

# MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
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 Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING JUNE 23, 2024

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Lower temperatures provided relief from the ongoing heat, but precipitation varied, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Northern areas of the State experienced temperatures in a range of 4-10 degrees below average, according to data from the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). Southern areas saw temperatures in a range of about 2-4 degrees below normal. Portions of central and east-central Montana received moisture levels in a range of about 0.3 to 1.2 inches above normal. Moisture received was in the form of snow and hail in some areas, accompanied by strong winds. Hail damage was heavy north of Great Falls. Rains were less abundant in much of the south, west, and northwestern Montana. In these areas, moisture received was in a range from about normal to 0.6 inch below normal. Changes in drought conditions were minimal according to the U.S. Drought Monitor report published on June 20. The amount of land rated drought free was unchanged at 8 percent. Abnormal dryness increased by 2 percentage points to 57 percent. Moderate drought fell to 30 percent, down from 33 percent. Severe drought conditions were unchanged at almost 5 percent. The Bitterroot snowpack jumped to 450 percent of normal following the recent rain and snow. Irrigation water remained plentiful in Mineral, Missoula, and Ravalli Counties, but lands not irrigated were suffering. Several counties reported the emergence of grasshoppers. Some counties also reported that though rains were received in some areas, winds contributed to dry conditions, and reduced soil moisture levels. A recent failure of the St. Mary River Siphon north of Babb impacted lands with flooding and erosion. Repair efforts were underway.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
1 <sup>st</sup> cutting harvested.....	16	8	13	17
Barley				
Emerged .....	91	80	94	97
Booted .....	52	23	34	41
Headed .....	3	1	9	10
Canola				
Planted.....	92	84	90	NA
Emerged .....	81	78	76	80
Corn				
Planted.....	96	92	94	NA
Emerged .....	86	77	87	85
Dry edible beans				
Emerged .....	93	91	94	86
Dry peas				
Blooming.....	49	23	41	30
Durum wheat				
Booted .....	19	1	6	16
Headed .....	1	NA	NA	NA
Flaxseed				
Emerged .....	86	82	84	76
Lentils				
Emerged .....	95	93	92	NA
Blooming.....	56	27	15	22
Mustard seed				
Blooming.....	34	5	34	24
Oats				
Planted.....	96	94	NA	NA
Emerged .....	91	89	93	NA
Booted .....	34	20	10	25
Headed .....	2	NA	NA	NA
Other hay				
1 <sup>st</sup> cutting harvested.....	15	3	12	15
Safflower				
Planted.....	80	55	86	NA
Emerged .....	43	38	67	58
Blooming.....	1	--	7	NA
Spring wheat				
Emerged .....	96	94	97	98
Booted .....	54	30	55	46
Headed .....	16	1	21	10
Sugarbeets				
Planted.....	91	72	65	NA
Emerged .....	63	46	51	NA
Winter wheat				
Booted .....	80	77	91	89
Headed .....	71	54	66	56
Coloring.....	12	NA	NA	NA
Cattle and calves				
Moved to pasture .....	95	82	94	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved to pasture .....	96	79	94	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 .....	5.5	6.0	5.3	5.7
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	5	2	1	14
Short .....	37	41	15	26
Adequate.....	57	56	81	57
Surplus.....	1	1	3	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	4	7	1	16
Short .....	33	37	18	26
Adequate.....	62	55	75	55
Surplus.....	1	1	6	3

NA – not available  
 (–) – zero

**CROP, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
<b>Barley</b>				
Very poor .....	1	1	--	4
Poor .....	1	1	6	12
Fair.....	38	29	68	36
Good .....	59	68	24	37
Excellent .....	1	1	2	11
<b>Canola</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	4	3
Poor .....	1	--	4	4
Fair.....	42	51	28	27
Good .....	56	49	58	53
Excellent .....	1	--	6	13
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor .....	1	1	--	1
Poor .....	2	2	9	9
Fair.....	23	22	32	38
Good .....	67	74	57	47
Excellent .....	7	1	2	5
<b>Dry peas</b>				
Very poor .....	--	1	1	4
Poor .....	1	1	3	9
Fair.....	24	28	51	41
Good .....	72	69	45	43
Excellent .....	3	1	--	3
<b>Durum wheat</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	1	1
Poor .....	5	1	4	6
Fair.....	36	39	58	47
Good .....	57	60	37	43
Excellent .....	2	--	--	3
<b>Lentils</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	2
Poor .....	1	1	3	5
Fair.....	26	25	50	47
Good .....	68	74	47	43
Excellent .....	5	--	--	3
<b>Mustard seed</b>				
Very poor .....	--	NA	--	1
Poor .....	--	NA	1	7
Fair.....	2	NA	68	52
Good .....	97	NA	31	39
Excellent .....	1	NA	--	1
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor .....	5	3	1	13
Poor .....	14	11	4	14
Fair.....	25	34	35	25
Good .....	46	37	46	38
Excellent .....	10	15	14	10
<b>Spring wheat</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	3
Poor .....	4	5	2	10
Fair.....	30	25	49	41
Good .....	62	69	48	42
Excellent .....	4	1	1	4
<b>Winter wheat</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	5
Poor .....	1	1	2	12
Fair.....	33	42	59	31
Good .....	38	38	30	34
Excellent .....	28	19	9	18

<sup>1</sup>Current conditions for Dry Edible Beans, Flaxseed, and Oats are available using the QuickStats on-line database at:

[https://www.nass.usda.gov/Quick\\_Stats/](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Quick_Stats/)

NA – not available  
 (–) – zero