

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
 November 2, 2020

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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 1, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Cold, winter conditions early on gave way to warmer weather across Montana during the past week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Reporters in Roosevelt and Valley counties stated the moisture received has helped dry conditions. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were 46 percent adequate to surplus, compared to 35 percent in the previous week, and 96 percent the previous year. Subsoil moisture conditions were rated 42 percent adequate to surplus compared to 93 percent the previous year. Due to the improvement in the weather, corn for grain harvest was able to progress, with an estimated 46 percent of the crop harvested, behind the 5-year average at 54 percent, but ahead of the previous year at 27 percent. Safflower harvest is estimated at 91 percent complete, ahead of the previous year and 5-year average at 65 percent and 79 percent, respectively. Sugarbeet harvest progressed well last week, with an estimated 72 percent of the crop harvested, ahead of the previous year at 42 percent, but falling behind the 5-year average of 75 percent. Planting of the 2021 winter wheat crop is wrapping up, with an estimated 94 percent of the crop planted, equal to the 5-year average, and ahead of the previous year at 90 percent. Emergence of the 2021 winter wheat crop advanced last week, with an estimated 73 percent of the crop emerged, ahead of the previous year at 62 percent, but behind the 5-year average of 79 percent. An estimated 68 percent of cattle and calves and 69 percent of sheep and lambs have been moved from pasture, both progressing behind the average. Reporters in Judith Basin and Phillips counties stated the warmer temperatures and melting snow allowed some livestock producers to reduce their supplemental feeding. An estimated 38 percent of cattle and 48 percent of sheep are receiving supplemental feed, ahead of the 5-year averages of 29 percent and 33 percent, respectively.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Corn				
Harvested for grain	46	38	27	54
Safflower				
Harvested	91	85	65	79
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	72	61	42	75
Winter wheat				
Planted	94	88	90	94
Emerged.....	73	65	62	79
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture.....	68	61	60	72
Receiving supplemental feed	38	48	23	29
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from pasture.....	69	63	63	77
Receiving supplemental feed	48	47	34	33

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.....	3.4	1.5	4.0	4.8
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	15	16	--	7
Short.....	39	49	4	21
Adequate.....	46	35	73	60
Surplus.....	--	--	23	12
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	14	14	--	11
Short.....	44	54	7	28
Adequate.....	42	32	73	53
Surplus.....	--	--	20	8

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	NA
Poor.....	1	1	7	NA
Fair.....	18	25	26	NA
Good.....	61	59	58	NA
Excellent.....	20	15	8	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	22	20	6	15
Poor.....	21	18	7	19
Fair.....	33	37	22	30
Good.....	24	24	46	29
Excellent.....	--	1	19	7
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	3	1	1	1
Poor.....	4	1	14	5
Fair.....	12	18	37	30
Good.....	69	79	33	48
Excellent.....	12	1	15	16

NA – not available
 (--) – zero