

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
 October 7, 2019

Contact: Eric Sommer
 (800) 835-2612

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 6, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Continued precipitation and cool temperatures were observed across the State last week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were 100 percent adequate to surplus, compared to 95 percent in the previous week and 56 percent the previous year. Subsoil moisture conditions were rated 85 percent adequate to surplus compared to 45 percent the previous year. Reporters in Daniels, Dawson and Prairie counties reported harvest continues to get further behind and crop conditions are deteriorating rapidly due to moisture, sprout, mold and disease. A reporter in Sweet Grass County stated a grasshopper infestation has taken a toll on rangeland conditions. Statewide, barley harvest was estimated at 93 percent complete, behind the previous year of 95 percent. Durum wheat made little harvest progress and was reported at 64 percent complete, well behind last year at 95 percent. Second cutting hay harvest continues to be slow due to wet conditions, with 94 percent of alfalfa and 92 percent of other hay harvested. Oilseed harvest continues behind schedule, with approximately 85 percent of the canola crop harvested by the end of the week, behind last year at 94 percent. Flaxseed harvested was reported at 44 percent complete, behind the previous year at 80 percent. Safflower harvested was reported at 40 percent complete, behind both the previous year and 5-year average of 51 percent and 52 percent, respectively. Sugarbeet harvest made little progress last week with only 5 percent of the crop harvested, significantly behind the previous year at 25 percent. Winter wheat planted for the 2020 crop season was estimated at 49 percent complete, behind last year at 56 percent and well behind the 5-year average of 74 percent. Livestock moved from pasture is starting to pick up, with 30 percent of cattle and calves and 21 percent of sheep and lambs moved.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
2 nd cutting harvested	94	92	NA	NA
Barley				
Harvested	93	92	95	97
Canola				
Harvested	85	78	94	NA
Corn				
Harvested for silage	52	47	84	88
Dry edible beans (includes Chickpeas)				
Harvested	90	85	90	NA
Durum wheat				
Harvested	64	55	95	NA
Flaxseed				
Harvested	44	38	80	NA
Mustard seed				
Harvested	94	92	94	NA
Oats				
Harvested	96	94	NA	NA
Other hay				
2 nd cutting harvested	92	88	NA	NA
Safflower				
Harvested	40	35	51	52
Spring wheat				
Harvested	86	84	97	97
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	5	1	25	NA
Winter wheat				
Planted	49	40	56	74
Emerged	9	1	29	34
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture	30	24	21	41
Sheep & Lambs				
Moved from pasture	21	8	19	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.....	2.0	3.8	3.5	4.6
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	--	--	4	10
Short.....	--	5	40	26
Adequate.....	72	78	49	55
Surplus.....	28	17	7	9
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	--	--	20	16
Short.....	15	15	35	29
Adequate.....	64	72	45	49
Surplus.....	21	13	--	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	2
Poor.....	6	4	8	6
Fair.....	22	22	26	31
Good.....	63	64	52	49
Excellent.....	9	10	13	12
Flaxseed				
Very poor.....	1	--	NA	NA
Poor.....	36	20	NA	NA
Fair.....	42	50	NA	NA
Good.....	19	20	NA	NA
Excellent.....	2	10	NA	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	2	--	11	16
Poor.....	5	5	21	21
Fair.....	20	26	29	32
Good.....	46	43	34	26
Excellent.....	27	26	5	5
Safflower				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	NA
Poor.....	1	--	2	NA
Fair.....	44	31	19	NA
Good.....	51	65	71	NA
Excellent.....	4	4	8	NA
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	8	8	2	1
Poor.....	11	11	6	6
Fair.....	17	16	18	25
Good.....	50	49	52	48
Excellent.....	14	16	22	20

NA – not available

(--)- zero