

# 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 27, 2022

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** This week brought minimal moisture to Montana, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Scattered areas across the State received between a half inch and an inch of moisture, while most of the State received less than a quarter inch of moisture. Temperatures were slightly warmer this week. Much of the State experienced average daily temperatures 4 to 8 degrees above normal for this time of year. The western border, however, remained cold with average daily temperatures 2 to 6 degrees below average. According to the United States Drought Monitor published on November 23, 2022, 88.0 percent of the State is experiencing drought conditions – a slight decrease from 89.6 percent last week. The amount of land rated as abnormally dry decreased to cover 21.2 percent of the State, compared to 22.8 percent last week. Moderate drought conditions increased to cover 26.2 percent of the State, compared to 24.9 percent last week and severe drought conditions decreased to cover 25.0 percent of the State, compared to 26.4 percent last week. Extreme drought conditions remained unchanged at 15.5 percent of the state. Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) totals for the State’s basins remained mostly unchanged from last week. The SWE for the St. Mary and Milk Basin remains below average at 87 percent of normal. The Kootenai basin improved to above average SWE this week, with an SWE of 104 percent. All other basins remained above average, with SWE totals ranging from 140 percent of normal in the Madison Basin to 103 percent of normal in the Upper Yellowstone Basin. This week an estimated 76 percent of cattle and calves and 83 percent of sheep and lambs have been moved from pasture, compared to 84 percent moved this time last year for cattle and calves and 86 percent moved for sheep and lambs. An estimated 70 percent of cattle and calves are receiving supplemental feed, compared to 60 percent this time last year and an estimated 63 percent of sheep and lambs are receiving supplemental feed, compared to 62 percent this time last year.

**Note:** This report concludes the weekly crop progress report for 2022. Next year’s Montana weekly report will begin in April 2023.

Monthly reports will be released for December on January 3, 2023; for January on January 30, 2023; for February on February 27, 2023; and for March on March 27, 2023.

Our thanks to the weekly reporters for providing crop progress observations during the 2022 season.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Corn				
Harvested for grain .....	99	94	90	NA
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture .....	76	70	84	NA
Receiving supplemental feed .....	70	67	60	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from pasture .....	83	77	86	NA
Receiving supplemental feed .....	63	60	62	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 .....	0.5	1.2	6.4	NA
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	11	13	79	NA
Short .....	51	58	17	NA
Adequate .....	38	29	4	NA
Surplus .....	--	--	--	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	38	46	71	NA
Short .....	45	40	21	NA
Adequate .....	17	14	7	NA
Surplus .....	--	--	1	NA

NA – not available

(-) – zero

**CROP AND PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pasture and range				
Very poor .....	27	30	73	NA
Poor .....	19	20	22	NA
Fair.....	20	25	5	NA
Good .....	34	25	--	NA
Excellent .....	--	--	--	NA
Winter Wheat				
Very poor .....	--	1	21	NA
Poor .....	11	15	35	NA
Fair.....	45	54	37	NA
Good .....	31	24	5	NA
Excellent .....	13	6	2	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero