



COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING MARCH 15, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Spring fieldwork continued in limited fashion in parts of the state last week, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Northeastern and east central counties received scattered moisture, but conditions remained mostly dry. Reports noted winter wheat was breaking dormancy due to warm weather and emerging in areas where prior emergence was not noted. Dry pasture conditions were a concern for livestock producers. Southwestern counties received isolated moisture, but remained in moderate to severe drought according to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor report. In the San Luis Valley, limited planting of barley and fieldwork began. Received moisture was minimal. Pasture and range conditions were noted as very dry. In southeastern counties, dry and windy conditions were noted and alfalfa was beginning to break dormancy. Cool-season pasture grasses were also greening up. Statewide, mild weather benefitted calving and lambing. As of March 16, 2020, snowpack in Colorado was 105 percent measured as percent of median snowfall. The Southwest and San Luis Valley were 90 and 98 percent, respectively. Stored feed supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 7 percent short, 81 percent adequate, and 10 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 56 percent average and 44 percent light. Cattle death loss was 73 percent average and 27 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Barley				
Planted	3	NA	NA	NA
Winter wheat				
Pastured.....	9	NA	16	NA
Cattle and calves				
Cows calved.....	32	24	NA	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Ewes lambed.....	22	9	NA	NA

NA – not available
(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	4.9	NA	2.0	NA
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	11	9	1	NA
Short.....	41	24	8	NA
Adequate	48	67	85	NA
Surplus.....	--	--	6	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	9	5	2	NA
Short.....	30	29	17	NA
Adequate	61	66	79	NA
Surplus.....	--	--	2	NA

NA – not available
(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current report (percent)	Previous report (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Pasture and range				
Very poor	10	5	5	NA
Poor.....	12	10	13	NA
Fair.....	47	20	45	NA
Good	28	62	34	NA
Excellent	3	3	3	NA
Winter wheat				
Very poor	10	5	1	NA
Poor.....	11	8	7	NA
Fair.....	33	28	30	NA
Good	43	58	52	NA
Excellent	3	1	10	NA
Livestock				
Very poor	2	--	1	NA
Poor.....	6	2	4	NA
Fair.....	32	20	28	NA
Good	52	73	62	NA
Excellent	8	5	5	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero