

Crop Production

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WINTER WHEAT AND RYE DECEMBER 1, 1968

The Crop Reporting Board of the Statistical Reporting Service makes the following report of WINTER WHEAT ACREAGE SEEDED and PRODUCTION and RYE ACREAGE SEEDED and CONDITION, for the United States, from data furnished by crop correspondents, field statisticians, and cooperating State agencies.

ITEM	Crops of 1963-67	Crop of 1968	Crop of 1969 1/
WINTER WHEAT:			
Acreage seeded for all purposes (1,000 acres)	45,633	49,398	43,005
Yield per seeded acre (bu.)	22.9	24.9	25.9
Production (1,000 bu.)	1,044,293	1,228,638	1,115,465
Seedings as % of previous year	---	91.3	87.1
Harvested for grain (percent)	85.4	86.0	88.0
RYE:			
Acreage seeded for all purposes (1,000 acres)	4,153	3,434	3,988
Seedings as % of previous year	---	93.7	116.1
Condition Dec. 1 (percent)	86	85	90

1/ Indicated December 1, 1968.

APPROVED:

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Statistical Reporting Service
CrPr 2-3 (12-68)

Crop Reporting Board
Washington, D. C. 20250

WINTER WHEAT AND RYE, December 1968 Crop Reporting Board, SRS, USDA

WINTER WHEAT: Seedings of winter wheat in the fall of 1968, for harvest in 1969, totaled 43.0 million acres, 13 percent less than for the 1968 crop, and 6 percent less than average. The acreage allotment for all wheat was reduced 13 percent to 51.6 million acres for the 1969 crop. Acreage diversion payments will be offered to growers for the 1969 crop but were not offered in the two previous crop years.

Declines in planted acreage from a year earlier occurred in all major winter wheat producing States. Only 2 minor producing States, Iowa and Arizona, planted the same acreage for 1968, and no State planted more acreage. The largest percentage declines were in the Southern Great Plains, South Central, East North Central, and the Atlantic Regions.

A 1969 winter wheat crop of 1,115 million bushels is expected, based on conditions as of December 1. This would be 9 percent less than the record large 1968 crop but 7 percent above average. On December 1, most of the U. S. crop was generally in good condition. In the past decade, changes in estimates of the U. S. wheat crop between December 1 and the final production estimate have averaged 69 million bushels, ranging from 3 million to 185 million bushels.

Yield per seeded acre of 25.9 bushels is 1.0 bushel above 1968 and 3.0 bushels above average. December 1 conditions indicate 88.0 percent of the seeded acreage will be harvested for grain, compared with 86.0 percent in 1968 and the average of 85.4 percent.

Winter wheat seeding in the Great Plains progressed ahead of a year earlier but behind the previous year. The crop is in good condition, except in western Kansas, southwestern Nebraska, eastern Colorado and in New Mexico, where dry weather has resulted in thin stands and in limited topgrowth. Seeding in Kansas started slowly this fall. September rains helped planting move rapidly toward completion in October, except in a few dry areas in the extreme west and some wet areas in the southeast and southcentral. By December 1, the crop was in good to excellent condition and well above the two previous years.

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However, moisture shortages within the western tiers of counties in the westcentral and southwest districts have limited fall growth, and short uneven stands have shown in some fields.

In Oklahoma, seeding progressed normally and adequate stands were obtained, except in the western half of the Panhandle. Elsewhere in the State, subsoil moisture is considered ample. The Texas crop was progressing well and furnishing fair to good grazing in most areas of the State. Recent rain and snow have improved moisture conditions over most of the State. However, dryland wheat on the Northern High Plains is in need of moisture. In western Nebraska, seeding was about usual, but was delayed in the southcentral and southeastern areas because of wet fields. The crop emerged to good stands and has good root development. However, additional moisture is needed in the far southwest counties. In Colorado, shortage of soil moisture in the fall limited growth and root development. Winter wheat in southeastern and east central Colorado has already shown some decline.

In Montana seeding was virtually complete by October 18, about the same as the previous year. Considerably above average precipitation in late summer and early fall promoted good to excellent germination. About December 1 crop condition was good. From mid-August through December 1 the Pacific Northwest had above normal precipitation, greatly improving prospects for the 1969 wheat crop. Seeding conditions in Washington and Oregon were good -- much improved over a year earlier. The crop is in generally good to excellent condition. Spraying for weed control was active in Washington.

Planting of wheat in the Corn Belt and Northeast generally moved more swiftly than a year earlier, when a wet fall delayed progress. In the Southeast, early seeding was delayed awaiting improved soil moisture supplies. Rains arrived with Hurricane Gladys in October enabling planting to proceed. Additional rain in November greatly benefited the crop. Planting neared completion about December 1.

RYE: Rye seedings in the fall of 1968 totaled 4.0 million acres -- 16 percent above last year, and increasing in all regions. Sharpest increases were west of the Mississippi River, where a portion of the reduced wheat acreage was seeded to rye. Seeded acres increased 24 percent from last year in the North Central States, 21 percent in the South Central States and 22 percent in the Western States. In the East increases were: 5 percent in the North Atlantic Region and 3 percent in the South Atlantic Region.

Fall weather generally favored seeding. Moisture was adequate for germination and fall growth of the crop was above average. Rye seeding was delayed in a few Corn Belt States, particularly Minnesota where wet soils delayed harvest of fall row crops. Early in the season parts of Nebraska were dry, but soil moisture improved from later rains. In Colorado and western Kansas, soil moisture was sufficient for germination. However, limited precipitation in the late fall resulted in some plant deterioration. Elsewhere most acreage has good stands, satisfactory growth, and is entering winter in good condition.

