

# Winter Wheat Seedings

Released January 12, 2009, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on *Winter Wheat Seedings* call Todd Ballard at (202) 720-8068, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

## Planted Acres Down 9 Percent

**Winter wheat** seeded area for 2009 is expected to total 42.1 million acres, down 9 percent from 2008. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 30.2 million; Soft Red Winter, 8.29 million; and White Winter, 3.62 million.

**Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, United States, 2007-2009  
(Domestic Units)**

Item	Crop Year			2009 as Pct. of 2008
	2007	2008	2009	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat	45,012	46,281	42,098	91

**Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, United States, 2007-2009  
(Metric Units)**

Item	Crop Year			2009 as Pct. of 2008
	2007	2008	2009	
	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Hectares</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat	18,215,910	18,729,460	17,036,640	91

**Winter Wheat:** Planted area for harvest in 2009 is estimated at 42.1 million acres, down 9 percent from 2008. Seeding began last August behind the 5-year average pace and remained behind until mid-November due to wet weather and delayed row crop harvest. Nearly all of the U.S. acreage was seeded by December 1 with the exception of some intended acres in the Southeast and California. Seeding was complete by the end of December in California. The winter wheat crop condition at the end of November was rated 65 percent good to excellent compared with 44 percent the previous year.

Hard Red Winter (HRW) wheat seeded area is about 30.2 million acres, down 4 percent from 2008. Acreage is below last year's level in all States in the HRW growing area except Colorado and Texas, where acreage increased 250,000 and 100,000, respectively. The late row crop harvest and lower prices limited planted acres in most parts of the region with planted area down 600,000 acres in Kansas and down 200,000 in Oklahoma. Abandonment of several thousand acres of cotton in Texas allowed for increased winter wheat acres. Colorado producers had good planting conditions along with normal summer fallow rotation allowing for an increase in planted acres over 2008.

Soft Red Winter (SRW) area, at about 8.29 million acres, is down 26 percent from last year. Large acreage decreases from last year occurred in all SRW growing States due largely to the late row crop harvest, high input costs, and the fall in wheat prices. Planted area decreased 350,000 acres or more in Arkansas, Illinois, and Missouri.

White Winter wheat seeded area totals nearly 3.62 million acres, up 1 percent from 2008. Crop conditions varied across the three Pacific Northwest States (Idaho, Oregon, and Washington) throughout the fall. All winter wheat planted area is down 10,000 acres in Washington, down 110,000 acres in Idaho, and unchanged from last year in Oregon. Seeding began ahead of normal in Idaho and Oregon with Washington lagging behind for most of the planting season. By the first week of November, virtually all fields had been seeded in the region with 71 percent of the acreage emerged in Washington, 73 percent in Idaho, and 40 percent in Oregon.

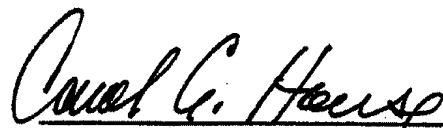
**Durum Wheat:** Seedings in Arizona and California for 2009 harvest are estimated at 270,000 acres. This total is down 16 percent from the 2008 level. Planting is ongoing in California's San Joaquin and Imperial Valleys as well as western Arizona. Planted acreage is down 40,000 in Arizona and down 10,000 in California. No major problems with the crop have been reported.

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This report was approved on January 12, 2009.



Acting Secretary of  
Agriculture  
Charles F. Conner



Agricultural Statistics Board  
Chairperson  
Carol C. House

**Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, by State and United States, 2007-2009**

State	Crop Year			2009 as Pct. of 2008
	2007	2008	2009	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AL	120	240	240	100
AZ	6	13	7	54
AR	820	1,070	420	39
CA	550	650	670	103
CO	2,500	2,150	2,400	112
DE	57	80	80	100
FL	13	25	22	88
GA	360	480	340	71
ID	750	850	740	87
IL	1,000	1,200	850	71
IN	420	580	470	81
IA	35	40	30	75
KS	10,400	9,600	9,000	94
KY	440	580	490	84
LA	235	400	260	65
MD	220	255	230	90
MI	550	730	570	78
MN	65	75	45	60
MS	370	520	260	50
MO	1,050	1,250	800	64
MT	2,240	2,600	2,500	96
NE	2,050	1,750	1,700	97
NV	17	12	13	108
NJ	31	35	32	91
NM	490	430	410	95
NY	100	130	115	88
NC	630	820	670	82
ND	465	630	530	84
OH	820	1,120	1,020	91
OK	5,900	5,600	5,400	96
OR	735	780	780	100
PA	170	195	195	100
SC	160	220	160	73
SD	2,100	2,050	1,750	85
TN	420	620	380	61
TX	6,200	5,800	5,900	102
UT	135	130	130	100
VA	230	310	270	87
WA	1,720	1,750	1,740	99
WV	8	11	9	82
WI	290	350	320	91
WY	140	150	150	100
US	45,012	46,281	42,098	91

**Durum Wheat: Area Seeded, by State and United States, 2007-2009**

State	Crop Year			2009 as Pct. of 2008
	2007	2008	2009 <sup>1</sup>	
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
AZ	83	150	110	73
CA	90	170	160	94
ID	15	10		
MT	480	590		
ND	1,480	1,800		
SD	8	11		
US	2,156	2,731		

<sup>1</sup> Indicated 2009 area seeded for all six States will be published in "Prospective Plantings" released March 31, 2009.

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