



# News Release

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Small Grain Production  
July 11, 2008

## Small Grain Production Forecast

### North Dakota

**Spring wheat** production for 2008 is forecast at 224 million bushels, down 4 percent from 234 million bushels produced last year, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. The forecasted yield is 34.0 bushels per harvested acre, down 2 bushels from 2007. Area to be harvested for grain is 6.60 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. The crop production forecasts in this report are based on yield projections and acreage reports collected from a cross-section of North Dakota producers around July 1. This report is based on conditions around July 1 and assumes no extreme conditions the remainder of the crop season.

**Durum wheat** production is forecast at 44.6 million bushels, up 2 percent from last year. The forecasted yield is 27.0 bushels per acre, 3 bushels less than in 2007. Area to be harvested for grain is expected to total 1.65 million acres, up 13 percent from last year and 31 percent from 2006.

**Barley** production is forecast at 75.6 million bushels, down 3 percent from last year but still greater than 2006 when 48.8 million bushels were harvested. The average yield is forecast at 54.0 bushels per acre, down 2 bushels per acre from 2007. Area to be harvested for grain is estimated at 1.40 million acres, up 1 percent from last year and the highest since 2004 when 1.48 million acres were harvested.

**Oat** production is forecast at 8.55 million bushels, down 44 percent from 2007 but up 74 percent from 2006's production of 4.92 million bushels which was the lowest since 1936. The average yield is forecast at 57.0 bushels per acre, down 2 bushels from last year. Growers expect to harvest 150,000 acres, down 42 percent from last year but up 25 percent from 2006.

### United States

**Spring wheat** production is forecast at 507 million bushels, up 6 percent from 2007. The yield is forecast at 36.8 bushels per acre, down 0.2 bushel from last year. Area harvested for grain is expected to total 13.8 million acres, up 6 percent from last year.

**Durum wheat** production is forecast at 89.9 million bushels, up 25 percent from 2007. The yield is forecast at 34.8 bushels per acre, 0.9 bushel above last year. Area harvested for grain is expected to total 2.58 million acres, up 22 percent from last year.

**Barley** production for 2008 is forecast at 218 million bushels, 3 percent above 2007. The July 1 yield is forecast at 59.8 bushels per acre, down less than 1 bushel from last year. Expected area to be harvested for grain or seed, at 3.64 million acres, is up 4 percent from 2007.

**Oat** production is forecast at 92.9 million bushels, 1 percent above last year's record low 91.6 million bushels. If realized, this will be the second lowest production on record. The July 1 yield is forecast at 64.4 bushels per acre, up 3.5 bushels from 2007. Growers expect to harvest 1.44 million acres for grain or seed, down 4 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the smallest harvested area on record.

**Crop Summary: Area Planted, Harvested, Yield and Production  
North Dakota and United States, 2007-2008**

Crop	Planted		Harvested		Unit	Yield Per Harvested Acre			Production	
	2007	2008	2007	Forecasted 2008		Average 2003-07 <sup>1</sup>	2007	Forecasted 2008	2007	Forecasted 2008
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>					<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
<b>North Dakota</b>										
Barley	1,470	1,500	1,390	1,400	Bu	56.2	56.0	54.0	77,840	75,600
Oats	460	360	260	150	Bu	56.4	59.0	57.0	15,340	8,550
Wheat, Durum	1,480	1,700	1,460	1,650	Bu	30.5	30.0	27.0	43,800	44,550
Spring	6,650	6,800	6,500	6,600	Bu	36.3	36.0	34.0	234,000	224,400
<b>United States</b>										
Barley	4,020	4,130	3,508	3,640	Bu		60.4	59.8	211,825	217,819
Oats	3,760	3,467	1,505	1,443	Bu		60.9	64.4	91,599	92,872
Wheat, All	60,433	63,457	51,011	56,586	Bu		40.5	43.5	2,066,722	2,460,686
Durum	2,149	2,655	2,112	2,583	Bu		33.9	34.8	71,686	89,873
Spring	13,297	14,197	12,947	13,751	Bu		37.0	36.8	479,047	506,568
Winter	44,987	46,605	35,952	40,252	Bu		42.2	46.3	1,515,989	1,864,245

<sup>1</sup> U.S. average yield not computed.

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