 1. Most remaining intended area is in the Southeast and California.

Hard Red Winter wheat seeded area is about 29.3 million acres, up 1 percent from 2001. Significant acreage increases in Texas, Oklahoma, and Montana more than offset a large acreage decline in Kansas. Texas and Oklahoma are rebounding from lower acreages last year when dry conditions reduced seedings. This is the first time since 1990 that wheat acreage has increased in Oklahoma. Acreage continues to decline in Kansas, where seedings have not increased since 1996, and is currently at the lowest level since 1957. Planting was complete in Kansas by the second week of November. Seeding conditions in Colorado were generally favorable; however, conditions turned dry in late fall leaving little soil moisture before dormancy. Soil moisture supplies were mostly adequate to short during planting in Nebraska.

Soft Red Winter area, at about 8.3 million acres, is down 4 percent from last year, and is 13 percent below two years ago. Acreage declined significantly across the Corn Belt, in Arkansas, and throughout much of the Southeast. Seeded acres increased sharply in Georgia where growers are planting additional wheat in place of rye as a cover crop.

White Winter wheat seeded area totals about 3.4 million acres, down 1 percent from 2001. Growers in Idaho planted the smallest acreage since 1962. Weather conditions were dry in Oregon when seeding began; however, much needed moisture was received toward the end of planting. Planting got off to an average start in Washington, then fell behind normal as producers waited for adequate moisture.

Durum Wheat: Seedings in Arizona and California for 2002 harvest are estimated at 179,000 acres. This total is up 3 percent from their final 2001 acreage. Seedings in California's San Joaquin Valley progressed rapidly during October and November. Planting began in the Imperial Valley in late November and will continue into March as the winter vegetable harvest is completed.

This report was approved on January 11, 2002.



Acting Secretary of
Agriculture
J. B. Penn



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
Frederic A. Vogel

Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, by State and United States, 2000-2002

State	Crop Year			2002 as Pct. of 2001
	2000	2001	2002	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	140	170	150	88
AZ	7	6	5	83
AR	1,180	1,100	1,000	91
CA	535	530	535	101
CO	2,500	2,350	2,350	100
DE	65	60	60	100
FL	13	10	9	90
GA	300	300	350	117
ID	780	760	730	96
IL	950	750	680	91
IN	550	400	350	88
IA	20	25	20	80
KS	9,800	9,800	9,400	96
KY	670	550	550	100
LA	200	175	190	109
MD	220	190	195	103
MI	530	570	500	88
MN	20	15	25	167
MS	250	250	250	100
MO	1,050	900	880	98
MT	1,500	1,300	1,400	108
NE	1,750	1,750	1,700	97
NV	10	9	8	89
NJ	40	31	41	132
NM	470	500	490	98
NY	150	125	140	112
NC	720	680	600	88
ND	120	150	80	53
OH	1,120	950	870	92
OK	6,100	5,600	5,800	104
OR	750	750	800	107
PA	200	170	180	106
SC	200	220	200	91
SD	1,350	1,300	1,150	88
TN	550	500	430	86
TX	6,000	5,600	6,400	114
UT	150	140	140	100
VA	240	200	230	115
WA	1,850	1,850	1,800	97
WV	13	12	13	108
WI	140	170	180	106
WY	190	160	150	94
US	43,393	41,078	41,031	100

Durum Wheat: Area Seeded, by State and United States, 2000-2002

State	Crop Year			2002 as Pct. of 2001
	2000	2001	2002 ¹	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	85	88	79	90
CA	100	85	100	118
MN	2	2		
MT	480	510		
ND	3,250	2,200		
SD	20	25		
US	3,937	2,910		

¹ Indicated 2002 area seeded for all six states will be published in "Prospective Plantings" released March 30, 2002.

The next "Winter Wheat Seedings" report will be released in January 2003.

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