

NASS Survey Training

Ag Yield Survey

[Video of this presentation](#)



May, June, and July

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Workforce Performance and Staff Development Section



NASS's Ag Yield Survey Program

- The Agricultural (Ag) Yield Surveys supply indications for crop yields and hay stocks used to establish monthly state and national production forecasts.
- The Ag Yield Survey is conducted monthly from May to November in all States, except Alaska and Hawaii. However, not all 48 states are active in all seven months of the Ag Yield Survey.



May, June, and July focuses on small grains



August collects final yields on small grains and begins yield forecasts for row crops



September, October, and November continues with row crops and hay/forage crops

How is this data used?

The agricultural industry relies on current NASS yield and production estimates:

- Provides a real time “snapshot” of crop production
 - Allows the industry to track how crops are developing
- Helps producers develop marketing plans for their operations and determine how and when to sell what
 - Also gives livestock producers information on feed purchases

How is this data used?

The agricultural industry relies on current NASS yield and production estimates:

- Enables the industry to forecast transportation and storage requirements and evaluate export potential.
- USDA agencies use the information to determine crop insurance and disaster aid payments along with other program benefits.

Survey Information



Crop Production

ISSN: 1936-3737

Released May 12, 2023, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Winter Wheat Production Up 2 Percent from 2022 Orange Production Down 1 Percent from April Forecast

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.13 billion bushels, up 2 percent from 2022. As of May 1, the United States yield is forecast at 44.7 bushels per acre, down 2.3 bushels from last year's average yield of 47.0 bushels per acre. Area expected to be harvested for grain or seed is forecast at 25.3 million acres, up 8 percent from last year.

Hard Red Winter production, at 514 million bushels, is down 3 percent from a year ago. Soft Red Winter, at 406 million bushels, is up 21 percent from 2022. White Winter, at 210 million bushels, is down 11 percent from last year. Of the White Winter production, 10.2 million bushels are Hard White and 200 million bushels are Soft White.

The United States all orange forecast for the 2022-2023 season is 2.55 million tons, down 1 percent from the previous forecast and down 25 percent from the 2021- 2022 final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 15.7 million boxes (705,000 tons), is down 3 percent from the previous forecast and down 62 percent from last season's final utilization. In Florida, early, midseason, and Navel varieties are forecast at 6.15 million boxes (277,000 tons), up 1 percent from the previous forecast but down 66 percent from last season's final utilization. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 9.50 million boxes (428,000 tons), is down 5 percent from the previous forecast and down 59 percent from last season's final utilization.

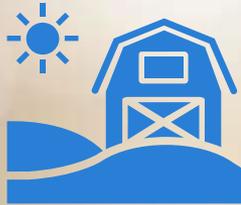
- Project Code: 128 – monthly Ag Yield Survey
- Questionnaires: Mailed between the 20th and 23rd of each month.
- Reporting Options: Online reporting available.
- Release of survey data: Results released around the 12th of each month at 12 p.m. Eastern Time

Search for releases under the “Publication” tab on the NASS website. “Crop Production”

NASS website: www.nass.usda.gov/



Crops in May Ag Yield will vary by state



Focus Crops:

Winter Wheat: Surveyed in all states **except** New England, AZ, MN, NV, and WV.

Durum Wheat: Only surveyed in **AZ and CA.**

Additional Data:

Hay Production: Assessed for the **previous year** in all states.

Hay Stocks:

Evaluates **remaining hay stores** in all states.

Crops in June Ag Yield will vary by state



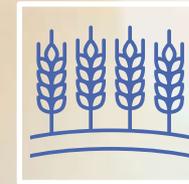
Winter Wheat:

Surveyed in all states **except** New England, AZ, MN, N V, and WV.



Additional Coverage:

Durum Wheat: Only surveyed in **AZ and CA.**



June Data:

Reflects **expected harvested acres** and **planting progress.**

Crops in July Ag Yield will vary by state

Winter
Wheat

Durum
Wheat

Other Spring
Wheat

Barley

Oats

Flue Cured
Tobacco

Winter Wheat Questions

Winter Wheat

- Acres Planted for all purposes (**May** only)
 - Generally planted the previous fall for the current crop year
- Acres Harvested and to be Harvested for either grain or seed
 - States will have different harvest start dates
- Expected Yield for Grain and/or Seed (**May, June, and July**)
- Is Harvest Complete (**June and July**)

Winter Wheat Life Cycle

Planted in the fall



Goes dormant during the winter



Harvested in the summer



Starts growing again in the spring



Durum Wheat & Other Spring Wheat

Durum Wheat:

May: Acres planted for all purposes.

