



MONTANA CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MONTANA FIELD OFFICE
P.O. BOX 150969 · Lakewood, CO 80215-0969
Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 7, 2025

Contact: Eric Sommer
(800) 392-3202

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING APRIL 6, 2025

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Warm temperatures and limited precipitation were the norm for the majority of Montana, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Much of the State experienced temperatures ranging from near average to about 4 degrees above average, according to data from the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). Survey reports from Blaine County indicated limited moisture at this point of the season. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor published for April 1, roughly 37 percent of the State was drought free, compared with 41 last week. Other drought categorizations included: abnormally dry (D0) at 28 percent; moderate drought (D1) at 22 percent; severe drought (D2) at 11 percent; and extreme drought (D3) at 2 percent. Calving and lambing were both underway and were 20 and 10 percent complete, respectively, compared with 52 and 32 percent complete a year ago. Supplemental feeding remained heavy for both cattle and sheep. The majority of pastures and ranges were rated in very poor or poor condition, with grazing accessibility unchanged from the previous report, at 87 percent open, compared with 77 percent open a year ago. The 2025 winter wheat crop was reported as 59 percent good to excellent, a decrease of 4 percentage points when compared with last year.

NOTE: The Crop-CASMA (**C**rop **C**ondition and **S**oil **M**oisture **A**alytics) for Root Zone Moisture can be accessed at www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana. For this data product, the root zone is defined as top 3.2 feet of soil (approximately 1 meter).

CROPS AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted.....	3	1	1	2
Dry peas				
Planted.....	1	NA	NA	NA
Oats				
Planted.....	2	1	1	1
Spring wheat				
Planted.....	2	NA	--	2
Winter wheat				
Breaking dormancy	26	3	57	37
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved.....	20	10	52	47
Receiving supplemental feed	93	96	95	91
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambbed	10	5	32	36
Receiving supplemental feed	87	94	95	96

NA – not available

-- – zero

DASY SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for field work	4.4	NA	1.6	3.5
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	28	22	7	19
Short	24	24	37	26
Adequate.....	48	53	55	51
Surplus.....	--	1	1	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	32	25	12	18
Short	26	24	48	35
Adequate.....	42	51	39	44
Surplus.....	--	--	1	3

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Grazing accessibility				
Open	87	87	77	68
Difficult	6	8	13	16
Closed.....	7	5	10	16
Pasture and range				
Very poor	34	25	19	30
Poor	31	37	28	22
Fair.....	33	37	48	32
Good	2	1	4	13
Excellent	--	--	1	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor	1	1	1	3
Poor	17	9	4	7
Fair.....	23	32	32	46
Good	50	58	59	40
Excellent	9	--	4	4

NA – not available

(--) – zero