

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 SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Dry conditions and above average temperatures 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 99 percent in severe to exceptional drought, unchanged from last week. Twenty percent of the state is currently under exceptional drought conditions, also unchanged from last week. Reporters in Powder River, Roosevelt and Valley counties stated conditions remain incredibly dry and fires continue to burn across the state. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were rated 2 percent adequate to surplus, compared to 5 percent in the previous week and 38 percent the previous year. Subsoil moisture conditions were rated 4 percent adequate to surplus compared to 34 percent the previous year. Corn for grain harvest picked up slightly last week, with an estimated 12 percent of the crop harvested, ahead of the previous year at 9 percent. Corn harvested for silage made significant progress, with an estimated 55 percent of the crop harvested, ahead of the previous year at 51 percent, but behind the 5-year average of 61 percent. Oilseed harvest is almost complete, with an estimated 98 percent of canola, 95 percent of flaxseed, and 96 percent of mustard seed harvested. Safflower harvest continues to progress quickly, with an estimated 60 percent of the crop harvested, ahead of the previous year and 5-year average of 49 percent and 44 percent, respectively. Second cutting for other hay is nearing the end, with an estimated 95 percent of other hay harvested, ahead of the previous year at 89 percent harvested. With the warm, dry weather, planting of the 2022 winter wheat crop progressed well last week, with an estimated 42 percent of the crop planted, significantly ahead of the previous year at 31 percent and the 5-year average of 32 percent planted. Emergence of the 2022 winter wheat crop continues, with an estimated 10 percent of the crop emerged, ahead of the previous year and 5-year average of 5 percent and 4 percent, respectively. Movement of cattle and sheep from summer pasture continues to progress ahead of normal, with an estimated 46 percent of cattle and calves and 40 percent of sheep and lambs moved from summer pasture.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Canola				
Harvested.....	98	90	94	NA
Corn				
Harvested for grain.....	12	5	9	NA
Harvested for silage.....	55	40	51	61
Dry edible beans (includes Chickpeas)				
Harvested.....	96	90	91	NA
Flaxseed				
Harvested.....	95	91	82	NA
Mustard seed				
Harvested.....	96	92	94	NA
Other hay				
2 nd cutting harvested.....	95	91	89	NA
Safflower				
Harvested.....	60	50	49	44
Sugarbeets				
Harvested.....	2	NA	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	42	26	31	32
Emerged.....	10	3	5	4
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture.....	46	40	19	NA
Sheep & Lambs				
Moved from pasture.....	40	35	19	NA

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.....	6.9	6.8	6.9	5.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	55	49	22	12
Short.....	43	46	40	27
Adequate.....	2	5	38	55
Surplus.....	--	--	--	6
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	70	65	21	18
Short.....	26	31	45	32
Adequate.....	4	4	34	46
Surplus.....	--	--	--	4

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.....	18	19	1	1
Poor.....	28	26	1	6
Fair.....	30	32	20	27
Good.....	22	22	60	53
Excellent.....	2	1	18	13
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	58	56	25	17
Poor.....	34	35	27	18
Fair.....	8	9	35	30
Good.....	--	--	13	27
Excellent.....	--	--	--	8
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	10	10	--	2
Poor.....	14	14	--	6
Fair.....	36	36	22	24
Good.....	38	38	52	50
Excellent.....	2	2	26	18

NA – not available

(--)- zero