



Winter Wheat Seedings

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Planted Acres Lowest Since 1971

Winter wheat seeded area for 2001 is expected to total 41.3 million acres, down 5 percent from 2000. This is the smallest area since 1971. Class acreage breakdowns are approximately: Hard Red Winter, 28.9 million; Soft Red Winter, 8.9 million; White Winter, 3.5 million.

Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, United States, 1999-2001 (Domestic Units)

| Item | Crop Year | | | 2001 as Pct. of 2000 |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | |
| | <i>1,000 Acres</i> | <i>1,000 Acres</i> | <i>1,000 Acres</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Winter Wheat | 43,331 | 43,348 | 41,309 | 95 |

Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, United States, 1999-2001 (Metric Units)

| Item | Crop Year | | | 2001 as Pct. of 2000 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | |
| | <i>Hectares</i> | <i>Hectares</i> | <i>Hectares</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Winter Wheat | 17,535,622 | 17,542,502 | 16,717,339 | 95 |

Winter Wheat: Planted area for harvest in 2001 is estimated at 41.3 million acres. This is down 5 percent from 2000 and is the lowest level since 1971. Seeding started last August in the Pacific Northwest, some Mountain States, and Minnesota, Oklahoma, and Texas. Progress was slow across most of the U.S. due primarily to dry soil conditions. Seeding should finish sometime during 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, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Hard Red Winter (HRW) wheat seeded area is about 28.9 million acres, down 5 percent from 2000. Oklahoma and Texas led the decline, down 700,000 and 400,000 acres, respectively. Colorado and Montana also showed large decreases. Dry conditions have been the leading cause of the lower acreage, leading to delayed seeding progress and even slower emergence. In Texas and Oklahoma, the dry conditions were followed by excessive rainfall which further hindered progress. Emergence is a month behind the 5-year average in Oklahoma causing concern for cattlemen hoping to have wheat pasture for grazing cattle. Kansas and Nebraska are the most notable States expecting to plant more acres than last year. Emergence was significantly behind average in Kansas until mid-November. In Nebraska, moisture supplies were very short to short during planting, but improved as planting neared completion. The Colorado crop is short and poorly rooted leaving it vulnerable to blow out and shallow snow cover. The summer drought in Montana continued into the fall causing many farmers to reduce their planted acreage.

Soft Red Winter (SRW) area is down 6 percent from last year, at about 8.9 million acres. Nearly all SRW States have planted less wheat this year. Alabama, Georgia, and Wisconsin are the only States planting more acres this year. Alabama growers expect to utilize more wheat acres for cattle grazing this winter as hay supplies are short. Arkansas, Indiana, and South Carolina have planted acreage equal to last year's levels. In contrast to most of the HRW area, excessive soil moisture this past fall in southern Illinois was the cause of slowed planting progress. Wheat farmers in Indiana had an ideal fall season for seeding winter wheat. Dry conditions across most of the Southeast hampered seeding.

White Winter wheat seeded area totals about 3.5 million acres, down fractionally from 2000. In Idaho, above normal moisture in October was followed by a cold, dry November. Winter wheat seedings ran slightly ahead of normal for most of the State. Weather conditions were good for seeding wheat in Oregon. The Washington winter wheat season was off to a slow start, however stands look very good with the majority of the crop in good condition.

Durum Wheat: Seedings in Arizona and California for 2001 harvest are placed at 160,000 acres. This total is down 14 percent from their final 2000 planting. Seeding in California's San Joaquin Valley progressed rapidly during October and November. Below normal precipitation has forced growers to irrigate earlier than usual. Seeding began in the Imperial Valley in late November and will continue into March as the winter vegetable harvest finishes.

This report was approved on January 11, 2001.



Secretary of
Agriculture
Dan Glickman



Agricultural Statistics Board
Chairperson
Frederic A. Vogel

Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, by State and United States, 1999-2001

| State | Crop Year | | | 2001 as Pct. of 2000 |
|-------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | |
| | <i>1,000 Acres</i> | <i>1,000 Acres</i> | <i>1,000 Acres</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| AL | 140 | 140 | 160 | 114 |
| AZ | 11 | 7 | 7 | 100 |
| AR | 970 | 1,180 | 1,180 | 100 |
| CA | 500 | 500 | 450 | 90 |
| CO | 2,600 | 2,500 | 2,300 | 92 |
| DE | 75 | 65 | 60 | 92 |
| FL | 16 | 13 | 10 | 77 |
| GA | 300 | 300 | 330 | 110 |
| ID | 760 | 780 | 760 | 97 |
| IL | 1,050 | 950 | 850 | 89 |
| IN | 550 | 550 | 550 | 100 |
| IA | 40 | 20 | 25 | 125 |
| KS | 10,000 | 9,800 | 9,900 | 101 |
| KY | 650 | 670 | 600 | 90 |
| LA | 110 | 200 | 160 | 80 |
| MD | 215 | 220 | 190 | 86 |
| MI | 610 | 530 | 570 | 108 |
| MN | 40 | 20 | 20 | 100 |
| MS | 180 | 250 | 230 | 92 |
| MO | 980 | 1,050 | 900 | 86 |
| MT | 1,050 | 1,500 | 1,200 | 80 |
| NE | 1,900 | 1,750 | 1,800 | 103 |
| NV | 11 | 10 | 9 | 90 |
| NJ | 42 | 40 | 31 | 78 |
| NM | 445 | 470 | 470 | 100 |
| NY | 130 | 150 | 125 | 83 |
| NC | 650 | 720 | 650 | 90 |
| ND | 60 | 120 | 170 | 142 |
| OH | 1,050 | 1,120 | 1,010 | 90 |
| OK | 6,400 | 6,100 | 5,400 | 89 |
| OR | 710 | 750 | 770 | 103 |
| PA | 195 | 200 | 180 | 90 |
| SC | 225 | 190 | 190 | 100 |
| SD | 1,300 | 1,350 | 1,350 | 100 |
| TN | 500 | 550 | 520 | 95 |
| TX | 6,200 | 6,000 | 5,600 | 93 |
| UT | 150 | 150 | 150 | 100 |
| VA | 280 | 240 | 230 | 96 |
| WA | 1,900 | 1,850 | 1,850 | 100 |
| WV | 11 | 13 | 12 | 92 |
| WI | 125 | 140 | 170 | 121 |
| WY | 200 | 190 | 170 | 89 |
| US | 43,331 | 43,348 | 41,309 | 95 |

Durum Wheat: Area Seeded, by State and United States, 1999-2001

| State | Crop Year | | | 2001 as Pct. of 2000 |
|-------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 ¹ | |
| | <i>1,000 Acres</i> | <i>1,000 Acres</i> | <i>1,000 Acres</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| AZ | 75 | 85 | 80 | 94 |
| CA | 90 | 100 | 80 | 80 |
| MN | 5 | 2 | | |
| MT | 360 | 480 | | |
| ND | 3,450 | 3,250 | | |
| SD | 55 | 20 | | |
| US | 4,035 | 3,937 | | |

¹ Indicated 2001 area seeded for all six states will be published in "Prospective Plantings" released March 30, 2001.

The next "Winter Wheat Seedings" report will be released in January 2002.

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