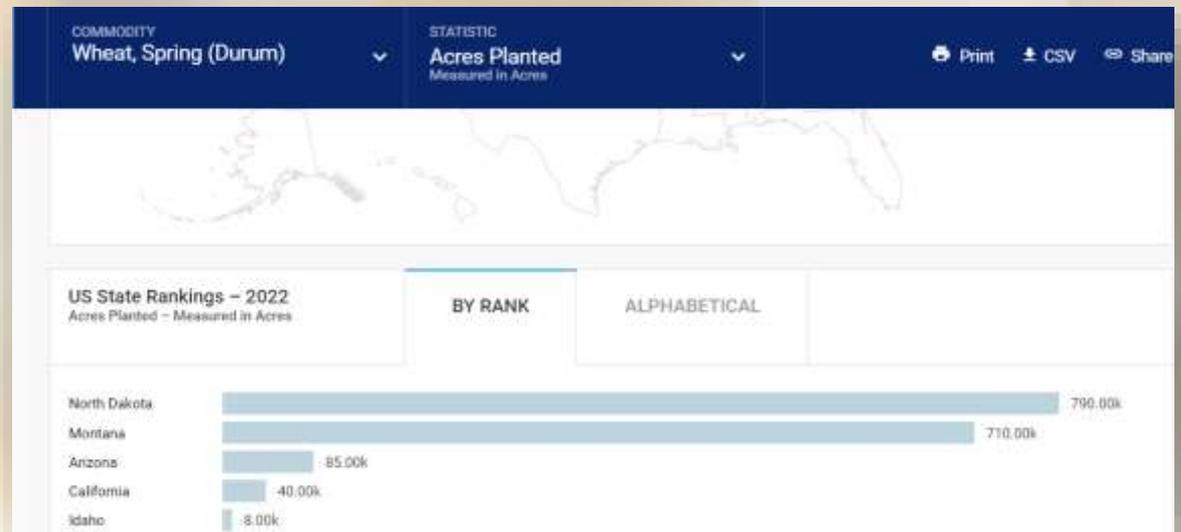
May, June, July: Acres harvested and expected yield per acre.

June: Is harvest complete?

Other Spring Wheat:

July: Acres harvested and expected yield per acre.

Idaho asks to break expected yields out by irrigated and non-irrigated acres.



Barley & Flue Cured Tobacco

Barley

May and July: Acres harvested and expected yield

Flue Cured Tobacco

July: Acres harvested and expected yield



Things to Watch Out For!

- Wheat acreage in March but none in later months
- Large difference in acreage from March until when Ag Yield interview is conducted
- Low harvested to planted (H/P) ratio
 - Example: Planted 300 acres but only harvested 50 due to winter kill.
- High/low yields
- Hay production but no stocks or vice versa

Reluctant Response Scenario 1

Uncertainty and Inaccuracy

Typical Response: "It's too early to tell," "Can't report accurately."

Our Approach:

- Acknowledge uncertainty: "We understand. At this point, we're just looking for an estimate of expected yields compared to last year."
- Offer a reference point: "What was your yield last year?"

Reluctant Responses Scenario 2

Timing Mismatch

Typical Response: "Planting isn't finished, so I can't estimate yields yet."

Our Approach:

- Explain the scope: "We're currently collecting data on winter wheat and hay in storage. Can you share that information?"
- Offer alternative options: "If you have an early estimate for planted crops, we'd appreciate it, even if it's tentative."

Reluctant Response Scenario 3

Existing Reporting Channels

Typical Response: "I already report this to the FSA office."

Our Approach:

- Acknowledge shared information: "We understand you report some data to the FSA. However,"
- Highlight unique data points: "Our survey collects additional information like expected wheat yield, last year's hay production, and hay stored, which aren't reported to the FSA."

Key Takeaways

Spot unusual trends? Share your insights!

Notes or comments on anything unexpected can be incredibly helpful.

Got questions? No problem! Your supervisor is here to support you. Don't hesitate to reach out for any clarifications or assistance.



Thank you for your dedication!
Your hard work collecting data for the Monthly Ag Yield Survey is essential. We appreciate you!

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