On December 1, reported condition of rye for harvest in 1969 was 90. It was 85 a year earlier, and the average is 86. Condition is good in the important rye for grain States. The Dakotas had a better fall moisture supply than a year earlier and nearly all rye acreage made sufficient fall growth to become well established. Essentially all rye came up to good stands in Oklahoma and Texas with much of the acreage making sufficient growth for grazing.

First forecast of 1969 rye production will be in July.

CROP REPORTING BOARD

WINTER WHEAT

State	Acreage seeded ^{1/}				Production		
	Crops of 1963-67	Crop of 1968	Crop of 1969	Crop of 1969 as percent of crop of 1968	Crops of 1963-67	Crop of 1968	Crop of 1969 ^{2/}
	acres	acres	acres	Percent	bushels	bushels	bushels
N.Y.	220	230	184	80	7,872	8,480	6,992
N.J.	51	56	50	89	1,449	1,505	1,450
Pa.	467	414	352	85	15,156	12,608	11,616
Ohio	1,421	1,270	1,003	79	47,932	45,362	38,114
Ind.	1,272	1,077	948	88	45,406	35,490	36,024
Ill.	1,794	1,556	1,385	89	66,114	53,136	55,400
Mich.	962	918	670	73	35,078	31,860	24,120
Wis.	41	44	43	98	1,367	1,634	1,720
Minn.	23	30	20	67	530	648	460
Iowa	79	50	50	100	1,874	1,862	1,550
Mo.	1,583	1,434	1,176	82	43,024	42,174	35,280
N. Dak.	3/60	112	110	98	3/1,117	2,565	2,750
S. Dak.	676	779	748	96	15,856	26,028	22,440
Nebr.	3,252	3,332	2,999	90	74,940	101,088	95,968
Kans.	11,328	11,963	10,886	91	210,467	243,775	239,492
Del.	23	26	22	85	737	768	770
Md.	146	145	126	87	4,521	4,224	4,788
Va.	188	190	162	85	4,998	5,746	6,642
W. Va.	22	19	17	90	524	456	442
N. C.	251	250	225	90	6,123	8,775	9,225
S. C.	83	110	82	75	2,137	3,016	2,214
Ga.	90	130	98	75	2,261	3,192	2,450
Fla.	45	65	54	83	809	1,350	1,080
Ky.	244	276	243	88	5,696	6,240	5,832
Tenn.	200	321	289	90	5,068	7,371	7,225
Ala.	83	144	120	83	1,655	2,775	2,400
Miss.	256	495	322	65	6,211	11,232	7,728
Ark.	437	656	426	65	11,768	14,200	11,502
La.	112	165	111	67	1,665	2,112	1,665
Okla.	5,338	6,091	5,299	87	98,468	122,383	111,279
Texas	4,496	4,909	4,124	84	62,525	84,150	70,108
Mont.	2,384	2,877	2,445	85	63,495	86,656	75,795
Idaho	901	1,080	961	89	32,111	45,540	39,401
Wyo.	258	296	266	90	4,658	7,920	4,788
Colo.	2,925	3,106	2,702	87	29,980	38,320	29,722
N. Mex.	314	339	288	85	4,030	7,625	2,880
Ariz.	36	57	57	100	1,462	2,704	2,736
Utah	208	236	212	90	4,789	5,936	5,512
Nev.	8	12	7	58	494	550	455
Wash.	2,232	2,755	2,590	94	85,727	106,200	98,420
Oreg.	812	980	774	79	26,105	28,706	25,542
Calif.	326	403	359	89	8,317	12,276	11,488
U. S.	45,633	49,398	43,005	87.1	1,044,293	1,228,638	1,115,465

^{1/} Total acreage seeded for all purposes. ^{2/} Indicated December 1, 1968.
^{3/} 1964-67 average.

RYE

State	Acreage seeded ^{1/}			Condition December 1			
	Crops of 1963-67	Crop of 1968	Crop of 1969	Crop of 1969: as percent of crop of 1968	Average 1962-66 (crops of 1963-67)	1967 (crop of 1968)	1968 (crop of 1969)
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
N. Y.	131	129	134	104	91	93	96
N. J.	94	87	84	97	88	88	88
Pa.	55	48	60	125	87	92	94
Ohio	115	105	116	110	82	86	94
Ind.	145	82	82	100	87	89	95
Ill.	148	90	95	106	91	92	96
Mich.	208	189	195	103	94	93	98
Wis.	59	70	75	107	90	92	96
Minn.	105	82	82	100	91	82	95
Iowa	22	18	16	89	90	92	95
Mo.	141	96	101	105	83	85	88
N. Dak.	405	175	276	158	83	79	91
S. Dak.	206	219	265	121	87	83	95
Nebr.	260	160	240	150	87	83	92
Kans.	242	94	164	175	84	82	87
Del.	49	52	50	96	86	85	88
Md.	101	103	98	95	89	88	91
Va.	256	294	288	98	85	86	93
N. C.	113	106	106	100	87	85	89
S. C.	88	95	96	101	78	73	87
Ga.	178	283	325	115	81	72	76
Ky.	94	74	66	89	81	91	92
Tenn.	60	52	52	100	87	89	87
Okla.	294	204	245	120	84	87	90
Texas	200	263	355	135	78	78	80
Mont.	29	14	19	136	88	96	94
Idaho	20	10	14	140	91	92	97
Wyo.	31	28	31	111	86	95	87
Colo.	111	77	106	138	80	83	80
Wash.	94	50	62	124	89	88	94
Oreg.	91	85	90	106	89	90	97
U. S.	4,153	3,434	3,988	116.1	86	85	90

^{1/} Total acreage seeded for all purposes.



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