



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 20, 2025

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Cooler temperatures along with rain and snowstorms prevailed across Montana, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Survey reports from Wibaux County indicated very dry and windy conditions coupled with limited snow cover. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor published for April 15, roughly 32 percent of the State was drought free, compared with 35 percent last week. Other drought categorizations included: abnormally dry (D0) at 30 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 54 and 42 percent complete, respectively. This was behind last year’s progress of 75 and 55 percent, respectively. Supplemental feeding remained heavy for both cattle and sheep. Most pastures and ranges remained rated in very poor or poor condition, with grazing accessibility at 78 percent open, compared with 82 percent open a year ago. The 2025 winter wheat crop was reported as 65 percent good to excellent, an increase of 13 percentage points when compared with last year. Producers remained busy planting spring crops, with progress ahead of normal for most.

NOTE: The Crop-CASMA (**C**rop **C**ondition and **S**oil **M**oisture **A**nytics) 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 the 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.....	25	9	19	14
Canola				
Planted.....	3	--	2	NA
Dry edible beans (including chickpeas)				
Planted.....	3	1	2	2
Dry peas				
Planted.....	15	2	5	9
Durum wheat				
Planted.....	12	1	4	3
Flaxseed				
Planted.....	4	1	2	3
Lentils				
Planted.....	15	1	3	4
Mustard seed				
Planted.....	3	1	2	2
Oats				
Planted.....	7	3	4	4
Safflower				
Planted.....	2	1	5	2
Spring wheat				
Planted.....	16	3	6	9
Winter wheat				
Breaking dormancy	73	45	88	73
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved.....	54	44	75	70
Moved to pasture	1	NA	NA	NA
Receiving supplemental feed	89	91	74	83
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambbed	42	31	55	55
Moved to pasture	1	NA	NA	NA
Receiving supplemental feed	79	78	74	85

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	5.6	6.8	5.8	4.1
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	22	24	10	17
Short	33	33	52	26
Adequate	44	43	38	52
Surplus	1	--	--	5
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	28	29	10	17
Short	34	35	48	29
Adequate	38	36	41	51
Surplus	--	--	1	3

NA – not available
(--) – zero

CROP, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Grazing accessibility				
Open	78	87	82	71
Difficult	11	6	8	13
Closed	11	7	10	16
Pasture and range				
Very poor	23	28	18	27
Poor	40	36	27	20
Fair	33	32	42	32
Good	3	3	12	18
Excellent	1	1	1	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor	1	1	--	5
Poor	12	16	5	9
Fair	22	24	43	41
Good	51	48	50	42
Excellent	14	11	2	3
NA – not available				
(--) – zero				