

# 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  
 October 1, 2018

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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 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 Hamilton at 79 degrees. The low temperature for the week was recorded in Wisdom at 16 degrees. Precipitation was reported at 91 weather stations. Reporters noted the wet conditions slowed harvest in many areas. The highest recorded precipitation for the week was in Zortman with 1.24 inches of moisture. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were 58 percent adequate to surplus, above last year's 43 percent. Subsoil moisture conditions were 48 percent adequate to surplus which is above last year's 20 percent. Livestock movement from summer pasture is behind the previous year and 5-year average with only 12 percent of cattle and 15 percent of sheep moved.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Canola				
Harvested.....	92	88	NA	NA
Corn				
Harvested for grain.....	15	5	13	14
Harvested for silage.....	72	51	85	76
Dry edible beans				
Harvested.....	89	85	NA	NA
Durum wheat				
Harvested.....	94	88	NA	NA
Flaxseed				
Harvested.....	79	75	NA	NA
Mustard seed				
Harvested.....	89	84	95	NA
Potatoes				
Harvested.....	5	1	31	34
Safflower				
Turning color.....	98	93	NA	NA
Harvested.....	47	44	53	45
Sugarbeets				
Harvested.....	16	4	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	35	8	49	67
Emerged.....	12	1	2	17
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture.....	12	NA	40	38
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from pasture.....	15	NA	51	52

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.....	4.6	4.8	5.7	NA
Topsoil moisture		(percent)		
Very short.....	11	15	19	11
Short.....	31	36	38	25
Adequate.....	54	45	42	58
Surplus.....	4	4	1	6
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	18	18	40	15
Short.....	34	43	40	28
Adequate.....	48	39	18	52
Surplus.....	--	--	2	5

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	4	2
Poor.....	4	5	15	6
Fair.....	17	17	46	35
Good.....	60	60	33	44
Excellent.....	19	17	2	13
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	8	11	40	15
Poor.....	15	15	25	19
Fair.....	30	35	21	33
Good.....	41	33	12	28
Excellent.....	6	6	2	5
Potatoes				
Very poor.....	3	3	--	NA
Poor.....	3	3	1	NA
Fair.....	15	17	8	NA
Good.....	40	37	62	NA
Excellent.....	39	40	29	NA
Safflower				
Very poor.....	--	--	32	7
Poor.....	2	3	19	6
Fair.....	21	26	48	29
Good.....	62	56	1	44
Excellent.....	15	15	--	14
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	2	--	2	1
Poor.....	4	3	10	6
Fair.....	14	12	49	29
Good.....	50	54	34	46
Excellent.....	30	31	5	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-09302018.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2018/MT-Weather-09302018.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.