



# Winter Wheat Seedings

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## Planted Acres Lowest Since 1972

**Winter wheat** seeded area for 2000 is expected to total 42.9 million acres, down 1 percent from 1999. This is the smallest area since 1972. Class breakdowns approximate: Hard Red Winter, 30.3 million; Soft Red Winter, 9.2 million; White Winter, 3.4 million.

### Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, United States, 1998-00 (Domestic Units)

Item	Crop Year			2000 as Pct. of 1999
	1998	1999	2000	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat	46,449	43,431	42,916	99

### Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, United States, 1998-00 (Metric Units)

Item	Crop Year			2000 as Pct. of 1999
	1998	1999	2000	
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat	18,797,446	17,576,091	17,367,676	99

**Winter Wheat:** Planted area for harvest in 2000 is estimated at 42.9 million acres. This is down 1 percent from 1999 and is the lowest level since 1972. Seeding started last August in the Pacific Northwest, some Mountain states, and Minnesota. Progress moved steadily forward through the fall, only slowing in some locations as farmers waited for rain. Seeding should finish sometime in February in California. About 98 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 30.3 million acres, down 2 percent from 1999. Most HRW states have planted less wheat. Montana and South Dakota are notable exceptions; New Mexico and North Dakota also have increased. Dry conditions have plagued growers from Texas to Nebraska. Extreme dryness has covered much of Texas since August, particularly in the eastern half of the State. Considerable acreage was either dry planted or not planted at all. Lack of moisture stressed wheat across Oklahoma, but especially in the southern half of the State. Seeding was virtually complete in Kansas by the first week of November. Emergence was ahead of normal until mid-November when conditions declined and emergence slowed due to the lack of topsoil moisture. Seeding conditions in Colorado were quite favorable with excellent moisture supplies and mild temperatures leading to good germination and establishment. Favorable weather contributed to increased acreage in the Dakotas.

Soft Red Winter area is up slightly from last year, at about 9.2 million acres. This is due primarily to an increase of 180,000 acres in Arkansas where conditions are better than a year ago. Other notable increases are expected in Missouri, Tennessee, Mississippi, and North Carolina. Sharp acreage declines were reported in Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Virginia, South Carolina, and Georgia. Dry weather continues to be a concern for farmers in the southeast.

White Winter wheat seeded area totals about 3.4 million acres, down fractionally from 1999. Many farmers in Idaho worried about a lack of moisture for germination, but ample rains during November helped alleviate their concerns. Seeding was delayed in Oregon due to drought conditions in most of the State's wheat growing areas. Washington got off to a slow winter wheat season because of limited moisture at planting time.

**Durum Wheat:** Seedings in Arizona and California for 2000 harvest are placed at 170,000 acres. This total is up 3 percent from their final 1999 planting. Seeding in California's San Joaquin Valley progressed rapidly during October and November. Seeding began in the Imperial Valley in late November and will continue into March as the winter vegetable harvest finishes.

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This report was approved on January 12, 2000.



Acting Secretary of  
Agriculture  
Richard E. Rominger



Agricultural Statistics Board  
Chairperson  
Frederic A. Vogel

**Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, by State and United States, 1998-00**

State	Crop Year			2000 as Pct. of 1999
	1998	1999	2000	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	120	140	130	93
AZ	8	11	10	91
AR	980	970	1,150	119
CA	500	500	500	100
CO	2,750	2,600	2,550	98
DE	75	75	65	87
FL	15	16	20	125
GA	290	300	250	83
ID	820	760	780	103
IL	1,250	1,050	950	90
IN	700	550	550	100
IA	40	40	20	50
KS	10,700	10,000	9,800	98
KY	750	650	650	100
LA	100	110	100	91
MD	225	215	215	100
MI	600	610	530	87
MN	60	40	20	50
MS	160	180	210	117
MO	1,350	980	1,000	102
MT	1,400	1,050	1,500	143
NE	1,900	2,000	1,850	93
NV	7	11	9	82
NJ	48	42	44	105
NM	415	445	470	106
NY	140	130	160	123
NC	730	650	720	111
ND	70	60	100	167
OH	1,200	1,050	1,020	97
OK	6,600	6,400	6,100	95
OR	810	710	730	103
PA	195	195	200	103
SC	265	225	190	84
SD	1,500	1,300	1,350	104
TN	570	500	580	116
TX	6,100	6,200	5,800	94
UT	155	150	150	100
VA	280	280	250	89
WA	2,200	1,900	1,850	97
WV	11	11	13	118
WI	140	125	140	112
WY	220	200	190	95
US	46,449	43,431	42,916	99

**Durum Wheat: Area Seeded, by State and United States, 1998-00**

State	Crop Year			2000 as Pct. of 1999
	1998	1999	2000 <sup>1</sup>	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	145	75	90	120
CA	180	90	80	89
MN	5	5		
MT	450	360		
ND	3,000	3,450		
SD	25	55		
US	3,805	4,035		

<sup>1</sup> Indicated 2000 area seeded for all six states will be published in "Prospective Plantings" released March 31, 2000.

The next "Winter Wheat Seedings" report will be released in January 2001.

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