

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 AUGUST 1, 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Drought conditions and grasshopper infestations continued across Montana during the past week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 100 percent of the state is under drought conditions, with 80 percent in severe to exceptional drought. Reporters across the state noted that high temperatures, combined with abnormal winds continue to worsen crop conditions and soil moisture. Reporters in Mineral and Ravalli counties noted that livestock may be sold due to a lack of feed and water in upcoming months. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were 2 percent adequate to surplus, compared to 3 percent in the previous week and 54 percent the previous year. Subsoil moisture conditions were rated 3 percent adequate to surplus compared to 62 percent the previous year. Barley turning color was estimated at 77 percent complete, on par with the previous year, but behind the 5-year average of 81 percent. Barley harvest has begun, with an estimated 13 percent of the crop harvested, ahead of the previous year and 5-year average of 1 percent and 7 percent, respectively. Dry edible peas and lentil harvest continues to progress ahead of the 5-year average for both crops. An estimated 61 percent of the dry edible pea crop has been harvested, ahead of the 5-year average of 31 percent. Lentil harvest is estimated at 30 percent complete, ahead of the 5-year average at 20 percent. Durum wheat coloring is estimated at 52 percent complete, ahead of the previous year of 47 percent. Durum wheat harvest began ahead of average, with an estimated 5 percent of the crop harvested. The oilseed crop continues to progress well, with an estimated 48 percent of the flaxseed crop turning color, and mustard seed turning color is estimated at 65 percent complete. Oilseed harvest has begun sooner than normal, with an estimated 9 percent of canola, 1 percent of flaxseed and 5 percent of mustard seed harvested. Oats turning color is estimated at 64 percent complete, ahead of the previous year at 51 percent. Spring wheat turning color is estimated at 71 percent complete, ahead of the previous year at 66 percent and the 5-year average of 64 percent. Oat and spring wheat harvest has begun, with an estimated 15 percent of oats and 19 percent of spring wheat harvested, both ahead of the previous year. First cutting of other hay is almost complete, with an estimated 95 percent of the crop harvested. Second cutting for alfalfa and other hay has begun, with 29 percent of alfalfa and 15 percent of other hay harvested. Harvest continues ahead of normal for winter wheat, with an estimated 52 percent of the crop harvested, ahead of the 5-year average of 39 percent. Winter wheat conditions were rated as 2 percent good to excellent, compared to 86 percent this time last year.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
2 nd cutting harvested	29	5	17	NA
Barley				
Turning color	77	62	77	81
Harvested	13	1	1	7
Canola				
Turning color	66	50	68	66
Harvested	9	--	8	NA
Dry edible beans (includes Chickpeas)				
Blooming	95	82	94	NA
Dry edible peas				
Harvested	61	47	19	31
Durum wheat				
Headed	98	88	96	NA
Turning color	52	28	47	53
Harvested	5	NA	NA	NA
Flaxseed				
Turning color	48	30	36	42
Harvested	1	NA	NA	NA
Lentils				
Harvested	30	20	14	20
Mustard seed				
Turning color	65	43	61	67
Harvested	5	NA	NA	NA
Oats				
Headed	95	83	94	NA
Turning color	64	45	51	63
Harvested	15	4	1	NA
Other hay				
1 st cutting harvested	95	89	87	NA
2 nd cutting harvested	15	1	11	NA
Safflower				
Blooming	75	60	62	65
Turning color	35	20	19	20
Spring wheat				
Turning color	71	54	66	64
Harvested	19	1	1	4
Winter wheat				
Harvested	52	26	19	39

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.....	7.0	7.0	6.7	6.8
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	79	75	8	23
Short.....	19	22	38	31
Adequate.....	2	2	52	44
Surplus.....	--	1	2	2
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	67	63	8	15
Short.....	30	34	30	36
Adequate.....	3	3	60	48
Surplus.....	--	--	2	1

NA – not available

(--)- zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION¹

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Barley				
Very poor.....	33	24	1	2
Poor.....	46	46	2	7
Fair.....	13	21	12	29
Good.....	7	8	53	44
Excellent.....	1	1	32	18
Corn				
Very poor.....	15	15	--	1
Poor.....	33	33	--	6
Fair.....	37	37	8	27
Good.....	14	13	74	56
Excellent.....	1	2	18	10
Dry peas				
Very poor.....	45	37	1	NA
Poor.....	35	36	2	NA
Fair.....	18	25	25	NA
Good.....	2	2	64	NA
Excellent.....	--	--	8	NA
Durum wheat				
Very poor.....	55	45	--	9
Poor.....	39	44	1	9
Fair.....	4	4	35	32
Good.....	2	7	55	43
Excellent.....	--	--	9	7
Lentils				
Very poor.....	40	37	--	NA
Poor.....	34	37	1	NA
Fair.....	26	26	22	NA
Good.....	--	--	71	NA
Excellent.....	--	--	6	NA
Oats				
Very poor.....	38	36	--	7
Poor.....	40	40	3	8
Fair.....	20	22	43	29
Good.....	1	1	51	50
Excellent.....	1	1	3	6
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	63	56	4	13
Poor.....	33	35	9	14
Fair.....	3	7	30	29
Good.....	1	2	51	39
Excellent.....	--	--	6	5
Spring wheat				
Very poor.....	42	51	1	8
Poor.....	43	36	2	11
Fair.....	12	9	17	25
Good.....	3	4	65	46
Excellent.....	--	--	15	10
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	12	12	--	1
Poor.....	13	13	--	2
Fair.....	41	42	17	23
Good.....	34	33	72	60
Excellent.....	--	--	11	14
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	27	23	--	NA
Poor.....	29	33	--	NA
Fair.....	42	43	14	NA
Good.....	2	1	50	NA
Excellent.....	--	--	36	NA

¹Current conditions for Canola, Dry Edible Beans, Flaxseed, Mustard Seed, and Safflower are available using the QuickStats on-line database at: https://www.nass.usda.gov/Quick_Stats/

NA – not available

(--)- zero