

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 22, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Cold 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 the recent snow has provided needed moisture and good insulation to the ground below for winter crops. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were 42 percent adequate to surplus, compared to 46 percent in the previous week, and 99 percent the previous year. Subsoil moisture conditions were rated 35 percent adequate to surplus compared to 86 percent the previous year. Corn for grain harvest progressed well last week, with an estimated 77 percent of the crop harvested, equal to the 5-year average and ahead of the previous year at 57 percent. Sugarbeet harvest is almost complete, with an estimated 95 percent of the crop harvested. Emergence of the 2021 winter wheat crop advanced minimally last week, with an estimated 94 percent of the crop emerged, ahead of the previous year at 79 percent and the 5-year average of 91 percent. A reporter in Judith Basin County stated the moisture has been beneficial to pasture conditions, but cattle grazing has been limited by snow cover. An estimated 81 percent of cattle and calves and 82 percent of sheep and lambs have been moved from pasture. An estimated 65 percent of cattle and calves and 71 percent of sheep and lambs are receiving supplemental feed, significantly ahead of the 5-year averages of 40 percent and 45 percent, respectively.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Corn				
Harvested for grain	77	70	57	77
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	95	90	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Emerged.....	94	92	79	91
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture.....	81	78	83	88
Receiving supplemental feed	65	60	31	40
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from pasture.....	82	79	83	91
Receiving supplemental feed	71	72	45	45

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.....	2.9	2.0	2.7	4.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	11	14	--	7
Short.....	47	40	1	17
Adequate.....	42	46	80	67
Surplus.....	--	--	19	9
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	16	14	--	10
Short.....	49	48	14	27
Adequate.....	35	38	71	56
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.....	22	21	5	16
Poor.....	20	23	2	17
Fair.....	33	33	22	32
Good.....	24	23	53	28
Excellent.....	1	--	18	7
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	2	2	2	1
Poor.....	4	4	6	5
Fair.....	9	13	24	28
Good.....	74	74	31	44
Excellent.....	11	7	37	22

NA – not available

(--)- zero