

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 6, 2022

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: This week brought varying precipitation and temperatures to Montana, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The western border received half an inch or more of precipitation this week, with localized areas receiving over 2 inches. Counties in the central and eastern portion of the State were drier this week, with precipitation totals ranging from 0.25 inches to only trace amounts. Average daily temperatures ranged from average to 4 degrees above average for the western half of the State. The eastern half of the State was warmer, with average daily temperatures ranging from 2 to 5 degrees above average for most areas. Drought conditions remained unchanged this week. According to the United States Drought Monitor published on November 3, 2022, 89.6 percent of the State is experiencing drought conditions. The amount of land rated as abnormally dry was 15.3 percent and moderate drought conditions cover 32.3 percent of the State. Severe drought conditions are present across 26.4 percent of the State and extreme drought conditions are present across 15.6 percent of the State. With the exception of the Upper Yellowstone Basin, Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) totals across the State's basins were above average, ranging from 114 percent of normal in the Gallatin Basin to 277 percent of normal in the Bitterroot Basin. Emergence of winter wheat is progressing ahead of last year, with emergence reported at 93 percent this week, compared to 79 percent this time last year. Sugarbeet harvest continues slightly ahead of last year, while corn harvested for grain is slightly behind last year. Harvest is reported at 83 percent complete for sugarbeets, compared to 79 percent complete this time last year and corn harvested for grain is reported at 73 percent complete compared to 79 percent complete this time last year. Movement of cattle and sheep from summer pasture continues to be slow compared to last year. This week an estimated 59 percent of cattle and calves and 63 percent of sheep and lambs have been moved from pasture, compared to 76 percent moved this time last year for cattle and calves and 77 percent moved for sheep and lambs.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Corn				
Harvested for grain.....	73	67	79	60
Sugarbeets				
Harvested.....	83	70	79	NA
Winter wheat				
Emerged.....	93	84	79	79
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture.....	59	51	76	75
Receiving supplemental feed.....	41	40	41	40
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from pasture.....	63	59	77	76
Receiving supplemental feed.....	37	27	47	47

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.....	4.4	5.5	6.9	3.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	25	32	59	18
Short.....	45	39	36	29
Adequate.....	28	26	4	48
Surplus.....	2	3	1	5
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	46	44	65	22
Short.....	35	40	29	33
Adequate.....	19	16	5	42
Surplus.....	--	--	1	3

NA – not available
 (-) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Pasture and range				
Very poor	27	20	71	30
Poor	23	20	25	20
Fair	25	32	4	24
Good	24	27	--	20
Excellent	1	1	--	6
Winter Wheat				
Very poor	10	10	23	6
Poor	14	15	24	10
Fair	52	43	48	32
Good	20	21	4	41
Excellent	4	11	1	11

NA – not available

(--) – zero