

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 APRIL 14, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Cooler temperatures and precipitation were widespread throughout Montana last week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Reporters noted that minimal planting has occurred due to high soil moisture and muddy conditions. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were 94 percent adequate to surplus, above last year's 87 percent. Several areas of the state reported snow and rain storms were observed, which will lead to saturated fields and late planting. Subsoil moisture conditions are 88 percent adequate to surplus which is above last year's 67 percent. Cattle receiving supplemental feed was reported as 88 percent this week, compared to 95 percent in the same week last year. There was a large increase in grazing accessibility with 63 percent of pastures open, compared to 50 percent in the previous week. Calving progress was reported at 64 percent complete compared to 57 percent in the previous week, and 69 percent at this time last year. Winter wheat was reported with 45 percent of the crop breaking dormancy. Reporters noted the winter wheat soil profile is full of moisture and plants are breaking dormancy, with the condition rated as 82 percent good to excellent compared to 65 percent this time last year. Reporters in Hill County noted that the spring weather has been good for calving.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted.....	2	--	--	15
Dry edible peas				
Planted.....	2	--	--	NA
Spring wheat				
Planted.....	1	--	--	10
Sugarbeets				
Planted.....	6	--	--	4
Winter wheat				
Breaking dormancy.....	45	30	16	NA
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved.....	64	57	69	66
Receiving supplemental feed.....	88	94	95	82
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambled.....	57	51	50	56
Receiving supplemental feed.....	92	96	98	84

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.....	3.6	2.3	0.3	3.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	--	--	1	4
Short.....	6	6	12	17
Adequate.....	84	80	47	63
Surplus.....	10	14	40	16
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	2	3	9	7
Short.....	10	11	24	20
Adequate.....	81	75	47	60
Surplus.....	7	11	20	13

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Grazing accessibility				
Open.....	63	50	33	63
Difficult.....	16	22	37	19
Closed.....	21	28	30	18
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	1	2	19	7
Poor.....	16	16	36	21
Fair.....	33	30	29	40
Good.....	45	48	11	26
Excellent.....	5	4	5	6
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	--	1	1	1
Poor.....	3	6	9	6
Fair.....	15	23	25	29
Good.....	56	57	50	50
Excellent.....	26	13	15	14

NA – not available

(--) – zero