



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 APRIL 13, 2025

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Warmer than normal temperatures prevailed across the state of Montana and precipitation remained lower than normal, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Much of the State experienced temperatures ranging from 3 to 12 degrees above average, according to data from the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). Reporter comments expressed concern with the lack of moisture and high winds leading to additional wildland fires. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor published for April 8, roughly 35 percent of the State was drought free, compared with 37 percent last week. Other drought categorizations included: abnormally dry (D0) at 28 percent; moderate drought (D1) at 27 percent; severe drought (D2) at 9 percent; and extreme drought (D3) at 2 percent. Calving and lambing were both in full swing and were at 44 and 31 percent complete, respectively. This was behind last year's progress of 63 and 39 percent, respectively. Supplemental feeding remained heavy for both cattle and sheep. The majority of pastures and ranges remained rated in very poor or poor condition, with grazing accessibility at 87 percent open, compared to 78 percent open a year ago. The 2025 winter wheat crop was reported as 59 percent good to excellent, an increase of 3 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 by clicking on Crop Progress & Condition. For this data product, the root zone is defined as top 3.2 feet of soil (approximately 1 meter).

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted.....	9	3	4	7
Dry edible beans				
Planted.....	1	--	NA	NA
Dry peas				
Planted.....	2	1	1	3
Durum wheat				
Planted.....	1	--	NA	NA
Flaxseed				
Planted.....	1	--	NA	NA
Lentils				
Planted.....	1	--	NA	NA
Mustard seed				
Planted.....	1	--	NA	NA
Oats				
Planted.....	3	2	2	2
Safflower				
Planted.....	1	--	NA	NA
Spring wheat				
Planted.....	3	2	2	4
Winter wheat				
Breaking dormancy	45	26	69	55
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved.....	44	20	63	58
Receiving supplemental feed	91	93	83	87
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambbed	31	10	29	44
Receiving supplemental feed	78	87	81	89

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	6.8	4.4	5.1	3.4
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	24	28	7	16
Short	33	24	46	26
Adequate.....	43	48	46	55
Surplus.....	--	--	1	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	29	32	11	17
Short	35	26	48	31
Adequate.....	36	42	40	49
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	78	67
Difficult	6	6	11	18
Closed.....	7	7	11	15
Pasture and range				
Very poor	28	34	19	24
Poor	36	31	28	22
Fair.....	32	33	47	35
Good	3	2	5	16
Excellent	1	--	1	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor	1	1	1	4
Poor	16	17	6	8
Fair.....	24	23	37	42
Good	48	50	51	42
Excellent	11	9	5	4

NA – not available

-- – zero