



# 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 27, 2025

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Warmer temperatures along with limited precipitation prevailed across Montana, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Much of the State experienced temperatures ranging from 2 to 7 degrees above average, according to data from the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC). Survey reports from Valley County indicated very dry and windy conditions coupled with limited snow cover. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor published for April 22, roughly 25 percent of the State was drought free, compared with 32 percent last week. Other drought categorizations included: abnormally dry (D0) at 25 percent; moderate drought (D1) at 36 percent; severe drought (D2) at 12 percent; and extreme drought (D3) at 2 percent. Calving and lambing were both in full swing and were at 60 and 52 percent complete, respectively. This was behind last year’s progress of 82 and 75 percent, respectively. Supplemental feeding remained heavy for both cattle and sheep. Most pastures and ranges remained rated in poor or fair condition, with grazing accessibility at 87 percent open, compared with 84 percent open a year ago. The 2025 winter wheat crop was reported as 70 percent good to excellent, an increase of 27 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](http://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 .....	38	25	29	23
Emerged .....	5	--	--	1
Canola				
Planted .....	12	3	15	NA
Corn				
Planted .....	1	--	NA	NA
Dry edible beans (including chickpeas)				
Planted .....	13	3	7	6
Dry peas				
Planted .....	38	15	23	21
Durum wheat				
Planted .....	30	12	20	10
Flaxseed				
Planted .....	17	4	10	9
Lentils				
Planted .....	37	15	13	15
Mustard seed				
Planted .....	10	3	10	9
Oats				
Planted .....	21	7	7	8
Safflower				
Planted .....	3	2	13	5
Spring wheat				
Planted .....	32	16	31	20
Winter wheat				
Breaking dormancy .....	77	73	93	84
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved .....	60	54	82	79
Moved to pasture.....	3	1	10	NA
Receiving supplemental feed .....	91	89	78	73
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambbed .....	52	42	75	68
Moved to pasture.....	4	1	11	NA
Receiving supplemental feed .....	93	79	87	76

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 .....	6.3	5.6	6.7	5.9
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	24	22	14	18
Short .....	29	33	57	30
Adequate .....	47	44	29	51
Surplus .....	--	1	--	1
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	26	28	14	18
Short .....	27	34	54	34
Adequate .....	47	38	32	46
Surplus .....	--	--	--	2
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 .....	87	78	84	76
Difficult .....	7	11	7	11
Closed .....	6	11	9	13
Pasture and range				
Very poor .....	20	23	20	26
Poor .....	34	40	24	21
Fair .....	32	33	41	32
Good .....	12	3	13	18
Excellent .....	2	1	2	3
Winter wheat				
Very poor .....	1	1	--	6
Poor .....	10	12	5	11
Fair .....	19	22	52	42
Good .....	60	51	41	38
Excellent .....	10	14	2	3
NA – not available				
(-- ) – zero				