

# MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**MONTANA FIELD OFFICE**  
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 Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Cool temperatures and scattered precipitation, were observed throughout the state, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The high temperature for the state was recorded in Billings at 88 degrees. The low temperature for the week was recorded in Wisdom at 18 degrees. Precipitation was reported at 98 weather stations. The first reporter comments of snowfall were received this week, with snow reported in Roosevelt County. Reporters did note that the wet conditions slowed harvest in many areas. The highest recorded precipitation for the week was in Port of Morgan with 3.54 inches of moisture. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were 49 percent adequate to surplus, above last year's 39 percent. Subsoil moisture conditions were 39 percent adequate to surplus which is above last year's 32 percent. Winter wheat plantings have begun, with 8 percent of the crop planted, and 1 percent emerged.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Harvested.....	95	92	99	98
Canola				
Harvested.....	88	80	95	90
Corn				
Harvested for grain.....	5	3	6	8
Harvested for silage.....	51	42	78	57
Dry edible beans				
Harvested.....	85	79	NA	NA
Durum wheat				
Harvested.....	88	85	NA	NA
Flaxseed				
Harvested.....	75	70	NA	NA
Mustard seed				
Harvested.....	84	77	93	83
Oats				
Harvested.....	96	94	NA	NA
Other hay				
2 <sup>nd</sup> cutting harvested.....	95	93	NA	NA
Potatoes				
Harvested.....	1	--	8	14
Safflower				
Turning color.....	93	88	94	NA
Harvested.....	44	30	48	34
Spring wheat				
Harvested.....	97	94	100	93
Sugarbeets				
Harvested.....	4	NA	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	8	--	22	44
Emerged.....	1	NA	--	4

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION**

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for field work.....	4.8	6.4	4.5	5.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	15	20	27	12
Short.....	36	40	34	25
Adequate.....	45	40	38	57
Surplus.....	4	--	1	6
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	18	21	37	15
Short.....	43	40	31	27
Adequate.....	39	39	27	52
Surplus.....	--	--	5	6

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	--	7	3
Poor.....	5	12	20	8
Fair.....	17	20	42	33
Good.....	60	55	30	43
Excellent.....	17	13	1	13
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	11	11	42	15
Poor.....	15	17	26	19
Fair.....	35	32	22	33
Good.....	33	35	9	27
Excellent.....	6	5	1	6
Potatoes				
Very poor.....	3	3	--	NA
Poor.....	3	3	1	NA
Fair.....	17	14	10	NA
Good.....	37	41	57	NA
Excellent.....	40	39	32	NA
Safflower				
Very poor.....	--	--	30	6
Poor.....	3	1	18	6
Fair.....	26	20	51	30
Good.....	56	55	1	44
Excellent.....	15	24	--	14
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	--	3	2	1
Poor.....	3	5	10	6
Fair.....	12	21	52	30
Good.....	54	46	34	45
Excellent.....	31	25	2	18

NA – not available

(--) – zero

Montana's weather data can be accessed at the following:

[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Montana/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/2018/MT-Weather-09232018.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2018/MT-Weather-09232018.pdf)

Notice: Please be advised, the Weekly Crop Progress report's weather data table may be discontinued for budget reasons. Please contact the NASS Mountain Regional Field Office at (720) 787-3150 with comments or compliments regarding this issue. The Weekly Crop Progress report's crop progress and condition data will remain and be available.