

SUMMARY

An estimated 266,300 acres of wheat was planted for 2023, 57,000 less acres than 2022. Low plantings continue to be attributed to weaker wheat prices and increased competition from other crops and feed prices.

Mark Lundy, Assistant Cooperative Extension Specialist:

Mark Lundy, Assistant Cooperative Extension Specialist: Precipitation totals for the 2022-23 season have been well above average in the main wheat-growing regions of California (191% of average from 10/1/22 to 5/1/2023). Rainfall during the late fall and early winter (between 10/1/22 and 2/1/22) accounted for 63% of the yearly total through 5/1/2023. The wet early-season conditions narrowed the planting window for crops in the Sacramento Valley and the northern San Joaquin Valley and some were planted later than normal. In addition, geese predation has been reported in areas around the Sacramento Valley and Delta region, and flooding has negatively affected fields in the Delta region and the Tulare Lakebed. Cooler than average temperatures have also factored into the growing season, with some crops weeks behind their normal growth stages for this date. In the UC trial locations, stripe rust and powdery mildew have been observed on varieties with known susceptibility, but disease incidence thus far has been moderate.

RED AND WHITE WHEAT

Hard Red wheat, the top wheat class grown in California, accounted for 85 percent of all acreage grown in California this year. SY Summit 515 (~14 percent) was the top planted red wheat variety, followed by PR 1404 (~11 percent). Blanca Grande 515 (~46 percent) was the top Hard White wheat planted followed by Patwin 515 (~40 percent). New Dirkin was the top Soft White variety planted (~62 percent). Approximately 66 percent of all red and white varieties are grown in the San Joaquin Valley.

DURUM

Durum acreage in California has decreased compared to 2022. Desert Gold is the leading durum variety planted in California (35 percent) followed by Tiburon (16 percent). Desert Gold (~90 percent) was the top planted variety in the San Joaquin Valley, and Tiburon (25 percent) in Southern California.

Survey Description

This report reflects wheat that was planted in the Fall of 2022/early Winter 2023 for harvest in Spring/Summer of 2023; as well as intended Spring plantings in far Northern California. This survey estimates the state's *planted* acreage.

Thank you to all who contributed and supplied data; which made this report possible!

District	Counties
Sacramento Valley	Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Sacramento, Solano, Sutter, Tehama, Yolo, Yuba
San Joaquin Valley	Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare
Coast	Alameda, Contra Costa, Lake, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Sonoma
Southern California	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, San Diego, Ventura
Sierra and Northern CA	Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Del Norte, El Dorado, Humboldt, Inyo, Lassen, Mariposa, Mendocino, Modoc, Mono, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Trinity, Tuolumne

WINTER Wheat Varieties, Percent and Acreage Planted				
	2022		2023	
	Percent	Acres	Percent	Acres
WHITE VARIETIES				
Hard White Wheat				
Blanca Grande 515 (PVP)	5.8	16,000	2.8	7,000
Patwin 515 (PVP)	3.8	10,300	2.4	6,000
Patwin 515HP (PVP)	1.8	5,000	0.4	1,000
UC-AMARILLO	-	-	.02	150
Other/Unknown	.04	100	0.4	1,000
Hard White Total	11.4	31,400	6.1	15,150
SOFT WHITE WHEAT				
Brundage 96	2.1	5,800	-	-
¹ New Dirkin (PVP)	1.2	3,400	1.1	2,700
Dirkin	1.5	4,200	0.3	800
SY Ovation	0.4	1,000	-	-
¹ Twin	0.2	600	-	-
¹ Yamhill	1.8	4,800	0.3	750
Other/Unknown	1.0	2,800	0.04	100
Soft White Total	8.2	22,600	1.7	4,350
RED VARIETIES				
AP Octane	4.8	13,000	6.9	17,200
Cal Rojo (PVP. Patent # 7563967 B2)	1.8	5,000	2.8	6,800
Central Red	0.6	1,500	6.1	15,000
WB Joaquin Oro (PVP. Patent # 8,507,775)	3.8	10,300	5.7	14,000
¹ PR 1404 (PVP)	2.4	6,700	9.7	23,850
Redwing	0.4	1,000	0.6	1,600
SY-Summit 515 (PVP)	10.3	28,200	12.7	31,300
SY Sienna	1.6	4,500	1.8	4,500
¹ Triple IV (PVP)	1.2	3,300	9.1	21,800
WB9215	-	-	8.1	20,000
WB 9229 (PVP)	2.5	6,900	5.9	14,500
WB 9725	-	-	2.0	5,000
WB 9727 (PVP)	-	-	2.4	6,000
WB 9668	0.7	1,800	0.3	700
WB 9699	2.1	5,850	0.4	1,000
WB9990	2.7	7,500	2.2	5,500
WB 9904	-	-	2.0	5,000
¹ WB-Patron (PVP. Patent # 8,513,506)	22.0	60,200	9.4	23,250
Yecora Rojo	23.0	63,000	3.1	7,700
Other/Unknown	0.4	950	0.9	2,100
Hard Red Total	80.0	219,700	94.1	226,850
TOTAL (All wheat other than durum)	100%	273,700	100%	246,300
¹ Forage Wheat Varieties				

DURUM Wheat Varieties, Percent and Acreage Planted

	2022		2023	
	Percent	Acres	Percent	Acres
Alberto	2.1	1,050	5.0	1,000
Desert King (PVP)	34.3	17,000	13.0	2,600
Desert King HP (PVP)	7.7	3,800	3.5	700
Desert Gold	2.6	1,300	35.0	7,000
Miwok (PVP)	4.0	2,000	8.5	1,700
Powell	35.8	17,750	6.5	1,300
Shasta	2.2	1,100	-	-
Tiburon (PVP)	10.3	5,100	15.5	3,100
Westmore HP	1.0	500	-	-
WB-Mohave	-	-	12.5	2,500
Other & Unknown	-	-	0.5	100
Total	100%	49,600	100%	20,000

2023 Wheat Classes Acreage Planted by Region

	Hard White	Soft White	Hard Red	Durum
	acres	acres	acres	acres
Sacramento Valley	5,050	1,500	62,450	2,000
San Joaquin Valley	10,000	2,000	133,400	7,000
Coast	-	-	2,000	-
Southern California	100	-	8,000	11,000
Sierra & Northern California	-	850	20,950	-
Total (all classes)	15,150	4,350	226,800	20,000

This report includes acreage and percentages at the State and District levels. Variety acreage numbers are estimated averages. Access to this survey results and survey from other years are available for free online at <http://www.californiawheat.org/growers/variety-survey/>. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate contacting the California Wheat Commission at 530-661-1292.