

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 OCTOBER 27, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Cooler temperatures and drier conditions 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 97 percent adequate to surplus, equal to the previous week and ahead of the previous year at 65 percent. Subsoil moisture conditions were rated 93 percent adequate to surplus compared to 50 percent the previous year. Reporters in Phillips and Wibaux counties reported there are still thousands of acres left to harvest and much of it may not get harvested due to continued weather issues and incoming frigid temperatures. A reporter in Phillips County noted that many producers still have their calves due to a lack of buyers and heifers may be held back due to low prices. Statewide, Durum wheat made minimal harvest progress and was reported at 80 percent complete, well behind previous years. Oilseed harvest continues behind schedule, with approximately 96 percent of the canola crop harvested by the end of the week. Flaxseed harvested was reported at 63 percent complete, behind the previous year at 98 percent. Safflower harvested was reported at 58 percent complete, behind both the previous year at 79 percent and the 5-year average of 78 percent. Sugarbeet harvest made progress last week with 36 percent of the crop harvested, significantly behind the previous year at 83 percent and the 5-year average of 74 percent. Winter wheat planted for the 2020 crop season was estimated at 87 percent complete, behind last year at 93 percent and behind the 5-year average of 95 percent. Livestock moved from pasture is picking up, with 54 percent of cattle and calves and 56 percent of sheep and lambs moved. Cattle and calves receiving supplemental feed was estimated at 3 percent, which is below the previous year of 20 percent. Two percent of sheep and lambs were estimated to be receiving supplemental feed, below the previous year of 20 percent.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Canola				
Harvested.....	96	93	NA	NA
Corn				
Harvested for grain.....	20	13	52	56
Harvested for silage.....	88	77	NA	NA
Durum wheat				
Harvested.....	80	75	NA	NA
Flaxseed				
Harvested.....	63	54	98	NA
Safflower				
Harvested.....	58	54	79	78
Spring wheat				
Harvested.....	95	92	97	97
Sugarbeets				
Harvested.....	36	26	83	74
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	87	80	93	95
Emerged.....	57	40	74	81
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture.....	54	48	64	70
Receiving supplemental feed.....	3	7	20	25
Sheep & Lambs				
Moved from pasture.....	56	42	60	78
Receiving supplemental feed.....	2	9	20	25

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.....	5.0	5.0	6.7	6.1
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	--	--	7	9
Short.....	3	3	28	24
Adequate.....	72	66	64	60
Surplus.....	25	31	1	7
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	--	--	13	13
Short.....	7	5	37	30
Adequate.....	76	74	50	52
Surplus.....	17	21	--	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	1	--	NA
Poor.....	7	7	4	NA
Fair.....	24	23	18	NA
Good.....	61	60	61	NA
Excellent.....	7	9	17	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	3	2	9	15
Poor.....	3	4	15	21
Fair.....	23	22	27	32
Good.....	55	50	44	28
Excellent.....	16	22	5	4
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	8	8	NA	NA
Poor.....	11	11	NA	NA
Fair.....	17	16	NA	NA
Good.....	51	51	NA	NA
Excellent.....	13	14	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	1	NA	--	1
Poor.....	4	NA	2	3
Fair.....	34	NA	14	30
Good.....	41	NA	74	49
Excellent.....	20	NA	10	17

NA – not available

(--) – zero