

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 31, 2021

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Cooler temperatures and dry conditions remained prevalent 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, unchanged from the previous week despite reporters noting some moisture was received. Twenty percent of the state is currently under exceptional drought conditions, up from 18 percent last week. Reporters in Phillips and Valley counties stated minimal moisture was received last week, but high winds after minimized the affect the moisture had on the soil. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were rated 4 percent adequate to surplus, equal to the previous week, but down from 46 percent the previous year. Subsoil moisture conditions were rated 6 percent adequate to surplus compared to 42 percent the previous year. An estimated 70 percent of the corn for grain crop has been harvested, ahead of the previous year at 45 percent and the 5-year average of 50 percent. Sugarbeet harvest continues to progress quickly, with an estimated 70 percent of the crop harvested, equal to the previous year and the 5-year average. Planting of the 2022 winter wheat crop is almost complete, with an estimated 95 percent of the crop planted, ahead of the previous year and the 5-year average of 93 percent. As emergence of the 2022 winter wheat crop continues, reporters note that emergence is spotty, and lack of moisture could greatly affect the crop. An estimated 75 percent of the winter wheat crop has emerged, ahead of the previous year at 72 percent and equal to the 5-year average. Reporters in Custer and Judith Basin counties noted that herd culling continues at a higher rate than normal due to the drought and lack of resources such as water and feed. Movement of cattle and sheep from summer pasture has slowed compared to earlier in the season, with an estimated 71 percent of cattle and calves and 72 percent of sheep and lambs moved. An estimated 33 percent of cattle and 34 percent of sheep are receiving supplemental feed, compared to 5-year averages of 29 percent and 35 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	55	45	50
Sugarbeets				
Harvested	70	55	70	70
Winter wheat				
Planted	95	88	93	93
Emerged.....	75	63	72	75
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture.....	71	69	67	67
Receiving supplemental feed.....	33	37	38	29
Sheep & Lambs				
Moved from pasture.....	72	68	68	72
Receiving supplemental feed.....	34	40	48	35

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.....	6.6	6.7	3.4	4.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	60	62	15	8
Short.....	36	34	39	22
Adequate.....	4	3	46	59
Surplus.....	--	1	--	11
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	62	63	14	11
Short.....	32	33	44	30
Adequate.....	6	3	42	53
Surplus.....	--	1	--	6

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.....	65	70	22	17
Poor.....	30	26	21	18
Fair.....	5	4	33	29
Good.....	--	--	24	30
Excellent.....	--	--	--	6
Winter wheat				
Very poor.....	21	20	3	1
Poor.....	23	22	4	6
Fair.....	49	48	12	27
Good.....	7	10	69	51
Excellent.....	--	--	12	15

NA – not available

(--) – zero