

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 OCTOBER 13, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Wet conditions and cold 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, no change from the previous week and ahead of the previous year at 62 percent. Subsoil moisture conditions were rated 94 percent adequate to surplus compared to 48 percent the previous year. Reporters in Fergus, Roosevelt and Petroleum counties reported a mid-week snowstorm continued to hamper harvest and deteriorate crop conditions. Reporters in Golden Valley and Musselshell counties stated calf weaning is in progress but snowy conditions are causing issues. Statewide, barley harvest was estimated at 95 percent complete, behind the 5-year average of 97 percent. Durum wheat made some harvest progress and was reported at 72 percent complete, well behind previous years. Second cutting hay harvest continues to be slow due to wet conditions, with 96 percent of alfalfa and 94 percent of other hay harvested. Oilseed harvest continues behind schedule, with approximately 90 percent of the canola crop harvested by the end of the week, behind last year at 95 percent. Flaxseed harvested was reported at 49 percent complete, behind the previous year at 84 percent. Safflower harvested was reported at 45 percent complete, behind both the previous year and 5-year average of 59 percent and 58 percent, respectively. Sugarbeet harvest made progress last week with 13 percent of the crop harvested, significantly behind the previous year at 40 percent. Winter wheat planted for the 2020 crop season was estimated at 60 percent complete, behind last year at 72 percent and well behind the 5-year average of 84 percent. Livestock moved from pasture is picking up, with 41 percent of cattle and calves and 29 percent of sheep and lambs moved. Cattle and calves receiving supplemental feed was estimated at 12 percent, which is behind the previous year of 25 percent. Fifteen percent of sheep and lambs were estimated to be receiving supplemental feed, falling behind the previous year of 24 percent.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
2 nd cutting harvested	96	94	NA	NA
Barley				
Harvested	95	93	95	97
Canola				
Harvested	90	85	95	NA
Corn				
Harvested for grain	5	--	25	31
Harvested for silage	68	52	91	93
Dry edible beans (includes Chickpeas)				
Harvested	93	90	93	NA
Durum wheat				
Harvested	72	64	NA	NA
Flaxseed				
Harvested	49	44	84	NA
Mustard seed				
Harvested	95	94	NA	NA
Other hay				
2 nd cutting harvested	94	92	NA	NA
Safflower				
Harvested	45	40	59	58
Spring wheat				
Harvested	88	86	97	97
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	13	5	40	31
Winter wheat				
Planted	60	49	72	84
Emerged	27	9	50	56
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture	41	30	38	53
Receiving supplemental feed	12	NA	25	19
Sheep & Lambs				
Moved from pasture	29	21	28	64
Receiving supplemental feed	15	NA	24	24

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.....	2.4	2.0	4.1	5.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	--	--	6	10
Short.....	--	--	32	24
Adequate.....	67	72	58	57
Surplus.....	33	28	4	9
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	--	--	15	15
Short.....	6	15	37	28
Adequate.....	69	64	47	50
Surplus.....	25	21	1	7

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	3
Poor.....	6	6	9	7
Fair.....	21	22	26	33
Good.....	64	63	43	44
Excellent.....	9	9	21	13
Flaxseed				
Very poor.....	--	1	NA	NA
Poor.....	44	36	NA	NA
Fair.....	32	42	NA	NA
Good.....	16	19	NA	NA
Excellent.....	8	2	NA	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	3	2	10	15
Poor.....	5	5	18	22
Fair.....	28	20	38	34
Good.....	39	46	30	25
Excellent.....	25	27	4	4
Safflower				
Very poor.....	--	--	NA	NA
Poor.....	4	1	NA	NA
Fair.....	33	44	NA	NA
Good.....	59	51	NA	NA
Excellent.....	4	4	NA	NA
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	9	8	2	1
Poor.....	11	11	3	5
Fair.....	16	17	12	24
Good.....	50	50	52	49
Excellent.....	14	14	31	21

NA – not available

(--)- zero