

MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MONTANA FIELD OFFICE
 10 West 15th Street, Suite 3100, Helena, MT 59626
 Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING MAY 5, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Scattered precipitation and cooler than normal temperatures were observed across Montana during the past week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were 87 percent adequate to surplus, compared to 84 percent in the previous week and 80 percent in the previous year. Subsoil moisture conditions were 84 percent adequate to surplus which is above last year's 70 percent. Reporters in Lake and Sanders counties noted that drier weather in the area helped increase fieldwork activities but cool temperatures have limited growth. Barley planted is at 32 percent complete, behind last year's progress of 35 percent. Durum wheat planted was reported at 18 percent complete, which is ahead of last year's 10 percent, but behind the 5-year average of 31 percent. Planting of pulse crops is progressing with 33 percent of the lentil crop planted, which is ahead of last year's progress of 19 percent. Dry edible peas planted is at 48 percent complete, which falls behind the 5-year average of 59 percent. Cattle receiving supplemental feed was reported as 58 percent this week, compared to 48 percent in the same week last year. Grazing accessibility was reported with 82 percent of pastures open, compared to 92 percent in the same week last year. Calving progress was reported at 88 percent complete compared to 83 percent in the previous week, and 90 percent at this time last year. Reporters in Chouteau and Judith Basin counties reported winter wheat, pasture and hay are showing stress from freezing temperatures and growth has been hindered. Winter wheat was reported with 96 percent of the crop breaking dormancy. Winter wheat conditions were rated as 81 percent good to excellent compared to 54 percent this time last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted.....	32	23	35	59
Emerged.....	6	--	--	23
Canola				
Planted.....	28	24	5	36
Corn				
Planted.....	12	10	6	23
Dry edible beans				
Planted.....	15	6	4	28
Dry edible peas				
Planted.....	48	35	30	59
Emerged.....	3	--	1	13
Durum wheat				
Planted.....	18	13	10	31
Flaxseed				
Planted.....	30	29	3	26
Lentils				
Planted.....	33	23	19	41
Emerged.....	1	NA	NA	NA
Mustard seed				
Planted.....	20	7	1	25
Oats				
Planted.....	18	8	12	37
Emerged.....	2	--	--	10
Safflower				
Planted.....	5	2	--	17
Spring wheat				
Planted.....	32	23	21	50
Emerged.....	7	--	--	15
Sugarbeets				
Planted.....	45	40	38	61
Emerged.....	5	--	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Breaking dormancy.....	96	92	94	NA
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved.....	88	83	90	91
Moved to pasture.....	32	18	42	32
Receiving supplemental feed.....	58	68	48	42
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed.....	83	78	77	83
Moved to pasture.....	42	20	31	29
Receiving supplemental feed.....	66	75	52	46

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.....	4.2	5.1	6.0	5.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	1	5	4	5
Short.....	12	11	16	18
Adequate.....	77	76	61	64
Surplus.....	10	8	19	13
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	2	2	11	6
Short.....	14	13	19	17
Adequate.....	77	78	54	64
Surplus.....	7	7	16	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.....	82	83	92	NA
Difficult.....	12	12	7	NA
Closed.....	6	5	1	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	--	--	9	4
Poor.....	5	5	13	12
Fair.....	45	44	38	41
Good.....	39	40	31	35
Excellent.....	11	11	9	8
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	--	1	6	2
Poor.....	5	4	10	6
Fair.....	14	17	30	30
Good.....	56	40	23	41
Excellent.....	25	38	31	21

NA – not available

(--) – zero