

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 NOVEMBER 15, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Below average temperatures and snow were observed across Montana during the past week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Reporters in Phillips and Valley counties noted there are several inches of snow that has provided insulation to the ground below. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were 46 percent adequate to surplus, compared to 39 percent in the previous week, and 99 percent the previous year. Subsoil moisture conditions were rated 38 percent adequate to surplus compared to 84 percent the previous year. Corn for grain harvest progressed well last week, with an estimated 70 percent of the crop harvested, jumping ahead of the 5-year average at 68 percent, and ahead of the previous year at 44 percent. Sugarbeet harvest is nearing the end, with an estimated 90 percent of the crop harvested, ahead of the previous year at 85 percent. Emergence of the 2021 winter wheat crop advanced last week, with an estimated 92 percent of the crop emerged, ahead of the previous year at 73 percent and the 5-year average of 88 percent. A reporter in Judith Basin county stated the winter wheat crop does not have much snow cover to protect it from the windy conditions and cold temperatures. An estimated 78 percent of cattle and calves and 79 percent of sheep and lambs have been moved from pasture. An estimated 60 percent of cattle and calves and 72 percent of sheep and lambs are receiving supplemental feed, significantly ahead of the 5-year averages of 36 percent and 40 percent, respectively.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Corn				
Harvested for grain	70	60	44	68
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	90	81	85	NA
Winter wheat				
Emerged.....	92	85	73	88
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture.....	78	76	78	84
Receiving supplemental feed	60	48	30	36
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from pasture.....	79	73	77	88
Receiving supplemental feed	72	56	35	40

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	4.2	2.3	3.9
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	14	15	--	8
Short.....	40	46	1	17
Adequate.....	46	39	81	67
Surplus.....	--	--	18	8
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	14	14	--	11
Short.....	48	50	16	27
Adequate.....	38	36	69	55
Surplus.....	--	--	15	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)
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	21	21	8	16
Poor.....	23	26	4	20
Fair.....	33	37	24	30
Good.....	23	16	45	26
Excellent.....	--	--	19	8
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	2	3	2	1
Poor.....	4	5	9	5
Fair.....	13	15	24	29
Good.....	74	70	33	46
Excellent.....	7	7	32	19

NA – not available

(--) – zero