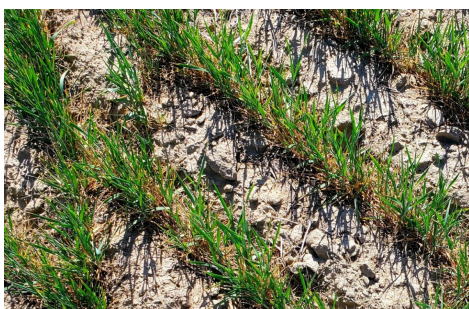


MONTANA wheat & barley

May 5, 2025

Click on any of the story links to open the latest news.

Top Stories



CROP PROGRESS REPORTS

While we don't typically include the weekly NASS crop updates in this monthly newsletter, but since farming is on full tilt for 2025....here are a quick set of numbers:

Barley: 38% planted

Durum: 30% planted

Spring wheat: 32% planted

Winter wheat: 77% breaking dormancy

There is A LOT of chatter about a warming trend this summer. To our customers: Montana's wheat varieties are focused on water conservation, as evidenced by our yield history over the last 20 years, versus the 80s when we didn't see such variety strength to withstand heat stress and drought. See the graph after GLEANINGS, "Montana Historical Winter Wheat Production & Yields."



SECTION 301 UPDATE

Comments from an engaged public to address China's practices in maritime, logistics and shipbuilding sectors resulted in some good news for the wheat industry. What could have been a daunting shipping fee hike has instead resulted in exemption for wheat.

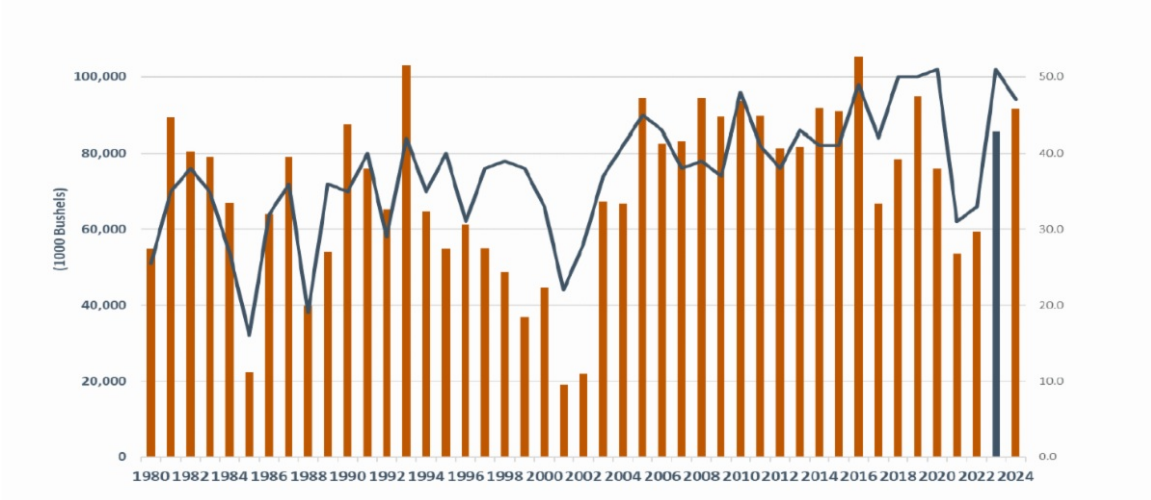
USTR announced April 17 in a [public announcement](#) that they are taking actionable steps to China's practices, but vessels carrying ag or bulk commodities will incur no fees along with vessels arriving to the US empty. US Wheat Associates noted that USTR deserves credit for its clear timelines in their shipping fee strategy, improving certainty levels for future wheat sales. Montana ships as much as 80% of its annual wheat crop to Asian customers.



GLEANINGS for MAY

By Kent Kupfner, Executive Director -- MWBC was invited to attend an evening session of the 2025 state FFA Convention held in Bozeman at the Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, where we were honored to receive the Montana FFA Foundation "Friend of the Foundation" award. I accepted a plaque recognizing the Committee's long-term financial contributions in support of FFA and its activities.

MONTANA HISTORICAL WINTER WHEAT PRODUCTION & YIELDS



BEVERAGE INDUSTRY STATE OF THE STATE

Beverage Industry reports on a wide range of marketing and manufacturing subjects for the beverage industry. Recently they held a state-of-the-industry webinar focused on alcoholic beverage news. Our interest was their beer and spirits trends, as well as tariff reflections thus far.



MSU Research Rundown



By Chloe Hinson, May Masters Graduate, Plant Sciences & Plant Pathology, MSU -- One way that heat stress damages cells is through oxidation. I have explored how BR affects antioxidants in Montana spring wheat and how BR could help control oxidation during heat stress to improve yield components.

Outside the Big Sky

- Secretary Rollins announces new state directors for the Farm Service Agency & Rural Development

- [CoBank: Mexico could be top destination for US exports](#)
- [Durum market remains stable, resilient](#)
- [USGC advances American malt barley at Craft Beer China 2025](#)



Recipe Harvest!

High school graduation planning demands a great spread for family and friends. Here are some fun options:

- [Strawberry Cake with Cream Cheese Frosting](#)
- [Shrimp Pasta Salad](#)
- [Bacon Cheddar Ranch Pinwheels](#)
- [Garlic Bread Pizza Dip](#)
- [White Castle Cheeseburger Sliders](#)



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At the **Montana Wheat & Barley Committee**, we promote local research and develop trade markets around the world.

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