

# 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 OCTOBER 10, 2021

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Dry conditions and minimal moisture continued across Montana last 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 severe to exceptional drought conditions, equal to last week. Twenty-two percent of the state is currently under exceptional drought conditions, also equal to last week. Reporters in Teton and Valley counties stated conditions remain extremely dry as fall field work begins to wind down. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were rated 2 percent adequate to surplus, compared to 4 percent in the previous week, and 18 percent the previous year. Subsoil moisture conditions were rated 2 percent adequate to surplus compared to 25 percent the previous year. Corn for grain harvest progressed last week, with an estimated 36 percent of the crop harvested, significantly ahead of the previous year at 24 percent and the 5-year average of 21 percent. Corn harvested for silage made substantial progress, with an estimated 85 percent of the crop harvested, ahead of the previous year and 5-year average at 83 percent. Safflower harvest is estimated at 80 percent complete, ahead of the previous year and 5-year average of 69 percent and 56 percent, respectively. Sugarbeet harvest continued last week, with an estimated 20 percent of the crop harvested, equal to the previous year, but behind the 5-year average of 23 percent. Planting of the 2022 winter wheat crop progressed well last week, with an estimated 66 percent of the crop planted, ahead of the previous year at 64 percent, but behind the 5-year average of 68 percent planted. Emergence of the 2022 winter wheat crop made noteworthy progress last week, with an estimated 36 percent of the crop emerged, slightly behind the previous year at 37 percent and the 5-year average of 38 percent. As dry conditions carry on and pasture conditions deplete, producers continue to move livestock off summer pasture and have started supplemental feeding. An estimated 55 percent of cattle and calves and 57 percent of sheep and lambs have been moved from pasture, with 21 percent of cattle and 22 percent of sheep receiving supplement feed.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Corn				
Harvested for grain.....	36	23	24	21
Harvested for silage.....	85	70	83	83
Safflower				
Harvested.....	80	70	69	56
Sugarbeets				
Harvested.....	20	6	20	23
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	66	52	64	68
Emerged.....	36	19	37	38
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture.....	55	50	36	40
Receiving supplemental feed.....	21	NA	15	17
Sheep & Lambs				
Moved from pasture.....	57	49	37	44
Receiving supplemental feed.....	22	NA	16	18

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.....	6.8	7.0	6.9	4.2
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	56	61	29	12
Short.....	42	35	53	26
Adequate.....	2	4	18	49
Surplus.....	--	--	--	13
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	62	60	14	14
Short.....	36	34	61	33
Adequate.....	2	6	25	45
Surplus.....	--	--	--	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.....	18	14	--	2
Poor.....	24	33	1	6
Fair.....	22	21	20	29
Good.....	36	31	61	51
Excellent.....	--	1	18	12
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	69	68	16	16
Poor.....	22	23	25	20
Fair.....	9	9	45	34
Good.....	--	--	12	23
Excellent.....	--	--	2	7
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	10	10	--	3
Poor.....	16	11	--	5
Fair.....	42	42	27	24
Good.....	30	35	48	51
Excellent.....	2	2	25	17

NA – not available

(--) – zero